

BRITISH PACKET

AND

ARGENTINE NEWS.

(No. 1184.)

BUENOS AYRES, SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1849.

[Established in 1826.]

BUENOS AYRES.

Admiral Leprédour left this city on Saturday last in the *Chimere* steamer, and landed in Montevideo on Monday. After communicating with M. Devoize, the French Chargé d'Affaires, he repaired, in company with that gentleman, to the government-house, where a long conference was held. On the following day the Admiral proceeded to the Cerrito and had an interview of some hours' duration with President Oribe. It is reported that he had cited the officers of the French legion to a conference on the 2d inst.

The House of Representatives of this Province, whose ordinary session should have closed on the 30th ult., has resolved to prorogue it indefinitely, there being still a considerable quantity of public business to transact.

Reference was made some time since in the *British Packet* to a scheme which had been concocted for the purpose of raising a loan for the nominal authorities in Montevideo. The chief actor in this swindling transaction was one Buchental, a German Jew, of whose history we happen to know something. Buchental came out to Rio Janeiro about the year 1834, and making a very pompous display of wealth, entered into mercantile speculations to an enormous extent. He succeeded in marrying a daughter of the Baroness of Sorocaba, and in consequence formed a connexion with M. Antonio Gomez Barroso, a young man in very affluent circumstances, who was married to another daughter of the Baroness. Buchental prevailed upon the young man to back bills of his to a very considerable amount, when he suddenly decamped, leaving his brother-in-law so irretrievably involved that from a state of independence he became reduced to one of absolute poverty, which so much affected him that he died not long since broken-hearted. By the flight of this audacious adventurer the merchants of Rio Janeiro were defrauded to the amount of several hundred *contos de reis*. There is a Brazilian gentleman of our acquaintance in this city, whose father was among his victims; Buchental, a few days before his flight, having wheeled him out of a very valuable *bandeau* of brilliants, with which he disappeared!

The following are the bases of the loan projected by the swindler and the Montevideo agent in Paris—

Inscriptions.—The government of Montevideo will issue inscriptions or bonds for seven millions of hard dollars in four series of 100, 200, 500 and 1000 dollars each.

Interest.—The interest will be 6 per cent. per annum, payable in Rio Janeiro, and to commence from the 1st of January, 1849.

Delivery.—To be made in five instalments.

Payment.—The government of Montevideo will lay aside 470,000 dollars annually to pay the dividends.

Guaranties.—The government of Montevideo hypothecates the revenue of the State, the direct and indirect taxes, and the export and import duties.

Deficit.—To be made up by the Custom-house and National Treasury.

Secret Guaranties.—The Government of Paraguay will discharge a part of the loan, in consideration whereof Montevideo will use its good offices in order to induce France to acknowledge the independence of that republic, and accredit a Minister to the Government of Paraguay.

Further guaranties.—The government of Montevideo engages not to contract any other loan

for five years by which the property of the state shall be hypothecated, and that the present subscribers shall have the preference.

If there is one feature more ridiculous than another in the above scheme it is certainly the intervention given in it to Paraguay, when the inability and the disinclination of that province to contract pecuniary engagements are equally a matter of notoriety.

After obtaining the ratification of the nominal government in Montevideo, Buchental proceeded to Rio Janeiro in the hope of raising the wind, but the scheme was so preposterous and the character of the negotiator so well known that he could not obtain a single subscription. The puppet-president in Montevideo was, consequently, right when in writing to a party in Rio Grande, he expressed his fears that the project would end in smoke. But if Buchental was unsuccessful in his undertaking, the Montevideo papers gravely tell us that a house in Rio Janeiro has offered to furnish the nominal government a loan of three millions. We apprehend, however, that it is a mere hoax, or the same swindling project disguised under another form.

We translate from the *Gaceta* the following pithy reply of the London ministerial journal *Globe* to the taunts of the *Morning Chronicle* respecting the policy pursued by H. M.'s government in the River Plate.

We have seen in this world many instances of moral, or rather immoral, courage; but few things can equal the hardihood of the young Peelite of the *Chronicle* in mentioning the River Plate, Buenos Ayres and Montevideo. If they have any regard for their former leaders, this is a topic which they should avoid more than any other. The Aberdeen intervention in the River Plate will be remembered in history as a monument of human folly—of folly in its conception, folly in its prosecution, folly in the efforts made to get out of it. Lord Aberdeen was the dupe of a few Liverpool merchants who had an interest in Montevideo, and he neglected the far more extensive interests connected with Buenos Ayres. He engaged in a little war on the other side of the Atlantic without any necessity; for it is not true, as the *Chronicle* asserts, that England was bound by any guarantee with regard to Montevideo. He engaged in this little war with means appropriately little, and it was carried on in the slightest manner possible. He began by blockading Buenos Ayres, at which Rosas snapped his fingers and laughed. Then the blockade was converted into a contrivance to make European goods pay duties at Montevideo on their way to Buenos Ayres, and there was no longer any blockade; and this was the vigorous operation to compel Rosas to accept the propositions of Lord Aberdeen.

Nobody suffered but the Buenos Ayres consumers who purchased their goods somewhat dearer, and the British merchants whose trade was embarrassed and obstructed. Afterwards, two regiments of foot that were going to the Cape were stopped on their voyage and detained, God knows how long, at Montevideo, instead of going to smother the Caffre war in its commencement; this folly having cost the country a precious sum of money. We hope the Young Peelite will continue the discussion, for Lord Aberdeen has been very backward on this matter, which he is said to have acknowledged himself as a great blunder and mistake.

Dr. Francisco Xavier Muñiz has been appointed a member of the Board of Medicine in the room of the late Don Matias Rivero. Dr. Muñiz is one of the most distinguished gentlemen of his profession in this country for his scientific as well as his literary acquirements, and we rejoice to see that he has been thus favourably noticed by the authority.

The following are extracts from the last London papers—

La Presse announces that the Congress at Brussels has been indefinitely adjourned, and that in consequence M. Lagrenée, the plenipotentiary appointed to represent the French Republic, had returned to Paris. It adds further that the King of Sardinia has resolved to send an army to overthrow the party which by audacity and infiltration have imposed a government on the Roman and Tuscan people in opposition to their wishes.

The *Costituente Italiana* of the 10th, of Florence, states that the Neapolitan differences with Sicily are settled on the following bases:—
1. A separate parliament. 2. A vicerey of the family of the Bourbons. 3. A mixed garrison.

By a decree of the 14th, the Provisional Government of Tuscany directs that Tuscany shall send 37 deputies to Rome for the Italian Constituent Assembly. Their election is to take place at the same time as that of the deputies to the Tuscan Legislative Assembly; every elector, while voting for the latter, is to vote a second time for the former. The deputies elected shall receive an indemnity for their journey to Rome, and 10 lire [5s 6d] a day during the session.

By a decree of the 16th of the Imperial Commissioner at Milan, Count Montecoccoli, persons committing indignities upon the Imperial army shall be punished according to the 74th paragraph of the second part of the Penal Code. The highest penalty is a fine of 500 livres.

In the sitting of the Roman Constituent Assembly of the 13th, the minister Sterbini, in the name of the minister of finance, presented a bill providing that all ecclesiastical property shall henceforward belong to the state, and that all alienation of the said property, whether real or movable, shall be considered null and void. A project was moved by Deputy Tantini to the same effect, but directing also that proper provision should be made for the support of public worship, and that the estates of the church shall be granted to agriculturists upon a ground rent. The 1st and 3d articles of the ministerial measure were voted by urgency, the remainder, with the counter project, were sent to the committees.

The *National Association* of the 20th quotes a letter from the frontiers of Lombardy, of the 12th, stating that an insurrection had broken out against the Austrians at San Donnino, and other villages in the vicinity of the Parmese territory, and that shots had been exchanged. The Austrians are said to have been the aggressors. The letter also positively states that Radetzky intends to open the campaign against Piedmont, and is making active preparations for the purpose. The bridge on the Po is reconstructed.

The Austrian Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Matters has finished its labours and sent in its report, with a draught of the plan of the constitution of the empire. That plan is very liberal, and almost democratic, and has a tendency to the federal principles. "The empire is to consist of ten crownlands," with a governor, an administration, and a Diet to each of them. The Diets are proposed to sit for two months in the year, and a general Diet is to assemble at Vienna. That general Diet is to consist of two houses or chambers; the parliamentary duration of the Lower Chamber is fixed for a period of two years, and that of the Upper for six. The draught gives the Emperor the usual prerogative of executive power. Each province is to have a separate financial administration.

The Hamburg *Borsenhalle* of the 23d of Feb. states that the Danes attacked a detachment of Schleswig troops at Sundewit and drove it back as far as Atzuhl. The cause and result were unknown. The Duke of Augustenburg protested against this proceeding of the Danes. It is reported that the Danish government intend to relinquish the armistice.

Mr. Brunsen has arrived in London from Berlin and Frankfurt. It is thought that this gentleman retires as to his post with full powers, not only from the court of Berlin, but also from the German government in Frankfurt to enter into the negotiation of a definitive treaty of peace between Denmark and Germany.

Valparaiso, March 14.

By the Belgian brig *Indefatigable* we have news from Lima to the 22d of February. Two attempts had been made to assassinate General Castilla (the President of the Republic)—one in Lima by some young men of that city, and the other in Callao, whither General Castilla had gone to take refuge, by a Colonel and two or three officers. The whole were in prison. Lima is in a state of great excitement.—*Mercurio*.

A revolution was to have broken out in Lima on the 21st of February, but the conspiracy was discovered in time to counteract it.

THE BRITISH COLONIES.

London, Jan. 25.

The colonial history of this empire suggests grave and painful reflections. It is singularly deficient in the grand, the heroic, and the political element. By ordinary tests, however, it is not an unqualified failure as some enthusiasts seem to imagine. In particular, it cannot be said that there has been a degeneracy in our colonial labours and achievements. The annals of European colonization date from the discovery of the New World, three centuries and a half since. For the first of those centuries the Tudors occupied our throne and either neglected or discouraged colonization. The ensuing century and a half, beginning with the accession of the Stuarts and ending with the youth of George III., saw the stormy foundation, the vigorous progress, and the final independence of what are now the United States. The "plantation," which in 250 years has grown up into so mighty an empire, was at least an improvement on the indolence of the previous century. But from the loss of our American colonies we may date a third period, which already vies with the second. Within the last sixty years we have founded a colonial empire at the antipodes, which bids fair to compensate for that we have lost on the opposite shores of the Atlantic. Nay, in some respects Australasia already excels the colonies that successfully waged the seven years' war of independence. An official document now before us, and of which we have made ample use on a former occasion, suggests some points of comparison strikingly in favour of the new colonies as contrasted with the old.

Sydney was first occupied in 1788. The whole circle of the United States at the declaration of their independence did not contain one city so large as Sydney was in 1846, less than 60 years after its original settlement. It numbered 38,000 inhabitants, while, Boston, the city of the pilgrim fathers, numbered no more than 15,000 in 1790, that is, 170 years after its foundation. Neither New York nor Philadelphia, though their situations and their harbours are amongst the noblest in the world, contained populations in 1775 nearly equal to that of Sydney in 1846. From cities we will pass to another more recognized test of prosperity.

The imports of the American colonies, at the most favourable year that could be selected before the war of independence, scarcely exceeded one million sterling; the imports of the Australasian colonies amount to two millions sterling. The American exports were less than a million; the Australian exports nearly £1,200,000. If, therefore, the vast length of the voyage, and an existence of only sixty years, have prevented the Australian population from exceeding one-eighth of that which threw off the British rule, that one-eighth has exported more than as much, and imported twice as much, as our American colonies before their separation.

Seventeen years since there was no such thing as an emigration of free labourers to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. The shipowners did not even think it worth while to provide accommodation for that class, excepting none but cabin, and what are now called intermediate, passengers. Mr. Wakefield had proposed, not long before, that the public lands in the colonies should not be disposed of except by sale, and that the proceeds should be applied to emigration. Government adopted the plan. It induced shipowners to adapt their arrangements to the labouring class; it made advances on the faith of expected sales, and began at once to assist emigration. In 1837 an office was created for the service, and emigration undertaken in earnest. The population of New South Wales being at that time 77,000, more than 62,000 were poured in within the next

Mavor's Spelling Book, London edition, and a few pictorial books for sale at W. White's, No. 59 1/2 Calle la Merced, formerly Cangallo.



Spellers, &c.

Mavor's, a new edition, carefully revised and improved... Cobb's new first book... Worcester's reading and spelling... Brown's grammars... Mitchell's primary Geography...

Two or three single gentlemen can be accommodated with furnished rooms and board by applying at No. 6 calle de la Piedad.

Mr. Olof E. Norienstrom, native of Dronheim, in Norway, is requested to call at No. 43, Calle de la Piedad, for a letter, which conveys very interesting news for him.

Advertisement.

The following articles just received and for sale at the store of G. Woodley & Co., No 26 Calle Piedad.

- Le Mann's just celebrated biscuit. Very superior Hollandais etc. Pearl barley. Oatmeal. Superior London pickles and sauces of every description. Refined table salt in stone jars. Patras currants. Brandy of the best brand. North Wiltshire cheese. Table wines, ale and porter, and groceries of every description.

Chandeliers.

On sale at the store Calle de la Reconquista, (formerly Paz) No. 56, a pair of elegant cut-glass, six branched Chandeliers.

Martell's Superior Cognac. A few hogheads for sale at No. 140 Calle Piedad.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

IMPORTS.

Table listing various import goods and their prices. Includes categories like ALE and Porter, French and German, ANCHOVIES, BEES WAX, CANDLES, CASIA, CARDS, CHUNO, CIDER, CLOVES, COALS, COCOA, GUAYACIL, COD FISH, COFFEE, DEMIJOHNS, DOMESTICS, FLOUR, FRUITS, Apples, Currants, Figs, Hazel nuts, Prunes, Raisins, Walnuts.

Table listing various goods and their prices. Includes categories like FIRECRACKERS, GLASS, HAMS, HONEY, IRON, LARD, LEAD, LEATHER, MANDIOCA, MATS, MATTING, MOLASSES, NAILS, NAVAL STORES, Canvas, OILS, PAPERS, PEAS, PEPPER, RICE, SALT, SOAP, SPIRITS.

Table listing various goods and their prices. Includes categories like Rum, STARCH, SUGAR, TOBACCO, TWINE, WINES, EXPORTS, FEATHERS, HAIR, HIDE CUTTINGS, HIDES, MATADERO, For Spain, Salted ox, Horse, HORNS, JERKED Beef, FLOUR, BRANDY, CHARCOAL, FLOUR, FRUIT, GRAIN, GLUE, LIME, OLIVES, POTATOES, SOLE Leather, EXCHANGE, STOCK, BULLION, YERBA, ZINCK.

Table listing SKINS (CALF, CHINCILLA, GOAT, NUTRIA) and TALLOW (MATADERO).

Articles of Home Consumption, the growth, produce and manufacture of the Republic.

Table listing various home consumption goods and their prices. Includes categories like BISCUIT, BRANDY, CHARCOAL, CHEESE, FLOUR, FRUIT, GRAIN, GLUE, LIME, OLIVES, POTATOES, SOLE Leather, EXCHANGE, STOCK, BULLION, YERBA.

HONEY MARKET.

Table listing EXCHANGE rates for various countries and STOCK prices for different shares.

The highest rate of Exchange upon England during the weeks 68s. per oz. The lowest, 68s. per oz.

In currency, at 2 1/4 per dollar. The highest price of Doubloons during the week 309.

The lowest 307 1/2. Permits for shipping specie, premium per cent.

FREIGHTS.

Table listing FREIGHTS for various DESTINATIONS (Great Britain, France, Cadiz, United States, Rio Janeiro, Havana) under different conditions (DRY HIDES, SALTED HIDES, TALLOW, BALES, JERKED BEEF).