

British Packet

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

[No. 1006.

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, 1845.

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BUENOS AYRES.

* * * The indulgence of the reader is earnestly craved this week, as, in consequence of the serious indisposition of the Editor, the arrangement of the present number has been suddenly thrown upon inexperienced hands.

☞ The "British Packet" will be sold this week at the Printing Office only.

From the announcement made last week, the readers of this journal are doubtless prepared for the intelligence subsequently received of a desperate conflict having taken place in the Paraná, between the combined English and French fleet and the Argentine batteries at *La Vuelta de Obligado*. Although the candid avowal of the Editor, in view of the formidable array of hostility marshalled against the feeble ramparts manned by the defenders of the Republic was noways calculated to lead to the expectation that the Argentine forces would succeed in effectually baffling the designs of the aggressors, the well-known valor and enthusiasm of the troops afforded sufficient assurance that the honor of the country would be nobly upheld, and that the rights of sovereignty and independence would not be allowed to be trampled under the hoofs of foreign conquest with impunity. Still the most sanguine anticipations never contemplated the possibility of such a marvellous and heroic resistance as that which has given to the battle of Obligado undying celebrity in the annals of South America, and furnished incredulity, because misled, Europeans, practical evidence of the utter impracticability of dealing with the Republics of La Plata in the same manner as they would with China and Morocco. It is gratifying to observe that our countrymen, even under the disadvantage of the consciousness of being engaged in an unjust cause, have maintained their well-earned reputation for bravery, and that the need of praise has been dealt out to them, with no stinted hand, by antagonists in no wise unworthy of contending with them in a fair field of fight. Whatever Mess. Onseley and Deffaudis may have thought when they sent their fellow-countrymen—in many cases, we believe, most reluctantly on the part of the latter—on an enterprise characterised by such wanton injustice, we envy not the feelings which the intelligence of the result will have produced in their bosoms. Both England and France will ere long learn the details of this memorable combat, and albeit not a sense of justice towards an outraged friendly nation, the sympathies at least that will naturally be excited by the loss of so many valuable lives sacrificed by the caprice and spite of incapable Agents, cannot fail to compel the respective Governments to call to a strict account servants who have so treacherously defeated the avowed objects for which they were sent, by a scandalous contempt of every consideration of right and expediency.

The *Gaceta* of yesterday contains several documents relative to the action, and whilst bestowing on General Mancilla and his companions in arms well-merited eulogiums for their exemplary gallantry and devotedness—eulogiums which will be echoed by the patriotic and the brave of all nations,—pays a handsome compliment to the skill and valour of the British and French tars in the performance of a duty so barren of glory.

The following are the only communications we have time to translate:—

Encampment, November 21st, 1845, &c.

The Commandant and Chief (*ad interim*) of the Northern Department—
To the General First Aid-de-Camp of H. E., Don Manuel Corbalan—

The undersigned directed yesterday, during 8 hours, an obstinate combat against the English and French squadrons, which vigorously attacked the batteries of *La Vuelta de Obligado*.

The situation of the undersigned, in consequence of a wound which he has received, does not permit him to draw up the report; and he therefore remits to you one which by his order has been made out by the Colonel commanding the batteries, Don Francisco Crespo, that you may please to place it before His Excellency the Governor and Captain General of the Province, Brigadier Don Juan Manuel de Rosas.

The French and English squadron has taken the point occupied by the batteries, which is besieged on the land side, in the circumference of the range of their cannons, by sufficient of our forces not to leave to the invaders more soil to tread upon than that which they can defend by the fire of their artillery.

God preserve you many years.

LUCIO MANCILLA.

Encampment, November 21, 1845, &c.

The Colonel Commanding for the time being—

To the General First Aid-de-camp of H. E., Don Manuel Corbalan.

The undersigned has received orders from the Commander-in-chief *ad interim* of the Northern Department, General D. Lucio Mancilla, to address to you the report of the combat which the batteries at *La Vuelta de Obligado* sustained yesterday against the invading squadrons of England and France combined. It not being possible for the General to make out the report, in consequence of having been wounded, while giving this division an example of heroic valor, this honor falls to the undersigned.

On the 18th inst., the combined French and English squadron anchored at 2 gun shots of our batteries.

The General ordered three small crafts to reconnoitre to within half gun shot of the squadrons, their attitude and disposition. These vessels were fired upon and pursued by the squadron, when they immediately took shelter under the batteries, without answering the fire.

On the 19th the enemy prepared to attack, and on the 20th, at 8 o'clock in the morning, his whole squadron manoeuvred skilfully before the batteries. First in line were 4 brigs of war, one English and three French; in the centre, the steamers Fulton, Gorgon and Firebrand, and in the rear two corvettes and two brigs.

At half past 9, A. M., the General being at the head of the forces of the batteries, the National Hymn of the Argentine Confederation was sung, the drums rolled, and the combat commenced.

The enemy made his attack with gallant intrepidity, with a force of 113 canons, of the calibre of 24, 32, 48, 64, and 80 pounders, sustaining without the intermission of a single instant, a well directed, quick and destructive fire of his whole line on the front and flank of our batteries.

To this brisk attack the batteries opposed the vigorous fire of 35 pieces of the calibre of 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18 and 24, and the Argentine soldiers their heroic breasts on the esplanades—They, and the first among them: the General, disputed the dangers of the fight and the honor of sustaining the dignity of the Argentine flag. After 8 hours of a bloody fight, courageously sustained on both sides, the overpowering fire of the enemy silenced our guns, destroyed the parapets, and our artillerymen fired their last cartridges, all our ammunition being thus consumed.

Then the enemy made a rush to disembark, under the protection of his powerful artillery. The General, while leading valiantly in person, at that moment, to a charge of bayonet, was thrown to the ground by a spent slug which struck him on the stomach, and unfortunately left him senseless *hors du combat*.

The undersigned who had just received a contusion, took the command, and ordered the Colonel Ramon Rodriguez, Aid-de-camp of H. E., to oppose the enemy's landing forces. He did so, facing the tremendous fire of the enemy's artillery and projectiles. The enemy, covered by this force—our fires being extinguished, part of our artillery dismounted, without ammunition, and our raw artillerymen in their greater part *hors du combat*, between killed and wounded—succeeded in penetrating into the batteries which had been destroyed by their fire.

They were nevertheless resisted, the ground being all along disputed, and the flying artillery finally saved.

The English and French squadrons discharged incessantly on our esplanades a shower of bombs, grape shot and projectiles with the rapidity, precision and skill of their expert gunners.

This immense disparity only served to increase the valor of our officers and soldiers, and of the General who has commanded them with so much gallantry; and who, at so important a juncture, fell gloriously wounded.

The Commander of the National brig of war "Republicano," Capt. Thomas Craig, after having expended all his ammunition, set fire to the vessel, and intrepidly exposed to the fire of the enemy, joined the land forces.

Colonel Ramon Rodriguez, and all the Commanders of the batteries, the officers and soldiers without exception, have heroically performed their duty.

The enemies have suffered great loss in killed. They were seen continually throwing from their vessels the dead bodies, which were floating down the waters of the Paraná; the number of their casualties is estimated to exceed double that of ours. Three of their vessels were put *hors du combat*; and the remainder have suffered considerable damages in their spars, sails and hulks.

The commanders, officers and crews of the enemy have behaved in accordance with the renown and fame of the English and French navies for bravery.

The enemy can bear testimony to the heroic defence made by this division of the Argentine army, of the independence, sovereignty and honor of the nation.

The Lieutenant in the navy, D. José Romero, the sub-lieutenants D. Marcos Rodriguez and Faustino Medrano, the ensigns Martinez and Sanchez and seventy privates of the batteries, were killed on our side, while fighting with heroic valor, independently of those who with equal bravery died in the *Monte de Obligado*, where the fire was kept up until midnight; which number, together with those of the batteries, is estimated at 150.

Major D. Avelino Garmendia, Adjutant to the General, the Lieutenants in the navy, D. Xavier Gomez and D. N. Correa, Sub-lieutenant D. Victor Fernando Elizalde, mid-shipsmen D. Thomas Halle, and D. Fernando Pastor, Lieutenant D. Juan Goizatz Ensign D. Francisco Esteves, and 90 privates received honorable wounds while bravely fighting.

Several virtuous females who remained in this bloody fight by the side of their husbands, their sons or their relatives, giving succour to the wounded, and aiding the combatants in the defence of Argentine honor, have also died heroically.

The undersigned complies with his duty in bringing through your medium, General, and by order of his gallant chief, General D. Lucio Mancilla, to the notice of H. E. the Governor and Captain General of the Province, Brigadier D. Juan Manuel de Rosas, the virtue and intrepid bravery of the officers and soldiers who have fought in this day of honor and glory, against enemies, though on a par in valor, vastly superior in means of destruction and *personnel* of artillery.

God preserve you many years.

FRANCISCO CRESPO.

Advertisements.

Spanish Language.

MR. BRADISH, 20 years resident in this country, teaches the Spanish Language grammatically, either at the residence of his pupils, or at his own, No. 68, Calle de Chucahuaco.

Accomts adjusted, and documents of Business translated from the Spanish, French, and Portuguese Languages.

To Let,

FURNISHED or unfurnished Rooms. Apply at No. 26 Calle de Tucuman.

Daguerreotype Portraits,

Positively but a Few Days Longer!

AS J. A. BENNETT is making arrangements to leave Buenos Ayres. Persons who have deferred having their Miniatures taken by this beautiful process, had better improve the present time, or they may hereafter regret that they neglected so favourable an opportunity of procuring "life-like" resemblances of themselves or friends.

No. 121 Calle de la Piedad, (in the Altos.)

JOHN A. BENNETT.



Dentistry.

MR. TENKER, SURGEON DENTIST,

Member of the Society of Surgeon Dentists in the United States, and received by the Tribunal of Medicine of Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, & Buenos Ayres.

CONTINUES in the practice of his profession at No. 96, Cathedral Street. All the usual operations performed in the most superior manner, such as filling those that are decayed with gold, tin, silver, or lead, and mineral cement, by which method their further decay is at once arrested, and even those most decayed rendered useful.

Mineral Teeth inserted on the most modern principles and without pain.

His Anæsthetic Balm, Pains Water, Tooth Powder, and Drops for the Cure of the Tooth-Ache are too well known to require further notice in this advertisement.

Will generally be found at home, (not having time to attend to other people's business) and always between the hours of 9 and 4.

Teeth extracted at any hour in the day or night.

To Let,

A NUMBER of furnished rooms, with or without board, at No. 6, Calle de la Piedad.

To Let,

TO single Gentlemen, 2 bed rooms and a parlour, at No. 17, Calle Cuyo. Buenos Ayres, Nov. 7, 1845.

Pictorial Times.

THE Persons who have taken from the Commercial Room the "Pictorial Times," of June 7th, 14th and 21st, 1845, are requested to return them.

Wants a Situation,

A RESPECTABLE young person as Housemaid or Nurserymaid. Apply at Calle de Belgrano, No. 157.

Notice.

GENTLEMEN requiring board with furnished lodgings and attendance if desired, will find superior accommodations in a private family on application at No. 1724, Calle de la Piedad.

To be Let,

THREE rooms, either furnished or unfurnished, at Calle de Cangallo, No. 541, Altos, at moderate prices.

Affairs on the American Continent—The Policy of England and France.

Several of the recent arrivals from Buenos Ayres have placed us in possession of the latest intelligence regarding the movements in that quarter, and from the new position that they have assumed it will be observed that they are most important. They are highly significant with regard to the aspect in which the affairs of the republics on this side of the Atlantic are viewed by the old European powers.

It seems that the English and French Ministers have demanded the withdrawal of the Argentine troops from the Uruguay Republic, for the purpose of re-establishing the government of Rivera, who, by the overthrow of Oribe in 1838, was made Governor of the republic. At the time of the interference of the French and English Ministers, the whole country, with the exception of the city of Montevideo, was in possession of the army under Oribe, who was in a fair way, in a short time, to have also obtained an entry to that city. The two Ministers have also prevented the blockading of the port of Montevideo by the Argentine squadron; and, in order to enforce their demands, we find that they have concentrated, in the river Plate, an English squadron, consisting of eleven vessels, carrying one hundred and ninety-seven guns, and eighteen hundred and ten men—and a French one of ten vessels, carrying two hundred and eighty-two guns, and two thousand four hundred and seventy men, besides a large number of land troops, which, in case of non-compliance with their wishes, they threaten to land, and with them drive Gen. Oribe from his position before Montevideo. Alarmed by these extraordinary demonstrations, the Argentine Republic called upon the Chargé d'Affaires of the United States, and requested his interference, or, rather, mediation with the other Foreign Ministers, who, on the score of his not being of equal rank with themselves, declined meeting him, and there is little doubt but that they demanded their passports, and that the hostilities which they threatened have been, ere this, actually carried out.

The administration of the United States as far back as the time of Monroe, has declared that the Republics on this side of the water are the fittest parties to regulate their own affairs, and that the European powers were not entitled to any voice in the management of any disputes or difficulties that might occur on the great American Continent, including both North and South America. The recent developments, and the events that are daily transpiring, however, go to show that they by no means look upon us in this light; on the contrary, any disinterested observer would suppose that the affairs of America were under the especial supervision of England and France. In the Pacific, the Atlantic, the Gulf of Mexico, and in fact wherever there is the slightest pretext, we find English and French squadrons bristling with cannon, Ministers roaming about, towns blockaded, and threats made to carry out the demands of their respective powers. In this last instance, it appears that the mediation of an United States Chargé d'Affaires was refused, on the ground that he was not of an equal rank in the *corps diplomatique* to those between whom he was to mediate. Such an excuse is weak and frivolous in the extreme, for a Chargé at a foreign government, in the absence of a superior officer, is to all intents and purposes a full Minister. But the refusal to meet him under cover of disparity of rank, shows the true motive, which is to disregard all our endeavors to check their movements on this continent.

It has been seen that at the close of the last British Parliament, the most amicable tone was assumed towards this country, and all the subjects that have been on the carpet lately in connection with our European relations were treated in a most conciliatory manner, but from the various demonstrations that we see, we should be led greatly to distrust such smooth spoken words, and look on them merely as a treacherous calm, that will be soon disturbed in case any of our steps should not happen to be palatable to the British court. M. Guizot's declaration also that France was perfectly indifferent as to the annexation of Texas, strikes us as being rather hyperbolic, and the action of his government does not show much regard for his wish to see the balance of power "sustained among the Republics of America." The fact is that during the life of Louis Philippe, it is very evident that England and France will co-operate in any steps that may be taken by either of them in American affairs. In the matter of Mexico and Texas it is highly probable that the mediation of one of them—most likely England—may be called in by Mexico, but it behoves our Government to be exceedingly cautious how they accept such mediation, the probability being that a decision would be given against us. This concentrating of forces and uncalled for interference be-

tokens on their part a desire to insinuate themselves in the western hemisphere, and keep themselves always in readiness to take advantage of any weak point that may chance to be exposed to them. England has lately commenced with Brazil, in reference to the treaty for the suppression of the slave trade. It will be remembered that by the terms of the treaty a year's notice on the part of either side was required before it could be declared null. Such notice has been given on the side of the Brazils, but the English still hesitate about recognizing its nullity, and finally conclude that their part of the treaty is in full force, and that all slavers under Brazilian colours will be treated as pirates. This shows her policy towards Brazil, whose products being similar to those of her own colonies, interfere materially with her markets; and another reason probably is, that having assumed the responsibility of putting down the slave trade entirely, she selects Brazil as the best to make an example of, that being not only one of the weakest of the slave-dealing powers, but situated precisely where England wishes her power to be most felt. The request made some time ago by the Republic of Paraguay, to be admitted under our protection, doubtless caused them much annoyance, as it exhibits the growing bond of attachment that exists among the Republics of the West, without regard to the feelings or wishes of the European powers; and as the leading nation on this side, our Government must endeavor, by all the means in its power, to promote the growth of this feeling, and by its prompt and energetic action, show that we are perfectly indifferent to all the underhand means that may be taken to cripple or intimidate us.

In taking all these views into consideration, we see plainly enough that the great struggle between the old régime—the old hunkers of the world—and the "young democracy" is on the eve of breaking out. There is to be a greater revolution in the affairs of nations in the next century, than has yet taken place since Adam was driven from the Garden of Eden.

(From the "New York Herald," of Sept. 6.)

* There is evidently a mistake here.—B. P.

WASHINGTON.

Consulships—Mexican News, &c.

We have the announcement in the official paper of this morning of the appointment of John T. Pickett, of Kentucky, as Consul to Turks Island, vice Abraham Morrill, recalled. Not a few consulships, worth nothing but the name, have been sought after for purposes of matrimonial speculation at the watering places. "Who is that elegant young man, daughter, with whom you were conversing this evening at the fountain?" "Why ma, that's Mr. Pelican Guano, the United States Consul at Ichaboo."—"Well, daughter, now's your chance—he may be poor, but you have money enough; and Mr. Guano can introduce, with your means, most favorably into official society at Washington, after your return from the coast of Africa, you know." Many a poor fellow has been dreaming over such absurdities as this in his electioneering, for some feeble out-of-the-way consulship. We encountered, the other day, the pleasant phiz of the Hon. George S. Catlin, on the avenue. As he is unfortunately left out of Congress, (though one of the small number of men who do honor to our National Assembly,) he may probably be looking up one of these collaterally important consulships.

A new rumor, a vague and shadowy rumor, prevails this evening, that by the mail of this afternoon, a positive declaration of war has been received by the Executive from Mexico. It may be, but we think it is not so. Our Southern papers are mum upon the subject. The wish was father to the thought. We rather think that Mexico is desirous of ascertaining first, whether now, or ultimately, when the crisis may demand, John Bull, or Monsieur Montongaw, will, directly or indirectly assist her against the accursed Northern union. Now mark it. Great events, perhaps events upon which the "right divine" of the Kings of Europe hangs, are involved in this miserable travesty of war with Mexico.

(From the "New York Herald," of Sept. 6.)

THE COMMON LOT.—An unmarried lady on the wintry side of fifty, hearing of the marriage of a young lady, her friend, observed, with a deep and sentimental sigh, "Well! I suppose it is what we all must come to."

By GEORGE RUSH.

MR. RUSH was one of the American diplomatists at London during the years intervening between 1819 and 1825. He had consequently access to the best society, and mingled largely in the political circles of the interesting period of his residence in London. The work before us contains his more interesting reminiscences. One of these relates to a dinner at Mr. Canning's:—

"It would not have been easy to assemble a company better fitted to make a dinner-party agreeable, or to have brought them together at a better moment. Parliament having just risen, Mr. Canning, and his two colleagues of the cabinet, Mr. Huskisson and Mr. Robinson, seemed like birds let out of a cage. There was much small talk, some of it very sprightly. Ten o'clock arriving, with little disposition to rise from the table, Mr. Canning proposed that we should play 'Twenty Questions.' This was new to me and the other members of the diplomatic corps present, though we had all been a good while in England. The game consisted in endeavours to find out your thoughts by asking twenty questions. The questions were to be put plainly, though in the alternative if desired; the answers to be also plain and direct. The objects of your thoughts not to be an abstract idea, or anything so occult, or scientific, or technical, as not to be supposed to enter into the knowledge of the company, but something well known to the present day, or to general history. It might be any name of renown, ancient or modern, man or woman; or any work or memorial of art well known, but not a mere event, as a battle, for instance. These were mentioned as among the general rules of the game, serving to denote its character. It was agreed that Mr. Canning, assisted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who sat next to him, should put the questions, and that I, assisted by Lord Granville, who sat next to me, should give the answers. Lord Granville and myself were, consequently, to have the thought or secret in common; and it was well understood that the discovery of it, if made, was to be the fair result of mental inference from the questions and answers, not of signs passing, or hocus-pocus of any description. With these as the preliminaries, and the parties sitting face to face, on opposite sides of the table, we began the battle.

First question (by Mr. Canning).—Does what you have thought of belong to the animal or vegetable kingdom? Answer—to the vegetable.

Second question.—Is it manufactured or unmanufactured? Manufactured.

Third.—Is it a solid or a liquid? A solid. [How could it be a liquid, said one of the company, slyly, unless vegetable soup?]

Fourth.—Is it a thing entire in itself, or in parts? Entire.

Fifth.—Is it for private use or public? Public.

Sixth.—Does it exist in England or out of it? In England.

Seventh.—Is it single, or are there others of the same kind? Single.

Eighth.—Is it historical, or only existent at present? Both.

Ninth.—For ornament or use? Both.

Tenth.—Has it any connection with the person of the King? No.

Eleventh.—Is it carried, or does it support itself? The former.

Twelfth.—Does it pass by succession? [Neither Lord Granville nor myself being quite certain on this point, the question was not answered; but, as it was thought that the very hesitation to answer might serve to shed light upon the secret, it was agreed that the question should be counted as one in the progress of the game.]

Thirteenth.—Was it used at the coronation? Yes.

Fourteenth.—In the Hall or Abbey? Probably in both; certainly in the Hall.

Fifteenth.—Does it belong especially to the ceremony of the coronation, or is it used at other times? It is used at other times.

Sixteenth.—Is it exclusively of a vegetable nature, or is it not, in some parts, a compound of a vegetable and a mineral? Exclusively of a vegetable nature.

Seventeenth.—What is its shape? [This question was objected to as too particular, and the company inclining to think so, it was withdrawn; but Mr. Canning saying it would be hard upon him to count it, as it was withdrawn, the decision was in his favour on that point, and it was not counted.]

Seventeenth (repeated).—Is it decorated or simple? [We made a stand against this question also, as too particular; but the company not inclining to sustain us this time, I had to answer it, and said that it was simple.]

Eighteenth.—Is it used in the ordinary ceremonial of the House of Commons, or House of Lords? No.

Nineteenth.—Is it ever used by either House? No.

Twentieth.—Is it generally stationary or moveable? Moveable. The whole number of questions being now exhausted, there was a dead pause. The interest had gone on increasing as the game advanced, until, coming to the last question, it grew to be like neck-and-neck at the close of a race. Mr. Canning was evidently under concern lest he should be foiled, as by the law of the game he would have been, if he had not now solved the enigma. He sat silent for a minute or two; then, rolling his rich eye about, and with his countenance a little anxious, and in an accent by no means over confident, he exclaimed, 'I think it must be the wand of the Lord High Steward!' And it was—even so. This wand is a long, plain, white staff, not much thicker than your middle finger, and, as such, justifies all the answers given. In answering the ninth question, Lord Granville and I, who conferred together in a whisper as to all answers not at once obvious, remembered that some quaint old English writers say that the Lord High-Steward carried his staff to beat off intruders from his Majesty's treasury! When at the twelfth, Mr. Canning illustrated the nature of his question by referring to the rod of the Lord Chamberlain, which he said did not pass by succession, each new incumbent procuring, as he supposed, a new one for himself. I said that it was not the Lord Chamberlain's rod; but the very mention of this was 'burning,' as children say when they play hide-and-seek; and in answering that it was not, I had to take care of my emphasis. The questions were not put in the rapid manner in which they will be read; but sometimes after considerable intervals, not of silence—for they were enlivened by occasional remarks thrown in by the company, all of whom grew intent upon the pastime as it advanced, though Mr. Canning alone put the questions, and I alone gave out the answers. It lasted upwards of an hour, the wine ceasing to go round. On Mr. Canning's success, for it was touch-and-go with him, there was a burst of approbation; we of the diplomatic corps saying, that we must be very careful not to let him ask us too many questions at the foreign office, lest he should find out every secret that we had!"

(From "The Metropolitan Magazine," of July.)

OLD MAIDS—BACHELORS—MARRIAGE.

There are two classes of human beings at whose expense the residue of the world are much disposed to be marvellously merry—we mean Bachelors and Old Maids. With the first class we have no fellow feeling. We luxuriate in seeing them held up to the merited scorn of the world, and have ourselves once and again assisted in the praiseworthy work of so exhibiting them. One of the articles of our creed is, that all bachelors who cannot render an admissible reason for dragging out their existence "by themselves," in opposition to the injunctions of revelation and the dictates of nature, ought to be abandoned by all good married people as persons with whom it were a crime to hold companionship.

Our sentiments touching old maids are of a quite different complexion. Our hypothesis for a long time past—indeed ever since our reasoning faculties reached their maturity—has been, that in the infinite majority of cases an old maid is an object of commiseration rather than of blame. If men are bachelors it is by choice, not by any necessity imposed upon them. With the fair sex the case is the reverse. In almost every instance a single life is with them matter of unavoidable necessity.

There is a danger of our being misunderstood here. We have too many of our acquaintances in the garret—in fact, we are not certain whether, owing to circumstances, a majority of them be not in that section of the house—not to be aware that the far greater portion of these antiquated virgins might have been married if they had thought fit. She must be a rare mortal who has never had the offer of a husband, good, bad, or indifferent. When we speak of an old maid's being so by necessity, our meaning is, that she has never had the good fortune of having a tender made to her of the hand of him she loved. And here lies the difference between her and those animals yelped bachelors—they, generally speaking, never love at all, never solicit the hand of the fair; but she invariably loves, and

dare not, unless she would be considered a transgressor of all the approved rules and regulations of the world in such matters, disclose her regards even to the beloved object himself; far less make proposals of marriage to him. Now, it were assuredly the essence of injustice to blame a woman for not marrying a man who proposes wedlock to her when she never felt a fraction of affection towards him. Her rejection of his overtures is, on the contrary, to our apprehension, meritorious beyond all computation.

We wish we could correct the errors of the world on this score. Were there such a thing in this age of societies as an association for the purpose of propagating orthodox notions on the subject of old maidship, we would willingly and most devotedly engage to compass sea and land—to traverse every point of the terraqueous globe in the character of one of its missionaries to assist in the noble work.

Most strenuously do we maintain that antiquated virgins are in general more to be pitied than blamed for remaining in a single state; and yet they are frowned upon and trodden under by all classes of their fellow-beings. Place us in a mixed company where all are perfect strangers to us, and we will tell you how many old maids there are in it, and single their ladyships out to you simply by observing the demeanour of the residue of the party towards them; so marked is the coldness of manner, if not positive insult, with which the world has been taught to regard these members of society. Hence we can easily account for that peevishness of temper which is the almost invariable appurtenance of old maidship.

It will, perhaps, be inquired how does it consist with our hypothesis that almost every woman has, at one time or other of her life, had an offer of marriage, when there are so many bachelors who have never paid their addresses to any of the sex, and when it is an incontrovertible fact in the statistics of population, that the women are much more numerous than the men. We account for it after this fashion—to wit, that though in civilized countries the practice of polygamy is prohibited by law, and that consequently a man can only have one wife at a time, every man has not been sufficiently fortunate to get the object of his first love. We have been making a calculation as to the number of our matrimonial acquaintances with whose history we are more intimately conversant, who have not succeeded in procuring the first young lady's hand they solicited. The result of our investigation is that, out of every seven suitors, two have been unsuccessful, and been under the necessity of rusticating in a state of misnamed single blessedness, or making a tender application to a second, if not a third or fourth party. Nay, we have known some poor fellows who have been doomed to endure the mortification of six or seven rejections in as many quarters, and yet succeeded in "joining hands" with a spouse of invaluable worth at the end of the chapter. We mention the latter fact for the encouragement of those weak nerves who may be apt to sink under a succession of the shocks consequent on such refusals.

But in the midst of our vindication of old maids, we are obliged in common candour to admit, that many of them have rejected most valuable offers. Women are too much more so than men—the creatures of passion. In affairs of the heart, and in matters of matrimony, reason in most cases is held in abeyance. If there be not an undefined something about the candidate for a woman's hand, which completely rivets her affections, his addresses are rejected, while the fact may have been that he possessed all the qualities necessary to constitute a good husband. We know the sentiment will be questioned by some, but we are not on that account less satisfied of its truth, that whenever a woman recognises certain good qualities of temper and conduct in the person who pays his addresses to her, she should accept his hand, even although, at the time she felt no peculiar affection for him; for such qualities cannot fail ultimately to render him the object of her regards, and secure the happiness of the married state; while, on the other hand, there is little chance of felicity in the married state to the woman who accepted the hand of her lover without being able to specify one quality of mind or conduct in him as having been the means of attracting her regards.

But it must be recollected that the same qualities in a husband that would make one wife happy would not do so to another. There are great diversities of temperament in the female world. A woman, for example, who is constitutionally of a lively and gay disposition, fond of company, and of jaunting about, errs most egregiously if she calculates on matrimonial bliss from a union with one who is "habit and repute" of a melancholy, staid temperament, and who abhors promiscuous society. The most unex-

ceptionable criterion we know of by which a woman, in a case of this kind, should regulate her choice, would, in the first instance, be, to learn as much as possible of the peculiar prejudices, predilections, habits, and so forth of the person who solicits her hand, and then accept or reject the proffer just as she finds these correspond or not correspond to a certain extent with her own.

Although, however, no rules can be laid down which, in the important matter of forming a matrimonial connection, are of universal application, such rules can be adduced as will suit the majority of cases. The following are the positive and negative mental and personal qualifications which a lady, some time ago deceased, considered indispensable in the person who solicited her hand previous to her accepting his offer. The unmarried portion of our female readers can individually adopt, as *sine qua non*s, as many of them as are suited to their respective notions on the subject; and regulate their decision accordingly in every after case of proposed marriage:—

"Great piety, good sense, and good nature.

"He must look like a gentleman, and behave like one. He must have a fresh complexion, and be rather tall; short, by no means whatever; middle-sized, passable.

"With respect to fortune, he must be rich, very rich if possible; poor by no means, *in spirit*.

"A decent share of love, just tintured with a little jealousy, sufficiently to make the wife believe he sets some value upon her; but no suspicion—no suspicion, I say again and again, of any kind whatever, nor upon any provocation whatever.

"Well, but not critically skilled in the ways of women.

"In spelling very correct, that he may be the better able to instruct me, if I should want it.

"In some parts of arithmetic very able—especially addition and multiplication, but no skill of division or subtraction.

"He must be able to play tolerably well on the fiddle, and have more than a tolerable share of patience; in short, he must be willing to play as long as I think proper to dance; but no particular intimacy with Italian scrapers or singers, especially women.

"Skilful in the use of the sword, but not of a quarrelsome temper.

"Ready to accept a challenge, but backward to give one.

"No enemy to wit and humour.

"Not always good-natured abroad, and ill-natured at home.

"More skilful in the theoretic, than in the practical part of wife governing.

"To wine and snuff no objection, but no chewing of tobacco or smoking, at any rate.

"No enthusiasm for whist, and no gambler or drunkard.

"Ponder much of staying at home than of going abroad.

"A thorough knowledge of his own failings, and a willingness to acknowledge them; but no particular or minute acquaintance with mine.

"Generous, but not extravagant.

"An admirer of the fine arts, but not too profuse in the purchase of pictures, &c.

"A lover of poetry, both ancient and modern, and capable of relishing the beauties of each.

As much learning, Greek and Latin, as he pleases; but not to think me his inferior because I have no knowledge in dead languages.

"Not to deny me a coach if he can afford it, or allow me one if he can't.

"In conversation affable and entertaining, willing to hear (me) as we speak, just to all the world, and affectionate to me."

The above is a catalogue of the qualifications which the lady referred to considered absolutely necessary in the person who would propose to conduct her to the hymeneal altar prior to her compliance with his wishes. But in the plenitude of our regards for the fairest of creation's works, and our anxiety to promote their bliss, we must not altogether forget single gentlemen; and, therefore, we shall conclude this speculation, as an essay writer of the early part of the last century would have said, by a few rules and regulations which may be of use to the majority of them when meditating the perpetration of marriage. The subjoined were drawn up by a young gentleman:—

"Great good-nature and a prudent generosity.

"A lively look, a proper spirit, and a cheerful disposition.

"A good person, but not perfectly beautiful.

"Of moderate height.

"With regard to complexion, not quite fair, but a little brown.

"Young by all means, though there are exceptions.

"A decent share of common-sense, just tintured with a little seasonable repartee, and a small modicum of wit; some learning, enough to make leisure hours agreeable, but not to interrupt domestic duties.

"Well, but not critically skilled in her own tongue.

"No deficiency in spelling or pointing, and a good legible hand.

"A proper knowledge of accounts and arithmetic, but no skill of vulgar fractions.

"A more than tolerably good voice, and a little ear for music, and a capability for singing a canonet or a song in company; but no peculiar and intimate acquaintance with minims, crotchets, quavers, &c.

"No enthusiasm for the harpsichord, harp, or guitar.

"Ready at her needle, but more devoted to plain work than fine.

"No enemy to knitting or mending.

"Not always in the parlour, but sometimes in the kitchen.

"More skilled in the theoretic than in the practical part of cookery.

"To tea and coffee no objection.

"Fonder of country dances than minuets.

"An acquaintance with domestic news, but no acquaintance with foreign.

"Not entirely fond of quadrille, nor an absolute bigot to whist.

"In conversation a little of the lisp, but not of the stammer.

"Decently, but not affectedly silent.

A. B. C.

(From "The Metropolitan Magazine," of July.)

MERCHANT VESSELS

IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AYRES
ON THURSDAY LAST.

NONE.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR.

BRITISH—Ship *Curaçoa*, 24 guns, Captain Thomas Sparks Thompson.

Ship *Metampus*, 42 guns, Captain John Norman Campbell.

FRENCH—Schooner late 9th July, 1 gun.

Corvett *Coquette*, 24 guns, Captain Larrieu.

PORTUGUESE—Corvette *Dom João I*, Commander Francisco Soares Franco.

BRAZILIAN—Brigantine *Olinda*, 10 guns, Captain Amazonas.

MARINE LIST.

PORT of BUENOS AYRES.

November 23.

Arrived, Portuguese corvette *Dom João I*, Francisco Soares Franco, Commander, from Montevideo, 17th. She struck on the 19th on the Ortiz bank, and was got off on the 21st, after throwing over board a considerable quantity of guns, shot, &c.

November 26.

Arrived, Brazilian schooner of war *Olinda*, from Colonia.

November 27.

Arrived, Sardinian schooner of war *Ninfa*, De Quivinet, Commander, from Montevideo, 25th. Sailed, Brazilian schooner of war *Angelita*, J. S. Blanco, Commander, for Montevideo.

Blockade of the Port of Buenos Ayres by the combined Anglo-French squadron.

Nothing worthy of notice has occurred during the week.

This day (28th inst.) completes the 63d day of the blockade.

Advertisements.

BUENOS AYRES

British Library.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Proprietors of the Buenos Ayres British Library, will be held in the Library at eight o'clock, on the evening of Tuesday the 24th of December next, for the purpose of electing a Committee for the management of the affairs of the Institution for the ensuing year.

FREDERIC HARGRAVE,

Secretary pro. tem.

Buenos Ayres, 24th November, 1845.

Notice to British Subjects.

THE undersigned, being duly authorised for the purpose, hereby gives notice that a General Meeting of the Subscribers to the Scotch Presbyterian Church in Buenos Ayres, will be held at their Chapel, on Wednesday, the 10th December, at 1 o'clock, for the purpose of laying before it the accounts of the Church Committee, and in order to make the necessary appropriations for this year.

PATRICK McLEAN.

Buenos Ayres, the 26th of November, 1845.

Notice.

WILLIAM GARRETT, TAILOR,

BEGS to inform his friends and the public in general, that he has removed from No. 9, "Calle de la Paz," to No. 25 in the same Street, one square further from the "Plaza Victoria," on the same side of the street, where he hopes to be favoured with a continuance of their custom, which it will ever be his endeavour to merit.
Buenos Ayres, Nov. 29th, 1845.

John Maria Farina,

The oldest distiller of the genuine EAU DE COLOGNE,
No. 23, Rhine Street, Cologne,

BEGS to inform the Public, that in order to prevent the frequent impositions which occur from the large quantity of imitation of his Eau de Cologne which is shipped to the Colonies and Foreign Possessions, which imitation is of a most inferior quality, and not to be compared to his celebrated manufacture, he has appointed Messrs. STAMMUS & LOWES, Cornhill, London, as his special Wholesale Agents for shipping to the British Colonies, who will always have a stock on hand, at the following net prices; and J. M. F. requests that his friends will give their orders to the above Agents which will meet with prompt attention.

1. Quality Eau de Cologne, double, 9s. 0d. per dozen in short
2. Ditto, ditto, single, 4s. 6d. | or long bottles.
3. Ditto, ditto, 3s. 3d. in long green bottle,
in cases, from 25 to 50 dozen, packages included.

PRICES CURRENT.

	\$	£	
Doubloons, Spanish.....	336	á 338	each
Do. Patriot.....	334	á 335	do.
Plata, macquins.....	15	á 17	do for one
Dollars, Spanish.....	20	á 20 1/2	do.
Do. Patriot & Patagon.....	20	á 20 1/2	do.
Six per cent. Stock.....	78	á	do. per cent
Exchange on England.....	2 1/2	á 2 1/2	nominal.
Do. France.....	30	á 32	cent. per dollar,
Do. Rio Janeiro.....	2 1/2	á	per ct. premium
Do. Montevideo.....	2 1/2	á	do.
Do. United States.....	18	á 19	per U. S. dol.
Hides, Ox, for Engld & Germ.....	38	á 40	per pesado.
Do. France.....	35	á 36	do.
Do. North America.....	35	á 36	do.
Do. Spain.....	without price		do.
Do. salted.....	13	á 15	do. each
Do. Horse.....	32	á 34	do. each
Calf skins.....	24	á 25	per dozen
Sheep skins, common.....	28	á 29	do.
Do. fine.....	without price		do.
Deer skins.....	without price		do.
Goat skins.....	do.		do.
Nutria skins.....	do.		do.
Chinchilla skins.....	do.		do.
Horse hair, short.....	26	á 27	per 100 lbs.
Do. mixed.....	32	á 36	do.
Do. long.....	65	á 80	do.
Wool, common, washed.....	14	á 16	do.
Do. picked.....	without price		do.
Do. shorn from skins.....	10	á 25	do.
Do. mestiza, dirty.....	without price		do.
Tallow, pure.....	do.		do.
Do. raw.....	do.		do.
Do. with grease.....	do.		do.
Jerked beef.....	100	á 200	per thousand lb
Horns, mixed.....	350	á 450	do.
Do. Ox.....	without price		do.
Shin bones.....	6	á 7	per 100 lbs.
Hide cuttings.....	without price		do.
Ostrich feathers, white.....	5	á 5	per lb.
Salted tongues.....	without price		do.
Salt, on board.....	none.		per fanega.
Discount.....	1 1/2	á 2 1/2	per cent. month

The highest price of Doubloons during the week 340 dollars.
The lowest price 335 dollars.

The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week pence. The lowest ditto pence. (No transactions.)

GEORGE THOMAS, Responsible Editor.