

British Packet

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

Nº. 861.]

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1843.

[Established in 1826.

BUENOS AYRES.

Advices from Montevideo to the 16th inst. state, that two days previous an action had been fought between the flower of Rivera's cavalry, commanded by his most confidential and best officer, Brigadier Medina, and a division of the Confederate army, in which the former was completely cut to pieces, and, according to some accounts, Medina himself was killed.

On the 16th the advanced guard of General Oribe's army presented itself on the Cerro, about a league from Montevideo, and saluted the flag of Admiral Brown, which was answered by another salute from the squadron. The Admiral then sent boats on shore and communicated with the army. This demonstration increased the alarm and confusion prevalent for some days since in the town.

The Riverista authorities continue to employ the most desperate measures. Every day some furious decree is published. The last one issued confiscates the property of all the emigrants. The late Chief of Police, Col. Antuña, has been declared an out-law, and a bill of attainder has been filed even against the Attorney-General, Dr. Miguel Valencia, who, like the former, has taken refuge on board a foreign vessel of war.

All the neutral vessels, as well as the Argentine squadron, were crowded with refugees from Montevideo. Among those who have sought an asylum on board the Belgrano, the lady and family of President Oribe are mentioned, as also General Angel Nuñez, late second in command to Paz.

Nothing positive is known as to the whereabouts of Rivera.

On Monday last, arrived in this city Señor ANDRÉS GIL, on a special mission from the Government of Paraguay to that of the Argentine Confederation. This gentleman came passenger as far as the Boca de la Antequera in the Paraguayan schooner "República del Paraguay," whence he was conveyed down in a boat, the vessel remaining wind bound.

Señor GIL was received with every attention at the Post-office, and, after a short delay, was conducted thence in a coach by Commandant Pedro Ximeno to the splendid apartments which, by order of Government, had been prepared for him in the house of Señor Remigio Gonzalez Moreno.

The promptitude with which the Paraguayan Government dispatched the Envoy immediately on the receipt of the news of Rivera's defeat at Arroyo Grande, coupled with their energetic conduct towards Ferré and his followers, would seem to afford a convincing proof of that kind feeling towards the administration of General Rosas, which we were led to believe they were long since anxious to evince on the first suitable occasion. At all events, the arrival of Señor GIL cannot be regarded but as highly auspicious to the renewal of those friendly relations which formerly subsisted between the two countries, and the cultivation of which must

prove so beneficial to their own interests, and eventually, it is to be hoped, to those of other commercial nations.

Still we would caution our mercantile friends not to indulge in too sanguine anticipations from the reopening of the intercourse, for some time must elapse before the advantages to be derived from it can be realised. Every additional information we can obtain from the most intelligent quarters, confirms us in the belief that a mighty change must come over the land, ere Paraguay can receive or confer the benefits naturally to be expected from such intercourse. We have already done the consults the justice of acknowledging that they entertain liberal views and have the welfare of their country at heart, but they are at the head of a people, the bulk of whom, however paradoxical it may appear, really cherish the ideas instilled into them by the extraordinary man to whose whims and misrule, they were so long subjected. Those prejudices, however, will wear away the more the Paraguayans come into contact with the civilisation of their neighbours, and it is on this score particularly, and not from the prospects of any immediate commercial advantage, that the importance of the re-establishment of the friendly connection between this country and Paraguay, is to be estimated.

The arrival of the Paraguayan schooner "República del Paraguay" on Thursday last, excited considerable curiosity in town. Her colours were red, white, and blue (similar to the Dutch) with the arms of the country in the centre. She had also a very long pendant of the same colour, and a numerous crew, including 160 lancers as marines. Both the sentries and troops were furnished with red waist-coats on their departure from Paraguay, to be worn by them on their arrival here, in compliance to the Federal costume. Señor Benitos, formerly amanuensis to Dr. Francia, and at present Secretary to the Paraguayan Legation, came passenger in this vessel.

Foreign Merchant Vessels in the Port of Buenos Ayres on the evening of 17th inst.

British.....	24
American.....	12
French.....	8
Spanish.....	5
Sardinian.....	13
Brazilian.....	4
Hamburg.....	4
Swedish.....	4
Danish.....	4
Prussian.....	2
Bremen.....	1
Russian.....	2
Norwegian.....	2
Luca.....	3
Portuguese.....	2
Total.....	88

The schooners, &c., under the Brazilian and Sardinian flags, employed as packets between this and Montevideo, are not included in the above list.

The above list includes the Sardinian polacre Tesco, which we have withdrawn from our list of vessels in Port on Thursday last, conceiving she would have sailed.

THE WEATHER has been changeable this week. Yesterday was a day of oppressive heat, although the thermometer was not higher than

86; the heavy rain which fell that evening, and the shift of wind to the southward, caused it to fall to 72.

Thermometer in the Mirador of the Commercial Room since our last—

Saturday.....	74
Sunday.....	78
Monday.....	83
Tuesday.....	86
Wednesday.....	72
Thursday.....	74
Friday.....	70

IRISH OFFICERS IN CHINA.—Sir Hugh Gough, whose command of the British force in China has been one scene of victory and triumph, is son of the late Lieut. Col. Gough, of the City Limerick Militia, and commenced his military career in that regiment in 1793. As Major in the 87th (or Faugh-a-Ballochs) he commanded that gallant corps at the memorable battle of Talavera, where the 87th captured a French Eagle, and he was severely wounded. His gallantry during the siege of Cadiz was so conspicuous, that Sir Thomas Graham (now Lord Lynedoch) honoured him with brevet rank from the date of his despatches, being the first instance of the kind which occurred in the British Army. On the 31st of December, 1811, Lieut.-Col. Gough repulsed, at Tarifa, with his eight companies, 500 strong, no less than 1,800 picked troops, who assailed the breach. A general order on this occasion spoke of his conduct as "surpassing all praise," and the Prince Regent ordered the word "Tarifa" to be thereafter printed on the regiment's colours. He next commanded at Vittoria, where the 67th lost half its number. On this occasion he was honoured with the thanks of the brave Picton, and received a third medal of distinction. He commanded at the battle of Nivelles, and was severely wounded. On this occasion he was honoured with the cross, and the officers of his regiment presented him with a valuable vase.—Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, 9th Regiment, who has so distinguished himself at Afghanistan, is brother of J. E. Taylor, Esq., Cranbrook, Fermanagh.—Sir H. Pottinger is a native of the North of Ireland, where his family are both numerous and respectable.

HER MAJESTY'S HEALTH.—On dit in quarters whose information may be relied on, that the most interesting event to her Majesty's liege subjects will take place early in March next. This will consequently make the London season short and late, as the levees and drawing rooms at St. James's Palace will not be held till after the announcement of the Queen.

Official Documents.

Treasury Bills in circulation on 1st inst., 4,385,000 dollars.

The Gazette of 4th inst., contains the Prices Current of articles imported and exported in the last month (January).

Don Pedro Larrosa, in a note to the Government, dated 30th ult., makes over to it 41 dol. 18 rs., 5 rials, per month, in aid of the war against the *saltaje* *pardejon* *Frutos* *Rivera* and his allies.

The Gazette of 11th inst., contains the particulars of the cause between Doña Domingo Somellera, and the Sindaco of the Convent of Santa Catalina, with the decision thereof dated 23rd November, 1842, of the Tribunal de recursos extraordinarios.

Advertisements.

CAPTAINS OF VESSELS

AND other gentlemen who visit Newcastle, are respectfully informed that they can be accommodated with comfortable Board and Lodgings at William & Nisbet's, Office de San Francisco, third door from the Church, North-west corner of the Market.

W. E. N. begs to inform his friends that those Gentlemen who have patronized him since his commencement, and hopes that by strict attention to his business and their comfort, he will always merit a continuance of their favours.

Desires if required sent to private houses. 6385

NOTICE,

THE Mirror for January and July 1842. The Literary Gazette, Nos. 1328, 1329 and 1330, for July 2nd, 9th and 16th 1842.

It is requested that the above-mentioned works may be returned.

HARDWARE STORE.

DEALERS and Commission agents respectfully inform that the Hardware Store 140 Calle de la Piedad, so long owned by Mr. George Nunnell, has been remodelled, and in addition to the previous heavy stock a large variety of useful household articles are submitted for inspection. During the late commercial prostration in England, it is well known the iron trade suffered very much, and the manufacturers were compelled to sell at a very low price. It is therefore, arranged that the proprietors of the establishment have, therefore, arranged their terms in accordance with the reduction made in Great Britain.

BIBLIES

AND the Book of COMMON PRAYER, printed since the accession to the throne of George the Fourth, may be had at the Bookshop's shop, No. 54, University-street, fronting the College Church. 6385

Literary Gazette, for September, 1842.

It is particularly requested that the above may be returned to No. 50, Calle de Mayo.

NOTICE.

THE Committee entrusted with the execution of sundry Bequests for the Preservation and Improvement of the Canal of San Fernando, respectfully inform that they have had the pleasure to receive from the Hon. the Secretary of State, the names of the persons who would be willing to undertake the work to call on the Chairman of said Committee, who reside at the Town of San Francisco.

FOR SALE OR CHARTER.

THE copper and coppered Ship "EDWARD," of 300 tons burden, Thomas S. Steele, master, newly caulked and equipped last November.

For further particulars apply to his Counselors, ZIMMERMAN, FRAZIER, & Co., No. 69, Calle de la Becoquinta.

The news from China and India, caused universal joy in the United Kingdom—the Park and Tower guns were fired amid the cheering of a great concourse of people, the bells of the churches in London rung merry peals, flags waved from their steeples, and it is said that the Government intend to appoint days of rejoicing similar to those which took place on the general peace in 1814.

The following document, dated 1st October, 1842, was issued by Lord Ellenborough, Governor General of India:—

The government of India directed its army to pass the Indus in order to expel from Afghanistan a chief believed to be hostile to British interests, and to replace upon his throne a sovereign represented to be friendly to those interests, and popular with his former subjects.

The chief believed to be hostile became a prisoner, and the sovereign represented to be popular was replaced upon his throne; but, on events which brought into question his fidelity to the government by which he was restored, he lost by the hands of an assassin the throne he had only held amidst insurrections, and his death was preceded and followed by still existing anarchy.

Disasters unparalleled in their extent, unless by the errors in which they originated, and by the treachery by which they were completed, have in one short campaign been avenged upon every scene of past misfortune, and repeated victories in the field and the capture of the cities and citadels of Ghuznee and Cabool, have again attached the opinion of invincibility to the British arms.

The British army in possession of Afghanistan will now be withdrawn to the Sutlej.

The Governor-General will leave it to the Afghans themselves to constitute a government amidst the anarchy which is the consequence of their crimes.

To force a sovereign upon a reluctant people would be as inconsistent with the policy as it is with the principles of the British government,

tending to place the arms and resources of that people at the disposal of the first invader, and to impose the burden of supporting a sovereign without the prospect of benefit from his alliance.

The Governor-General will willingly recognize any government approved by the Afghans themselves, which shall appear desirous and capable of maintaining friendly relations with neighbouring states.

Content with the limits nature appears to have assigned to his empire, the government of Afghanistan will be placed between the establishment and maintenance of general peace, and the protection of the sovereigns and chiefs its allies, and to the prosperity and happiness of its own faithful subjects.

The rivers of the Punjab and the Indus, and the mountainous passes and the barbarous tribes of Afghanistan, will be placed between the Army and an enemy approaching from the west, if indeed such an enemy there can be, and no longer between the army and its supplies.

The enormous expenditure required for the support of a large force, in a distant military position, at a distance from its own frontier and its resources, will no longer arrest every measure for the improvement of the country and of the people.

The combined army of England and of India, superior in equipment, in discipline, in valour, and in the officers by which it is commanded, to any force which can be opposed to it in Asia, will stand in unsalable strength upon its own soil, and for ever, under the blessing of Providence, preserve the glorious empire it has so bravely and so honourably won.

The Governor-General cannot fear the misconstruction of his motives in thus frankly announcing to surrounding states the pacific and conservative policy of his government.

Afghanistan and China have seen at once the forces at his disposal, and the effect with which they can be applied.

Sincerely attached to peace for the sake of the benefits it confers upon the people, the Governor-General is resolved that peace shall be observed, and will put forth the whole power of the British government to coerce the state by which it shall be infringed.

By order of the Right Hon. the Governor-General of India.

Upon this document the "Atlas" makes the following remarks:—

It has often been remarked that the French language is peculiarly adapted to conversation. We think so too; but it is not therefore rich, sonorous, powerful or magnificent, as is our own. Who that has read Hooker, Johnson, Milton, and at the same time who has conversed with Massillon, Racine, Moliere, Voltaire, and Rousseau, has not been struck with the sublimity of the language of the former, and with the meagre, inadequate, and trifling character of the latter tongue. We speak not at this moment of the thoughts of those great men, but of the language in which those thoughts were clothed. In like manner, when we read the despatches of French warriors and generals, and compare them with those of our own officers, we are struck with the poverty of the one, and with the fullness, yet modesty, of the other. The French language, especially as now written, is one of hollow phrases, and of unmusical combinations. The English language is still cultivated;—the French is spoken, but not studied. New words are constantly invented, the old one is gradually disappearing, and a sort of conventional language is spoken and written to suit poetsasters, not poets, and students of sound, not scholars or gentlemen. We have been led to these reflections by the admirably written and truly elegant proclamation of the Governor-General of India, announcing his intention to evacuate Afghanistan. We are not speaking at this moment, either of the policy of his lordship, or of the way and manner in which that policy has been carried into effect; but simply of the language and style in which the announcement is made. As a state document, it is one of the most concise, able, and eloquent we ever remembered to have read. There is not one word too much, nor even a comma too little. The whole of the questions at issue are brought before the civilized world in a few splendid paragraphs, in which the variety, beauty, and comprehensiveness of our

language are most happily illustrated and confirmed. The French acknowledge its powerfulness, but the translations of the document are almost grotesque. How poor, how meagre, how feeble are the translations of the French language, to express the thoughts which breathe, and the words which burn in such a document! May the same attention be paid in all departments of the state, and by our statesmen, representatives, and orators, to preserving in the dispatches, reports, and correspondence, a similar regard for the genius of our noble language!

Having said thus much in praise of the style and manner of the proclamation, which has during the past week attracted almost to the exclusion of every other topic, the attention of the public, we now turn to its political and social bearing.

On a subject of so much magnitude, various are the opinions which are maintained by men of different views. Some are attracted to independence, and for an intimate acquaintance with the history of our Indian possessions. Some are still of opinion that Lord Auckland acted with rashness when he decided on exposing the nature of the Sikh. Sir Alexander Burnes, they remind us, cautioned his lordship against the expedition, and said he could never discover any other motive for its being undertaken, than an ill-founded fear lest Russia should occupy a commanding position. Alexander the Great, and which no western army could possibly enter without running the risk of immediate destruction.

There are other public writers and statesmen, who, although they do not concur in the opinion of their contemporaries relative to the origin of the war with the Afghans, yet approve the decision which has been taken by the Governor-General. The enemy, they say, has been chastised; the murder of the Queen's envoy, and the massacre of our troops by an unprincipled and treacherous savage, have been avenged; the scene of disaster has become the theatre of British triumph; and the intrepid Florentine Sale and all the British prisoners, saved only by their conduct, are to be recompensed. But one more triumph remained to be accomplished, they add, and that was to restrain ourselves. We were the conquerors. "Onward!" we were in a position to exclaim, and the Afghans were to be made to retire. But the conqueror has shewn his own weakness; voluntarily stayed his own progress; and gave a noble example of self-control and of national justice and dignity. This is the language of some, and there are, indeed, not a few who make use of it.

The subjoined are also extracts from the "Atlas":—

A beneficial change in our home trade is becoming daily more observable, and the effect is widely extending itself throughout the kingdom. From Lancashire and the north of England very cheap accounts have arrived. The advance in the price of cotton is about a halfpenny per lb., with an active and increasing demand. In the several articles used in the manufacture a decided improvement has taken place, and several vessels have been taken up by China and India, which, if they were not on the station. The wool market at Leeds has been revived, and the hitherto desponding minds of many of our manufacturers have been cheered by the prospects of a brisk trade during the ensuing winter. At Manchester there has been a surprising change, inasmuch as manufactures, especially of cloths suited to the Indian and Chinese market, and of which cloths there were previously no stocks, asked as much as 10d. per yard advance, which was equal to from 10 to 12 per cent. The same advance has taken place, but the general opinion is that it did not so fairly quoted as the amount of improvement on previous rates. At Liverpool, the revival in trade, which began to show itself last week, has received an increased stimulus during the present week, and many will have noticed in the feeling which now pervades the manufacturing and mercantile circles. And independent of beneficial effects which the restoration of peace cannot fail to have on trade and commerce, by removing a great uncertainty, a most extensive field for British enterprise has been opened, and the entire Eastern world, with the exception of Japan, is now laid open to our merchants. In fact, it is impossible to estimate the benefits which will result from the altered circumstances of that populous and productive hemisphere. * * * * * The first

