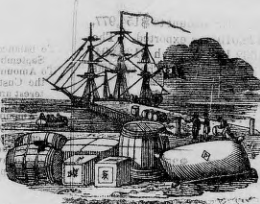


BRITISH PACKET



AND ARGENTINE NEWS.

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BUENOS AYRES.

We have no additional news from Europe this week, except the intelligence of another revolution in the Eternal City, which was preceded by the murder in open day of the Pontifical Prime Minister, Count Rossi, who fell under the dagger of an assassin at his own door, on alighting from his carriage. On the day following the radical party made a formidable demonstration in order to extort from His Holiness the appointment of a new ministry favourable to their views. The Quirinal, the Pope's residence, having been besieged by a vast multitude, a conflict ensued between them and the Swiss guard on duty at the palace, in the course of which several lives were lost, Monsignor Palma, the Pope's secretary, being among the victims. The mob proving victorious, His Holiness, who had hitherto energetically refused to be dictated to, at last consented to the admission of Count Mamiani to his councils. The effect of this appointment will be to complicate still more the Italian question; the new Roman Premier professing political principles of the most violent description, quite at variance with those of his unfortunate predecessor, whose liberalism was tempered with that discreet moderation so essential, in the present circumstances of Europe, to promote the interests of peace and true liberty.

A letter, signed "John Thomond O'Brien," and addressed to the Rt. Hon. Lord Palmerston, on the subject of the affairs of the River Plate, appeared in the Liverpool papers about the middle of November last. This production, like all others emanating from the same impure source, is a compound of falsehood, misrepresentation and calumny of a nature so revolting as completely to defeat the object it was intended to promote. With reference to this despicable performance,—especially as regards the gross vituperations it contains against General Rosas,—*Wülmer and Smith's European Times*, of the 18th of November, very sensibly remarks—

This picture seems to be a little overdrawn. The man who has baffled France and England—who has so long maintained the cause of his own country—and who is popular amongst his own subjects, cannot possibly be such a monster of cruelty, and so utterly devoid of talent, as Gen. O'Brien describes him to be. The thing is overdone; and we believe that many of the atrocities attributed to Rosas, and to his daughter, who is described in the Montevideo papers as an absolute evil devil, are purely imaginary. If we do not mistake, General O'Brien is the representative of a company of merchants who have farmed the customs' revenues of Montevideo, and whose interest it is to prevent an amicable settlement of the long-pending dispute between Montevideo and Buenos Ayres; and, further, that but for their interference and that of other foreigners, it would long since have been arranged in one way or other. The clients of General O'Brien may be perfectly disinterested; but considering the pecuniary stake they have at issue, they must not be surprised if their wholesale denunciations are taken with some grains of allowance. It is quite possible that Rosas should be at the same time, such a monster and such a fool as they describe him, and still not only live but be triumphant.

H. B. M.'s steamer Gorgon, which sailed from Montevideo in the month of August last, for Valparaiso, is stated to have delivered no mail on arriving at the latter port. Some time after a fisherman drew up in his net a box which two cannon balls were attached and which when

opened proved, to be the mail sent to Valparaiso by the Gorgon. Information of the fact having reached the British authorities in that quarter, the Commander of the Gorgon is stated to have been put under arrest on board of the Asia line-of-battle ship, bearing the flag of Rear Admiral Phipps Hornby. Nothing further had transpired in regard to this mysterious occurrence.

A strange incident took place in this city a few days since. A man far advanced in years had been employed to convey a box to a certain quarter in the city, but previous to reaching his destination he fell dead in the street. The authorities in the neighbourhood where the accident happened immediately ordered the body to be removed to the hearse depot in order that, after the necessary investigations should take place, it should be thence sent for interment; the box being meanwhile left in an adjoining house. Led by curiosity, or some less pardonable motive, the inmates proceeded to examine the box, when to their astonishment it was found to contain the skeleton of a child and the skull and some other bones belonging to the body of an adult. This discovery being communicated to the proper authorities it naturally tended to increase the anxiety to learn the particulars in regard to the person, with whom no one appeared to be acquainted, who had thus suddenly died in the conveyance of so strange a trust. At length the following particulars transpired.

Don Ramon Duran, a native of Catalonia in Spain, married in this city many years ago a wealthy lady called Doña Isabel Romero, for whom he professed the most tender attachment. The latter dying, Duran by some means obtained the skull and some of the other bones of his deceased wife which he ever after kept with the greatest care wrapped up in a piece of black silk.

Some years after the death of his first wife Duran married a second; a person many years younger than himself. By this wife he had a daughter on whom he fondly doted, but the latter dying about 1828 when only in her seventh year, Duran was plunged in the deepest grief, and determined not to part with his daughter's body had it secretly embalmed and subsequently put into a box along with the remains of his former wife, but in order not to appear as opposing the laws and established customs he went to the expense of a mock interment. This loss exercised so strong an impression on his mind that he seemed indifferent to all around him, and his affairs began rapidly to decline. His keenly sensitive heart was, however, destined to feel another, and, from the attendant circumstances, still more painful bereavement, in the elopement of his wife, which event almost unseated his judgment. Ruin made now such rapid strides in the fortunes of this hapless man that in the course of a short time the once wealthy proprietor was reduced to the condition of a common beggar. But he had still one treasure left; the humble suppliant wandering from door to door dependent on the public charity for support had yet in his possession an ignored and to him priceless gem which shared with him his fortunes whatever roof "his claims allowed"—the box containing the bones of his wife and child.

He thus lived for a series of years and whenever it became necessary to shift his place of residence, the box containing the precious relics was ever his first care and for which he craved

a shelter under the title of important papers. His last residence was the house of a widow who had known him in better times. Here he lived until sickness overtook him, when the scanty means of his hospitable landlady not allowing her to minister to his wants, he was removed to the public hospital where he died about a year and a half since. This lady, who appears in some measure to have imbibed his prejudices, out of respect to his memory would not for a long time allow the relics he so highly prized to be removed, but the earnest solicitations of her acquaintances who were already as well as herself apprized of the contents of the box, induced her at last to consent. Proper steps having been consequently taken to ensure their admission in the public cemetery, an old man was employed for the purpose of conveying them to the hearse depot, who, as we have seen, sunk under his burden to rise no more. According to the report of the medical gentleman who was called in to examine the body, death was occasioned by a fit of apoplexy, induced by over exertion and the effects of intemperance on a day of unusual heat.—Much credit is due to the police for the satisfactory manner in which it has brought all these particulars to light.

The British brig Jane, which left Liverpool on the 17th September, bound for Buenos Ayres, with 72 Irish emigrants on board, got aground on the English Bank on the night of the 4th inst. A boat from the Jane having reached Montevideo on the 5th, with tidings of this event, Commodore Herbert, commanding Her Majesty's vessels on this station, with praiseworthy expedition immediately dispatched the Tweed sloop of war and steamer Harpy to render assistance to the Jane, the launch of the Raleigh being also sent conveying provisions for her furnished passengers and crew. The Harpy arrived here on the 7th, and on the 8th landed 67 passengers taken off the Jane, the other 5 having died on the passage out, from scarcity of water and provisions. But slight hopes were entertained of getting off the Jane when the Harpy left, but it was nevertheless thought that a part of the cargo would be saved.

It is a singular and lamentable fact that three vessels which have arrived here from England during the last two months, each bringing a large number of passengers, have all made extraordinary long passages, and, owing to this circumstance, the consequent scarcity of provisions and water, and want, doubtless, of proper accommodation, several persons have in each case died. Without in the least wishing to attach blame to either of the masters of those vessels, we think, nevertheless, that the subject is one sufficiently serious to warrant an investigation in the proper quarter.

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BUENOS AYRES TO THE 26TH LEGISLATURE.

(Continued.)

The rebellion of the chieftain Juan Antonio Rodriguez, ex-Commandant of the Fortress of San Rafael in the Province of Mendoza, against its legal Government, impelled the latter, from the urgency of the case, to enter into correspondence with that of the Republic of Chile. It solicited the corresponding measures to be dictated, in order that he might not receive from said Republic the warlike supplies with which he pretend to count; and after his flight to Chile, that he should be prevented from disturbing anew the tranquillity of Mendoza; and that the cattle, which the rebel had carried off, should be returned. The Government approved the conduct observed by that of Mendoza. It ac-

quainted the Government of Chile thereof. It reiterated the reclamations of that of Mendoza respecting the cattle, removal of the rebel Rodriguez from the Province of Talca, where he had taken refuge, and his confinement to some other more distant point of the said Republic.

The Government of Chile replied in a benevolent manner, manifesting the orders that it had beforehand issued to the Intendencias of the South, to cause to be disarmed any individuals of the troops that were under the orders of Rodriguez, that might enter into the country, to prevent every new attempt on their part against the Province of Mendoza, and to take to len cattle from those who might introduce them, and place them under the custody of responsible persons till the Government of Mendoza could dispose of them. And although the rebel Rodriguez might have been made prisoner, it mentioned having reiterated, notwithstanding the orders formerly given, that they should disarm those that might be armed, and oblige them to reside at points from whence they could in no way do harm.

The Government, in cordially acknowledging to that of Chile the good wishes explained in its orders, certified copies of which it enclosed, expressed to it the necessity under which it was placed of reproducing to it the manifestations that it addressed to it on the same occasion respecting its own matters.

The Government informed that of Mendoza respecting this correspondence, and the latter in reply rectified an inaccurate statement transmitted to the Government of Chile by the Governor of Curicó, respecting a violation of the territory of Chile, by a party of armed force of the Province of Mendoza, that was announced by mistake. This Government informed that of Chile thereof.

The manifestations that it reproduced to it were acquainting it of the accurate details, that that of Mendoza had transmitted to it, with respect to the non-fulfillment by the subaltern authorities of Chile of the orders issued by the Government of that Republic; as the rebel Rodriguez had invaded the Province of Mendoza, from the territory of Chile.

The Government convinced of the elevated principles of justice, of that of Chile, and of the strict orders that it had issued, with a view of fulfilling international obligations, and of the plenitude of power that it has to cause them to be fulfilled, on the part of its subjects, reclaimed the satisfaction that is due to it, according to the law of nations.

The Government was also in possession of the data, that that of Mendoza transmitted to it, respecting the plunder of cattle, committed by the chieftain Rodriguez and his followers, in their flight to the Republic of Chile, and their introduction there. Respecting this matter, from the urgency of the case, the Government of Mendoza had addressed itself to that of Chile. That of the Confederation manifested to that of Chile, that although with the other data that it requested from that of Mendoza, it would opportune forward the new reclamation to which they might give occasion, it could not in the mean time omit calling the attention of the Government of Chile very earnestly to the fact of its orders having been contravened by the subaltern authorities, by allowing the introduction of said cattle into the Provinces of the South, although the freebooters had not taken the corresponding licences of the Government of Mendoza, so justly and expressly recognised by that of Chile, as the only evidence of a lawful introduction. Whilst the Government addressed its ulterior representations to that of Chile, it trusted that, on the receipt of the official notice of that of Mendoza, it would have dictated the corresponding measures, for the satisfaction of the rights and interests of the Confederation, and that it would continue enforcing them.

Lastly, the Government of Mendoza having forwarded the informations, that of the Confederation addressed itself anew to that of the Republic of Chile, transmitting them to it as they explained more clearly the facts manifested in the preceding reclamations.

The Government of Chile reiterated the manifestation of the interest wherewith it excited the vigilance and diligence of the authorities of the South, for the purpose of avoiding every disorder, and all participation in the projects of Rodriguez, and any damage to the inhabitants of the Province of Mendoza. It stated, that the Argentine Government had given credit to very exaggerated accounts, as to this inci-

