

# British Packet

## AND ARGENTINE NEWS.

N. 886.]

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, AUGUST, 12 1843.

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### BUENOS AYRES.

As we had anticipated the Montevideo prints profess to find in the late declarations of Sir Robert Peel in the House of Commons the manifestation of a settled determination to resort to an armed interference in the affairs of the Rio de la Plata. And the *Britannia* goes so far as to insult the understanding of its readers by repeating the assertion that the conduct of Commodore Purvis had been approved by H. M.'s government "in the most unqualified manner." Although aware that the Riverista writers are calumnious to every honourable feeling, we really did not think that in a paper published in the English language barefaced effrontery could be carried to such a degree of flagrant. But so it is. Nevertheless, we have the satisfaction to know that their favourite system of gross deception, so far from proving, in this instance, injurious to the cause of truth, will powerfully contribute to rivet on its authors the brand of infamy they so richly merit for their nefarious pertinacity.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that about three months ago, when combatting the hostile construction given by Commodore Purvis and his friends to the diplomatic note of the 16th December, we used those words: "We think it is necessary to be very superficially read in politics to infer from that note anything but an expression of energetic remonstrance against the further prosecution of hostilities, coupled with an implied indifference for the alleged rights of either party." We now revert to this our recorded opinion in order to show how admirably we have been borne out by the event. The indifference entertained by the British government for the alleged rights of either party was candidly avowed by Sir Robert Peel, in the House of Commons, on the 12th May, when commending the strenuous exertions of Mr. Mansfield "to prevent what," he said, "he must style those *insane* hostilities." We think it would have been quite as well if Sir Robert had refrained from the expression of any opinion on the subject; however, it is consoling for his friends to reflect that he has not been more guarded than Lord Palmerston, when his lordship, on offering the mediation of the British government for the termination of the war with Santa Cruz, did not hesitate to apply the epithets "impolitic and unjust" to the hostilities carried on against that usurper by the Argentine and Chilean republics.—As to the unwholesome character of the remonstrances made in this instance by the mediating ministers, nothing can be more conclusive than what fell from the same Right Honourable Baronet on the 2nd June. "Neither the English nor the French agent," he said, "had been authorised to become parties to hostilities; but they did demonstrate in the strongest manner against the continuance of those hostilities." And as to the fact of the interference being made and in which every thing short of actual interference had been done more zealously with a view to check hostilities."

Now, these remonstrances, regarding the policy or justice of which we will not now speak, having proved ineffectual, the mediating powers had no alternative left but to adopt a strictly neutral course, or espouse at once the cause of one of the belligerents. To insist any longer in the demand without enforcing it would be derogatory to the dignity of a great nation, as was justly observed by Sir Robert Peel. Hence it is that the British government, influenced as much, we are persuaded, by the dictates of justice as by considerations of political expediency, have, through Lord Aberdeen, given the formal assurance we have before stated, that they desist from the demand conveyed in the note of the 16th December; and hence it is that Sir Robert Peel has felt it to be his duty at once to undeceive those reckless men who, to gratify their own ignominious passions, seek to entail upon their country the calamities of war. They are, therefore, emphatically told to dismiss all hope in this respect, for England, like France, will not be betrayed into the perpetration of such folly and injustice; and we do most sincerely trust that they will profit by the lesson.

The "Archivo Americano" contains the following pertinent remarks, in reference to the facility with which the European press gives publicity to the idle tales forwarded from these countries by a set of scribblers, as ignorant as they are devoid of honesty. We must say, however, that the editor's strictures upon foreigners, though doubtless justified by the conduct of individuals in too many instances, are, nevertheless, in our opinion, rather too sweeping and uncharitable. At the same time we are ready to make every allowance for the irritated feelings which late events have been calculated to excite in the minds of the Argentine people. But candour, we think, demands from their public writers the acknowledgement of the fact, that the acts of overbearing insolence exercised towards this country, are reprobated by a great proportion of the foreign population as strongly as by the native citizens themselves.

"The public writers of the great nations, accustomed to view with indifference the internal questions of other states, when immediately connected with their own country; engaged with their own debates, upholding the government if they are ministerialists, or denouncing it if they are in opposition; having to announce each 24 hours the progress of the human mind in every branch of knowledge; obliged besides to render the public an account of the good or bad reception given to one of Scribber's *swivel-eyes*, or to one of Bellini's operas, or to pronounce upon the merits of an actor, or upon the success of a *dramme*; what time have they to cast a glance at us and acquaint themselves with the state of our quarrels? Is it, therefore, to be wondered at that they should commit blunders every time they treat upon the subject of our affairs? It would be as impossible for them to speak correctly on such topics, as it would be for us to draw the likeness of the Emperor of Japan without ever having seen him.

"Political questions are like legal controversies, which cannot be decided upon without having been studied. And what study have the five hundred organs of public opinion in Europe made of our affairs, when even those very individuals who, during the last years, have

visited our shores, have fallen into innumerable absurdities? Gillette, Maria Graham, Schmidtmayer, Caldehough, Andrew, Beaumont, Hual, Hugh, Macdonald, Scriblet, all these travellers have published their *Remarks* on the Provinces of the River Plate, without possessing the least knowledge respecting them; and nevertheless they had been in contact with us, and some of them had been eye witnesses of the events they profess to relate. But, whether it be from prepossession, from ignorance, or rather from the impossibility under which a traveller must labour to acquire correct notions of a country distracted by civil discord, the fact is that not one of them has been able to keep clear of error, and the only thing that can be said in their excuse is, that their mistakes are involuntary.

"We could wish to be able to say as much of the journalists to whom we allude; but in view of their almost uniform disposition to distort facts, their perseverance in traducing legal governments in order to exalt illegal ones, their culpable co-operation in exciting insurrections and undermining order, and, above all, their eagerness to tarnish the glory of the eminent man liberty has produced in America, we are led to distrust their intentions and feel a curiosity to enquire into their object.

"The emancipation of the Spanish Colonies in South America has been the exclusive work of its own inhabitants. In order to carry through their undertaking they neither solicited the subsidies of France or of Holland, nor waited to augment their battalions with the soldiers of Rochambeau and Lafayette. The ancient sceptre of the Catholic Kings had been broken in many fields of battle, and the song of the victory of Maypu resounded in the streets of Buenos Ayres, when Messrs. Rodney and Graham arrived on a mission from the government of Washington to examine into our political situation, and report whether we were worthy of the honor of being acknowledged as a free and independent nation. Bound by no kind of obligations, not even by that imposed by gratitude, having received no benefit, we were in the plenitude of our rights to dictate the conditions we might think fit to those desirous of entering into amicable or commercial intercourse with us; for, as it is laid down by all writers on the law of nations, "it is optional with every nation to cultivate, or not to cultivate, relations with another; and if it chooses to allow such intercourse, it has the right to prescribe the limits it may deem proper; for in allowing it it grants a right is at liberty to shut the concession with the conditions he pleases."

"But the young Argentine Republic, showing itself generous to those who had treated it with indifference, opened its ports to foreign commerce, and proffered its hospitality to the natives of other countries, without curtailing their enjoyments, without imposing taxes on them, without throwing in their way the least obstacle. The only thing it required of them was submission to the general laws of the country and the manifestation of a proper sense of gratitude for the benefits conferred upon them.

"We regret to be necessitated to proclaim it; but we have resolved to speak the truth, and we should betray it, did we not declare that these generous concessions have been repaid with ingratitude. The presence of foreigners among us has complicated our relations with the European powers, and has often exposed the country to serious embarrassments, which otherwise might have been avoided. After

having suffered three years of blockade, and paid considerable indemnities for motives which will not now characterise, we still find ourselves obliged to repel the armed interference of a great proportion of those ungrateful guests in order to restrain them in their excesses. In 1830 the government was under the necessity of sustaining a very animated discussion with the Consul of France, in order to oblige individuals belonging to his nation to perform patently duty for the maintenance of good order, a duty imposed upon them by the existing laws of the country, and from which it is well known, foreigners are not exempted in France; and those same persons who refused to take a part in a municipal service, the chief object of which was their own protection, were the very men who had voluntarily taken up arms in the military insurrection of the 1st December, 1828—not to defend the legal government, but to oppose the cause of order, of the people and of the laws—to keep in his usurped authority the man who had immolated on the field of Navarro the Governor and Captain General of the Province, and engaged with the Foreign Affairs of the Republic!

"The same conduct has been observed by the foreigners in Montevideo: none of them volunteered their services in the army. Only when they saw him assailed by insurrection and involved in the difficulties created by the blockade; whilst a considerable proportion of them had spontaneously placed themselves under the orders of the vile usurper of the Oriental government in order to prolong his criminal and malefic existence. And these turbulent and ungrateful men are the correspondents of the European newspaper press, which does not disdain to make itself the accomplice of the calumnies inspired to such senseless individuals by the fury of a party placed without the pale of the laws for their atrocities and excesses! Is it not sufficient for it to see them disavowed by the Consuls, the Ministers, and Admirals of their own nation? Is it not sufficient for it to hear their irregularities officially censured in the bosom of the legislative assemblies, by the Ministers of the Crown, by the Representatives of the people the most renowned for their wisdom, their character, and the liberality of their ideas? Nothing of the kind, however, will not say to disabuse it, but even to make it doubt the reality of these accusations. The more exaggerated they are, the more worthy they appear to it to be transmitted to the public, which in every thing that is not connected with seeks strong sensations, as in sentimental drama or romances! These pictures of excesses, assassinations and massacres, enter into the plan of a good journal, the first object of which is to amuse the readers by the variety of its contents! When there are no Blue Beards, Ali-Pachas, or Curis Merino, they are forged, and it matters little if, in order to satisfy this want of the newspaper press, some contemporary reputation is sacrificed. We were acquainted in London with an individual, whose name we have not forgotten, connected with a journal of good standing, whose business it was to furnish it *ad libitum* with piquant anecdotes of the most celebrated personages in the world, and whom, in pursuance of this system, he was not afraid to speak and act as he thought proper; and what he invented was destined to occupy a place among the *Sayings and Doings*, which is not the least interesting portion of a good journal in England.

"This *penchant* for every thing that is extraordinary, explains the eagerness with which they receive in Europe all the tales of massacres and cruelties ascribed to a country where foreigners, notwithstanding their openly hostile conduct toward the government, have always enjoyed the most complete and undisturbed security. We write these last words in the presence of the diplomatic and consular agents of the greater part of the European and American states, and were we at liberty to do so we would put the question to them, fully confident that we should not be contradicted. Every thing that has been written or reported to the contrary, is an impudent and infamous lie. *«No foreigner has been molested»*—we tell it to those that are present, to those that are absent, in order that their false assertions, unsubstantiated by authentic facts, may be regarded in the light of what they really are—calumnious, intentional, and voluntary acts, in the same manner as the dangerous position in which those foreigners have voluntarily taken up arms to sustain the usurper of the legitimate authority in Montevideo, is voluntary and intentional.

"Admiral Mackau, in his first speech in the Chamber of Peers, alluding to the guarantees enjoyed by the French in this country, said these formal words—

"In short they (the French) possess the same privileges as the English and North Americans in every thing relating to their persons and property, and they enjoy all the advantages all the guarantees secured by the local legislation to the citizens of the Argentine Republic themselves. *Our countrymen* would be unpardonable should they abandon such a position, (and certainly they will not do it) in order to attempt to confound themselves with the American population, and subject themselves to the innumerable changes to which that population is yet exposed" (1).

"This wise counsel of Admiral Mackau has been disregarded, and his predictions have not been confirmed by the event. Contrary to every calculation and to every well-grounded expectation, the French population in Montevideo have renounced their nationality, their honor, their guarantees, in order to meddle in our affairs. They have acted in direct opposition to what was said by M. Guizot in reply to the inconsiderate questions put to him by M. Mermilliod. "It is no wise behoves us to busy ourselves with what takes place among them (the American governments); it is not our place to take part in favour of one against the other. This is, above all, the opportunity to apply the principle of non-interference in all its rigour. At too great a distance, ignorant as we are of the true causes of the events, of the true strength of the parties, it would be worse than impotent, (and if I may be allowed to say so) it would be insane pride to pretend to decide which side is right, which moderate, which violent; to espouse the cause of one against the other, and engage France in affairs that do not concern her, and in interests that are foreign to her" (2).

"This reservedness does not at all suit the views of the parties connected with the newspaper press: what they want, is, to have something on which to ground their defamations, in order to display what they, in the vulgar term, the cause of *improvement and civilization*; and they think they successfully perform so noble a task, when they traduce the governments, insult the people, and strenuously labour to stir up the spirit of insurrection and anarchy, which is that which arrests the march of civilization and of improvement.

"We are not ignorant of the fruitlessness of their endeavours to produce the evils they have in view. It is not by the calumnies and vociferations of a few infatuated journalists that we will be prevented from efficiently raising ourselves of a faction which professes the most destructive and savage principles. This last epithet, so justly applied to the unitarians, revolves us from the necessity of seeking other countries to describe them. Savage from their principles, savage from their habits, savage, above all, from their deeds, for both in weal and woe they have ever made a boast of their perversity, and stopped short at no crime. There is not a single corner throughout the vast extent of the provinces of the Argentine Confederation, that does not preserve the marks of their brutal and sanguinary conduct. Derrigo, inhumanly sacrificed at Navarro; Heredia, in the arms of his sons; Larrea, in prison; Villafra, in the delirium of the Cordillera; Quiroga, on his return from a pacific mission; and many others that it is impossible for us to call to mind, for they are innumerable!

"This is the faction that aspire to govern the country from which they have been for ever expelled for their atrocities! These are the men who find echoes in Paris and London, and who impute to others the crimes they themselves have perpetrated!

"This is not what most astonishes us. General Rosas ought to feel proud of not having other enemies than the correspondents of the *Nacional* of Montevideo. The great name of Pitt fills the most glorious pages of the annals of England; his ashes repose under the vaults of Westminster, by the side of the tombs of the kings and the most illustrious men of his time, whilst the ferocious tribune who caused him to be declared the enemy of the human race, by a decree of the National Convention of the French Republic, is consigned to oblivion.

"To almost all the enemies of General Rosas may be applied what Pliny said of Curio, that he was left without any other patrimony than the hope of a civil war (3). And in the midst of those elements of combustion, could he do less than show himself inexorable towards the disturbers of the public peace? A wholesome severity, wrote, under similar circumstances, the Roman Orator, is much more suitable than inconsiderate lenity. If we go on pardoning, civil war will have no end" (4).

"If there be any reproach to cast up to General Rosas, it is not on account of the firmness with which he has attacked the inveterate enemies of order during his second administration, but for the mildness with which he treated them in the first. He flattered himself that his system of moderation would produce the same effect as upon the country people, whom he had succeeded in bringing back to the proper path by his counsels and by his generosity. But this was not the case with the unitarians; their hearts were corrupted, and nothing could regenerate them. So far from it, abusing the pardon extended to them, they rushed upon the commission of fresh excesses, and rendered impracticable every attempt at reconciliation henceforward. They have no one, therefore, but themselves to blame if the sword of justice has overtaken them, and a people's curse rests evermore on their hated existence."

3. *Nihil in curis habuit greater discordiam principum.*  
Hist. Nat. Sec. 15.

4. *Contra de Best.*

Some errors having occurred last week in the publication of the following abstract of the proceedings in the House of Commons on the 2nd June, from the haste with which our paper went to press, we again insert it with the proper corrections.

MR. EWART rose to put a question. In consequence of the war between Montevideo and Buenos Ayres there had been a great destruction of British property in that part of South America. It was understood that the British Ambassador had called on General Rosas not to land, but that he had disregarded that notice, and continued to lay waste the territories of Montevideo. The British merchants thought that the ambassador had not sufficiently followed up the notice he gave, and they presented a remonstrance to that effect. Now, he believed that an ample British force was on that coast, and his question therefore was, whether steps should be taken to relieve the apprehensions of the British merchants, and to give effect to the demand made by our ambassador on General Rosas?

SIR R. PEEL had already stated, that every representation and remonstrance of the most urgent character had been made to these belligerent parties in favour of peace. The representatives of England and France acted together in these remonstrances, and the united authority of the two countries in a every possible way, been brought to bear. Every protection which it was possible to give to English and French subjects had been given, and would still be given; but if the *gentlemen* meant to ask whether this country would take part in the war, he must at once state that he could not encourage the hope that we should become principals in those hostilities.

MR. EWART observed, that he had not said that there was force enough off the coast to put an end to the war, but that there was sufficient to justify their insisting on the demand made by the ambassador.

SIR R. PEEL said, where a great nation like this was concerned there was no difference between insisting on such a demand and enforcing it. (Hear.)

MR. M. GIBSON inquired whether the right hon. baronet had received the letter alluded to by his hon. friend from the ambassador to General Rosas, calling on him to desist from advancing, and speaking as he was wont to do, to enforce his request? He had only seen the letter in the *Montevideo papers*.

SIR R. PEEL said, neither the English nor the French agents had been authorized to become parties to hostilities, but they did remonstrate in the strongest manner against the continuance of those hostilities.

(1) Sitting of the French Chamber of Peers on the 19th May, 1842.  
(2) Sitting of the Chamber of Deputies on the 29th February, 1841.



# MARINE LIST.

## PORT OF BUENOS AYRES.

**August 5.—Wind E.**  
**Arrived,** Spanish brig Monte Carmelo, 150 tons, José Valentín, from Malaga 10th June, with wine, to Zamarrán & Trezona  
 Sardinian schooner Dominga, 87 tons, Esteban Rocafogata, from Montevideo 4th inst., in ballast, to Juan Bautista Boasi.  
**American schooner** Leroy, 57 tons, Elias Davis, from the Bucoo 3rd inst., with produce, to Jacob Paravicini.  
**Sailed,** H. B. M.'s packet schooner Viper, 6 guns, Lieut. James Carter, commander, for Colonia and Montevideo.

**LAST EVENING.**  
 National brigantine Novo Brillante, Thomas Cannel Smith, for the Bucoo, despatched by Sa Pereira & Meyrellis, with merchandise.

**August 6.—Wind N.E.**  
**Arrived,** Sardinian brigantine Victoria, 95 tons, Christopher Carmelo, from Montevideo 10th ult., Bucoo 4th inst., with produce, to Alexander Martinez.  
**Sailed,** Belgian brig Florent, Johan Dam, for Antwerp, despatched by Boga, Hatz & Co., with 19,512 dry ox and cow hides, 1000 salted do.

British brig Georgina, Thomas Stratford, for Falmouth, for orders, despatched by Henry and George Dowds, with 2278 salted ox hides, 655 salted calf skins, 22,275 horns, 1234 pipes with 7300 arrows tallow, 111 bales with 275 doz. sheep skins, 34 chiguns, 4 bags and 3 bales with 800 arrobas hair.

**August 7.—Wind N.E.—Foggy.**  
**Arrived,** British brig Jean Baptiste, 224 tons, Levi Honeyburn, from Greenock 21st May, general cargo, to Anderson, Weller & Co.  
 Hamburg brig Maria Elizabeth, 208 tons, William Fokkes, from Hamburg 18th May, Montevideo 6th inst., general cargo, to Dange, Hutz & Co.

**August 8.—Wind E.—Thick fog all day—slight rain.**  
**Arrived,** H. B. M.'s packet schooner Cockatrice, 6 guns, Lieut. James Oxenham, commander, from Montevideo 6th inst.

**August 9.—Wind E.—Rain at night.**  
**Arrived,** Spanish palcosera Eleanora, 118 tons, José Millet, from Barcelona 29th May, Malaga 9th June, Montevideo 6th inst., with wine, oil, &c., to Livallol & Sons.  
 American brig Harriet Thompson, 238 tons, George L. Harris, from Philadelphia 1st May, Montevideo 8th inst., general cargo, to Zimmerman, Frazier & Co.

French brigue Escudalinas, 140 tons, Passamonte, from Bourdeaux 11th May, Montevideo 7th inst., with wine and general cargo, to Jacob Paravicini.

Sardinian brig Liguro, 124 tons, Nicolas Raggio, from Genoa 16th April, Rio Janeiro 13th June, Montevideo 7th inst., with part cargo, to Livallol & Sons.

American ship Coriolanus, 295 tons, Elias Elwell, from Cadiz 21st May, Montevideo 8th inst., with salt, to Zimmerman, Frazier & Co.  
 British brigate Melrose, 260 tons, Christopher C. Jordan, from Melbourne 29th May, with salt, to Henry & George Dowds.

**Sailed,** Danish brig Phoenix, Hans Lyster, for Havana, despatched by José Vergueiro, with 8907 quintals jerked beef.

Austrian brig Stefania, Spiridano Danilovich, for Trieste, despatched by Bertram, LeBreton and Doliole, with 4907 dry ox hides, 3500 salted do., 1415 dry horse hides, 10,000 ox and cow horns, 102 bales and 3 chiguns with 2700 arrobas wool, 18 bales and 5 chiguns with 744 arrobas horse hair, 1 bale with 15 doz. nutria skins, 1 do. with 9 doz. ewe skins, 250 cakes bees wax.

Brazilian brig Veriato, José Maria Regis, for Lisbon, via Rio Janeiro, despatched by Angelo & de Eiza, with 996 marquetas, and 620 boxes with 11,000 arrobas tallow, 5 boxes merchandise.

**August 10.—Wind W.S.W.—rain, hazy.**  
 No arrivals.

**Sailed,** Swedish brig Sven, Charles Norelius, for Antwerp, despatched by Charles R. Horne, with 2099 salted ox hides, with 880 arrobas tallow, 845 pipes with 2443 quintals hide cuttings, 124 do. with 3450 arrobas wool, 54 do. with 1750 arrobas hair.

National (late Austrian) brigantine Corsario, Antonio Bauovich, for Trieste, despatched by

Rison, Gallo & Co., with 4055 dry ox and cow hides, 1290 salted do. do., 1000 horns, 1 bale with 25 doz. sheep skins, 2 do. with 52 arrobas hair.

**August 11.—Wind S.E.**  
**Arrived,** British brig Habiah, 135 tons, Francis Hocquard, from Sicily 14th May, Montevideo 7th inst., with salt, to Bertram, LeBreton & Doliole.

Danish schooner Randers, 120 tons, John Clausen, from Hamburg 24th May, Montevideo 9th inst., with part cargo, to Charles R. Horne.  
 Lucca packet schooner Eufracia, José Borlón, from Montevideo 9th inst., to Angel G. de Eiza, with passengers.

**Sailed,** Lucca packet brigantine Lusitano, Bartolomeo Bassari, for Montevideo, despatched by Livallol & Sons, with passengers.  
 Brazilian brig of war Imperial Pedro, 14 guns, Capt. Henri Hoffsmith, for Montevideo.

### To the Editor of the British Packet.

SIR,  
 Observing your last week's paper to be silent on the subject of the juvenile ball, given on the 29th inst. (St. Ann's day), to the pupils of the academy conducted by Miss Bevans, at her residence, No. 125, Cangallo Street, I take the liberty of calling your attention to the following brief and imperfect sketch of it—

At about half-past five, the young ladies, most tastefully and splendidly attired in every variety of costly elegance, and all of them wearing conspicuously the federal device, began to assemble. Their delighted parents and friends, accompanied by numerous highly respectable families, completely filled the spacious suite of apartments, which were brilliantly illuminated, and adorned with wreaths of flowers, which an immense concourse thronged the palace, or courts, which were decorated with a number of flags, great disappointment being nevertheless experienced by crowds outside, anxious, but (from the reasonable precautions adopted for the preservation of order) unable to obtain admittance.

The ceremony commenced by the above-named amiable and accomplished prepress-calling by name, and crowning successively with a floral chaplet, (the National hymn being meanwhile played by a full military band,) sixteen of the pupils who had most distinguished themselves by their progress in the various branches of education, four as queens, and twelve as princesses, several of whom on receiving the honorable testimonial to their merit directed to Miss Bevans appropriate addresses, expressed in the most animated, affectionate, and grateful manner.

In succession an ode, composed for the occasion by a gentleman of this city, was sung by four alternate voices, the whole joining in the chorus, with an accompaniment of music.  
 The ball was then opened by the four queens dancing a minuet, after which followed a quadrille by the twelve princesses. The exhilarating exercise was continued (including the federal minuet, danced repeatedly,) until 10 o'clock, when the youthful guests, preceded by music, performing a march from Tancréd, were conducted to the refreshment room; here too for one hundred was provided, with a profusion of every description of confectionary, tastefully arranged, after partaking of which, dancing was resumed until midnight, when the festive scene terminated, and all retired highly gratified with the evening's entertainment, the spectators unanimously declaring that they had never witnessed a more affecting and interesting spectacle, and that it only surpassed the fête given last year on the same anniversary.

I should add that the graceful and easy execution of the many difficult and intricate figures in the various dances by such youthful performers elicited the warmest applause, and reflects the highest credit on their teacher, Don Eulogio Blanco.

Buenos Ayres, 1st August, 1843.

### To the Editor of the British Packet.

SIR,—It was a true remark in your paper of Saturday last, that "Truth works silently." As a good illustration of it an affair has occurred here which shows us fully how at the present hour, as if by overreaching themselves, are caught in their own trap, and the truth comes out at last. We were all perfectly horrified on reading a statement in the *Nacional* of the 4th inst., in the shape of a document enclosed in a letter from Col. Thebaud, to the Editor of the

*Patriota Franco*, to the purport that,—"Two men and an officer had been sent by the Commandant of the Cerro to a house, and after breaking down the door had discovered the bodies of two women and their Frenchmen who had been murdered, of course by the Buenos Ayres troops."

At first I threw the paper on one side, not believing one word of it, but upon a re-perusal, I observed that it was signed by the officer, and both names; they not being the names of the truth. But it has turned out to be a most atrocious lie, there must be some mistake in it (or else Colonel Thebaud, still believing him to have some spark of honor left, would not venture to put his name to it without giving first conviction of the truth). But it has turned out to be a most atrocious lie, overwhelming the concoctors with shame and dismay that their villainy is exposed.

Of course, Admiral Clever heard of the horrible murders, and, unknown to the concoctors, sent over three officers to the Mount to investigate the affair and view the bodies. They equirred first at the house, but could hear or see nothing of the bodies, they next went to the Fort and enquired of the Commandant, he was likewise ignorant; they next proceeded to get information on the spot, the captain of the "Gloire," I believe, went out to the encampment and addressed his enquiries to the President, who received him with his usual urbanity and politeness, where he was soon convinced that the whole statement was a lie, got up for their own base purposes.

Thus the truth has worked silently, and will now show of what are composed this miserable Government and its supporters here. Who do not scruple to employ newspapers and publish lies, however dishonorable the former and audacious the latter, if by so doing they can farther in the least their own miserable views.

What will the Commodore now think of his proteges? I will be convinced or not? that remains to be seen, or perhaps the saying may apply to him, "that we are never so blind as when we are wilfully so." I must conclude with Thebaud's own words to the Editor, "Somejante hecho no tiene necesidad de comentar, haba bastante por si mismo."

Yours truly,  
 VERITAS.

Montevideo, 5 August, 1843.

## PRICES CURRENT.

Doublons, Spanish	855	dollars each.
Do. Patriot	254	do do.
Plata monedas	15	do do.
Dollars, Spanish	161	164 do. each
Do. Patriot and Patricos	16	161 do. do.
Six pence	65	do do.
Exchange on England	3 1/2	per cent.
Do. France	24 1/2	per cent premium
Do. Rio Janeiro	161	per cent.
Do Montevideo	161	do.
Do. United States	10	per cent.
Hides, Ox, (of the English and Germany)	62	63 dollars per peso.
Do. France	55	56 do.
Do. North America	55	56 do.
Do. Spain	59	60 do.
Hides, salted	40	51 do. each.
Do. Horse	19	20 do. each.
Calf skins	58	60 per peso.
Sheep skins, common	21	22 per dozen.
Do. fine	29	do.
Do. Russia	10	do.
Goat skins	21	22 do.
Wool, raw	10	do.
Chinchilla skins	70	80 dol. per lb.
Horse hair, short	25	26 do. arrobas
Do. long	25	26 do.
Do. long	80	85 do.
Wax, common, white	26	26 do.
Do. picked	26	40 do.
Do. refined	26	40 do.
Do. mottled, dirty	15	40 do.
Tallow, pure	19	20 do.
Do. raw	19	20 do.
Do. with grease	25	27 do.
Wool, raw	40	50 per cent.
Horns, mixed	200	250 per thousand.
Do. Ox	25	do.
Shoes	25	26 per 100 lbs.
Hide cuttings	25	25 per lb.
Onion, French	15	20 do.
Do. black	15	20 do.
Salt, on board	10	12 per fanega.
Doucet	1	1 1/2 per cent. per month.

The highest price of Doublons during the week 266 dollars. The lowest price 244 dollars.  
 The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week 3 1/2 pence. The lowest do. 3 1/2 pence.

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