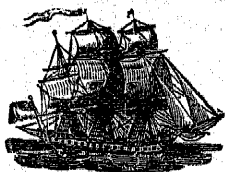


# British Packet



## AND ARGENTINE NEWS.

No. 554]

BUENOS AYRES. SATURDAY. APRIL 1, 1837.

[Vol. XI.

### BUENOS AYRES.

The *Gaceta Mercantil* of 25th ult., contains the sentence of the Special Tribunal, respecting the bankruptcy of the house of Sebastian Lezica, Brothers. It is dated Buenos Ayres, 8th ult., and states that after due consideration it appears that Frederick Hornung, who forged the bills of exchange, did so, not for the purpose of enriching himself, but to support the credit of the house in question, which had been for some time insolvent; and therefore he does not merit the full penalty of the law for robbers, &c.,—but ten years' imprisonment, at the termination of which, perpetual banishment.

That no proof exists of Faustino Lezica's knowing anything of said forgeries, or the insolvent state of the house, else he would scarcely have allowed his aged mother to be one of its principal creditors. That his error has been the indiscreet and excessive confidence placed in Hornung, led away by his superior talent for business, and apparent morality. That he will have been sufficiently punished by his imprisonment of seventeen months, and leaving to his creditors the right to prosecute their claims by civil action.

That José Hurriaga is the true purchaser and legitimate owner of the *Estancia Carreta Quemada*. That the allegation that he knew that bills of exchange were in the market with his signature forged by Hornung, has not been proved; and that the various explanations he has given, are satisfactory.

That the conduct of Manuel Llamas, the Notary-Public, in the copy he made of the bill of sale of the *Carreta Quemada*, although not criminal, is highly reprehensible.

This sentence was approved by the Chamber of Justice, but has not yet received the sanction of the Executive.

By a Rule of Court, the minority must sign all sentences awarded by the majority, and afterwards register the motives of their dissent. In the exercise of this privilege, the law-officers of the Government, Señores Manuel Insiarte and Eduardo Labitte, and also Señor Bernardo Pereda, Judge of the 1st instance in civil cases, (the latter specially associated by order of Government for this particular case,) have, in the *Gaceta Mercantil* of 27th ult., expressed their reasons for dissenting from the opinions of the majority of the Tribunal: which are to the effect,—that the plea set up in defence of Hornung is not valid; that in their opinion the full penalty of the law ought to be awarded to him, which is death, and confiscation of property. That Faustino Lezica has been guilty of criminal negligence, and ought to be punished accordingly. That Hurriaga should be made to restore the *Estancia Carreta Quemada* to the assignees of the Estate of S. Lezica, Brothers, as having been fraudulently obtained; and condemned to pay all the bills bearing his signature, whether forged or not; and to banishment. That Manuel Llamas be placed at liberty, with a reprimand; they considering his long imprisonment a sufficient punishment.

#### MEDALLIC ENGRAVING.

The idea of employing machinery for the purpose of engraving upon metals, is not of very recent origin: as was the case with steam navigation, the principle was recognized many years before it was put into successful practice. In the year 1830, Mons. A. Collas, an able mechanic at Paris, having been commissioned by an engraver at Ghent, to make a ruling machine for him, constructed one for himself, upon a somewhat different principle, with which he made several attempts to execute engravings upon copper, in the style of a pattern which had been published in the *Manuel des Tourneurs* upwards of twenty-four years before. It was not till six months' labour and thought had been bestowed upon it,

that M. Collas brought his invention to a certain degree of perfection: he produced his first engravings in the spring of 1831. Of the attempts at a similar instrument, made in the United States, we are informed, and believe, that he had seen or heard nothing; but in the year 1833 he chanced to meet at Paris with an old mathematician from Geneva, whose father had, some sixty years before, been employed in executing engravings by machinery upon the cases of gold and silver watches: so that the remotest traces of this art may be dated about the years 1775 to 1780.

It has been ascertained, beyond all doubt, that this invention is not of domestic growth in England. It was in the year 1817 that a die-sinker of the name of Christian Gobrecht, then living at Philadelphia, produced by a machine an engraving upon copper of a medallion head of the Emperor Alexander of Russia, several impressions of which were distributed in that city. Mr. Asa Spencer (now of the firm Draper, Underwood & Co.) took one of Gobrecht's machines with him to London in the year 1819, which was its first introduction into London. This machine was principally designed for ruling straight and waved lines; it was employed in London, and its uses exhibited and explained by Mr. Spencer to several artists. It attracted the particular notice of the late Mr. Turrell, an engineer, and he obtained permission to make a drawing of the machine, for the purpose of having one constructed for his own use. Ten years afterwards, in the year 1829, Mr. Joseph Saxton, an American, born at Huntingdon, in Pennsylvania, who had known Gobrecht, and seen the engraving from the Russian medal, contrived a machine somewhat similar in principle to the one brought to England by Mr. Spencer; in this he first introduced a diagonal tracer, for the purpose of correcting some of the defects which existed in the medallion engravings executed by Gobrecht's and Spencer's machines; these had all of them an unpleasant twist upwards, and an evident distortion of the features of the head. In the following year, an idea being started of applying this new method to the engraving of designs for bank notes, Mr. Spencer again bestowed considerable pains upon the improvement of his invention, without any success. Mr. Turrell, who was acquainted both with Spencer and with Saxton, communicated his drawing and his ideas upon the subject to Mr. Bawtry, who then held the situation of engraver to the Bank of England, and it was this gentleman who originally applied to Mr. Lacy to construct a machine of this description for him. Mr. Lacy was then, as Mr. Spencer had been, connected with the establishment of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Petch, bank-note engravers in Fleet Street, and was the person employed, in the year 1832, to execute the engraving from a medal representing the bust of our present King, which appeared in the frontispiece of the "Keepsake" for 1833. The contracting parties did not come to a satisfactory agreement, and the negotiation was broken off. It was probably at that time that Mr. Bawtry entered into communication with Mr. John Bate, of the Poultry, optician and maker of mathematical instruments to the Board of Admiralty. Mr. Saxton had been introduced to Mr. Bate shortly after his arrival in England, and had, we believe, given to the latter his first notion of such a machine by exhibiting to him an engraving upon glass, executed by it. During the succeeding interval, Mr. Saxton had continued to attempt the improvement of his diagonal tracer, which, though some distortions were manifestly obviated by it, was still utterly unable to give the effect of light and shade when employed to engrave medals of very bold, or, rather, steep relief, and inevitably left blank spots in the engravings. Here the matter rested for a while.

The following specimen of the above-mentioned great triumph of the arts, which we have ex-

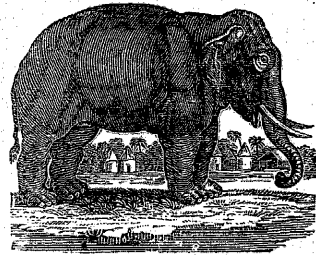
tracted from a recent number of 'The Athenæum,' is placed in the Mirador of the Commercial Room of this city:—

- No. 1.—Innocence prostrating herself before Justice, and entreating her protection; Violence is represented by a warrior holding a naked sword.—(Savage.)
- 2.—Part of the Phrygian Frieze.
- 3.—Cupid and Psyche; from a cameo by Louis Pikler, after a bas-relief by Thorwaldsen.
- 4.—Vulcan forging the shafts of Cupid; from a cameo by Pikler, after a picture by Raffael Mengs.
- 5.—Antioque and Ismena before the temple of the Furies, urging CEdipus to return to Thebes; from a cameo in onyx by Louis Pikler.
- 6.—The Heads of Augustus and Livia; from an ancient cameo in sardonyx.
- 7.—Hercules stifling the Nemean Lion; from a sculpture in bronze of the 15th century.

(From the *Doston Daily Advertiser and Patriot*, of 26th December last.)

TEXAS.—The President on Thursday sent a message to the two Houses of Congress, on the subject of the acknowledgment of the Independence of Texas, together with extracts from the report of the Agent who was sent to that country to ascertain its "political, military, and civil condition." After some discussion of the subject of acknowledgment, the message comes to the following very sensible conclusion:—

"It becomes us to beware of a too early movement, as it might subject us, however unjustly, to the imputation of seeking to establish the claim of our neighbours to a territory, with a view to its subsequent acquisition by ourselves. Prudence, therefore, seems to dictate that we should still stand aloof, and maintain our present attitude, if not until Mexico itself, or one of the great foreign powers, shall recognize the independence of the new Government, at least until the lapse of time or the course of events shall have proved, beyond cavil or dispute, the ability of the people of that country to maintain their separate sovereignty, and to uphold the Government constituted by them."



Their Excellencies the Governors of Buenos Ayres and Santa-Fé, visited Mr. Mead's exhibition on Thursday afternoon last. A shower of rockets greeted the entrance of the distinguished visitors, and music attended them at their departure.

Mr. Mead leaves Buenos Ayres this day, for Montevideo, in order to make arrangements for the reception of the Elephant and his companions in that capital; who will finally leave this in a few days, so that no time should be lost by those who wish to see this really interesting exhibition; which will be open this afternoon; and again tomorrow, and on Monday, three times, (the latter being a holiday,) viz., in the morning, afternoon, and evening: and on the other days of the week, in the afternoon only.

ADMISSION.—Two Dollars each, for adults.—Children, One Dollar.—Seat, One Dollar. Boxes, holding six persons each, Ten Dollars.

## PASSION WEEK.

The following is a detail of the religious *funciones* during the last week, ('Passion week,') in the parochial church of San Ignacio, otherwise "the College Church."

**Domingo de Ramos**, (Palm Sunday), was observed with the greatest possible solemnity and splendour, and the benediction, distribution and procession of Palms took place. The congregation was immense. The Right Reverend Dr. Mariano Escalada, Bishop of Aulon, assisted at the High Mass. The music of *La Pasion*, the composition of Don Juan Pedro de Esnaola, was executed under the direction of his uncle, the Rev. José Antonio Picasarri. On the evening of this day, the customary evening service was performed; at which an eloquent Sermon was preached, on the subject of the *Passion*, by the Reverend Felipe Elortondo y Palacio, Curé of the parish. Every part of the Church was thronged; many persons could not obtain admittance, notwithstanding it is one of the most spacious churches in this capital. On this and the subsequent days of the week, the attendance of the faithful to partake of the benefits of Confession and the Sacrament was so numerous, that the zeal and assiduity of the Jesuits and other ecclesiastics, were not sufficient to satisfy the desires of all.

**"Holy Wednesday."**—At mid-day, the decorations of the High Altar and monument were completed. They presented a magnificent appearance, combining at once brilliancy and taste; displaying almost countless numbers of tapers and wax candles. The whole was arranged and superintended by the Rev. Felipe Elortondo y Palacio, and the Rev. José Antonio Picasarri. In the evening the Clergy, including the Jesuits, assembled for the purpose of receiving the aforesaid Bishop of Aulon; the whole then proceeded to the choir. The *matines* commenced, and were sung with excellent effect, all in full chorus, excepting the three lamentations, the composition of Don Manuel Menzía (a Spaniard).—The first was for four voices; the second and third, *solos*; and the last, the *miserere*, was also for four voices, the composition of Don Juan Pedro Esnaola; the whole being under the direction of the Rev. José Antonio Picasarri. These *matines* occupied more than three hours and a half. On this day an event took place which made a deep impression upon all who witnessed it, *viz.*: at 9 o'clock in the morning came to the Church from 80 to 90 youths who are studying under the direction of the Jesuits, and proceeded to the celebration of Mass with the Bishop of Aulon, and at the same time received the Sacrament from his hands.

**"Maundy Thursday."**—The confessional boxes were successively occupied by a vast concourse of people. The Canon Dr. Manuel Pereda y Saravia, was from a very early hour in the morning incessantly employed in administering the Sacrament, until the *funcion*, which commenced at 10 o'clock. At this hour the Clergy, with the Bishop elect of Salta, and the Jesuits, received the Bishop of Aulon, who officiated, and administered the Sacrament to the Bishop elect, and to the clergy. At the conclusion of the Mass, a procession took place, with a splendid retinue; this finished, the Host was placed in a superb urn, and deposited in the said monument. In the afternoon, after having received His Excellency the Governor, who with his cortège had come to the church in performance of the stations, the *matines* commenced in the same order as on the preceding day. The same music was repeated; and the Bishop of Aulon again assisted, Dr. José Antonio Picasarri being again the director.

**"Good Friday."**—The Clergy, with the Bishop elect of Salta, and the Jesuits, assembled to receive the Bishop of Aulon; and the offices of the day commenced, the Bishop of Aulon officiating. The "*Passion*" was sung in the same manner as on the preceding Sunday; and after the singing of the *oraciones*, followed the adoration of the Holy Cross, at which the Bishop elect and others of the clergy assisted, and a great quantity of people. This concluded, a procession took place from the monument to the High Altar, where the devotions of the faithful were continued with the same solemnity. At the conclusion of these offices, followed the exercise of the three hours of agony; to which end the Rev. Felipe Elortondo y Palacio pronounced a most eloquent and impressive discourse, which excited the most lively emotion in all present. In the evening the *matines* were celebrated, as on the two preceding evenings.

**"Holy Saturday."**—All assembled as on the preceding days, and the benediction to the people took place. Don Casimiro Arellano then sang the *Angelica*, in a most effective manner; then fol-

lowed the prophecies, sung alternately by the Jesuits and the rest of the Clergy. After this came the benediction of the font, which was performed with due solemnity by the Bishop of Aulon. On arriving at the High Altar the litanies were sung; and then the *solemn Pontifical Mass*.

**"Easter Sunday."**—At sun-rise *matines* were sung, and a Mass performed by the Rector of the Jesuits; and at 11 o'clock in the morning, a Pontifical Mass was celebrated by the Bishop of Aulon; concluding with a procession with the Host, and episcopal benediction.

During the afternoon and evening of "Maundy Thursday," the streets were crowded to excess, particularly with females clad in sables, for the purpose of visiting seven Churches. The High Altars of each Church were adorned; and images of Christ bearing the Cross, and in the act of being scourged, and those of the Virgin, &c. &c. &c., were placed in front of these holy temples; as also in several streets, and under the arched way of the Cabildo; and individuals preached from temporary pulpits in the Calle de la Paz, and near the College Church. During the afternoon His Excellency the Governor visited the churches of La Merced, Catalinas, San Miguel, San Juan, San Ignacio, San Domingo, and San Francisco, accompanied with the usual retinue of the civil and military employés, which we have on other occasions minutely described.

At noon, the colours at the Fort, Marine-Office, and of various vessels in the port, were hoisted half mast, with yards crossed; shops were closed; horses and vehicles no longer appeared in the streets; and all was "stillness," save the continued "bustle" of the immense assemblage of the "faithful" passing and repassing in their route to and from the churches, and this continued until nearly midnight. The Watchmen on this evening ("Maundy Thursday,") traversed their respective "beats" in silence, without "crying the hour."

We were in the College Church, close to the High Altar, from 7 until 10 o'clock on the evening of "Maundy Thursday," to hear the *matines*. The adornments of the altar were truly superb; artificial flowers, &c., tastefully arranged in vases and otherwise, of colour red, white, crimson, rose, &c., with a strong light thrown upon them from the numerous tapers and lamps, made a gorgeous appearance.

On "Good Friday," the Altars in all the churches were veiled, and solemn music performed. Sermons analogous to the day were preached.

On Saturday, at nearly mid-day, the guns from the Fort announced "the resurrection," and immediately the colours were run up to the mast-head, yards squared, fire-works discharged, the bells of the various churches rang a merry peal, drums "rolled," shops were opened, business again resumed, and the ladies doffed their sables, assuming attire of brighter hue.

The Judasses hung up about town were numerous. The rain on Saturday evening, prevented their being "blown up" on that night; but on the evenings of Sunday and Monday this operation took place with the usual ceremonies, music, &c. Two Judasses were suspended in the courtyard of the Fort. They were generally clothed in blue and green, and the names of several political characters were attached to them.

There was no *Retreta* on the evening of "Maundy Thursday." This used to be a grand spectacle on said evening,—the bands of all the regiments were wont to attend upon the occasion.

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

We find that the anniversary of the Patron Saint of the Emerald Isle, was not allowed to pass this year in Buenos Ayres without the customary honors, although, for good reasons, somewhat tardy. It happening to fall on a day the solemnity of which precluded any festive demonstrations, a postponement became necessary; but we believe the enthusiasm of the Sons of Shillelah was not in the least abated by the delay. We have heard of a species of *fete champetre* by which it was celebrated on the 19th, by a private party; but the 27th was the day reserved for the public *funciones*. Mr. Michael Walsh, so well known for his national spirit on those occasions, gave an entertainment at his house, but no particulars respecting it have reached us. Another and more numerous party assembled at Mr. Kirk's, of which we have received the following ample account.

## [COMMUNICATED.]

In consequence of St. Patrick's Day having occurred in Passion Week, the Irish resident in Buenos Ayres postponed its celebration till after Lent, On Easter Monday a large party dined at Kirk's Hotel, many of them wearing the Shamrock and Rose entwined, no doubt as emblematic of the close and cordial union that shall subsist between England and Ireland, as soon as complete justice will have been done to the latter country. The dinner was excellent, the wines of superior quality, and the whole arrangements were got up with a taste and diligence highly creditable to Mr. Kirk and the gentlemen who acted as Stewards.

The Rev. M. McCARTAN took the Chair, and Mr. P. MAULEY acted as Vice-President. After the cloth was removed, the following loyal and patriotic Toasts were given, and the observations with which the Rev. Gentleman introduced some of them, were nearly as follows:—

"Mr. Mauley, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—

"I never enjoyed a happier moment in my life, than I do now in your society. I have almost quitted the bed of sickness to enjoy it; and I do not regret having done so. The good humour, the good feeling, and the smiling faces that I see everywhere to brighten around me, as well as the sense of order and decorum which I observe to pervade every one present, amply compensate for any temporary inconvenience that I might suffer. I should have indeed regretted much had I not been able to join you in a worthy celebration of our national festival. But I have been singularly favoured. During the last three hours my strength, which was completely prostrate, rallied with a rapidity altogether unexpected; and, thanks to a benign Providence, I am now able to be present with you, contrary to my expectations.

"In accordance with the duty I am called on to perform by the partiality of my countrymen, I rise to propose the first toast. It is one never omitted in a meeting of loyal British subjects, namely, the health of our most gracious Sovereign; which I anticipate my generous and warm-hearted countrymen will receive with acclamation (*cheers*). In the history of our country there were times, I must confess, when Irishmen might look on such a toast with apathy or aversion; but those times were when the folly of British Kings viewed our countrymen as fit objects of their hatred and persecution, either because they were "mere Irish," or had faithfully adhered to the religion of their fathers. But, thanks to the illumination of the age and the energy of Irishmen, such times have forever passed away. To say the least, the policy of some of our Sovereigns in this regard, was exceedingly erroneous. For you will concur with me in thinking that coercion of conscience is not only a great error, but a great crime,—that it is repugnant to the spirit of the Gospel, and instead of producing that calm and rational conviction which the certainty of divine faith requires, it leaves men no alternative but hypocrisy or martyrdom. A man's faith is an affair between himself and his God, to whom alone he is to render a strict account as to the purity of his motives, and the sincerity and diligence with which he has sought after divine truth. Hence, as each individual incurs this awful responsibility to his God for the religion he professes, so with each individual rests the right of freely following that religion which a careful and dispassionate examination points out to him as having the best title to a divine and apostolical origin, as being sustained by the clearest and strongest evidence, and which is consequently the most secure for him to confide in. This is the right of every rational being,—a right which cannot be taken away or infringed, without a manifest violation of justice. As to those men and States whose zeal stimulates them to make proselytes, they should never forget that the only legitimate weapons sanctioned by the Divine Author of Christianity, to be employed in his cause, are humanity, justice, the mild persuasion of reason, and the authority of the word of God. No man acknowledges that right, or these principles of conduct, more cordially than our present most gracious Sovereign. He has ever been the sincere and consistent advocate of civil and religious liberty, and, as such, has invariably voted in his place in Parliament, for the emancipation of the Irish Catholics. He is likewise the friend of liberal institutions, and has the great merit and high distinction of signing the Reform Bill, by which the rights and liberties of his subjects have been greatly extended. Gentlemen, without farther preface I give—

"Our most gracious Sovereign, William the Fourth."—  
(*God save the King.*)

"Gentlemen.—The next toast I have the honor to propose, is one of no ordinary interest; it is the health of the august, amiable, and beloved

female who is heir-apparent to the British throne. Like his present Majesty, she is imbued with liberal sentiments; and upon the prolongation of her life, are fixed the hopes of peace, justice, and prosperity for your native land, and the tranquility of the Empire. All good men, who love peace and paternal government, and who deprecate violence and party-spirit, unite in beseeching the Great Disposer of human events to prolong her life. It is essential to the peace and protection of that cherished land which gave you birth; her death would place its tranquillity in imminent danger, and peril the security of property and life. You will therefore send up to Heaven your aspirations for her long life, with that sincerity and fervour which distinguish your national character.—

"The Princess Victoria, the hope of Ireland and the Empire!—and the rest of the Royal Family."—  
(Here's a health to all good tastes.)

III.—Lord Melbourne and His Majesty's Ministers; the Friends of Reform, and of Justice to Ireland.—(Rule Britannia.)

IV.—Earl Mulgrave, the just, fearless, and impartial Viceroy of Ireland —(Duke of York's March.)

V.—The venerated memory of St. Patrick, our National Apostle.—(Received in solemn silence.)

VI.—The Right-Reverend Dr. Medrano, and the Clergy of Buenos Ayres.

"Gentlemen,—I now rise to propose a toast connected with the country in which we live.—Being a stranger and but lately arrived, it is not to be expected that I could have acquired an extensive knowledge of the political questions and feelings that exist in this country. However, I am bound to declare, and I do so with unfeigned pleasure, that I have received testimony from all quarters that the Government of His Excellency General Rosas has been attended with the most beneficial results,—that it has produced public order, and given security to property and life, where all had been heretofore anarchy, confusion, and bloodshed. Such a marked change for the better is exceedingly creditable to the head and heart of His Excellency, whose health I have now the honour to give—

"His Excellency the Governor and Captain-General of the Province of Buenos Ayres, Brigadier-General Don Juan Manuel de Rosas; and stability, peace, and prosperity to the Republic over which he presides."—(National Hymn.)

"The character of the Gentleman whose health I am now about to propose, is so excellent, that you, Gentlemen, I am convinced, will feel no less pleasure in drinking than I do in giving it. I have not had the honor of a personal interview with him, but he is known to me by general report; and I am happy that it enables me to state that he discharges his official duties with an amiability of manner and kindness of disposition which strongly evince the Gentleman and the Christian, and with an urbanity and dignity of demeanour which accord well with the great and enlightened Empire which he represents. Gentlemen, I have the honour of giving—

"Mr. Mandeville, the Representative of our King, and the guardian of our commercial rights."

"Gentlemen,—The toast I am now going to propose, requires no eulogy of mine to make it commendable. It relates to an individual, the very mention of whose name will inspire you with the highest degree of enthusiasm. His unparalleled virtues, indefatigable labours in the cause of his country, and his final success, are themes too well known to you all for me to dilate on. Suffice it to say, that he has devoted a long and laborious life, and brought vast powers both of body and mind, to the service of his country. It is impossible that any man could have battled for the civil and political rights of his countrymen with greater zeal, greater judgment, greater perseverance and honesty of purpose, than Mr. O'Connell. He found them degraded serfs in the land of their fathers, and by the irresistible energy of his genius, he set them free. But what especially enhances the value of his victory is, that it was achieved solely by moral power, without a single crime, a single injury, or the loss of a single drop of human blood. Such has been the achievement, and such the manner of accomplishing it;—both powerfully claim the meed of our admiration. O'Connell is decidedly the first man of the age in which we live,—a model of true and perfect patriotism, who has opened a new page in history, which all who desire to serve their country well and honestly, are bound to study. Gentlemen, you will drink to the health of

"Daniel O'Connell, the illustrious liberator of his native land, and the able and fearless advocate of universal freedom."—(See the conquering hero comes.)

X.—Richard Shiel, the brilliant advocate of his country's rights, and able coadjutor in its political regeneration.—(Garryowen.)

XI.—Thomas Moore, the distinguished Bard of the Emerald Isle; whose genius awoke the slumbering spirit of liberty in the land of his fathers.—(Sprig of Shillelagh.)

XII.—The peace, happiness, and prosperity of our native land: may her sons never forget that to their own union, energy, and prudence, they are mainly indebted for the rights already won; and that it is to the same virtues they will owe those yet to be acquired.

XIII.—Our countrymen on both banks of the River Plata.

XIV.—Civil and Religious Liberty all over the world.

"Our worthy Chairman," Mr. McCarty returned thanks, and concluded by giving.—"Our worthy Vice-President, and may we have an accession of many such excellent youths from the Emerald Isle." Mr. McAuley returned thanks in a neat speech.

Mr. Kirk not having had an apartment sufficiently spacious to accommodate the party at dinner, it was served up in the *patio*, which was carpeted, canopied with an awning, splendidly lighted, and otherwise tastefully fitted up with evergreens, the Harp of Erin, and other appropriate devices. But the advent of the rain a little after 11 o'clock, obliged the party to retire inside, and prevented the following, among other toasts, from having been given:—"Our English brethren,"—"Our Scotch brethren,"—"The United States."

The party then commenced the merry dance, which was spiritedly kept up till the dawn of morning; when they retired to their respective homes, highly delighted one with another, and with "the feast of reason and the flow of soul" which the celebration of their national festival afforded.

### ANCIENT ROMAN FESTIVALS. MARCH.

The *Ancilia*, or sacred bucklers, which were kept in the temple of Mars, were carried in solemn procession round the walls of Rome every year on the first of March, the priests dancing and singing praises to the god Mars. This sacred festival continued three days, during which every important business was suspended. It was deemed unfortunate to be married on those days, or to undertake any expedition; and Tacitus, in his first History, has attributed the unsuccessful campaign of the Emperor Otho against Vitellius, to his leaving Rome during the celebration of the *Ancylionum festum*.—The *Kalends* of March was the *Nationalia*, a festival kept by the Roman matrons in honour of Mars, to whom they thought themselves obliged for the happiness of bearing good children; a favour which he conferred on his own mistress, Rhea. The women granted to their servants on this occasion, the same privileges which were granted to the slaves by their masters on the *Saturalia*. No men living in celibacy were allowed to assist at the feast.—The *Ides* of March (says Kennett,) was the feast of *Anna Perenna*,

in honour either of the sister of Dido, who fled into Italy to *Eneas*, or of one *Anna*, an old-gentlewoman that, in a great dearth at Rome, for some time furnished the common people with corn out of her own store. The celebration of this day consisted in drinking and feasting largely among friends. The common people met for this purpose in the fields near the Tiber, and building themselves booths and arbours, kept the day with all manner of sports and jollity, wishing one another to live as many years as they drank cups.—The *Liberalia* were festivals in honour of Bacchus, which took place on the 17th of March. Slaves were then permitted to speak with freedom, and every thing bore the appearance of independence. They were much the same (says Lempriere,) as the *Dionysia* of the Greeks. The name was taken from *liber*, i.e. *free*, a title conferred on Bacchus, in memory of the liberty or freedom which he granted to the people of Bœotia; or, perhaps, because wine, whereof he was the reputed deity, delivers men from care, and sets their minds at ease and freedom. Varro, however, derives the name of these feasts from *liber*, because the priests were free from their function, and eased of all care, during the time of the *liberalia*, as the old women officiated in the ceremonies and sacrifices of these feasts.—March the 19th, or the 14th of the *Kalends* of April, began the *Quinquatrus*, or *Quinquatria*, the feast of *Minerva*, continuing five days. It was during this solemnity (says Kennett,) that the boys and girls used to pray to the goddess for wisdom and learning, of which she had the patronage. At the same time the youths carried their master's fee, or present, termed *Minervæ*.—The *Tubistrium* was the feast on which they purified their sacred trumpets. It was held on the fifth and last day of the feast of *Minerva*, as mentioned above.—On the last day of this month, the *Ancilia* were again deposited in the temple of Mars. The *Ancile*, a sacred shield or buckler, according to the Roman authors, fell from heaven in the reign of Numa, when the Roman people laboured under a pestilence. Upon the preservation of this shield depended the fate of the Roman empire, and therefore Numa ordered eleven of the same size and form to be made, that if ever any attempt was made to carry them away, the plunderer might find it difficult to distinguish the true one. They were made with such exactness, that the king promised *Veterius Manurius*, the artist, whatever reward he desired. The priests who watched over their safety were called *Salii*, and were twelve in number.—The *Fornacalia* were festivals instituted by Numa in honour of the goddess *Fornax*, who presided over the baking of bread. Sacrifices were performed before the mouth of an oven every year in the month of March.—(The Mirror.)

## FOREIGN MERCHANT VESSELS

IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AYRES, ON THE 30th of MARCH, 1897.

VESSELS AND CAPTAINS' NAMES.	CONSIGNEES.	DESTINATION, &c.
<b>BRITISH.</b>		
Brig Nautilus, Grayburn, .....	Brownell, Stegmann & Co., .....	Loading for London.
Brig Luna, Anderson, .....	John Best, Brothers, .....	Loading for Liverpool.
Brig Stirlingshire, Brown, .....	Brownell, Stegmann & Co., .....	Loading for Liverpool.
Brig Malcolm, J. Malcolm, .....	Nickolson, Green & Co., .....	Loading for Liverpool.
Barque Isabella, D. Smith, .....	Rennie, Macfarlane & Co., .....	Loading for Liverpool.
Brig Fame, Whitley, .....	Parlane, Macalister & Co., .....	Loading for Liverpool.
<b>AMERICAN.</b>		
Ship Leonidas, Field, .....	Zimmermann, Frazier & Co., .....	Loading for New York.
Brig Emily, Godfrey, .....	Dowdall & Lewis, .....	Boston, via Santos.
Ship Manchester, Jarman, .....	Zimmermann, Frazier & Co., .....	Loading for Boston.
Brig Pioneer, Goodhue, .....	Daniel Gowland & Co., .....	Loading for Philadelphia.
Barque General Stark, Paine, .....	Zimmermann, Frazier & Co., .....	Discharging.
<b>FRENCH.</b>		
Barque Alfred, Gantreau, .....	Guerin, Seris & Co., .....	Loading for Marseilles.
<b>DUTCH.</b>		
Galliot Juliane, Poodts, .....	Zimmermann, Frazier & Co., .....	Loading for Havana.
<b>HAMBURG.</b>		
Brig Johannes, Gagio, .....	C. H. Andersen, .....	Loading for Cowes for orders.
<b>SWEDISH.</b>		
Schr.-brig Victorina, Miltpeus, .....	Zimmermann, Frazier & Co., .....	Discharging.
<b>TUSCAN.</b>		
Brig Esperanza, Shepherd, .....	M. S. de la Maza, .....	Discharging.
<b>SPANISH.</b>		
Polacre Minerva, Donemek, .....	F. Llavioll, .....	Loading for Saló and Barcelona.
Polacre Artemisa, Fornécs, .....	F. Llavioll, .....	Discharging.
Brig N.S. de la Misericordia, Rocatagalieta, .....	Amadeo, .....	Loading for Genoa.
<b>BRAZILIAN.</b>		
Brig Eloisa, J. C. Souza, .....	M. A. Ramos, .....	Brazil.
Schr.-brig Bella Angelica, Anunciacion, .....	M. A. Ramos, .....	Brazil.
Schr.-brig Oliveira, Barreros, .....	M. A. Ramos, .....	Brazil.
Schr.-brig San José de los Placeres, Lesa, .....	J. B. Soriano, .....	Loading for Rio Janeiro.
Schr.-brig Caboclo, Cuña, .....	M. A. Ramos, .....	Brazil.
Schr.-brig San José, Almeida, .....	J. A. Rivero, .....	Brazil.

### FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR.—None.

AT ENSENADA.

French ship Constance, Soreau, to Ferdinand Delisle, loading with mules for the Island of Bourbon.

**MARINE LIST.**

**Port of Buenos Ayres.**

March 25.—Wind N.—Heavy rain all day.  
No arrivals or sailings.

March 26.—Wind E.—Rain.  
No arrivals or sailings.

March 27.—Wind E. S. E.—Slight rain.  
Arrived, Brazilian schooner-brig San José, José Antonio Almeida, from Paragua 10th inst., with yerba, rice, and timber, to Joaquín Almeida Rivero.

March 28.—Wind E. S. E.—Rain early this morning.  
Arrived, Tuscan brig Esperanza, Peter Shepherd, from Cadiz 4th February, with wine, oil, paper, and general cargo, to Manuel Saez de la Maza. Passengers, 7 Jesuits, viz., Bernardo Perez, Juan José Anibarro, Francisco Ramon, Francisco Coll de Fons, Miguel Cabezas, Antonio Domingo, and Gabriel Fiol; and Señores José Flores, Antonio Nores, Luisiano Losada, and the Señorita Gerónima Rufino.

Swedish brig Victoria, Frederick Millopous, from Gellé (near Stockholm,) 15th October, Coves 20th December, with lumber, &c., to Zimmermann, Frazier & Co.

Sailed, National schooner-brig Emilia, John Buean, for Bahia, despatched by Nelson Hartwig, with 2406 quintals jerked beef, 6 boxes candles, 7 barrels flour.

H. B. M.'s packet schr. Cockatrice, Lieut. John Douglas, Commander, for Montevideo and Rio Janeiro. Passengers for Rio Janeiro, thence to proceed to England, Mr. John Rennie, and Don Angel Pacheco, (son of General Pacheco).

March 30.—Wind E.

Arrived, National whole-boat Primers, (of the line of whale-boats,) from Montevideo 28th.

Sailed, Sardinian polacre Temistocles, Juan Cevasco, for Genoa, despatched by Luis Amadeo, with 600 dry hides, 24,200 horn tips, 8350 horns, 500 quintals old iron, 800 bales and 15 packages with 7694 arrobas wool, 9 bales with 180 doz. sheepskins, 1 bale with 120 doz. slunk-calf hides, 12 quintals horn pieces.

The Cockatrice and Emilia, which sailed yesterday, were in sight this day.

March 30.—Wind S. E.

No arrivals.

Sailed, National packet schooner Luisa, José Muratori, for Montevideo.

The Temistocles, which sailed yesterday, was in sight this day.

March 31.—Wind S. S. E.

No arrivals.

Sailed, Brazilian brig Licia, Joaquín Arsenio da Silva, for Rio Janeiro, despatched by Manuel Acevedo Ramos, with about 2300 quintals jerked beef, some chinchilla skins, nuts, onions, 2 horses, &c. &c.

**SHIPPING MEMORANDA.**

Vessels passed Point Indio.

On 24th ult., Wind N.—at half-past 4 A. M., Cimber, hence 23rd;—at 10 A. M., Reform, hence 22nd.

Arrived at Montevideo.

- 23rd ult.—Sardinian brig Correo del Brasil, from Sta. Catalina.
- 24th.—British barque Matthew Plummer, from Rio Janeiro (10th, with 6000 aligueros salt, to Lafone & Co.
- 25th.—Brazilian launch Buena Fé, from Pernambuco.
- " Brazilian schr.-brig San Juan Vencedor, from Bahia 5th, with 2400 aligueros salt, to F. Hocquard.
- " Brazilian launch Delfino, from Puerto Alegre 17th.
- " British brig Howard, from Cete 12th January, with wine, &c., to Lafone & Co.
- 27th.—Sardinian brig Dependente, from Rio Janeiro 12th.
- " Portuguese ship Armonica, from Paragua 10th.
- " Brazilian brig Peregrino, from Sta. Catalina 19th.
- 28th.—British brig Philonela, Sprot, from Liverpool 25th January, to Stanley, Black & Co.

Vessels on the Berth at Liverpool, on 25th January.

FOR BUENOS AYRES.

Schr.-brig Betsey Hall, Captain John Coaker.

FOR MONTEVIDEO AND BUENOS AYRES.

Brig Hebe, Captain Field.

The brig Annabella, was expected at Liverpool from London, to be placed on the berth for Buenos Ayres.

The barque Standard, Captain John Feils, was to sail from Liverpool for Buenos Ayres, about 30th January.

The Jesuit padres from Spain, came on shore on Tuesday afternoon last, from the brig Esperanza; and were received with great delight by a number of their clerical brethren, and others, who waited their landing. The new-comers are mostly young men. Nearly at the moment of their disembarkation, embarked our esteemed friend Mr. John Rennie, merchant of this city, and with him the son of General Pacheco; who proceed in the packet to England. They were

accompanied to the place of embarkation by a crowd of friends. Mr. Rennie has resided for eleven years in Buenos Ayres, and will doubtless return hither. The visit of General Pacheco's son to England is, we believe, for the purpose of finishing his education.—May every happiness attend the voyagers.

THE WEATHER has been fine during the week—thermometer 64 to 76. The late Summer (we may now speak of it in the past tense,) was not remarkably hot: the thermometer, in cool places, was rarely higher than 88°. The 22nd, 23rd, and 24th February, were sultry; as also the week ending 25th ult.

**THEATRE.**

The Theatre opened for the season on 26th ult., with the tragedy of "The Cid." Señor Casacuberta was the hero,—Señora Alejandra Pacheco the heroine. Both were respectable; but the latter distorts her face too much. The audience smiled when she said if the King desired her to marry, she must comply. It was like Doña Valante's acquiescence to marriage.—"Since my time's come."

The farce was "Los tres Novios imperfectos." Señor Felipe David received a round of applause on his entry; and was rapturously encored in the ditty,—

"En tiempo de Mari Castañón,  
Una Vieja solía cantar."

The serenades of the three lovers reminded us of the—

"Bravo! very fine!  
Serenades must win her;  
If she isn't pleased,  
Then the Devil's in her."

The house was fully and fashionably attended. In the boxes were the daughter and other members of the family of His Excellency the Governor; the lady of Don Ladisloa Martinez, and daughter; Dr. M. Rivera, and his lady; Don J. A. Barbosa, Jun., and lady; Don F. Belausstigni, lady, and sister; Mr. Mandeville, Minister Plenipotentiary of His Britannic Majesty; Señor Lisboa, Chargé d'Affaires of Brazil, &c. &c.

On Tuesday, three one-act pieces. The last, "The Plan of a Drama,"—in which Queen Isabel II., and the immortal Christina, were lauded to the skies; and Don Carlos terribly bespattered. These things may do very well in Madrid;—here they pass unnoticed.

The house was not very full. On Thursday, "Los Hijos de Edipo," (two heavy tragedies in one week—this is not good policy). Señores Casacuberta and Castañera performed with much animation.

In the farce which followed, a young lady pretends to hate mankind; and declares that if any man should dare to make love to her, she would shoot him.

The audience was not very numerous. In the boxes were their Excellencies the Governors of Buenos Ayres and Santa Fé. The latter seemed much indisposed, and wore all the evening his cloak and hat. They were visited in their box by Señor Lisboa, Chargé d'Affaires of Brazil. A martial hymn was sung previous to the performance; and the exterior of the Theatre was illuminated; it being the anniversary of the birth-day of His Excellency the Governor of Buenos Ayres.

The house has been cleaned and beautified,—the colours, red, rose, salmon, and white,—and it really looks brilliant.

Efforts seem now to be made to keep the swarms of boys from the boxes; but they are incorrigible. They seem to give the box of the British Minister, and that of the Brazilian Chargé d'Affaires, the preference; for which reason these urchins are called "attached."

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

We have received a communication with the particulars of the entertainments which took place at the house of Mr. Michael Walsh, in honor of St. Patrick's Day.—It came too late for insertion this week, but it shall appear in our next.

Wet,

On 27th ult., Dr. HENRY DONNELLY, native of Naas, County of Kildare, Ireland.

**ADVERTISEMENT.**

**Methodist Episcopal Chapel.**  
THE REV. JOHN DEMESTER, Missionary from the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, having received his Licence from Government, will commence Divine Service (Providence permitting) on Sunday, April 2nd, at 11 o'clock A. M., and at 7 o'clock P. M.; at No. 50, Calle de la Catedral. Buenos Ayres, March 30, 1837.

**British and Foreign Schools.**

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SUBSCRIBERS to this SOCIETY, will take place on THURSDAY, the 11th instant, at 6 o'clock P. M., at the School-Room of Mr. Ramsey, No. 31, Calle de las Piedras. (By order.)  
H. W. GILBERT, Secretary.

**Blankets.**

REAL WITNEY BLANKETS, from 9 quarters to 12 quarters, for Sale at the Store  
No. 32, Calle Chacabuco.

**Notice.**

A YOUNG GENTLEMAN that will shortly be at Liberty, is desirous of forming an engagement with some respectable Mercantile House. He has a thorough knowledge of Manufactured Cotton Goods, and is well acquainted with the Produce of this Country. Unexceptionable references can be produced. For further particulars, address C., at the Commercial-Rooms, No. 59, Calle del 25 de Mayo; which will receive immediate attention.

**To Let.**

AN extensive enclosed BARRACA-YARD, with adjoining Dwelling-House; conveniently situated for collecting Produce, and suited for a business requiring extent of room. The Premises overlook the River, and form the esquina of the Calles Balcarrea and Patagonia, near the Residencia.

**For Sale.**

At the Bookseller's and Stationer's Shop,  
No. 30, Cathedral Street,  
A FEW SETS of the "PENNY MAGAZINE," for the years 1832, 31, and 34.

**Notice.**

THE BUENOS AYRES DIRECTORY FOR 1837, may be had at the *Gaceta Mercantil* Office; at the Commercial Rooms, No. 59, Calle del 25 de Mayo; and at Mr. Steadman's Library, No. 30, Calle de la Catedral.—Price, 5 dollars.

**Notice.**

BEST POTATOES IN TOWN, at No. 61, Calle de la Piedra.

**For Liverpool. (Passengers only.)**

THE FINE NEW BRIG  
**MALCOLM,**  
JAMES MALCOLM, COMMANDER,  
HAS spacious accommodations for PASSENGERS, and will sail on or before the 9th current. — For terms, apply to the Commander, at Hunt's Hotel; to Nicholson, Green & Co., No. 82, Calle de la Universidad; or HORNE & ALSOGARAY, 51, Calle de la Paz.

To Parties desirous of bringing their Friends from England to this country.

CAPTAIN DAVID SMITH, of the British barque ISABELLA, will leave this about the 10th of April, for England; and will engage to provide a Passage, on moderate terms, in his vessel, for any person who may be desirous of bringing their Friends to this country; receiving payment here after his arrival.

Early application is requested to CAPTAIN SMITH, at MR. LUMB'S, No. 82, Calle de la Universidad.

**PRICES CURRENT.**

Doublers, Spanish,.....	124 a	124½ dollars each.
Do. Patriot,.....	120½ a	121 do. do.
Plata macuquina,.....	7 a	7½ do. Jorone.
Dollars, Spanish,.....	78 a	78 do. each.
Do. Patriotic, Patagonas,.....	78 a	74 do. do.
6 per cent. Stock,.....	46 a	50 do. per cent.
Bank Shares,.....	..	do. each.
Exchange on England,.....	60 a	7 pence p. dol.
Do. on Rio Janeiro,.....	300 a	dls. p. ct. p. m.
Do. on Montevideo,.....	74 a	p. patacon.
Do. on United States,.....	74 a	do. p. U. S. dol.
Hides, Oz, best,.....	30 a	31 do. p. pesada.
Do. country,.....	27 a	29 do. do.
Do. weighing 28 to 24 lbs,.....	28 a	29 do. do.
Do. salted,.....	23 a	24 do. do.
Do. Horse,.....	10 a	11 do. each.
Nutra Skin,.....	34 a	4 do. per lb.
Chinchole Skin,.....	35 a	4 do. per dozen.
Hair, long,.....	45 a	46 do. do.
Do. mixed,.....	28 a	30 do. do.
Jerked Beef,.....	14 a	17 do. p. quintal.
Tallow, melted,.....	12 a	13 do. p. arroba.
Horns,.....	128 a	450 do. per mil.
Flour, (North American),.....	..	do. per barrel.
Salt, on board,.....	11 a	12 do. p. Jangue.
Discount,.....	½ a	¾ p. ct. p. month.

The highest price of Doublers during the week, 125 dollars. The lowest price, 120½ dollars. The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week, 7 pence. The lowest ditto, 6½ pence.

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ALEXANDER BRANDEN, Responsible Editor.