

British Packet

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

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BUENOS AYRES.

War, bloodshed and devastation is still the order of the day with the ministers of a mock mission of "peace and humanity." The fields of the Oriental Republic had not been already sufficiently ensanguined. Horrors enough had not been committed at Colonia, Gualeguachú, Mercedes, and elsewhere. "Civilization" was not satisfied with the lawless aggressions which made the waters of the Paraná run crimson with human blood. A further sacrifice of lives and property was necessary to carry out the views of Messrs. Ouseley and Deffaudis—and it has been made, but with no better result than that which has attended all the previous enterprises of a similar character instigated by those unfeeling men. The ominous Rivera, with his horde of ruffians, was again set in motion for the purpose of carrying death and destruction throughout the land, at the very moment the people fondly cherished the hope that they were on the eve of obtaining the restoration of peace. The arch-rebel himself led the main body of his forces to the attack of the town of Paysandú, whilst two divisions, the one under the command of Medina and the other under that of Flores, were detached in different directions to divert the attention of the troops of the legal government. Paysandú, although un-garrisoned by any regular force except a small party of artillery, made a most gallant defence; and would have eventually driven back the enemy, had it not been for the infamous conduct of the captain of the French brig of war *Pandour*, who seeing Rivera hard pushed, commenced to throw shells into the devoted town, upon which the inhabitants surrendered after a heroic resistance of five hours. The loss on both sides was extremely severe, being estimated at no less than 700 men killed and wounded. Rivera's French Basques were the greatest sufferers, having lost a considerable number of officers including their Colonel, Brie. This dearly purchased advantage of the mercenary adventurers was doomed, however, to be but fleeting. General Servando Gomez, having come to the rescue of Paisandú, drove out the enemy, and, it is said, obliged them to embark under the protection of the abovementioned French vessel of war. The confirmation of this news is hourly expected. On the other hand, General Ignacio Oribe had successively fallen in with the divisions of Flores and Medina, and entirely cut them to pieces, those leaders escaping with only three or four men each. Such are the results up to the present of Messrs. Ouseley and Deffaudis' profound combinations, which are destined, we trust, to produce still more important consequences to their chagrin and confusion.

Although at the sailing of the last packet from England Mr. Hood had not yet arrived, the causes of the failure of his mission were perfectly known and justly appreciated. What were the views en-

tertained in this respect in a high and influential quarter may be gathered from the subjoined article of the *Morning Chronicle*. It is understood that a steamer had been ordered to be held in readiness to sail for this river immediately after Mr. Hood's arrival.

[From the "Morning Chronicle" 26th Oct. 1846.]

We have great satisfaction in announcing that the mission of Mr. Hood to the River Plate, of which information was first given to the public through this journal on the 8th of June last, has proved entirely successful, so far as Generals Rosas and Oribe are concerned, both having at once accepted the terms of pacification proposed to them by Mr. Hood on the part of Lord Aberdeen.

On the other hand, we regret to say that the general opinion at Monte Video was, that the party there would not agree to the arrangement in question. The "warwith" with which they accepted the mediation of England and France, when they thought it was going to give them everything they wanted, had all vanished upon learning that the two Powers were determined not to be made their tools, but to observe something like impartiality in their efforts for promoting a settlement of the existing difficulties; and so far from their showing any disposition for peace, they were, according to the latest accounts, buying up arms, ammunition, and military stores in every direction, and forwarding them secretly into the country for the purpose of prosecuting the war.

Lord Aberdeen, who had foreseen the possibility of this contumacy, and ingratitude on the part of his quondam protégés, provided against it by inserting an article in his scheme of pacification to the effect that if they proved obstinate and dissatisfied with what had been done for them, and if, wanting more than they had got, they should set up their backs against him, he and his colleague M. Guizot would leave them to their own devices, and cease all further interference. With any other agents therefore in the Plate to carry out his views but Messrs. Ouseley and Deffaudis, there would be a certainty that in one way or the other, either by the acquiescence or the dissent of the Monte Videans, the intervention would now be at an end; but well informed persons, who have narrowly watched the proceedings of those gentlemen, and noted their excessive hostility to Buenos Ayres, are fully prepared to hear that upon an unworthy quibble the blockade of that city has been continued, notwithstanding the acceptance of Lord Aberdeen's proposals by General Rosas, and the question referred back again to Europe.

The scandal of a blockade being continued for another six months, to the injury of two friendly nations and the commerce of the whole world, on a frivolous technicality, by two subordinate agents, in defiance of the known (and, as we maintain, even the express) intentions of their respective governments, would be so great, that we hope it may not prove to be the case. To be forewarned, however, is to be forearmed; and we presume that the two Governments, played with as they appear to have been by their agents in the Plate from the time of Commodore Purvis downwards, will at last take proper measures to make their authority respected by their own servants, and to put an end to a state of things which at once compromises their character for good faith and brings ruin upon thousands.

Although we are aware that a very different opinion is now entertained in this country respecting General Rosas to that which prevailed a year ago, yet we cannot help noticing here a circumstance which if his character were under discussion, would be to the point. The moment he became acquainted with the pacific tendency and intention of Mr. Hood's mission, he forwarded unsolicited, orders to his generals in the Paraná to discontinue all hos-

ilities against the British and French vessels; whereas we on the contrary, are still continuing our blockade, by our own confession unprovoked and unjustifiable, of his ports, notwithstanding his acceptance of the terms proposed by ourselves for its discontinuance. On which side the truest charity lies is a question we had rather not be called upon to answer.

The continuance of this blockade is the more mortifying, inasmuch as the war with Paraguay having ceased, and Corrientes having returned to the Confederation, the whole of the Argentine republic is now in a state of tranquillity; and but for our own prohibition and the plague spot we have been fostering in Monte Video, trade in that quarter would resume all its wonted activity. Our tanners are longing for the hides of Buenos Ayres, and our soap-boilers and candle-makers for its tallow; but we must warn our commercial readers not to reckon upon a re-opening of the trade until they know that the pacific views of the two governments are shared by or enforced upon their agents.

The French journal *Portefeuille* of the 11th October gives the following piece of intelligence:

By a recent royal decree Monsieur Pichon, Consul General and Chargé d'Affaires of France in Montevideo, is appointed Consul General to Smyrna in lieu of Viscount de Segur Montaigne; Monsieur Devoize, Consul of France at Damascus is named Consul General to Montevideo in lieu of Monsieur Pichon.

The *Flotte* of the 27th of October, announces another change.

It is stated, says that paper, that Rear Admiral Legorant de Tromelin is to relieve Rear Admiral Lainé in the command of the squadron in the River Plate.

The Antwerp *Precursor* contains the following:

"Paris, 1st November. A vessel of war is about to sail for the River Plate with new instructions for Baron Deffaudis. It will also convey M. Devoize to his destination, who is to supersede M. Pichon in Montevideo in the character of Consul General Chargé d'Affaires of France near the Republic of Uruguay."

An extract of a letter from Paris dated 31st October published in the same paper says:

"It is confidently stated that the government has sent orders to suspend hostilities in the River Plate, and that Rear Admiral Trehouart, (Lainé?) who directs the operations is about to return to France with a part of the vessels under his command."

The quixotic expedition of Flores and Santa Cruz, denounced in the late annual message of the Argentine Government, was, at the date of the last advices, on the point of sailing from Spain. The London merchants, with Baring and Brothers at their head, had addressed a memorial to Lord Palmerston, requesting him to interfere to prevent the departure of this piratical armament.

According to accounts from the U. S. to the 26th of October, the loss of the Mexicans at the battle of Monterey was 3,000 men, and that of the Americans 2,000. The Mexicans had fulfilled the terms of the capitulation.

MESSAGE TO THE 24th LEGISLATURE.

The Executive Power—

Buenos Ayres, 27th Dec. 1846, 37-31-17.

To the Honourable Representatives of the Province.

I greet you with feelings of the highest complacency. In the midst of the rejoicings of the country and of its national honour, you commence your august session under the most prosperous auspices. I congratulate myself upon this happy event which crowns my most ardent wishes and rewards your noble sacrifices and those of the nation at large.

The abuse of force has not prevailed over the decision and just rights of the Republic. Memorable and noble events are interwoven with her brilliant honour. The rude and unjust attacks of her aggressors have been defeated by magnanimous resolutions and the moral opinion of the world. The position of the country is lofty and noble. Her valour corresponds with her high virtue and immortal celebrity. American sympathies have worthily pronounced themselves in favour of her cause, and she obtains the just suffrages of the nations of both worlds. The Argentine Confederation by adhering to the persevering moderation of the government, has strengthened still more her rights and enhanced the nobleness of her national character. By your wisdom you have achieved this imperishable glory. The Omnipotent has enlightened your deliberations and rewards your noble virtues. The Confederation, free and victorious, is safe from national dishonour by the invincible firmness of her patriotism. Her armies have achieved fresh and glorious triumphs. The Confederate governments and people ardently defend the national dignity and independence, by the tranquil and decided co-operation of their will, their heroic valour and their armies. The enormity and scandal of an infamous treason overwhelms the ruthless Unitarians. I present to you, respectfully, and I congratulate you with unmingled satisfaction. In such happy and honourable results I recognize the visible protection of the Almighty and offer to Him the tribute of my most humble and fervent gratitude.

Assembled by the will and confidence of the people you are going to deliberate on the public affairs. I humbly submit the acts of my administration to your sovereign decision.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The government solicitously cultivates the relations of the Confederation with friendly States. Those which it loyally maintained with the Governments of Great Britain and France still continue interrupted. The latter have, with a tendency to the re-establishment of peace, signified a change in their policy. The government has reciprocated it with estimation.

In my last messages I informed you of the attacks made on the independence and honour of the Confederation by Commodore John B. Purvis in command of H. B. M.'s naval forces, and that his supersession by Sir Thomas Sabine Pasley did not alter so deplorable a situation.

Subsequently the Government of H. B. M. confined the command of the River Plate station to Rear Admiral Inglefield. The latter has exceeded the injustice of his predecessors and aggravated still more the offences offered to the Confederation.

I regret to say that the answer given by H. B. M.'s government to the remonstrance made by the Argentine Minister at the Court of London, in conformity with the orders of the Government, of which I informed you in my previous message, has not been agreeable either to the principles of the law of nations, or to the stipulations of the treaty existing between the Confederation and Great Britain. The Argentine Minister demanded his passport, and sustained the rights and honour of the Republic uninjured and untarnished.

In that state of things, the hopes which the Government had been inspired with from the official declarations, the magnanimity and rectitude of H. M., and the honour of the British People, were realized. Owing to this gratifying motive the Argentine Minister suspended his departure from the Court of London.

It has been satisfactory to the Government to evince to H. B. M. its constant disposition to re-establish the relations of both countries on their former footing of cordial friendship, without detracting from the national independence and honour.

The government of H. M. set at liberty various Argentine prisoners and that of the Republic has made a suitable return for that act of benevolent moderation.

The Government perseveres in sustaining the perfect rights of sovereignty of the Confederation over the Falkland Islands.

Repeated attacks against the sovereign rights of the Republic, committed on the Patagonian coasts and on the Huano islands, by merchant vessels under the flag of friendly nations, particularly that of Great Britain, have seriously called the attention of the Government. It devotes to this important subject that preferent attention which it merits in order to preserve and maintain the prerogatives of the national sovereignty and independence.

It is with concern the Government informs you that in the answer given by that of H. M. the King of the French to the remonstrance made by the Argentine Minister at the Court of Paris, in compliance with the orders of Government, of which I informed you in my previous Message, the laws of international justice have not been regarded, nor the persevering loyalty reciprocated with which the Government of the Confederation preserves the relations of peace and friendship re-established by the Convention of 1840.

The Argentine Minister demanded his passports, and upheld the dignity and independence of the Confederation. The high rectitude of H. M. the King of the French, in which the Government so justly confided, subsequently presented to the Argentine Minister gratifying motives for delaying his departure from the Court of Paris.

It has been pleasing to the Government to respond with the most benevolent friendship,—the rights and honour of the nation saved,—to the just and benevolent spirit manifested by the government of H. M. the King of the French.

Rear Admiral Lainé, Commander-in-chief of the naval forces of H. M. in the River Plate, has continued uninterruptedly a series of unjustifiable attacks against the dignity and independence of the Republic, with which he has aggravated still more his former offences.

A ferocious attempt in Paris placed the important life of H. M. the King of the French in peril.—Divine Providence visibly preserved His Majesty's precious days. Although the difficult and delicate state of the relations between the Confederation and France did not allow the Government to congratulate H. M. officially, the Governor of the Province offered him his cordial felicitations in his private capacity.

A fresh atrocious attempt renewed the peril of H. M.'s interesting life. The Supreme Being, on this, as on so many other occasions, protected His Majesty, the Royal Family and France, by saving the illustrious Sovereign. The Government felt gratified in congratulating H. M. with lively interest, for his happy preservation. And it was enabled to express to him its sentiments of sincere friendship in an official manner, after the government of H. M. and that of Great Britain transmitted the proposals for peace which were presented to that of the Confederation by the Confidential Agent, Thomas Samuel Hood, Esq.

The Government has been solicitous to remove every motive of complication with those of France and Great Britain. At the time when the Confederate army, under the command of General Jasto José de Urquiza, entered victoriously into the Province of Corrientes, the Government made a protest to the Ministers of Great Britain and France against any acts of the Anglo-French naval forces, tending to co-operate with the ruthless Unitarians or in any manner to aid them. And it declared to them that in such case of assault on the part of those Ministers, it would necessarily make just and adequate reprisals.

An unheard of and outrageous event occurred in the port of Ensenada. Several merchant vessels which were loading there, where they entered when it was not blockaded by any Anglo-French naval forces, were burnt and plundered. This deed which is reproached by the public law of nations, committed to the disparagement of the elevation of the Governments of H. M. the King of the French and of H. B. M., in the presence of their Ministers Plenipotentiary, imperiously obliged the Government to make a protest to the Ministers against so great an abuse of force and all its consequences. It adopted measures with a view to avoid its repetition, and in order to curb the actors, it declared that they rendered themselves liable to the condign punishment which the law of nations prescribed in such extreme cases. The Ministers in their answer were led away by a lamentable and irreconcilable spirit of inhumanity against the Republic. Denying the justice of the protest of the Government, they declared they would not receive any fresh communication which should not have the pacification of the Plata for its object, with the previous clause of the evacuation of the Oriental territory by the Argentine auxiliary divisions. And

they indiscreetly descended so far as to accept a distorted fact trumped up by the mercenary press of Montevideo in regard to the death of an English officer, a mate, occasioned in the port of Montevideo by his own unjustifiable attack and imprudent proceeding.

By these means, which are proscribed by civilization and humanity, they protracted indefinitely the war and the unjust aggressions of the Anglo-French naval forces, at the same time that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of H. B. M. was having at the Court of London important and friendly explanations with the Argentine Minister. In the course of these, he declared to the latter that the Government of H. B. M. felt disposed to terminate amicably, in a manner satisfactory and honorable to both countries, the existing differences, taking as a basis the minutes which the Argentine Government had confidentially transmitted to Viscount de Marseuil, Chargé d'Affaires of France, in consequence of a private and confidential invitation from the latter, and which were rejected by the Ministers of Great Britain and France in Montevideo.

At that very time, several conferences were taking place between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of H. M. the King of the French and the Argentine Minister in Paris. The Government is sorry to announce to you, that although courteous and benevolent, the explanations of His Majesty's Minister were not so explicit as those given by H. B. M.'s Minister to the Argentine Minister in London.

It was about that period that the ringleader Rivera returned again to figure amongst the degraded oppressors of the unfortunate city of Montevideo. The bloody scenes which were there enacted on the arrival of that odious criminal have scandalized the world. The Anglo-French naval forces have afforded him protection in his iniquitous plans of bloodshed and devastation. They conveyed him with his detestable foreign adherents to the Oriental coasts, provided with arms, ammunition and pecuniary subsidies through the influence of the Ministers of France and England. He has there perpetrated enormous crimes of horrid cruelty and shameful spoiliations. The Ministers have thus contracted a heavy responsibility by conduct so much in opposition to humanity, justice, and the general interest of nations.

Under those same circumstances the most untrained robbery was committed in the inland rivers by the pirate Garibaldi, his colleague Rivera, and other ruthless Unitarians, with the assistance of foreign outcasts prone to pillage. Under the protection and auspices of the Ministers of England and France, they have committed exorbitant and infamous depredations. The Government has ordered its Ministers at the Courts of London and Paris to protest against such scandalous acts of violence.

Neither the explicit acknowledgment which the Governments of France and Great Britain have made of the perfect rights of the Republic to its inland rivers, nor the reprobation which they have expressed of the attack against the Paraná by the Anglo-French forces, has preserved the immunity of the Argentine territory. The British and French vessels of war, to the grievous offence of the prerogatives of sovereignty of the Confederation, dominated over the inland rivers, and aggravate still more the scandalous acts of unheard of intervention with which the ministers of France and England in Montevideo are chargeable.

In the midst of such aggressions, the Government has not ceased to testify the most persevering moderation. Sustained by the justice of its cause, seconded by the heroic enthusiasm of the nation, and its firm resolution of maintaining its honour and independence, it tranquilly awaits the issue of so strange a situation.

Thomas Samuel Hood, Esq. arrived in this city entrusted with a confidential mission by the governments of England and France, to present to the legal governments of the Confederation, and the Oriental State propositions for peace, agreed upon by those Cabinets. I have rendered you an account, Honourable Representatives, of that honourable mission, and of the correspondence which took place with Mr Hood. You are informed of the obstacles which the Ministers of France and England have recklessly thrown in the way of a favourable termination of the pacification.

The Government, for whom it was impossible to agree to demands irreconcilable with the honour and independence of the Republics of La Plata, was pleased under the indispensable necessity of referring the proposals for peace to those of England and France. You have given your sovereign approval to the conduct of the Government.

With a very painful feeling did the Government communicate to those of France and Great Britain, that their mutual wishes for the pacification of the

is a proof of this. Nor is it by any means a solitary one. Here is another decree, scarcely less shocking, issued by the same chief:—

"The dangers of the country call upon all Orientals to save it; and the virtues which distinguish them, and to which we owe thirty years of glory, cause a hope that the military camps will be the only abode of the noble-hearted, of all those who cannot reconcile themselves to the degradation and infamous lot to which Rosas and his assassins destine us. Still there are not wanting vile souls who refuse to co-operate in such a noble undertaking, of which the desertion of the National Guards José Ignacio Gorocido and Mariano Roquero is an example; and the authority, which is charged to show its direction to the national resistance, is bound to show its determination to punish the acts of base cowardice which redound to the disgrace of the Oriental character and the prejudices of the citizens faithful to the country; therefore the chief of division orders:—

"1. The above-mentioned National Guards are declared infamous. They shall be pursued, and, if taken, immediately shot.

"If not taken within forty-eight hours, their families shall be removed to the city, and their houses set on fire, a pole being nailed to each, with this inscription:— 'This was the house of a coward, and the national justice has destroyed it.'

"2. The same shall be done to everybody else that deserts in future.

"4. Let it be made known in the order of the day, and circulated through all the forces of the department."

We might use these decrees as evidence that the Monte Video party are open to the same charge of cruelty which they so freely bring against General Oribe, but such was not our object in quoting them. We merely desired to show that this party has no right to represent its cause as a national or even popular one, or to pretend that the hearts of the people are all with them in it. The best excuse for such severity is precisely the one which most damages their claim to be looked upon as the representatives of the national will. To drag up a reluctant or hostile people to the ranks it may doubtless be necessary to burn down their houses, turn their families adrift, and set a price on their heads; but the necessity, whilst it is the excuse, is proof also that the victims are not volunteers. Where a population is enthusiastic and unanimous in favour of a cause, there is no occasion for Pacheco y Obes's peculiar recipe for "saving the country."

The truth is, that the majority of the native Orientals care nothing for the loanmongers or their cause. Worn out by the protracted struggle which has put a stop to their industry, destroyed their property, and decimated their families, they only want peace. Had Lord Aberdeen, if he must have a finger in the pie, been content to accept the *status quo* as the basis of an arrangement, peace might have been made in a day. The question, when he interfered in it, was virtually settled by the all but complete establishment of General Oribe's authority, and the utter prostration of his opponents. But so simple a solution of the difficulty was not to his lordship's taste. All that was done must be undone, and every thing done over again. So, a repetition is provided for, of the bygone horrors; and, if the accounts are to be believed, Rivera and the other petty chieftains, set up again by our influence, are studying to surpass and throw into the shade all former atrocities. It ought to be matter of deep shame to us as a nation, that whether from bad intention or ignorance, our vast resources and power should be so unworthily employed.

We are happy to see that the natural consequence of discussion is showing itself here, and that the subject is beginning to be better understood and seen in its proper light. At the Warrington dinner on the 10th inst., Mr. Wm. Brown said:—

"I am for non-interference in the political squabbles and contests of other nations [hear, hear]. I think we have had enough of them at Madagascar and the River Plate, and for the future I trust it will be thought wiser to leave the people of the Continent and the Americans to settle their differences in their own way [hear, hear]."

The representative of South Lancashire is well entitled to speak thus of a policy which (omitting high grounds) has reduced our exports of *plain calicoes* to the River Plate (according to the tables in the *Economist*), from 4,198,586 yards in the first six months of 1845, to 839,236 yards in the same period of 1846, and of *printed calicoes*, in the same periods, from 3,811,496 yards in 1845, to 617,063 yards in 1846.

The mention of this one instance of the annihilation of our trade with the River Plate naturally leads our thoughts to that particular branch of it which we are told is to make up for the loss of the remainder; we allude to the trade with Corrientes and Paraguay. As there is no way so convincing

of proving your case as when you can do it by your adversary's own witness, we quote from the *Britannia* of the 5th instant the opinion of a naval officer who went up with the convoy, and who, as he calls the Buenos Ayreans the "enemy," is of course not to be regarded as prejudiced in their favour, as to the feasibility of carrying on a direct trade between this country and Corrientes, in opposition to the local dealers who for the last 250 years have drawn their supplies from Buenos Ayres. He writes thus:—

"During our stay at Corrientes (of five days) several of the convoy arrived, but others yet remained some hundred miles down the river. I should imagine that this mercantile speculation will turn out a regular failure. There is little or no money in the country. The women do all the work that is required, both for themselves and the men; and the men are too lazy to consider the difficulties attendant on a voyage up the Paraná to Paraguay or Corrientes, viz., that the current is always against the vessels going up at the rate of four miles an hour, the intricate passages up the river winding first one way and then another, so that the wind, which is fair at San Lorenzo, for instance, becomes dead foul two miles beyond it; the numerous sandbanks which are continually shifting their positions, from the great strength of the current, thereby rendering what was a safe passage in January a mass of sand in May. And then comes the difficulty of disposing of cargoes. One vessel with a cargo of salt, when we were there, finding it impossible to dispose of it, asked permission to throw it into the river, which was refused, and she at last got rid of it by presenting it to the government. Some of the vessels were at anchor for three weeks at a time, waiting for a fair wind. When all this is considered, I think the attempt at trade will be given over."

A correspondent also in the *Times* of the 10th instant, who dates from Corrientes, unintentionally corroborates this officer's statement. To get rid of their goods, he and several of his colleagues were obliged to take shops, and as retailing is slow work in those places, the eight months allowed for the convoy to go, bait, and return, was too little for the shopkeepers; and he complains bitterly of Captain Hotham, because he would not leave him one of her Majesty's vessels of war to bring him and the contents of his till back to Monte Video, when by dint of an "awful sacrifice" he should have measured off his last yard of calico. The amount of goods purchased in Corrientes by the Paraguayans—those second Chinese!—he estimates at the sum of six to eight thousand dollars—equivalent to the enormous amount of one thousand and two hundred to one thousand six hundred pounds sterling; but he shrewdly adds, "they would have bought more had they brought more money." Pignies seem in vogue everywhere now, and we suppose Mr. Ouseley pets this burlesque of a trade to keep in the fashion, seeing that Tom Thumb has not yet turned his steps that way.

We will close this article with a quotation of another description. It has been the fashion to represent the power of General Rosas as based solely upon fear, and that upon the least countenance from his adherents would all desert him. We have held, on the contrary, that our interference was more likely to rally the people more closely round a Government which showed that it possessed both the capacity and the spirit to resist what it deemed an attack upon the national rights and honour. The separation of Corrientes from the cause of the loan party, and its adhesion to that of the Confederation, is one proof of the correctness of our anticipations; and the following letter from General San Martin, whose place of residence, it may be observed, relieves him from any imputation of writing under fear of General Rosas, is another. Although there is nothing in the sentiments expressed but what might have been expected from so distinguished a patriot, yet the time and circumstances chosen for their expression reflect great credit, we think, on the writer. The letter runs as follows:—

"To his Excellency the Captain-General and President of the Argentine Republic.

"Naples, Jan. 11th, 1846.

"My esteemed General and Sir,
"At the beginning of last November I came to Italy with the object of trying whether its mild climate would restore my broken health. The improvement I have experienced up to the present time is slight, which I the more regret as, in the circumstances in which our country is placed, I should have been gratified to be able to offer my services [as I did to you in the former blockade by France]; services which, although I am aware they are of little account, would nevertheless testify that in the most unjust aggression and abuse of their power by England and France against our country, she still possesses an old defender of her honour and independence. But since that the state of my health deprives me of this satisfaction, I at least must enjoy the pleasure of manifesting to you these my sentiments, and of expressing my undoubting faith in the triumph of our just cause.

"Accept, my esteemed General, the wishes I offer for an honourable and satisfactory termination of the present contest, and with which I subscribe myself, &c.
[Signed] JOSE DE SAN MARTIN."

[From the "Morning Chronicle" 24th Sept. 1846.]

The dates from Monte Video, brought by the *Margaretha*, reach to the 13th July; but do not bring anything of striking interest. Nothing was known there of the precise object of Mr. Hood's mission, but the very circumstance of its having been kept so secret had inspired the Loan party with the most vivid apprehensions, lest its results should be unfavourable to their various bargains and contracts. Their organs in the *soi disant* government of the town had addressed a letter to Mr. Ouseley, demanding to know for what purpose Mr. Hood had been sent out; but that gentleman was obliged to confess, in reply, that he did not know. There is no doubt that every effort will be made by the Loan party to frustrate the pacific views of Lord Aberdeen in sending out Mr. Hood, a foresight of which was the main cause of the Devastation's being ordered to proceed direct up to Buenos Ayres, without even communicating on its way with Monte Video, so as to give the war party there less time and opportunity to organize their opposition to the restoration of peace.

In this particular Lord Aberdeen seems to have displayed more tact than throughout all the rest of the affair. As it is, we observe significant hints are thrown out that the Loan party mean in any case to continue the war, a number of men, it is stated having been engaged to repair and improve the defences of the town. One of their organs goes so far as to intimate that the British and French Ministers and Admirals and the principal officers of the two squadrons would resign rather than carry out the views of their Governments, if unfavourable to that party. We suppose the judgment formed by these gentry of the probable conduct of British employes and officers is derived from that of their own chief, Rivera, who having been ordered by the persons who call themselves the Government in Monte Video to repair to that city for purposes which they stated, had, it is said, flatly refused.

As Baron de Mareuil, who was appointed by the French Government to act jointly with Mr. Hood in the execution of his mission, had arrived at Buenos Ayres, from Rio de Janeiro, previously to the 12th of July,* we may hope ere long to receive some account of the progress and prospects of this long protracted affair.

An account had been published at Monte Video of the results of the Paraná expedition, by which it appears that the whole value of the produce brought down amounted to 889,000 hard dollars, and that the cost for freight alone of bringing it down to Monte Video was 310,000 hard dollars, or 35 per cent. of the value. Out of 95 vessels that came down, only 20 were foreign; and of these 20, not more than two British, one of which two was totally destroyed by fire, with her whole cargo. There were burnt and otherwise lost seven vessels in all. The consignees in Monte Video of the produce brought down were unable to raise money to pay the heavy freight, and the publication in question says that the owners of the vessels had agreed "to receive for the present sufficient for their urgent necessities, and the balance gradually, as funds could be collected." Let it be borne in mind that the produce brought down was the accumulation of upwards of two years, and that it took a dozen or more men of war eight months to go and fetch it, and a fair notion will be formed of the arrant humbug of the whole affair. We may add, that the account alluded to is published by the advocates of the expedition, and therefore not likely to represent it more unfavourably than it deserves.

We are sorry to observe that the destruction of British property by the Monte Video party still continued. On taking possession of a town called Mercedes, Rivera had seized about 8,000 hides belonging to an English merchant, sold part, and sent the rest to be sold at Monte Video. This Rivera, it must be remembered, was taken to the field of action by our ships of war, and furnished by them with arms, ammunition, &c., and this is the way in which he employs them. If an account could be taken of the property destroyed on both sides of the Plate in the course of the intervention, we have no doubt it would be found that directly or indirectly nine-tenths of it were British. Had Lord Aberdeen foreseen the abuse which would have been made of his good nature, we are convinced he would rather have cut off his right hand than allowed himself to be drawn into such a business. However, it is to be hoped that we shall soon see the end of it.

* This false report had become very general in Europe.—[B. P.]

MARINE LIST.

PORT of BUENOS AYRES.

December 26.—Wind N.
 Arrived, French brig of war Malouine, 4 guns, Lieut. R. de Resencoat, from Montevideo.
 Sailed, French brig of war Malouine, down the river.
 Brazilian brigantine of war Argos, 6 guns, Lieut. F. X. D'Alcantara, for Montevideo.
 December 27.—Wind N.
 No arrivals or sailings.
 December 28.—Wind N.
 No arrivals or sailings.
 December 29.—Wind S.E., rain, at noon changed to N.
 No arrivals or sailings.
 December 30.—Wind N., in the afternoon changed S.S.W.
 No arrivals or sailings.
 December 31.—Wind S., at noon changed to E.
 No arrivals or sailings.
 January 1st.—Wind S.E., in the afternoon changed to E.
 No arrivals or sailings.

ARRIVALS AT MONTEVIDEO.

December 22.
 American brig Treaty, Tatham, from Parnaguá 11th inst.
 Oriental schooner brig Diana, E. Nocheti, from St. Catherine's 12th inst.
 December 23.
 American brig Gambia, G. Bayley, from Salem 6th October.
 Brazilian brig Rufina, P. Gonzalez Cordeo, from Parnaguá 7th inst.
 Spanish brig Pepito, S. Botel, from Santos 7th instant.
 December 24.
 Brazilian sloop of war Dois de Julia, Captain Parker, bearing the flag of Commodore Ferreira de Oliveira, from Rio Janeiro 12th inst.
 Brazilian transport brig Pabuna, Lieut. A. dos Santos, from Rio Janeiro 13th inst.
 Brazilian polacre Nuevo asilo de la Virtud, Morales, from Rio Janeiro 11th inst.
 Sardinian brig Cesar, P. Viale, from Santos 14th inst.
 Swedish brig Cotte, C. O. Svensson, from Memel 24th July and Rio Janeiro 8th inst.

SAILED FROM MONTEVIDEO.

December 23.
 British brig Victoria, Cathiness, for Valparaiso. The above vessel anchored off Montevideo on the 12th ult. She had sailed from Rio Janeiro for Santos, and having taken in a cargo of sugar at the latter port, was on her voyage to Valparaiso when she put in to Montevideo in consequence of the illness of her captain.
 British brigantine Navigator, Lefebre, for London.
 British schooner Oregon, R. Cany, for England.
 British brig Regina, Kreeft, for London.

December 24.
 French war steamer Gassendi, Lieut. Drouilhet, for Valparaiso.
 Spanish brig Margarita, Anzoategui, for Cadiz and Malaga.
 British brig Dublin, J. Walder, for Liverpool.
 Brazilian polacre Condor, J. A. Dias, for Rio Grande.

H. B. M. Packet Dolphin was to sail from Montevideo the 29th ultimo for Rio Janeiro and Palmouth, with the mails from the River Plate.

MERCHANT VESSELS
 IN THE PORT OF BUENOS AYRES
 ON FRIDAY LAST.

NONE.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR

BRITISH.—Steam frigate Firebrand, Capt. James Hope.
 FRENCH.—Sloop of war Coquette, 24 guns, Captain Larrieu.
 SARDINIAN.—Brig Daino, 14 guns, Captain Chevalier Scalfiero.
 Schooner Ninfa del Plata, Lieut. Riboty.

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

Dec. 28.—A small sloop arrived this morning from the south east and anchored in the outer roads. On being seen by the blockaders, boats were sent from the Coquette which took her in tow and conveyed her near that vessel.
 Dec. 29.—The sloop which arrived yesterday, sailed this day apparently for the opposite coast; she is supposed to be a prize.
 Dec. 31.—The Coquette fired four or five shots at sunrise at two small craft which were coming in for the port. One eventually reached it and the other arrived at Las Conchas.

This day (2nd inst.) completes the 492nd day of the blockade.

Saturday	77
Sunday	79
Monday	82
Tuesday	86
Wednesday	88
Thursday	75
Friday	74

The following gentlemen have been returned for the country districts to serve in the present legislature: Don Justo Villegas, Don Inocencio Escada, Don Saturnino Uzué, Don Prulencio Rosas, Don Tiburcio Cárcova, Don José Fuentes Arguibel, Don Vicente Gonzalez, Don Julian Viron, Don José Joaquin Arana, Don Angel Pacheco, Don Manuel Arrotea, and Don Manuel Corvalan.
 In the preparatory sitting of the 23rd ult., Dr. Miguel Garcia was elected President, Don Juan Antonio Argerich 1st Vice-President, Don Agustin de Pinedo 2nd Vice-President, and Drs. Lorenzo and Bustaquio Torres joint Secretaries.

The Police has given notice, that, after the month of January the owners of premises whose sidewalks remain unrepaired, will be held responsible to the Police for the expenses incurred in making the repair, besides being rendered subject to a fine.

The same Department has also given notice that all fruit found selling to the public, without being properly ripe, will be seized and destroyed.

On the 27th ult. twenty men, deserters from the Riverista garrison at Las Vacas, arrived in this city, having made their escape in an armed launch.

Rare Occurrence.—Yesterday the moon was full nearly at the hour when the sun was at his least distance from the earth.

1847, March 31st, the moon will rise 20 minutes before the end of a partial eclipse. No other eclipses of the sun or moon will be visible in this Republic.

Advertisements.

For Sale.

A FIRST rate New York built Barouche with double harness, shafts and pole, in perfect order, baggage rack, lamps, &c. complete. Price 450 patrones, may be seen at any hour of the day by applying at 231 Calle del Restaurador. Jan 2nd

Notice.

THE undersigned will re-open her school on Monday the 4th, at No. 51 Calle de la Federacion, next door to the Café de la Plata. Dec 13 12

E. L. HEATHFIELD

Notice.

THE partnership hitherto subsisting in this city under the firm of Ibarra & Miscoe as Auctioneers, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. The business will be continued by Don Gregorio Ibarra, who is authorized to liquidate all the pending accounts of the concern. Buenos Ayres, 31st Dec. 1846. GREGORIO IBARRA. GEO. S. MACOME.

D 231

For Sale.

A few hogheads and barrels of excellent brandy: Superior old bottled Port wine. Best London ale and porter. Green and black tea. Baling cloth 40 inches wide at moderate prices. Apply at No. 22 Calle de la Paz. Dec 13 12

Ladies Bonnets.

Of crape, just received an elegant assortment from Europe, in the Calle de la Victoria No. 33. D 13 11

New Curled Horse-hair Mattresses.

HIGHLY recommended by the Faculty, for summer use, on account of their coolness and other wholesome qualities. For Sale at Wm. & P. INGLIS, Upholstery store Calle Potosi No. 42. On hand a large assortment of wool mattresses of all sizes.

TO SINGLE GENTLEMEN, CAPTAINS OF VESSELS, &c.

THE Undersigned having taken the house No. 5 Calle de la Piedad (half a square from the Alameda) offers superior accommodation with board, and every attendance, and hopes from the attention which will be paid to the comforts of those who favor him with their patronage, and from the suitable locality of the house for Gentlemen in business, and Captains of vessels, to give general satisfaction.

HUGH WHITE.

GENUINE CURRIE POWDER.

JUST received at the store No. 46 Calle de la Republica, together with the following articles of very superior quality viz: Raspberry vinegar. Cayenne pepper. Mushroom catsup. India soy. Harvey's sauce. Essence Anchovies. Also a variety of pickles and preserved fruits. A few dozen of very superior Madeira and old Port wine. Dec 13 12

PRICES CURRENT.

Doublons, Spanish	\$ 340	\$ 344	each.
Do. Patriot	340	342	do.
Plata, macuquina	19	20	do. for one
Dollars, Spanish	21	21	each.
Do. Patriot & Pataciones	20	21	do.
Six per cent. Stock	25	25	do.
Exchange on England	2 1/2	2 1/2	nominal.
Do. France	32	32	cent. per dollar
Do. Rio Janeiro	at par.	at par.	per patron.
Do. Montevideo	do.	do.	per cent. prou.
Do. United States	19	20	do.
Hides, Ox, for Engld & Gerny	56	57	per pesado.
Do. France	42	42	do.
Do. North America	36	38	do.
Do. Spain	45	52	do.
Do. salted	40	45	do.
Do. Horse	22	24	do. each
Calf skins, common	45	50	per pesado
Do. fine	24	25	per dozen
Do. fine	32	33	do.
Deer skins	without price		do.
Goat skins	do.	do.	do.
Nutria skins	4 1/2	5	nominal.
Chinchilla skins	without price		do.
Horse hair, short	40	42	do. per arroba
Do. mixed	42	55	do.
Do. long	110	120	do.
Wool, common, washed	18	20	do.
Do. picked	without price		do.
Do. shorn from skins	do.	do.	do.
Do. mestiza, dirty	14	22	do.
Tallow, pure	without price		do.
Do. raw	15	16	do.
Do. with grease	20	21	do.
Jerked beef	none.		per quintal
Horns, mixed	300	400	per the same
Do. C. S.	300	400	do.
Shin bones	without price		do.
Hide cuttings	8	9	per 100 lbs.
Ostrich feathers, white	without price		do.
Do. black	11	12	do.
Salted ragues	8	11	per dozen
Salt of lead	none.		per fanega
Digant	15	20	per cent. month

The highest price of Doublons during the week 347 dollars. The lowest price 334 dollars. The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week 2 1/2. The lowest 2 1/2. Doublons 7 1/2 to 7 3/4 shillings.

GEORGE THOMAS, Responsible Editor.