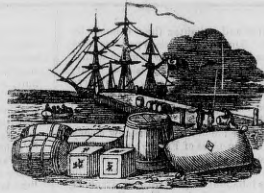


British Packet



AND ARGENTINE NEWS.

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BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1848.

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BUENOS AYRES.

We are enabled, from various sources, partially to fill up the gap in the European intelligence between the accounts received direct from England and those which have reached us by the way of Cadiz.

The committee of the National Assembly of France on Foreign Affairs met on the 8th of July to hear the report of the section charged with inquiring into the question of the River Plate. M. Dronyn de l'Hoys, who was the spokesman on the occasion, disapproved greatly of the policy of M. Guizot in these countries, and said that the effect of it was to make France appear at one and the same time to be carrying on a war and a peace policy. He thought that at present France ought to abstain from any active interference in this quarter beyond that of protecting Montevideo from aggression. He repeated—with peculiar ill grace for a Frenchman, so soon after the appalling scenes of June in Paris—the stale and revolting fable, so familiar to French statesmen, that the "principles of liberty and civilisation" were represented in the cause of the rebels and foreign rabble in Montevideo whilst that of the "liberty of savages and barbarians" was represented in the cause of the Republics of La Plata; and concluded by stating that the Government Committee—the Executive which preceded General Cavaignac's administration—hoped, that, by adopting a firm attitude they would succeed in maintaining the first of these principles until such time that, if necessary, the internal situation of France would allow it fully to ensure its definitive triumph. This accounts for the debarkation of French marines which has lately taken place in Montevideo. Cheering, indeed, are the prospects of the nominal government—it has only to trust to the chapter of accidents and wait for the consolidation of order and tranquillity in France!

A further change had taken place in the French ministry. General Bodeau having declined, on account of his wounds, to accept the Foreign portfolio, it had been restored to M. Bastide, who was replaced as Minister of Marine by Capt. Verninac. M. Bethmon having resigned the post of Minister of Justice, M. Marie, President of the Assembly, was appointed in his room.

Prussia had ratified the armistice with Denmark, but the Diet of Frankfurt appeared unwilling to give its assent, accusing the former power of treason to the German cause.

Republican movements had taken place in the Turkish provinces on the Danube, and in one of them—Walachia—a provisional government had been actually established. This event had afforded a pretext for the entry of Russian troops into the Turkish territory—an occurrence which was viewed with a great deal of jealousy both by France and Great Britain, the latter of which powers, it was said, was going to send a squadron to the Black Sea.

Venice had finally declared for annexation to Sardinia, and it was thought that this decision would induce Charles Albert to make more strenuous efforts to clear its territory of the Austrians.

It is understood that H. B. M.'s ship *Hastings*, with Mr. Southern on board, arrived at Rio Janeiro about the 5th inst. Mr. Southern, it is said, was not to proceed to this river till the arrival of the packet from England.

The following dispatch from this government to that of Sardinia sets forth the motives which prompted the former to give Baron Picolet his congé. It will be remembered that the Baron was originally allowed thirty days to leave the country, but this term was subsequently abridged to fifteen days in consequence of a protest from that gentleman, the language of which was deemed an aggravation of his offence.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Buenos Ayres, Encharged with those appertaining to the Argentine Confederation.

Buenos Ayres, September 2, 1848.
39, 33, 19.

To H. E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of H. M. the King of Sardinia.

The undersigned is encharged by H. E. the Governor to lay before the upright and enlightened judgment of H. S. M. the serious and disagreeable facts which he now proceeds to state, in the fullest confidence that H. M.'s Government will know how to appreciate them in their fullest extent as well as the painful impressions which they have produced on that of the Argentine Confederation.

For a long time past this government has seen with pain the Chargé d'Affaires of H. S. M. in this Republic, Baron Picolet d'Hermillon, follow up a course of proceedings the inevitable result of which could in the end be no other than to compromise in a most deplorable manner the good relations of friendship between both countries, which the Argentine Government desires to preserve unimpaired and to draw closer with mutual interest and decorum. Led away, since the period at which he discharged the office of Consul General, from that just, prudent and impartial policy which should have guided his proceedings so as to make himself worthy of the good reception given him and of the confidence of the Government and of the country and in order worthy and faithfully to discharge the office conferred on him by H. M., he has done nothing but adopt and follow up a line of conduct diametrically opposed to such sacred duties and irritating in a high degree to the national opinion in the Republic and no less obstinately offensive to the dignity of the Argentine Government and to the sacred rights of the Confederation throughout the whole course of a long contest against foreign intervention domineeringly developed by the combined power of Great Britain and France against two independent States alike hospitable and regardful of the Law of Nations.

The Government of the undersigned has strong motives to complain that during the whole time which that foreign coalition has employed its strong power against the Confederation and its ally the Oriental Republic, since 1835 up to the present time, the Consul General of H. S. M. and subsequently Chargé d'Affaires, Baron Picolet d' Hermillon, swerving from his proper and exclusive mission to cultivate with a just and pacific spirit relations of friendship, has not ceased to be partial to and even bold to thrust himself forward as a go-between of those same aggressive powers in regard to whose acts he should have remained perfectly neutral or at least circumspect. He has been the depository of trusts foreign to the position of a Public Agent whose Sovereign is on terms of sincere friendship with the Confederation. Availing himself of an officious charge of those same belligerent powers against the Republic, which he did not hesitate to admit, in regard to British and French persons and properties, he offensively and improperly obtruded himself to lay before this Government official reclamations tending to aggravate still more the complications already existing and totally at variance with the rules of the general Law of Nations; as Y. E. will perceive by the official documents relating thereto contained in the accompanying copy of the *Gaceta Mercantil* of 21st October 1847, numbered from 1 to 13. Ever disposed to repeat such unfriendly acts, antagonistic from his indiscreet conduct with the opinion of the country, gradually and fearfully stirred up, causing embarrassments and just displeasure on the part of this Government, his systematic proceedings cannot be otherwise viewed than a serious offence to the rights, the security and the honour of the Confederation. This Go-

vernment also presumes that led away to such an excess the Chargé d'Affaires of H. M. will have followed up in his official dispatches to his Court the same unfriendly feeling which is shown by his acts; and it is led to believe this from the circumstance of a great number of Sardinian subjects having taken up arms in the city of Montevideo against this Republic and its ally the Oriental as well as from the fact of the Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian naval forces in the port of Montevideo having disavowed the blockade of that port by the Argentine Squadron in 1845, without this Government having been up to this moment made aware of any resolution on the part of that of H. M., a neutral and friendly government to the Confederation, on such serious facts, notwithstanding the official demands which the Argentine Minister in London by the order of his Government addressed to that of H. M. on the subject of the disacknowledgement of the blockade.

The Argentine Government aware of the elevated principles of that of H. M. and fully convinced of the noble uprightness with which it cultivates relations with friendly States, has superabundant reasons to believe that those facts have not excited its high and enlightened attention solely because it has been mis-informed by its public agent in Buenos Ayres, the latter continuing in this case his strange devotion to the interests of powers the enemies of the Confederation and totally foreign to those of Sardinia and its august Sovereign, to the serious injury and peril of the good relations which both Governments are sincerely interested in promoting and drawing closer with reciprocal advantage and dignity.

The Government of the Confederation restrained by the high esteem and good will which it professes towards that of Sardinia and particularly so to the illustrious person of H. M. the King, whose justice and eminent policy are worthy of his cordial esteem, has made unceasing efforts to repress the just resentment of the general feeling and its own disagreeable impressions, filling the measure of its indulgence to the full and ceasing not to abound in prudence and moderation. This earnest solicitude and these considerations have been useless in the face of the persevering unfriendly proceedings of the Chargé d'Affaires. The moderation of the Government has been productive of no other effect than to encourage his presumption to such a degree that he allowed himself in an arbitrary and unheard of manner to offer premeditated, cruel and insufferable insults to the dignity of the Argentine Government and People, thus crowning with so turbulent an act of injury his inveterate ill-will and offensive proceedings.

On the 11th inst. the Chargé d'Affaires was visible the undersigned verbally that it was possible that his fellow citizens in a moment of enthusiasm should after the inauguration of the new Sardinian flag display the same from their houses, and that he desired to know if there was any difficulty in the way. The undersigned replied that this was an affair appertaining to the Police Department and that he could there be more easily informed on this subject. The Chargé d'Affaires then stated that he would see the Chief of Police, for although he was ignorant whether his fellow citizens would hoist the new Sardinian flag it was always well to avoid every thing that might tend to destroy good order or go counter to Police regulations.

Y. E. may easily conceive the great surprise and exceeding displeasure of this Government on being apprised whilst things were in this state, and without any other previous concurrence with the undersigned, of the enormous excesses and unworthy outrages as daring as they are gratuitous, on the part of the Chargé d'Affaires, and of which Y. E. will become fully informed by the perusal of the subjoined attested copies of the official dispatches of the Chief of the Police Department dated 22d and 26th instant and of the documents annexed therein referred to which the undersigned under numbers 8 and 9 has the honour to forward to Y. E. for the full information of H. M.'s Government.

It is manifest from those documents that the Chargé d'Affaires without previously obtaining the necessary licence from the supreme authority of the country, ordered the Sardinian residents to display the new Sardinian flag from their private houses, thus trampling under foot the paramount rights of sovereignty and dominion of this Republic, in a manner so much the

more heinous as after having been made aware of the reason why the Chief of Police could not ask for permission from the supreme authority for that purpose he burst out in the most insulting and offensive terms against the supreme Ruler of the State, thus presumptuously constituting himself a judge of its regulations, its laws and its rights. It is manifest also that he carried his audacity so far as publicly and violently to threaten the Chief of Police himself in the most anarchical and seditious manner in the middle of a public street, impudently exposing himself to very disagreeable consequences which would have been extremely painful both to this Government and to that of H. M., the Chargé d'Affaires calculating perhaps hurried on from the impression on the feelings the natives of the country and on those of the Sardinian population which he has excited by his seditious example of so glaring an outrage.

It is also shown by those documents to the enlightened councils of H. M.'s Government, that the Chargé d'Affaires attacked in an unheard of manner, and by such means as are within the sphere of crimes of turbulent private characters, the honour both of the Argentine Government and of that of the Supreme Chief of the Confederation, worthy of his regard and respect from his high character and political standing, not less than from the numerous considerations which both officially and privately he has ceased not to confer on the Chargé d'Affaires of H. M., notwithstanding his irregular and unfriendly conduct so prejudicial to the cultivation of the good relations of friendship between both Governments. And such excesses on the part of the Chargé d'Affaires,—amongst which appears in a very glaring light the most strange deception in regard to facts which have not occurred with the undersigned and with respect to correspondence which never took place on the part of the Chargé d'Affaires,—not only attack on the other hand in a very unsuitable manner the present satisfactory state of those most interesting relations, but have besides disturbed the public tranquillity in a most scandalous manner, to the manifest disregard of the laws and supreme authority of an independent country, allied to that of H. M. by the ties of the most perfect understanding and good will.

In such a disagreeable state of things the Argentine Government in order to preserve the rights and dignity of the Confederation and animated with a most lively desire to avoid most painful complications between both countries and to maintain unimpaired their relations of friendship, so seriously disregarded and offended by the conduct of the Chargé d'Affaires of Sardinia, has resolved to forward to him his passport this very day, in order that he may leave the Confederation, as stated in the documents of which authenticated copies are enclosed to Y. E. under numbers 10, 11 and 12, and to lay before H. M.'s Government the strong and just motives of this resolution as the undersigned has now the honour to do, begging Y. E. will please submit the same to the august councils of your Sovereign.

By a similar order of H. E. the Governor and for the same purpose the undersigned has the pleasing satisfaction to manifest to Y. E. that this resolution so urgently demanded by the honor and rights of the Confederation, by the dignity of its Government, by the public tranquillity and sacred interests of both countries, being limited, as it exclusively is, to the conduct and person of the Chargé d'Affaires, Baron Picolet d'Hermillon, far from tending to affect the distinguished consideration and friendship which the Government of H. S. M. merits from that of the Argentine Confederation, and the reciprocal relations of friendship which the latter so highly esteems and so sedulously cultivates, is adopted not only for the due preservation of the honour of the Republic, but likewise for the also paramount end of preserving those important relations from the dangers and rupture to which the Chargé d'Affaires, most seriously infringing the most important principles of the Law of Nations, has deplorably led them.

In the meantime and until the Government of H. M. shall on its part design to adopt a resolution in regard to the conduct of its Chargé d'Affaires in the spirit of justice and good policy which distinguishes the councils of H. M. the Argentine Government will take pleasure in continuing to dispense to the Sardinian residents in the Confederation the most efficient protection which it has guaranteed to them at all

