

British Packet

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

Nº. 634.]

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1838.

[Vol. XIII.]

BUENOS AYRES.

We have perused the Montevideo journal *Universal* to 9th inst. That of the 8th, states that a conspiracy was discovered at 9 o'clock on the night of Friday 5th inst., having to all appearance the object of delivering up Montevideo to the anarchists. The latter about midnight approached the city, with 300 cavalry at full gallop, but they were fired upon by a piquet of infantry of the national guard, under the command of Javier Alvarez. The anarchists immediately retreated, having 8 killed and 19 wounded, amongst the latter was the officer who commanded the party, and who is stated to have died some hours afterwards. The *Universal* speaks highly of the conduct of the officers and men composing the national guard, and of the corps of the garrison at Montevideo, all of whom were upon the alert on the occasion, determined to support the laws and oppose the cruel and sanguinary anarchy which now desolates the Republic. It highly eulogises the conduct of a sentinel of the national guard, (Domingo Piñeiro,) who bayoneted one of the anarchists when endeavouring to surprise him at his post.

The Minister for foreign affairs of the Oriental Republic, Don Carlos G. Villademoros, had addressed a note to the French Consul at Montevideo, complaining that a whale-boat from Buenos Ayres, with despatches for the government, had with the despatches been detained by the French Admiral Leblanc. The Consul in reply, said that the detention of the despatches occurred through error, and forwarded them to the government; adding, that the Admiral would send the whale boat back to Buenos Ayres.

The decree calling Admiral Brown into the service of the Oriental State, is as follows—

DECREE.

WAR AND MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Montevideo, September 30th, 1838.

It being necessary to confide the command of the naval forces of the Republic to a person of known talent and valour, and the Brigadier General of the State, William Brown, possessing those qualities in an eminent degree, the government has ordered and decreed—

Art. 1. Brigadier General William Brown, is appointed Commander in Chief of the naval forces of the Republic.

2. Let this be published.

ORIBE.

ANTONIO DIAZ.

The Inspector General—General Agustin de Pinedo, under date Buenos Ayres 26th ult., addressed a note to Admiral William Brown, in reply to one from the latter dated Montevideo 19th ult., to His Excellency the Governor of Buenos Ayres, in which he solicited permission to lend his services to the Oriental Republic, in compliance with a request made to him by its President; to act against a maritime force of pirates, which had sprung up under the orders

of Rivera. The Inspector General, stated, that His Excellency the Governor, felt highly gratified at the noble sentiments expressed by the Admiral against these pirates, who united with the execrable Unitarians, are the scourge of the inhabitants of the Oriental State, and therefore granted the proposed leave, on the terms which the Admiral had named, and until it may be otherwise determined.

Operations of the French blockading vessels.

6th inst. The man of war *felucca* (for such she is,) of Don Fructuoso Rivera, sailed during the last night for Colonia. She is armed with a four pounder at the bow, and has from 25 to 30 men. She sails under the Oriental flag, was constructed in Buenos Ayres by an Englishman, and seized we believe a few weeks ago, by the Rivera troops, at Saucos, 7 leagues E. of Colonia.

7th. The *felucca* above-mentioned arrived again from Colonia, being her third visit within a few days to the blockading squadron. She remained a considerable time alongside the blockading Commodore's vessel *Dassas*, and sailed for Colonia in the afternoon. The corvette *Indienne*, was under weigh and anchored close to the *Dassas*; and shifted her berth afterwards a little to the W. Eight small craft (prizes) got under weigh in the outer roads, supposit for Colonia, but anchored again from strong head wind.

8th. The French corvette *Camille*, returned from a cruise, and took her station as southernmost vessel in the outer roads. The French schooner brig of war *Vigilant*, and 6 French armed boats, viz.—4 launches, the *Atréviedo* and a whale-boat, sailed this afternoon in the direction of Martin Garcia.

9th. The *Camille* fired two guns this afternoon, probably to scale them. A number of the blockaders boats visited the small craft—prizes.

10th. Nothing new.

11th. Nothing new.

12th. Nothing new, except that French armed boats are cruising to the northward.

The blockading force now off this port, consists of corvettes *Camille* and *Indienne*, and brig *Dassas*.

The blockaders have now twelve small craft in custody in the outer roads.

This day (13th inst.), completes the 200th day of the blockade.

The town was illuminated on the evening of the 11th inst., in honor of the anniversary of the 11th October, 1833, the day on which the movement commenced which displaced the government of General Juan Ramon Balcarce.—Both Theatres were open, and the national anthem was sung at each, previous to the performance.

Since the receipt of the ultimatum from the French Admiral Leblanc, it has been thought necessary to take some precautionary measures—hence the notice from the Police Office, ordering that all flag staffs, excepting those of Foreign Agents, should be struck, &c. &c. In compliance with which, the flag staff at the Commercial Room has been taken down, and a jury must substituted for it. A battery of 5 long brass 24 pounders has been erected on the beach, near to the place where the old battery stood, a short distance South of the Retiro.—

We visited this new battery on Thursday morning last. Four beautiful pieces of artillery, cast in Seville, were already mounted. They do honor to Spanish talent, and every one knows that the Spaniards excel in the manufacture of these implements of war. *Sin embargo*—we have every hope that there will be no occasion for the use of this artillery. A postscript to a letter which we received by H. B. M's packet *Spider*, from Rio Janeiro, informs us that a French Minister, Monsieur Martigny, has been appointed to proceed to Buenos Ayres, and was to leave France in the French store ship *Dordogne*. The quarter whence we derive this information, gives us reason to believe that it will prove correct; and we hail it with joy, convinced that the arrival of a French Minister in Buenos Ayres will go far to settle the present dispute.

The taking of the Oriental packet schooner *Rosa*, and schooner boat *Despacho*, noticed in our last, caused considerable excitement in town. These captures were effected by the schooner *Loba*, in company with the schooners *Eufracia* and *Star of the South*, (pilot boat,) all acting for the Rivera party. The Commodore of this flotilla is Santiago Soriano, an Italian, who fitted from Buenos Ayres on the night of the 2nd ult., in the *Eufracia*. He has his flag in the *Loba*.

Don Fructuoso Rivera, has now got a potent fleet, and it is enabled to cruise unmolested, the vessels of the government at Montevideo, being yet in that port preparing. The River Plate presents at this moment a curious spectacle.—A French squadron blockading Buenos Ayres and its littoral, and a squadron appertaining to a party in opposition to the legal government of the Oriental State, capturing packets sailing by permission of the French Admiral Leblanc, between this and Montevideo.

Amongst the passengers in the *Rosa*, was Mr. Stud, Consul of the United States, to the Argentine Republic, who was proceeding to Montevideo on business. Also Señor Xavier Garcia de Zuñiga, Envoy extraordinary from the Oriental government to that of Buenos Ayres. The whole of the passengers we hear have arrived at Montevideo, with the exception of Señor Zuñiga, who it is said has been made prisoner.

Official Documents.

VIVA LA FEDERACION!

The Committee for regulating the price of beef in their report to the government, dated 31st August last, state that nothing had occurred to call for any alteration in the present price.

The *Gaceta Mercantil* of 6th and 8th inst., contains the proceedings in the House of Representatives on its sittings of 28th ult., and 1st inst.

The same journal of 9th and 10th inst., contains a continuation of the report from the Collector General's office, relative to the examination of accounts ordered by the decree of 13th June, 1835.

A petition to the government under date 8th inst., from some inhabitants of Moron, requested that that district might be hereafter denominated 'Moron de In Concepcion,' to which the government acceded.

GENERAL SANTA CRUZ.

We had intended in conformity to the request of several of our subscribers, to give extensive extracts from the documents published in the Chili and Guayaquil gazettes, in answer to those of General Santa Cruz. Other objects however intervened, and we must now content ourselves with cursorily noticing them. If General Santa Cruz, has in his service literary talent of the first order, so have his opponents. In piquancy, the latter decidedly excel, instance the parody on the message of General Santa Cruz to the Congress assembled at Cochabamba, in which we read the following.

"In the mean time, you are not unaware, that the British Cabinet, deceived by the false accounts, which I sent to be published in the London journals, through my agent in that Capital, Señor Pasos, and the excellent reports, which I have managed to have transmitted to Europe, relative to my policy and ulterior views, through the partisans which I have known how to gain amongst the Europeans, has offered its mediation in the present contest, and the government of Chili, perhaps will be a little more docile on this occasion than when it rejected the mediation of the Ecuador."

The Chili journals in noticing the mediation offered by the British government, in its quarrel with General Santa Cruz, say, that this is all very well and friendly on the part of that government, but ask how will it be able to mediate and put a stop to the intrigues of Santa Cruz, so well proved against him as it regards his connivance in General Freire's seditious movement in Chili, and those from Bolivia itself to the Argentine provinces of Salta and Tucuman.

A newspaper of the Republic of the Ecuador, called the *Ariete*, published at Guayaquil, in its number of 9th July last, contains a long article upon the intrigues and views of General Santa Cruz, avowing, that if his means were even more powerful than those he has at his disposal, it is impossible that he can stand against the voice of South America, which is unanimous against him. That his chief support is foreigners, and on them he relies for the preservation of his post. Upon this head the *Ariete* says.

"It is beyond a doubt that foreigners, or at least a great many of them, who reside in South America, have declared for the cause of usurpation. All thinking men will regret to see them so interested, in favor of injustice and crime, such friends of the enemy of South America, and such enemies of honor, and of the rights and prerogatives of the people. But we must not be understood, when speaking of foreigners, as including all without distinction. On the contrary, we have the pleasure of knowing that there are amongst them honorable exceptions, to whose moderation, disinterestedness, and good feeling, we shall ever render deserved esteem and praise. These are our true friends, and friends and citizens of all countries, being at once industrious, beneficent, enlightened and liberal.

"It is most unpleasant to notice, yet it is well known, that a number of foreigners who have come to our shores, have been the occasion of innumerable evils to our States. This has occurred, because many of them appertaining to the lower order of society, were men without education and almost without civilisation; added to which our imprudence, confidence and want of precaution, have given them a fatal ascendancy amongst us. Certain it is, that all the South American States, have more or less, serious causes of complaint for their most extraordinary conduct. We from the first opened to them our arms, our hearts loaded them with favours, and offered to their speculations and industry a rich and vast market. In return for this hospitality, for privileges, even beyond those of the natives, for friendship and kindness without measure, they have treated us with contumely, and mingled in and fanned our domestic dissensions, &c. &c.

"If we have received such treatment from private individuals of foreign nations, grievances of a higher order reveal what we have to fear from European policy. It is known that va-

rious agents of foreign governments, setting at nought the circumspection and neutrality which their official character demanded, have interfered with more or less publicity in our domestic policy, and under the safeguard of the immunity they enjoy, have in their correspondence used high sounding and threatening language; and as if treating with a people semi-savages, they have frequently endeavoured to intimidate by means of their vessels of war anchored in our ports, for the ostensible object of protecting commerce, thus taking ignoble advantage of our comparative weakness."

The *Ariete*, in order to prove its assertion that foreigners have abetted discord in the States of South America, has attached a note to the article, from which the above are extracts, in which it says.

"What shall we say of those men, who quietly look on and foment from afar disturbances, for the sole end of satisfying their cupidity? For this vile motive, the British, French and North American merchants, in Buenos Ayres, effectually assisted in all these disasters, furnishing Artigas with arms and ammunition, and founded their fortune in the destruction of more than twenty thousand families??? These details of the life and policy of Artigas, are taken from the interesting work of Messrs. Rengger and Longchamps, entitled—An historical essay on the revolution in Paraguanay, &c."

The *Mercurio* of Valparaiso, ridicules the proclamations of General Santa Cruz, and states, that what with imitating and patching up, the military productions of Napoleon, they present an extravagant parody, at once diverting and contemptible. It analyses the proclamation which he addressed on 18th April last, to the army of the South, particularly where he says—"I embrace you nevertheless in the person of your General in Chief." On this part, the *Mercurio* thus comments—"I embrace you all in the person of your General, said Napoleon, to his soldiers in one of his proclamations of the first campaign in Italy, and in the celebrated speech which he made on his abdication at Fontainebleau." It is sufficient to note the similarity of thoughts in persons so dissimilar in order, to be convinced that here is re-produced one of the most ingenious fables of a Spanish poet. The *Minero* of Coquimbo, remarking upon the same subject, exclaims—"O ye silent walls of Fontainebleau! what would you have said, if in place of the powerful voice of the Great Man, your echoes had resounded the howling of this Khan of Guanacuz?"

The following appeared in English and in Spanish in the Montevideo journal *Universal* of 2nd inst.

"The Proprietor of the *Saladero* at *Las Tres Cruces*, having been told by the Chief of Police, Señor Don Jaime Ila y Viamonte, that some Englishman had informed the latter of hides being purchased at that establishment, from the besieging lines, at nine and at twelve reals each, (prices so low as to warrant a suspicion of the property's being stolen,) avails himself, through the medium of this paper, to state that such Englishman, whoever he may be, is a liar and a slanderer, and from the secret method of his attempting to do mischief, appears to be as great a coward as he is a delinquent."

Buenos Ayres, 8th October, 1833.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH PACKET.

SIR,

I cannot doubt but that your correspondent of last week, who signs himself Spectator, has drawn a faithful picture of the former struggles with indigence, the recent competence and comforts, and the present melancholy destitution of the English family, whose all his estates to have been swept away with the late disastrous floods. May I then be allowed to pass through your hands my humble mite towards their relief, and in so doing, I will take occasion for the first time of requesting permission to trespass upon your columns, by offering to our countrymen here resident, a general commentary on this individual case.

In the course of the present year, we have heard much of the necessity that existed for supporting public schools by general contribution, to educate the rising generation of British origin in this city. Far be it from me to gain-

say the utility of, or, (if its more ardent friends insist upon the term,) the necessity for such institutions; they are indisputably most desirable, and the promoters of them deserving of praise. But the cause of education, wholly or in part gratuitous, has been advocated and followed up in practice with zeal bordering on Quixotism, if considered, as it truly ought to be, but a recent and secondary scion for the mighty tree of charity to nourish. It has indeed been assumed, that the tree itself required but little nurture in a country where so few were to be found that needed the blessings of its shade and of its fruits; and thus has the parent trunk been suffered to fall into decay amongst us, for the purpose of watering, manuring and nursing this little shoot; and that too amidst schisms and controversies, which must I fear have given rise to other feelings than those which consecrate and call down blessings on deeds of beneficence. May I venture to say, Mr. Editor, that I lament the outlay of large donations in building school rooms, and the appropriation of considerable annual subscriptions for their support? Yes, Sir, I do lament it; but only inasmuch as the outlay and the appropriation for such an object, are altogether disproportionate to our contributions for greater and more general purposes of philanthropy and benevolence. A picture such as this presents of our good works, with our new and old schools not merely in the foreground, but casting into deepest shade and eclipsing all other objects that demand more worthy and conspicuous places in the drawing, such a picture does not in my estimation harmonise with the example of Him who went about doing good—with the precepts of Him who spoke as never man spoke; and who when the Lawyer required an exposition of Law, replied, 'Love thy God, and thy neighbour as thyself,' pathetically explaining at the time the full force of the command. Were I to ask, 'and who is my neighbour,' shall I be told, 'It is the Englishman in the next street with half a dozen children, and whose means are inadequate to pay for their education.' O, no—he is not the neighbour to which that beautiful parable has directed my attention, while want, present, positive and pressing want, sets at so many doors in this city; ere I can reach his with my well meant offering, I shall receive a melancholy nod of recognition in the intermediate quadra, from the widow and the orphan, who patient and uncomplaining, ply their well worn needles from morn till night, to earn the poor subsistence of one scanty meal per day. And shall I go forward with my offering for the use of the Englishman's children, to the prejudice of these mute claimants, because he speaks my language and follows my creed? No—let it not be said of men who spring from British soil, be their Church governed by Bishops or by Elders, that they profess a faith which admits of local distinctions, exceptions and partialities, in discharging the great duties of active charity. Let it not be believed that we can collect large sums for the secondary and less urgent mental requirements of youths from our own land, and listen with apathy to the appeal of the widow, the orphan, the aged, the infirm, and the hungry—an appeal rendered the more forcible since it reaches us only in the deep drawn sighs of physical sufferings and sorrow. Let us, I would say, prove to the people with whom we dwell, and from whom we receive not merely protection, but kindness, hospitality and even affection, let us convince them that we are really like themselves, members of the great Catholic Church of Christ, willing though feeble followers of Him the first great Catholic. Before, however I proceed, let me disclaim all desire or intention of preaching a Crusade against gratuitous tuition to the poor. To one of their institutions I am a subscriber, and a well-wisher to all. I am well content that the tythe of mint, anise and cummin, should be paid to our youthful brethren; but let not the weightier matters of the law of charity be left undone, when suffering humanity calls for their fulfilment. And now, to the point.

There exists a Society among us, (if the state of inattention into which it has lapsed merits the name of existence,) entitled the 'Benevolent' or the 'Philanthropic,' having I believe for its object to afford occasional relief to strangers or foreigners in misfortune. I can assure the managing Committee, not one of whose names I am acquainted with, that I am very far from attributing to any neglect of theirs, the inefficient state of their funds, feeling assured that their best exertions in behalf of misfortunates and

distress, would have met with small success while the tide of popular feeling was running so strong in favour of the rising generation. 'We cannot give to all,' is the ready and every day reply, when frequent lists for charitable contributions are unfolded at our doors, and the one with which I apprehend this association has too often been obliged to retire. A season however has arrived, an anxious and unlooked for season, when this city of abundance is actually visited with want and distress, a season when this association, I speak of, may venture to shake off its lethargy and come forth to do good. Allow me then respectfully to suggest to the Committee the advantages to be gained at such a moment as this by calling a meeting of the friends of their institution; extending their invitation to ALL, regardless of language, country, and creed, in order that the Society may be remodelled and established upon strong and general principles, and its sphere of operations extended from one end to the other of this wide metropolis. In the present recumbent state of our commerce, the young gentlemen belonging to our various mercantile establishments have but little official occupation; among them, there are many, I am sure, who would cheerfully be put upon the list of visitants, and who could influence various Creole friends to join their ranks: these gentlemen, dividing themselves into pairs, or small parties, and visiting the different Barrios of the City, will readily learn from persons in easy circumstances which are the actual abodes of want and distress; and by the Ticket system adopted in England in similar times of suffering and privation, if such articles as yerba and bread could not be extended to the destitute, beef at all events may be extensively distributed, to the comfort and support of hundreds, who now rise in the morning, not knowing when or where they are to find the scanty morsel, that is to break their last long fast. Cheap as this great necessary of life is in our habitations, I am sure, Mr. Editor, the readers of your paper need not be reminded how passing dear it must be in the abodes of the destitute and the moneyless. I have done—and to the general reader say, farewell, with the humble and anxious hope that my suggestions may in some shape or other effect good. Still have I another word for those of my own communion. Let me urge you to fix your attention upon that selection of texts, which our liturgy gives us as appropriate to the most sacred moments we can pass on this earth—those heavenly moments when we kneel to partake of the Bread and the Cup of Life: note, how each text after each still more urgently enforces the great duty of relieving the necessitous, until the whole winds up with a climax, all plain, all impressive, all encouraging. "Blessed be the man that provided for the sick and needy, the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble."

I am, Mr. Editor,

Most obediently yours,

HAUD IGNARUS MALL.

We have received 20 dollars from our Correspondent for the family above alluded to. Ed.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

WILLIAM BOURKE, who came to this country, (Brazil,) in one of the ships which conveyed the troops under Col. Cottor, and was seen in this city (Rio de Janeiro,) a few months ago; is hereby informed, that his deceased grandfather has bequeathed to him some property, which will be forfeited unless he appear at the Cove of Cork within three years, reckoned from 1st June 1838; he is therefore requested by his mother, to return to Ireland accordingly.

31 29

Rio de Janeiro, 7th September, 1838.

MERCHANT VESSELS

In the Port of Buenos Ayres, on the 11th of October 1838.

NONE.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR.

FRENCH. Brig Dassas, 22 guns, Captain Hypolito Daguonet, with Commodore's broad pennant. Corvette Indienne, 18 guns, Captain Lecointe. Corvette Camille, 20 guns, Commandante Pierre Louis Hermenegilde Guillevin. (Capitaine de Frigate.)

BRITISH. Packet schooner Spider, Lieut. John O'Reilly, Commander. Brig Sparrowhawk, 16 guns, Captain John Shepherd.

NOTICE.

OLD English bottled Port, Sherry of excellent flavour, Champagne, Preserved Ginger, Black and Green Teas, Sugar Candy, &c. &c., are on sale by the package, at Anderson, Weller & Co's. Stores.

NOTICE.

A young man who has a general knowledge of Mercantile affairs, acquired by an experience of 15 years, and who speaks French, English and Spanish, would be happy to obtain a situation in a Mercantile-house. Please apply at No. 20, Calle de la Reconquista, or at No. 59, Calle del 25 de Mayo. s29 31.

Shipping Memoranda.

Vessels on the berth at Liverpool on 5th August.

FOR MONTEVIDEO AND BUENOS AYRES.

Schooner brig Butsey Hall, Captain Coaker. Brig Alcipo, Captain Bennett. Brig Hebe, Captain Field. Barque Fama, Captain Wright.

FOR VALPARAISO.

Hermes, Captain Oliphant, 253 tons, to sail 15th August.

FOR ARICA, ISLAY AND LIMA.

Bee, Captain Cornish, to sail 20th August.

H. B. M's packet Alert, was to bring the September mail for the Brazil and River Plate.

ARRIVED AT FALMOUTH.

July 17th, H. B. M's packet Skylark, from Rio Janeiro 22nd May, with the mail forwarded hence 3rd May, by H. B. M's packet Spider. (We re-insert the above, rectifying a mistake which occurred in our former notice.)

AT LIVERPOOL.

July 9th, British barque Fama, Wright, hence 26th April.
 " 15th, British brig Alcipo, Bennett, hence 10th May.
 " 16th, British brig Hebe, Field, hence 15th May.
 " 18th, British ship Kingston, Maclean, hence 6th May.
 August 2nd, British brig Thomas Leech, Coul, from Montevideo 22nd May.
 " 4th, British brig Helen Anderson, Anderson, hence 17th May.
 " 6th, British brig Europe, Brodie, from Lima.

AT LONDON.

July 17th, British brig Eliza Heywood, Heywood, hence 27th April.
 " 21st, British brig Arctusa, Wakefield, from Montevideo 24th April.
 " 23rd, British brig Oscar, Barrett, hence 6th May.

AT DEAL.

July 26th, British brig Henrietta, Fell, from Peru.

AT SWANSEA.

July 6th, British brig Floraville, Mitchell, from Chili.
 " 16th, British brig Ituna, Sanderson, from Valparaiso.

AT SALCOMBE.

July 30th, British brig George Canning, from Valparaiso for Hamburgh.

AT ANTWERP.

July 4th, Sardinian brig General Americano, Barborna, from Montevideo 2nd April.
 " 17th, French ship Diligent, Frappas, from Montevideo 25th April.

AT HELVOET.

July 15th, Swedish brig Union, Olson, hence 10th May.

" 18th, Hamburgh barque Johanna, Meyer, hence 15th May.

AT HAVRE DE GRACE.

July 16th, French brig Herminie, Soret, hence 12th May.

AT CETTE.

July 3rd, French polacre Laborieux, Bronzon, hence 8th April.

AT BOURDEAUX.

August 3rd, French brig Nouveau Perseverant, Motayer, from Montevideo 23rd May.

AT GENOA.

June 23rd, Oriental brig Maria, from Montevideo 29th March.

AT HAVANA.

May 30th, Spanish barque Eliza, Rodriguez, from Montevideo 19th March.

June 16th, Hamburgh schooner brig Carl Heinrich, Valentine, hence 19th April.

" 21st, British brig William Waters, Roe, from Montevideo 27th April.

" 26th, Bremen brig Dorothea Louisa, from Montevideo 5th May.

" " Spanish brig Marinero, from Montevideo 25th April.

AT QUEBEC.

July 5th, British barque Sophia, Brown, hence 23rd April.

AT RIO JANEIRO.

7th ult., Kniphausen brig Marco Polo, from Montevideo 8 days.

10th, British brig Rapid, Robertson, from Montevideo 13 days.

11th, Spanish brig Barcelones, from Montevideo 19 days.

12th, H. B. M's packet Spider, hence 27th August, Montevideo 31st.

" French brig Jeune Estelle, from Montevideo 16 days.

" Brazilian brig Argus, from Montevideo 21 days.

" French corvette Sapho, from Montevideo 13 days.

" Brazilian patache Saudade, from Montevideo 21 days.

14th, French barque Jeune Gabrielle, from Montevideo 14 days.

15th, Brazilian schooner San Jose dos Prazeres, from Montevideo 17 days.

24th, H. B. M's packet Mutine, from Falmouth 10th August, Pernambuco and Bahia, with the mail for the River Plate.

SAILED FROM RIO JANEIRO.

27th ult., H. B. M's packet Opossum, with the mail forwarded hence 27th August, by H. B. M's packet Spider.

ARRIVED AT MONTEVIDEO

27th ult., Tuscan barque Cleopatra, Shophard, from Malaga, Rio Janeiro 15 days.

30th, Sardinian brig Bianca, Solari, from Bahia 28 days, to F. Mainez.

1st inst., Oriental polacre Providencia, Martinez, from Genoa 18th May, Gibraltar 30th July, to Capurro & Co.

2nd, French ship Clio, Haruard, from Bayonne 87 days, to Duplessis.

" Oriental ship Leopoldina, Rosa, Vivas, from Rio Janeiro 16th ult., to Vivas.

" Oriental brig Eduardo, Harris, from Patagonia 10 days, to Nicholson, Green & Co.

3rd, Spanish brig Juan Adiez, Pare, from Rio Janeiro 10 days.

" Sardinian brig Cortes, Gandolfo, from Rio Grande 7 days, to L. L. Maria.

" Brazilian patache Buen Amigo, Fernandes, from Santa Catalina 15 days, to S. Souza.

4th, Oriental schooner Joven Oriental from Santa Catalina 24th ult., to L. L. Maria.

" Brazilian schooner brig Desempeño, Silva, from Rio Janeiro 21st ult., to Guimaraens.

" Oriental patache Liberal, Boggiano, from Rio Janeiro 23rd ult., to Duplessis.

" Brazilian brig Cacique, Oliveira, from Parangua 27th ult., to Peixoto.

5th, Sardinian patache Señora de la Guardia, from Rio Janeiro 23rd ult., to Capurro & Co.

" French barque Auguste, from Marseille 23rd July.

7th, British brig Titern, Thorpe, from Liverpool 22nd July, to Kemsley & Co.

SAILED FROM MONTEVIDEO.

4th inst., H. B. M's packet Cockatrice, for Rio Janeiro.

MARINE LIST.

Port of Buenos Ayres.

October 6.—Wind S. W.
No arrivals or sailings.

October 7.—Wind N. N. E.
No arrivals or sailings.

October 8.—Wind E. strong in the evening.
Arrived, French corvette Camille, 20 guns, Commandant Pierre Louis Hermenegilde Guillevin, (Capitaine de Fregate,) from a cruise.

October 9.—Wind E. rain at night.
Arrived, H. B. M's packet schooner Spider, Lieut. John O'Reilly, Commander, from Rio Janeiro 27th ult., arrived at Montevideo 7th inst., sailed thence 8th, with the mail of H. B. M's packet Mutine, from Falmouth 10th August. Passengers from Rio Janeiro, Captain Lock, R. N., and Mr. Wilson.

Passengers from Montevideo, Messrs. J. C. Zimmermann, Patrick M'Lean, William Rodger, Jun., C. Bunge, Thompson, Edward Gowland, Stewart, Nougier, P. Margiondo, Lupo, Sastre, Wich, Zotto, Malatou, Mauso, Captain E. Gaban.

October 10.—Wind E.
No arrivals or sailings.

October 11.—Wind S. S. W.
Arrived, H. B. M's brig Sparrowhawk, 16 guns, Captain John Shepherd, from Montevideo 10th inst.

October 12.—Wind W.
No arrivals or sailings.

ARGENTINE THEATRE.

On 7th inst., was performed to a full house, *Quince años há*. The heroine was personated by Doña Matilde Diaz de Quijano.

On 10th, *El Duque de Visco*, (Castle Spectre,) in which Doña Alvara Garcia de Rossi, appeared as Angela. We only saw a part of the last act, having been at 'the other house' the former part of the evening.

On 11th, *El sitio de Paris*, in 5 acts; the argument of which takes place shortly after the time of Charlemagne. Paris is besieged by the Normans and saved. Indeed, it proved a very interesting historical piece, and I was well got up. Señor Casacuberta received three rounds of applause in the concluding scene. An amusing farce followed.

The house was tolerably well attended.—Three lovely *Señoritas* in the boxes (two of whom we have never before seen at the Theatre,) were denominated "The Graces."

On 12th, for the benefit of the Italian dancer, Francisco Lezona, Marcela and other entertainments.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

On 6th inst., was repeated 'the Troubadour.' We were at the *Novena* at the Church of Santo Domingo, in the former part of the evening, but entered the Theatre in time to hear the music in the Convent scene, and to witness some excellent acting on the part of Señor Lapuerta. The house was fully and elegantly attended.

On 7th, *Lanuzá*. We were not present, but are told that the house was crowded, that Señor Lapuerta played Lanuzá in a manner far superior to his first essay in that character; and that long and continued cheering followed the conclusion of the play.

On 10th, was repeated to a numerous audience, *La Torre de Nesle*. We were in the Theatre for a few minutes only—quite long enough however for such a piece.

On 11th, the 5 act tragedy of *Sancho Ortiz de las Rozas*. It is a drama of Lope de Vega's. We saw but little of it, having quitted the Theatre early in order to visit 'the other house.' In fact, two Theatres being open on almost every evening, puzzles us which to attend.

'The Victoria' continues to be numerous and fashionably attended on every evening.—In the boxes during the week, we have observed in addition to their usual occupants—Captain Shepherd, of H. B. M's brig Sparrowhawk; Captain Lock, R. N., and Lieut. O'Reilly, Commander of H. B. M's packet Spider.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH PACKET.
SIR,

The communication in your journal of Saturday last, signed *Spectator*, describing the miseries occasioned by the late inundation, has in

some instances gone beyond the mark, and caused considerable anxiety and even expence, to many who having friends residing in the quarter spoken of, were naturally solicitous to learn their fate. The affair was bad, but not so much so as reported. Losses occurred, yet not of the magnitude represented. For instance, the destruction in the flock noticed by your Correspondent, as having taken refuge on an elevated spot of the Chacra I occupy, did not amount to twenty sheep and lambs. A trifling loss in a flock of more than two thousand, and under circumstances of such a nature.—This can be corroborated by those who inspected the sheep fold on the Saturday following, and who in consequence of the unfounded reports circulated in town, came with boats and men to remove the sheep. This they found to be unnecessary, the fold not being abandoned. Indeed, after seeing the flock grazing on cut grass taken from a neighbouring Quinta, on a raft prepared for the purpose, they returned to town relieved and satisfied, leaving me to supply the wants of the fold until danger should be out of reach. I did so, and this superb flock may now be seen grazing in the neighbourhood, comfortable and in excellent condition, the lambs gambolling with their mothers, and the Saxon ram majestically strolling about, as a conqueror in the grand struggle, and viewing his little ones as trophies of the victory.

Notwithstanding the error into which *Spectator* has fallen with respect to the extent of suffering, he deserves great credit whoever he may be. He has not been a mere passive spectator, but has successfully exerted himself to rescue those in danger, and came forward afterwards in a spirit of benevolence and charity, to assist those who really have suffered.

I remain,

Mr. Editor,

Your most obedient Servant.

JOHN MALCOLM.

Paso Chico, October 8th, 1838.

THE WEATHER, has been reasonable during the week, thermometer 57 to 66.

The following has been sent to us from Montevideo.

Extract from *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, July 16.

We have received a file of Curaçoa papers from the 3rd of March to the 19th May. We find in them, among other news, the following letter from Venezuela. "Dr. Francia is dead, and with his death ends the most singular government that ever existed. His slavish adherents, dreading the vengeance of the inhabitants of Ascension, have left the country and fled to Montevideo. This singular man retained his character to the day of his death. It is said, that he has left several unpublished manuscripts, one of which is 'Proof of the character and the simplicity of the Spanish Americans, and the means which a Governor must employ to make himself necessary to them.' The inscription which he affixed to his portrait is very original, it is as follows—'Despotism is increased either by having in a country very numerous laws at variance with each other, or no laws at all. I have chosen the latter course, because it is more adapted to the frankness of my character, and to the bad memory of the people of Paraguay.' Dutch paper.

We have read the above curious article in the French and in other papers. The newspapers kill Dr. Francia every year—yet from the last accounts, he was said not on y to be alive, but in the enjoyment of tolerable good health considering his advanced years. Ed. B. P.

In our marine list of last week, under date 5th inst., we stated that H. B. M's ship *Calliope*, had sailed for Colonia, whereas it should have been for Montevideo, at which port she has arrived. The mistake arose from its being given out that she had gone to Colonia. When it was ascertained that this was not the case, rumour became very busy in Buenos Ayres. It was said that she had conveyed to Montevideo despatches of great importance, and that M. Roger, the French Vice-Consul, was to return in her to this Capital, to settle the existing dispute.—Moreover, it was affirmed, that the French corvette *Camille*, had on the 8th inst., the day of her arrival here, a British Union Jack at her fore for two hours, which could not be "for nothing."

On the arrival of H. B. M's brig *Sparrowhawk*, on Thursday, reports of negotiation were renewed, and a great crowd assembled on the beach to hear the news when her Captain landed.

The French have now eleven vessels of war in this river, namely—

Frigate *Minerve*, 64 guns, bearing the flag of Admiral Leblanc.
Corvette *Camille*, 20 guns.
Corvette *Expeditiva*, 18 guns.
Corvette *Indienne*, 19 guns.
Barge *Pearle*, 12 guns.
Brig *Dassas*, 22 guns.
Brig *Alerte*, 22 guns.
Brig *Badine*, 10 guns.
Brig *Bordelaise*, 10 guns. (bombard.)
Schooners *Vigilante* and *Ann*, carrying 4 guns each.
They have besides several armed boats.

We received by H. B. M's packet *Spider*, London journals to 8th August, Paris do. to 5th. In our next we may have an opportunity of making some extracts from them, although they do not contain any particular news. The French papers say little or nothing respecting the blockade of this port. The following however which has gone the round of all the Paris and French provincial journals, as well as those of Belgium, prove how little they know respecting Buenos Ayres.

"We have received news from Buenos Ayres to 5th June. The blockade at that period continued with the same vigour, and the town, deprived of all communication with the interior, began to be in want of provisions. It is even said, that the Governor, Rosas, has been forced to resort to severe measures to provide daily subsistence for his troops."

Advertisements.

TO LET.

A Commodious house in Mr. Wild's Quinta.

ON SALE.

CALLE DE LA PIEDAD, No. 140.

OLD Bottled Madeira Wine, in cases of three dozens.

PRICES CURRENT.

Doublons, Spanish	138½	149 dollars each
Do. Patriot	147	147½ do. do.
Plata macanquina	84	84½ do. for one.
Dollars, Spanish	9	9 do. each.
Do. Patriot and Putucoses	84	84½ do. do.
Six per cent Stock	48	48 do. per ct.
Bank Shares	none	
Exchange on England	53	a pence per dol.
Do. Rio Janeiro	340	345
Do. Montevideo	84	84 per patacon
Do. United States	53	per U. S. dollar
H. Ind. Ox, best	23	23 dls. p. pesada
Do. country	23	24 do. do.
Do. weighing 23 to 24 lbs	24	25 do. do.
Do. salt-d	21	23 do. do.
Do. Horse	8	10 do. each.
Nutria Skins	23	3 do. per lb.
Chinchilli Skins	28	30 do. per dozen
Wool, common	7	9 do. per arroba
Sheep skins per dozen	14	16 per 27lb.
Deer skins per dozen	9	
Hair, long	4	2 do. per arroba
Do. mixed	21	25 do. do.
Jerky Beef	14	16 do. quintal.
Tallow, melted	11	12 do. per arroba
Horns	100	200 per mil.
Flour, (North American)		a none
Salt, on board		a none per fanth
Discount	1¼	2 per cent. per month

The highest price of Doublons during the week, 150 dollars. The lowest price 146 dollars.

The high rate of Exchange upon England during the week 53 pence. The lowest ditto 54 pence.

PRINTED AT THE MERCANTILE GAZETTE OFFICE,
No. 75 calle de Cayulo.

Published every SATURDAY, at No. 52, calle del 25 de Mayo; where Subscriptions and Communications are received by the Editor.

PRICE.—EIGHT DOLLARS (currency) PER QUARTER.—Single numbers 5 rials.

ALEXANDER BRANDER, Responsible Editor.