

British Packet

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

(No. 1117.) BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, JANUARY 15th, 1848. (Established in 1826.)

BUENOS AYRES.

At the date of the last advices, General Urquiza was returning from his victorious campaign in Corrientes, after leaving that province in the enjoyment of perfect tranquillity, rescued from the oppression of the baneful faction which has so long preyed upon it, and again incorporated to the Confederation, under a government of its own free choice. The Madariagas, Lopez *alias* Mascareña, and Valdez had escaped by water to Paraguay totally deserted by their former followers.

By the Brazilian man of war barque *Berenice* which arrived at Montevideo on the 8th inst. and Eszenada on the 11th, from Rio Janeiro 31st December, accounts have been received from London to the 16th and Paris to the 17th November. Parliament had been prorogued to the 23d of that month. It was generally believed that at the opening of the session Government would bring forward a stringent Arms bill for Ireland. Public funds were on the decline, Consols being quoted on the above date as having fallen from 85 to 83½. The high rates of interest still demanded by the bank had been a subject of loud complaints on the part of the merchants of London and Liverpool. The failure of Messrs. Trueman & Cook, dealers in colonial produce, had caused a great sensation on 'Change. The Archbishop of York had recently died at the advanced age of 90 years. There is no particular news from France. The Government had on the 10th November realized a loan of 250 millions of francs as a part of the 350 millions which it had been authorized to negotiate. Count Bresson, who it had been previously stated had been assassinated, committed suicide on the 2nd November by cutting his throat with a razor. Some fresh changes had taken place in the Spanish Cabinet. The Queen of Portugal had been happily delivered of a prince on the 5th of November. The Ministers of the Home and Foreign departments of the latter Kingdom had tendered their resignations on the 2nd, and their example, it was said, would be followed by their colleagues; but at the date of the last advices from that quarter they had not yet retired from office. In Italy things were looking more peaceably, although great enthusiasm prevailed in favour of reform. The Austrians were still in possession of Ferrara and Comacchio. In Switzerland hostilities had already commenced. It was resolved by the Diet on the 4th November to carry into effect the dissolution of the Sonderbund by force of arms. This determination was scarcely known when the Austrian and Russian Ministers withdrew, but those of England and France kept their posts. The commander-in-chief of the federal troops in compliance with the orders of the Vorort had resolved to attack simultaneously the cantons of Lucerne and Friburg; but before he had taken up the line of march hostilities had already broken out between the cantons of Uri and Tessino. In the meantime the army of Berne commenced operations

on the 10th, occupied several districts in the canton of Friburg, and marched upon the capital. A bloody engagement had taken place in the vicinity of Friburg on the 13th. The city demanded a 12 hours' suspension of hostilities to deliberate, and on the morning of the 14th Friburg surrendered to the radical troops. On the other hand the Sonderbund had also obtained an advantage. General Salis Soglio had penetrated into Argovia and it was affirmed that he had possessed himself of the important post of Zofingen.

Message of the Government of Buenos Ayres to the 25th Legislature.

(Continued.)

The Government has highly and very sincerely appreciated the exalted diplomatic mission accredited to it by those of H. B. M. and H. M. the King of the French.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Howden and Count Walewski arrived in this city, encharged by their Governments to conclude definitively the arrangement initiated by their Confidential Agent, Thomas Samuel Hood Esq., for the pacification of the Republics of the River Plate. I have already informed you of this distinguished mission and of the correspondence which took place thereupon. You are already aware of the serious obstacles which rendered the proposals of peace of the Governments of H. B. M. and of H. M. the King of the French, presented by the Rt. Hon. Lord Howden and Count Walewski, inadmissible. They declared their mission to be at an end and took their departure.

The Government continuing to be animated by the most lively desires for peace, referred those proposals to the consideration of H. B. M. and of H. M. the King of the French. The conduct of the Government has met with your sovereign approval.

It has ordered the Argentine Ministers at the Courts of H. B. M. and of H. M. the King of the French to manifest to both Governments the views of that of the Confederation in regard to the proposals for peace presented by the Rt. Hon. Lord Howden and Count Walewski, setting clearly forth the respective positions of those Agents, the indispensable duty incumbent upon the Government of proceeding always in conformity with the bases presented by the Confidential Agent, Thomas Samuel Hood Esq., and the modifications with which this Government admitted them, and the sanguine hope which it entertains that those of H. B. M. and of H. M. the King of the French will not allow this occasion to pass for rendering conspicuous their justice and good faith towards these Republics.

The Government awaits the result of these orders to the Argentine Ministers in London and Paris. It still entertains that confidence which the uprightness and magnanimity of those Governments should inspire.

The Honorable Chargés d'Affaires of Portugal and of the United States, have protested against the continuance of the blockade both from its being uncalled for and inefficient as well as from the tendencies and objects which accompany it. Their just proceedings commend them to civilization, to humanity and to the Republics of La Plata.

In the midst of the painful feelings with which the Government beheld its desires for the pacification of these Republics frustrated, it received an unequivocal proof of the justice and sincere disposition of the Rt. Hon. Lord Howden to approximate that event. The illustrious legal President of the Oriental Republic, Brigadier Don Manuel Oribe, with whom Lord Howden and Count Walewski entered in communication after concluding their mission in this city, informed the Government of the

termination of the intervention in the Republics of the Plate and of the blockade of their ports on the part of the forces of H. B. M., in virtue of a declaration of the Rt. Hon. Lord to that effect. The well known and convincing reasons on which he grounded it are explicitly stated therein. You have been acquainted with this important incident.

The Government ordered its Minister in London to signify to that of H. M. that it had looked upon that act of justice and general expedience with esteem; that it considers it a preliminary to an honourable and definitive arrangement between both Governments, on the same bases as were presented by Mr. Hood and the modifications with which this Government accepted them; that it expects this from that of H. M., that act strengthening the reliance which it never ceased to place in the uprightness and foresight of the British Government, and being looked upon by the Argentine government as conducive to a formal re-establishment of the relations of friendship and good understanding between both countries.—That this Government highly appreciates the conduct of the Rt. Hon. Lord Howden, and that it does not doubt that that of H. B. M. will continue its exalted and becoming policy until it shall have sealed by a solemn and public convention of peace the stipulations proposed by the Confidential Agent Mr. Hood, with the modifications with which this Government accepted them; its hope being still further confirmed by the raising of the blockade and ceasing of all further intervention by Lord Howden, and by the declarations made by the latter in consequence thereof as well as by the Government of H. M. in its credential given to the Noble Lord, in conformity with the bases presented by Mr. Hood and conditional acceptations of the Argentine Government.

The Minister Plenipotentiary of H. M. the King of the French, Count Colonna Walewski, disagreed on this point with his colleague the Rt. Hon. Lord. He offered in Montevideo the protection of H. M. to the frantic foreigners armed in that city. And he continued on behalf of the Government of H. M. the King of the French the unjust intervention and blockade which press upon these Republics.

That of the Confederation ordered the Argentine Minister in Paris to inform H. M. of the strange position assumed by his Plenipotentiary Count Colonna Walewski, thus continuing the unjust blockade and the armed intervention on the part of France, notwithstanding the declarations made by him and by his Government in the credential given to its Minister Plenipotentiary, in conformity with the bases presented by the Confidential Agent, Thomas Samuel Hood Esq., and the modifications with which this Government admitted them, and although the latter is disposed to enter into a convention of peace in perfect accordance therewith.

It also ordered its Minister to declare that this Government is at a loss to reconcile the antagonism between those declarations and the unjust act of a blockade and armed intervention causeless in its origin, and fatally prejudicial and unnecessary in its progress, under circumstances so alarming to this Republic, to the States of America, and with respect to the interests of neutral nations; more particularly so since it can not but be presumed that the French Minister acted by orders from his Government in the position which he took. And that such a proceeding could not but be kept in mind by this Government in any ulterior negotiation, even on the bases presented by Mr. Hood and the respective modifications with which it admitted them, from the immense injuries which it causes to the Confederation, from the great American principles and of universal justice which it offends, and from the enormous losses which it occasions to the interests of neutral nations.

It ordered him also to deliver a protest to the Government of H. M. the King of the French

against the damage and injuries, which have been thus occasioned to the Confederation and to demand the necessary orders for satisfying the justice of the Republic as well as for carrying out by a solemn and public convention of peace, the stipulations proposed by the Confidential Agent Hood, with the modifications with which this government admitted them.

It trusts that those of England and France will remove the difficulties which thwarted the last negotiation, paying due regard to the justice and amicable policy of that of the Republic, and its sincere desires for an arrangement reciprocally honorable.

The Government feels pleasure in announcing to you that the strong dissatisfaction evinced in Europe and America at the European intervention in the Republics of La Plata continues most decided and energetic. By such an honorable declaration of opinion their moral power is augmented. (To be continued.)



The following is the memorial of the London merchants to Viscount Palmerston, the reply to which we gave in our last.

London, 18th October, 1847.

My Lord,

As parties deeply interested in the trade of the River Plate, we respectfully beg leave to offer to your Lordship a few remarks upon the blockade in that river, which tho' discontinued by the British Naval forces, is continued by those of France.

Concerning this blockade Mr. W. A. Harris, United States Minister at Buenos Ayres, writes in a despatch to Lord Howden, dated 1st July 1847, as follows:—

"The blockade has not answered in any one respect whatever the end for which it ostensibly was laid on. Its principal tendency has been to molest and irritate those whom it was intended to reduce by coercion. Another practical effect of it has been, that whilst it destroyed all legal and open commerce, it made necessary a sort of spurious traffic thro' the medium of the port of Monte Video, obliging payment of a double import and export duty which has been levied for the support of the anomalous government in that city. Nevertheless the principal benefit of this system has not fallen to the governments of England and France, nor even to the subjects in general of those governments but openly and notoriously to the advantage of a few persons in that city, and a still smaller number in this."

Further on, in the same despatch Mr. Harris states "that from the 23d February 1846 to the end of May 1847 the number of vessels which entered and left the port of Buenos Ayres was 4012. I obtain this result (he says) from an examination of the monthly returns which have been presented to this legation. It is true that almost all these were small vessels, many of which arrived and sailed at night; but it is also true that a great number of them, perhaps half, did so at mid-day and in sight of the blockading forces, without any serious attempt at detaining them. All these vessels however paid tribute at the port of Monte Video for the produce or merchandize of which their cargoes were composed, as I have said above."

Lord Howden also in a despatch to Commodore Sir Thomas Herbert, dated 15th July 1847, writes concerning the blockade as follows:—

"As I consider first that the Orientals of Monte Video are not at this moment free agents, but entirely controlled by a foreign garrison; and secondly, that the blockade having entirely lost its original character of a coercive measure against General Rosas, has become exclusively a mode of supplying with money, partly the government of Monte Video, and partly certain foreign individuals there, to the continued detriment of the extensive and valuable commerce of England in these waters; I hereby request you, sir, to raise the blockade of both sides of the River Plate, and to take the measures necessary for ceasing all further intervention in these waters."

To further elucidate the character of this (so-called) blockade we remark,

1st. That of the 4012 vessels mentioned by Mr. Harris not one was British.

2nd. That all of them had one and the same port of destination or departure, viz. Montevideo, and all paid tribute there.

If there be any exceptions, they are too few to merit notice.

3rd. That the effect of the (so called) blockade has thus not been to deprive Buenos Ayres of its trade, but merely to restrict it from trading with any other place but Montevideo.

4th. That the British flag has been deprived of any portion of even this trade.

5th. That 4012 vessels could not have left or entered Monte Video without the authorities of that port knowing well whether they had gone or whence they came; and yet

6th. That it is at the instigation of those same authorities (owing to their refusal of the armistice) that the French have continued the blockade.

7th. That the Custom House of Montevideo is farmed by individuals and that its receipts in 1846 amounted to about £330,000 sterling according to the accounts published in the Monte Video Journals.

In stating these facts, we have aimed at brevity of expression, not from disrespect, but to spare your Lordship's valuable time.

They will suffice, we apprehend, to show that the so-called blockade is in reality no blockade, but a mere sham, with a two fold object, viz., to enrich the persons who have farmed the Custom House; and to supply the government of Montevideo, (described by Lord Howden, in the despatch above quoted, as "without money, without credit, and without native troops") with means for maintaining the foreign garrison. Nor is it at all likely to be made effective for the future, for an effective blockade by depriving Monte Video of its present illicit traffic would destroy its revenue and would be no better to them than no blockade.

Out of the fore-going, reflections naturally arise as to the views and attitude of France in this question. No one doubts that if there had been on her part the same desire as on the part of this country, to have it settled, it would have been settled. Of the "foreign garrison" which (according to Lord Howden) "controls" the native population, the bulk are French. Though the French government may have spoken harshly of these men, yet the French agents do not discourage them. For proof of both assertions we refer to M. Guizot's despatch to Count St. Aulaire, and Count Walewski's answer to an address from the French legion of which we annex copies.

The allusion in the latter document to the flag deserves a line of explanation. Some years ago the French government ordered the French legionaries to assist from taking a part in the war and lay down their arms. After making all sorts of difficulties they hit upon the following expedient. They laid down their arms as French subjects, were made on the instant Oriental citizens, and took them up again. The French government appears to have been satisfied with this mode of complying with their order. It seems that the legionaries now wish to have their flag and nationality restored to them, and it would be rash to say that their petition though discouraged by Count Walewski will not be granted.

We have stated facts to your Lordship but it is not for us to draw conclusions; nor to expatiate upon the importance of the port of Monte Video, both as the key of the River Plate, and from its position in relation to other places. At present it may be said to be in the hands of a French garrison; though not under the French flag.

It remains for us shortly to advert to the hardship of this state of things upon the Merchants connected—some of them for nearly 40 years—with the river Plate. The blockade is now of more than two years standing. For so long a period has the trade between this country and the Argentine Republic been sacrificed. A customer has been turned away who would have taken off a million and a half pounds sterling worth of our Manufacturers. All that time produce of a perishable nature, the returns for exports of former years, has been lying there deteriorating. The cost of evading the blockade, despite its laxness, was too great for bulky produce to bear. There was the heavy freight to Monte Video, the heavy charges for landing there and reshipping, and the heavy tribute exacted by the Monte Video Custom House, which have been known to amount together in some instances to 40 per cent. on first cost. Again, there was the risk of sea damage in craft not intended for such a voyage, and the uncertainty as to the views of the blockaders, as the laxness of to-day might, from caprice or spite, be turned into severity to-morrow. Moreover, merchants who all their lives have been accustomed to an open trade under the British flag, do not at once become reconciled to, or handy at, a blockade running, half smuggling traffic. From these causes therefore it arises that there is still a large amount of produce belonging to British subjects, remaining at Buenos Ayres, the loss upon which to its owners must be ruinous if the port be not soon opened.

We have a proof of your Lordship's anxiety to remedy the evil, in the raising of the blockade on

the part of the British forces, but to make that step effectual it requires to be followed by the French. The parties who farm the Montevideo Custom House have secured the receipts of it for 1848 and 1849, and at the date of last advices from thence were negotiating for those of 1850, so that their calculations embrace remote periods. But two years is surely a long time for merchants to be debarred from their trade, and deprived of their property, and we place reliance in your Lordship's exertions to terminate so cruel a situation. We would add that in our opinion (if we may be allowed one on such a point) no question as to the navigation of the interior waters of the Plate republics is worth any longer sacrifice of the trade.

As the uncertainty we are in prevents us from taking the necessary measures for the removal of our property in case even of the port being opened, we should feel highly indebted for any information which your Lordship may feel at liberty to give us on the subject, and remain respectfully

My Lord

Your Lordship's most obt. & hble. servants

To the Right Honble. Viscount Palmerston &c., &c., &c.

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The following letter of the Hon. Henry A. Wise, late Minister of the U. S. at the Court of Brazil, to H.E. the Chief Magistrate of the Argentine Confederation, has been published in the North American papers, on the return home of that distinguished statesman.

AFFAIRS OF LA PLATA.

UNITED STATES SHIP COLUMBIA,
Harbor of Rio de Janeiro, August 29, 1847.

To his Excellency Governor Juan M. De Rosas, &c.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR—Your Excellency's highly complimentary note was duly handed to me by General Guido, the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Argentine Confederation at the court of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil.

The instructions to him were no less flattering than the note which he presented in a manner the most acceptable. Both were as unexpected as they were agreeable. I had written to Mr. Harris in privacy—had retained no copy—and, certainly, never expected that he would avail himself of our mutual confidence to procure for me the honor conferred by your Excellency's high appreciation of friendly feelings, and by the expression of your Excellency's confidence in my American principles and sentiments. I am proud of the esteem and good opinion of my character which your Excellency deigns to express.

The proper understanding and just estimation of your Excellency's policy of external relations are to be attributed as much to the many conferences which I have had the honor to hold with the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Argentine Confederation at this court, my friend General Thomas Guido, as to any observation or judgment of my own. He has been devotedly faithful to his government, and diligent in his ministerial duties. I trust he found me a true American in every thought and feeling, and ready to receive the impressions which he has ever been active and zealous to make upon every one within the sphere of his influence, of the justice of the Argentine cause. If I have not been able to agree with him on every question concerning which he has always so ably vindicated his government, I have concurred with him, and with your Excellency, in the main and cardinal points:—

1st. That the European interference in the affairs of the Argentine Confederation and the Banda Oriental, was fundamentally anti-American in its tendencies; neither justified by the laws of nations nor by the pretext of any "guaranty of independence" to either belligerent, imposed by any treaty stipulation whatever, upon either Great Britain or France, or upon any other foreign power.

2d. That the "peaceful mediation" of Great Britain and France was, from the first, but a profession, and was at once converted into "an armed intervention."

3d. That the "armed intervention" which from its very name imparted the duty of impartiality, on the part of the intervening powers between the two belligerents was immediately converted into an actual war against the Argentine confederation alone:—blockading its ports, bombarding its forts, and joining bloody battles with its armies of defiance—whilst the other belligerent, the Government of Montevideo, was taken under its protectorate.

4th. That the war itself was no less anomalous. It was declared and prosecuted by two Ministers, whilst their respective sovereigns were avowing and protesting peace; and without a declaration by the sovereignties of Great Britain and

France, or either of them, and without notice to other nations.

5th. That no lawful blockade could be founded on the regularity of "interference," of "mediation," of the armed intervention, nor upon the rights of any such war, and that no authority short of that of the sovereignties themselves could institute any blockade. Without such authority the blockade was a national tort, and the war was little less than murder and piracy.

6th. That even if lawfully declared, the blockade had not been executed in proper form and upon correct principles. It had repulsed the large neutral ships from Buenos Ayres, and obliged them to enter at Montevideo, and permitted their cargoes to be taken in coasters to the blockaded ports, for the known object of raising revenue for the existing Government of Montevideo, and of benefiting speculators in its stocks, to the injury of neutral trade.

7th. That the government of the city of Montevideo had ceased to be the government in fact of the Republic of the Banda Oriental; and that its inhabitants who are carrying on the civil war, are chiefly and almost entirely foreigners, French and Italians, who are resisting the majority of the Orientals by force of the arms of the "intervention" from Europe.

8th. That one of the great intervening powers having at last, through the sagacity of its last Minister, [Lord Howden] discovered the error and wrong of the "armed intervention," has withdrawn it, and raised the blockade on the part of Great Britain; and now the duty for the great neutral powers, the United States and Brazil chiefly, is, to resolve whether they will submit to the continuance of such a war and such a blockade, thus conducted, by one of the intervening powers alone, especially after its colleague in the intervention has confessed, solemnly and actively, that the whole of these measures have been unjustifiable!

I am happy to say that I have it from Lord Howden himself that he was considerably influenced in his course by the just and reasonable remonstrances of Mr. Harris, the Charge d'Affaires of the United States at Buenos Ayres, and by a generous and just regard to the interests of the great neutral powers. Great Britain is wisely governed, if her government be truly informed. Justice to the United States will forever hereafter be her policy, and I do not doubt, but that eventually she will indemnify the Argentine Confederation. I trust that your excellency will make continual claim for justice; that you will continue to assert and defend the national independence of an American State; that you will continue to rely on the intangibility and consequent impregnability of your position; and that you will appeal to all the neutral nations upon earth, to Great Britain now among the rest, against the present position of France in the affairs of the river Plata. Great Britain, the United States, and Brazil, have the greatest neutral interests at stake; and as Great Britain has heretofore been a party to the evils which have distressed the Argentine confederation, it is peculiarly her duty now to take the initiative in repairing them in a measure by a neutral interposition. She ought to be aided in this by the United States and Brazil; and by the former I think she would be aided as much as she was opposed in the "armed intervention."

Writing in great haste and with little satisfaction, on the eve of departing for the United States, I tender a reciprocity of every kind, personal feeling, and of every noble American sentiment; and wishing you and your family health and prosperity, and your country the peace, freedom and independence of a proud republic, I subscribe myself, with the highest consideration and respect, your obedient servant and friend.

HENRY A. WISE.

Subjoined is a letter from the Buenos Ayres correspondent of the "New York Herald."

Buenos Ayres 2nd August 1847.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE N. Y. HERALD:—

As my last letter to you, dated early last month, was sent off in haste, I did not keep a copy, and therefore do not recollect the precise point at which the English and French ministers, Lord Howden and Count Walewski had arrived in their great work of settling and pacifying the affairs of La Plata. I believe, however, I told you they had just come to the conclusion they could do nothing with Gov. Rosas—that they had discovered they could neither coax nor frighten him into a surrender of the independent rights of his country, and that they had, or were about, embarking for Montevideo to try the virtue of their diplomatic skill on Gen. Oribe and the "anomalous" government in that city. I think I told you, too, that previous to their depart-

ure, Mr. Harris, our Charge had addressed them a very able and temperately written letter containing a protest against a longer continuance of their so-called blockade. This letter, as well as their replies, you doubtless will have seen in the papers of this place or Montevideo.

The noble representatives of the "peace-making" governments, arrived at Montevideo about the 6th ult.—They immediately opened a correspondence with Gen. Oribe, who as you know, is besieging the city; they visited him in his camp, and finally, after considerable discussion, came to an agreement with him for an armistice to last six months. The terms were—"Both belligerents to keep their respective positions." "The city of Montevideo to be provided with cattle through the care of Gen. Oribe who obliges himself to deliver to the authorities of the city, one thousand five hundred head of cattle per month, at prime cost, on a day fixed upon by the British, French and Oriental commissioners." (John Bull and these South Americans never forget the beef.) "The blockades established on both sides of the Plata by the naval forces of France and England, to be raised."

This agreement was made between Lord Howden, Count Walewski, and Gen. Oribe, the latter signing as General and not as President to avoid the vexed question of title to the Presidency of the Oriental Republic.

Count Walewski, in a private and confidential note communicated this agreement to the government inside of Montevideo and asked if an armistice, founded on such basis, would be agreeable to it. "The Minister of Foreign Affairs" gave a negative reply. Mark his reasons! If the blockades be raised, and the country remain as at present, in possession of Gen. Oribe, all business will be diverted from Montevideo to the Buzos, and other ports in the Banda Oriental, and to Buenos Ayres; and Montevideo, government and all, must starve and fall—maugre the fifteen hundred head of cattle monthly. This is the exact substance, though not the wording of the reply.

I have often told you that the blockading operation in this river had been carried on for the benefit of the Montevideoan government, and the loanjobbers there, to the prejudice of the whole world beside, and here we have a direct admission of the fact by the party interested. This reply placed the ministers in a new dilemma—their *protégé* had become refractory and disobedient. What was to be done next? Lord Howden, for his part, determined to cut the knot he could not untie. He saw his government had been acting an unjust, unworthy, and disgraceful part, and like a high minded soldier, as he is, he determined to backout of the scrape, and wash his hands of the whole matter. He immediately addressed the following letter to Sir Thomas Horbert, Commodore of the British naval forces on this station:—

[Here follows Lord Howden's letter to Commodore Herbert.]

I transcribe this letter, entire, to show that England has at least one diplomatic representative, capable of seeing that his government has been in error, and with sufficient magnanimity frankly to acknowledge the fact, and also to show how very similar are the opinions here expressed by his lordship, to those contained in my former letters to you, on the affairs of La Plata.

The reception of information of this act of Lord Howden, excited high hopes to the poor natives here, who have been kept in war the last four or five years by the intervention of the European "peace-makers." But, these hopes were of short duration. The English withdrew their forces, and took off their part of the blockade, but the French continue theirs. A French Charge and consul-general recently arrived at Montevideo, named A. Devoize, issued a queer sort of notice the 23d ult., saying that doubts having been expressed as to the course the French would pursue, he conceived it his duty to give notice, that they would continue the blockade "as heretofore" on both sides of the river. He says, "the previous notices from the Consulate-General of France in Montevideo, under dates of 1st August and 23d September, [1845 I suppose he means,] have suffered no alteration as far as regards the action of the French squadron, &c." This means simply, that a blockade will be continued to compel all commerce with the River Plate to pay export and import duties in Montevideo. This at first we conjectured, and now we know, because there is but one small vessel stationed off this port, and the small craft to and from Montevideo, are permitted to pass in the night, and often by day, without molestation.

That this blockade has been illegal from the first, I feel confident, but that it is so now, there can be no shadow of doubt. The notices to which this

Mr. Devoize refers, were of a joint blockade by England and France; that blockade has been discontinued by one of the parties. Of course, France ought to begin *de novo*. But waiving this, and only considering the manner of enforcing the blockade—no admiralty court in the world, having any regard to international rights, could condemn a prize taken by the blockaders. This is generally believed, but no merchant is willing to run the risk of having his vessel captured, and then awaiting the slow action of a court for redress. How much longer will neutral nations suffer their commercial rights and interests to be thus trampled under foot, for the purpose of sustaining such a government and such a set, as Lord Howden describes these in Montevideo! We have only two vessels of war on this whole station—the Columbia and Bainbridge, and they have not been in the river for the last four or five months. Perhaps it is best they should remain at Rio, as the number is too small to contend with the French force here, and it would be difficult for a high minded American officer to see our commercial interests sacrificed without resenting it. We will soon know what England herself will say of the doings of her recent colleague—her co-partner in the "peace-making" business.

Lord Howden's course gave mortal offence to the Montevideoans and some of the English merchants there. One of the latter wrote him an insolent letter, enclosing his certificate of citizenship, and saying that for twenty years in these countries, he had enjoyed the proud satisfaction of feeling secure as a British subject, but he could no longer degrade himself by asking protection of such men as a Whitlock, a Mandeville, or a Howden, &c. &c. His Lordship [in the heat of the moment, I presume] replied by note, dated,

"H. M. S. Raleigh, 16th July, 1847."

I have read an impertinent letter signed Henry Sparks. This is to give notice to him, that if at any time, he should pretend to commit the slightest insult to me personally, I will horse-whip him instantly.—

[Signed]

"HOWDEN."

A beautiful finale to England's "peace-making" operation! A few days after this occurrence, his Lordship was about going ashore, to take leave of the government, when the English Consul "signaled" him, saying that Count Walewski and the Minister of Foreign Affairs sent their compliments to him, and requested that he would not disembark, as some evil disposed persons had threatened his life, and he might be in personal danger. He did not go that day, but has been several times ashore since. It is understood he embarked for Rio de Janeiro last week, and that Count Walewski is to follow him to-day. We must now wait patiently for another six months for other orders from England and France, or for new "peace-making" plenipos. I think Queen Vic. and Louis Philippe had best come over themselves and have a little chat with Dona Manuelita and Gov. Rosas. They have tried their "Sirs," their Counts, their Lords and Peers of the realm: *quien sabe*, if there would not be more virtue in a good strong dose of royalty itself. Yours, &c.

A CITIZEN OF THE U. STATES.

MARINE LIST

PORT OF BUENOS AYRES.

January 8. Wind—S. E.

No arrivals or sailings.

January 9. Wind—N., in the afternoon changed to E.

No arrivals or sailings.

January 10. Wind—N.

Sailed, H. B. M. brigantine packet Kestrel, Lieut Henry Baker, for Montevideo and Rio Janeiro with the mail for England. Passengers, Messieurs Charles Rodewald, lady, 2 children and servant, James Purdon, Charles Barber, Edmund Cranwell, James Macdonell, Theodore Fischer, Hubert Bechem, George Butner, Charles Croke, William Macrae, Francisco Moreno and lady, Federico Gandara, Casto Martinez and Mrs. Delisle.

January 11. Wind—E.

No arrivals or sailings.

January 12. Wind—E. N. E., in the afternoon changed to S. E.

No arrivals or sailings.

January 13. Wind—S. E., heavy rain during the night.

No arrivals or sailings.

January 14. Wind—S. S. E., heavy rain during the day.

No arrivals or sailings.

ARRIVALS AT MONTEVIDEO.

January 5.
 Swedish corvette *Nayaden*, 18 guns, Captain Axel Frederick Palander hence 3d inst.
 American barque *Chalcedony*, 214 tons, G. Upton, from Salem 12th November, to Southgate & Co.
 Sardinian brig *Angela*, 204 tons, Pedro Barano, from Genoa 5th November to V. Gianello.
 January 7.
 French barque *Genie*, 217 tons, Menard, from Havre 6th November, to L. Chapeaurouge.
 January 8.
 Brazilian 10 guns, barque *Berenice*, Lieut. Mansedo, Commander, from Rio Janeiro 31st ult.
 Spanish brig *Enrique*, 161 tons, Juan Barcelo, from Malaga 15th November, to Zumaran & Tresserra.
 Brazilian schooner *Torrado*, 61 tons, Juan José da Silva, from St. Catherine's 25th ult., to German Brothers.
 January 9.
 Sardinian schooner of war *Ninfa*, Lieut. Riboty, hence 7th inst.
 American brig *Fame*, 267 tons, D. Jenkins, from Cadiz 17th November, to Zimmermann, Frazier & Co.
 American barque *Roman*, 245 tons, L. Deane, from Boston 7th November, to Southgate & Co.
 Brazilian brig *Providencia*, 302 tons, Vicente Antonio, from Rio Grande, to José Avegno.
 American schooner *Benjamin Biglaw*, hence 7th inst., warned off by the blockaders.
 January 10.
 Hamburg schooner *Fortuna*, 96 tons, Jacob Vil, from Hamburg 17th October, to Bradshaw, Wanklyn & Sons.
 Danish brig *Fides*, 130 tons, M. P. Costa, from Hamburg 2nd November, to Thode & Co.
 British three masted schooner *John Bright*, John Christie, from Rio Grande 6th inst., to order.
 Brazilian brig *Castro Primo*, from Parnaguá.

SAILED FROM MONTEVIDEO.

January 5.
 British brig *Energy*, Spencer, for Liverpool.
 Ditto barque *Clio*, Aspiet, for London.
 Danish brig *Emile*, M. Olsen, for Rio Grande.
 Hamburg galliot *Carl Heinrich*, Hamschild, for Rio Grande.
 January 7.
 American barque *Hebe*, M. Green, for Baltimore.
 French barque *Marie*, Poulet, for Havre.
 January 8.
 Swedish corvette *Nayaden*, 18 guns, Captain Axel Frederick Palander, for Bahia.
 January 9.
 Brazilian transport brig *Pabuna*, for Ensenada.
 January 10.
 Brazilian barque *Berenice*, 10 guns, Lieut. Mansedo, bearing the flag of Commodore Pedro Ferreira de Oliveira, for Ensenada.
 American schooner *Benjamin Biglaw*, Mayo, for Rio Grande.
 January 11.
 British brig *Mary Ann*, J. S. Grant, for London.
 Ditto do *Elisabeth*, J. Lebrun, for ditto.

FOREIGN VESSELS OF WAR IN PORT.

FRENCH—Brig *Malouine*, 4 guns, Lieut. R. de Lescaucot.
 Steam sloop *Grondeur*, 4 guns, Lieut. Druilhet.
AMERICAN—Brig *Perry*, 10 guns, Lieut. Tilton.

Blockade of the Port of Buenos Ayres.

January 11. The Brazilian brigantine *Eduardo* having attempted to leave the port the night previous on the wind becoming calm was again obliged to anchor. At break of day it being perceived that she was not far from the blockaders, all haste was made to get her again under weigh, which was effected, but having been seen by the blockades an armed launch was sent in pursuit, and subsequently a larger one, the former being recalled. The morning being rather hazy and the *Eduardo* rapidly disappearing, the *Grondeur*, which for some time previous had been getting up her steam, also weighed and gave chase, but ere she had got out of sight the *Eduardo* was seen returning with the above mentioned launch in tow, the crew of the latter having taken possession of her. The *Grondeur* on her return resumed her usual station off this port and the *Eduardo* subsequently anchored near the blockaders.

January 13. A brig which was this morning coming down the river from the northward, stated to be the Argentine brig *Palma*, from Corrientes, was detained off the *Recoleta* by two boats from the French brig of war *Malouine*, and conveyed near that vessel. The above vessel subsequently hoisted

the Oriental flag. A schooner anchored in the afternoon near the blockading vessels, and is supposed to have been detained by the latter.

January 14. The *Eduardo* sailed this day down the river. Several vessels having been perceived at anchor off the town a large armed launch was sent in pursuit, which returned at sunset with a brigantine and a schooner, the former bearing the Oriental flag. Both vessels anchored near the blockaders.

This day (15th inst.) completes the 844th day of the blockade.

The French barque *Genie*, Menard, master from Havre 6th November bound for Montevideo, grounded on the Island of Flores at 6 p. m. on the evening of the 5th inst. The mate with several of the crew and two passengers proceeded in a boat to Montevideo and arrived alongside the French frigate *La Chartre* on the 6th. The French war steamer *Chimere* was same day sent to render assistance to the *Genie* and returned to Montevideo that evening with said barque in tow.

The Spanish corvette *Cortes* was to sail from Rio Janeiro for Montevideo on the 3d. of January.

By the master of the French brig *Genie* it has been learnt that the brig *Argo* from England for the River Plate, with coal, and which had gone to complete her cargo by taking in salt at the Isle of May, was lost on the north end of that island on the 20th November. No lives were lost. The master and crew embarked on the 6th of December on board of an American schooner for the Island of Brava or that of St. Anthony.—The remains of the *Argos* were sold for 760 dollars.
 (Montevideo *Comercio*, 10th inst.)

Thermometer in the Mirador of the Commercial Rooms since our last:—

Saturday	90
Sunday	88
Monday	86
Tuesday	85
Wednesday	87
Thursday	85
Friday	78

Advertisements.
 Established 1845.

LIKENESSES BY
Daguerreotype with Colours.
 Calle de la Victoria N. 37
T. C. HELSBY,
 Successor to J. A. BENNETT.

Has the pleasure to announce that by means of his long experience and the improvement he has succeeded in making in this admired art—he takes superior likenesses, in any kind of weather, giving them the appearance of nature, and warranting them indelible.
 He invites attention to the specimens he has and a list of more than four hundred likenesses he has taken of persons well known in these countries.

He likewise takes them for *Buttons, Lockets, Bracelets, Studs and finger rings*—those he has taken of this kind having been very much admired—specimens of which likewise he keeps on view.

Calle de la Victoria, N° 37, in the Altos.

To Let.

A furnished Bedroom for a single gentleman, in Calle 25 de Mayo N° 134.

Notice.

The undersigned approved by the Medical Tribunal of this city, as professor of Pharmacy has opened his store at N° 30 Cathedral Street, and will use every endeavour to reestablish and sustain the credit of the Establishment by his utmost exertions. He confidently hopes that with 15 years experience in this branch and having travelled through Europe and the United States with the object of obtaining more knowledge he will be able to merit the confidence and patronage of this community.
 He has just received a fresh assortment of articles which will be sold at usual prices.
 J. W. Romano.

Notice.

Required for a small family in the country, a Cook either male or female. A steady man who understands gardening, particularly the culture of vegetables—would also find employment—apply at N° 15 Calle Maypn.

Notice.

The Liquidation of the affairs of the late Partnership of *Brownell Stegmann & Co.* in this city and Monte Video, remains under the direction of the undersigned *Mr. Stegman*, and in the latter place will be conducted by *Mr. Stephen Webster* and *Mr. Edward Clifton Carnes*, to whom we have granted the requisite Powers to that effect.

Buenos Ayres, December 20th, 1847.
 G. Brownell.
 C. Stegmann.

Wants a Situation.

As Steward, in an English house, a young man fully competent for the situation. Apply at N° 59 Calle del 25 de Mayo.

Advertisement.

The copartnership carried on in this city and Montevideo between the undersigned, under the firm of *Thode & Co.* terminates by the effluxion of time and by mutual consent on this date with regard to *Mr. C. E. D. Ote.*

Buenos Ayres, 31st December, 1847.

H. Thode.
 A. Dreyer.
 C. E. D. Ote.

Referring to the above advertisement I beg to announce that I have entered into partnership with *Mr. Herman Rosenthal* under the firm of *Otte Rosenthal & Co.* for the purpose of carrying on a general commission business in this city and Montevideo, and that our Countinghouse is in Calle de Chacabuco N° 19.
 Buenos Ayres, January 1st, 1848.
 C. E. D. Ote.

Notice.

The countinghouse of *Thode & Co.* has been removed to the Calle Cafedral N° 144.

Kidd's Hotel.

T. Kidd begs to inform his friends and the public that he has removed from No 5 to 43 Calle 25 de Mayo formerly occupied by *Mr. Brush*, where he hopes by attention to their comfort to merit a portion of the patronage so liberally bestowed upon him during the last seven years. Gentlemen can be accommodated with furnished rooms with or without board, private sitting and dining rooms with an excellent view of the River from the azotea.

N. B. An ordinary every day at 3 o'clock.

TO SINGLE GENTLEMEN, CAPTAINS OF VESSELS, &c.

The undersigned having taken the house No 6 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.

Died.

On the 11th inst. the infant daughter of *Pastor A. L. Siegel*.

PRICES CURRENT.

Doublons, Spanish	395 a 396	each
Do. Portugal	394 a 394	do.
Dollars, Spanish & Patacones	24 a 25	each.
Do. Patriot	24	do.
Six per cent. Stock	103 a 104	per cent.
Exchange on England	34 a 34	do.
Do. France	65 a 65	per doubloon
Do. Rio Janeiro	23 a 23	per cent prem.
Do. Montevideo	11 a 11	per cent prem.
Do. United States	22 a 23	do.
Hides, matadero or saladero (descarnado 27 a 28 lbs. ea.)	52 a 60	per pesada
Do. matadero, country	46 a 56	do.
25 a 29 lbs.	41 a 44	do.
Do. Spain	33 a 41	do.
Do. North America	38 a 44	do.
Do. of all states	45 a 45	do.
Do. salted ox	28 a 40	do.
Do. do. cow	34 a 34	do. each
Horse hides salted	30 a 42	per pesada
Do. do. dry	25 a 29	per dozen
Calf skins from 3 to 12 lbs.	without price	do.
and ordinary	62 a 70	per arroba
Goat skins	55 a 58	do.
Nutra skins	120 a 130	doi per arroba
Horse hair, mixed	22 a 23	do.
Do. short	9 a 10	do.
Do. long, 18 to 24 in.	28 a 30	do.
Wool, ordinary, washed	13 a 29	do.
Do. do. dirty	40 a 55	do.
Do. mestiza, washed	25 a 35	do.
Do. do. dirty	23 a 24	do.
Tallow, matadero, raw	35 a 40	do.
Do. do. melted 1st class	30 a 32	do.
Do. pure, second class	45 a 50	do.
Grease, pure	45 a 46	per quintal
Jerked beef	550 a 600	per thousand
Horns, Ox	150 a 200	do.
Do. cow	8 a 81	per lb.
Oil-struck feathers, long black	10	per dozen
Salt-d tongues	10 a 11	per quintal
Hair cuttings	without price	do.
Shin bones	none	per fanega
Salt, on board	1 a 11	per cent. moth
Discount		

The highest price of Doublons during the week 395 dollars.
 The lowest price 392 dollars.
 The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the week, per dollar 24.
 The lowest do. 24. per ditto.
 Although the market is dull the prices of produce have varied but little; this is owing to the vessels which are loading for foreign ports and to the small quantities of produce imported from the country.

GEORGE THOMAS, Responsible Editor.