cazilian Review

A WEEKLY RECORD OF TRADE AND FINANCE

Vol. I - No. 12

RIO DE JANEIRO, TUESDAY, 17th MAY, 1898.

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Under contracts with the British and Brazilian Governments for carrying the mails.

> TABLE OF DEPARTURES. 1808

	1	`)-
Date	Stenmer	Destinution
1898 May 18	Clyde	Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon, Vigo Cherbourg and Southampton.
" 25 -	Ebro 🗀	Bahia, Maceió, Pernambuco, La Palmas Lisbon. Southampton and Antwerp.
., 30	Magda- lena	Montevideo and Buenos-Ayres.

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do do 2nd f.
do do 3rd f. 673 502 199 Through fares to Paris return 1st class. f. do do 2nd f. f. do do 3rd f. Marseilles, Genoa, Naples 3rd class braz. 364

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N. B. This capital to be

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Reserve Fund . . . Rs. 25.038:247\$965 Profits in Suspense Rs. 9.063:457\$264

on 81st December 1897

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The Brazilian Review

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The Study of an inconvertible currency by J. P. Wileman, C. E. On Sale at the office of The Brazilian Review or at Lammert & C. Rua do Ouvidor 77.

TEST VIEW	Mails sailing during the next 4 weeks							
DATE OF SAILING	NAME	COMPANY	DESTINATION					
		FOR EUROPE	i de la composición del composición de la compos					
	Clyde Orissa	Royal Mail P. S. N. Co.	Southampton *					
24	Cordillere	Messageries Maritimes	Liverpool Bordeaux					
Tune 1		Royal Mail	Southampton					
1.700	Iberia	P. S. N. Co.	Liverpool					
	Portugal	Messageries Maritimes	Bordeaux					
	Magdalena	Royal Mail	Southampton					
	Oravia Chili	P. S. N. Co.	Liverpool					
4.013.03		Messageries Maritimes	i Bordeaux					
	For TH	E RIVER PLATE AND PA	citic.					
May 17	Nile HIL AGTIF	Royal Mail	River Plate					
22	Portugal	Messageries Maritimes	do					
25 ₁	Orellana	P. S. N. Co.	Montevidéo, Pacific					
	Magdalena	Royal Mail	Rivér Plate do					
	Oropesa	Messageries Maritimes P. S. N. Co.	Montevidéo, Pacific					
	Thames	Royal Mail	River Plate					
	Bresil	Messageries Maritimes	do					
22	Liguria	P. S. N. Co.	Montevidéo, Pacific					

Note of the Waeek.

LATEST QUOTATIONS

TUESDAY MORNING, May 17th, 1898.	
Rio de Janeiro 90 d/s Bank rate on London,	
opening rate May 17th	5 11/16
prices, on May 16th per 10 kilos 98804 to	9\$941
No. 7 ditto ditto ditto. Spot closing price at New York, on 16th May, per lb. cents.	6 1/2
No. 7 New York type of coffee. July options price ditto ditto ditto	,-
1879 4 per cent. External bonds London May 18th	EN
1883 4 1/2 per cent external bonds	47
1895 5 per cent ditto ditto.	51 1/2

A rectification. In the 9th number of the Brazilan Review, dated the 29th of April, we employed a phrase that has given rise to some misunderstanding. Criticising the opinions of the Bulionist in regard to Brazilian Finance, whilst speaking of the military classes as factors of our social and political economy, we had occasion to make use of the well-known Scotch proverb "let sleeping dogs lie." We understand that owing to incorrect, because to litteral rendering of the phrase into Portuguese, by which an offense to the military classes appeared to have been intended, great umbrage has been taken at an innocent phrase, which correctly translated signifies nothing more offensive than its Portuguese equivalent "não accorde o Leão que dorme." In this sense it was employed; as it could never be the intention of the Brazilian Review to offer so gratuitous an insult, as has been conjectured, to a whole class that is as deserving of our respect as any other.

Local events for the week have not been of a very exciting nature. Exchange has been pretty fairly maintained in spite of the slack produce season, and Brazilian securities have gone up in London, perhaps in consequence of Dr. Campos Salles' arrival and the hope of better things in future. A commission of the Centro Commercial memorialized the president, recommending that our foreign creditors should be approached with idea of arranging a modus vicindit that would ease the market. It is of the opinion that such a proposal could not prejudice the country, because it is mutually advantageous to debtor and creditor to prevent the otherwise inevitable suspension of payments. At least, that is what appears to be the drift of the long rigmarole which, whilst insinuating much, recommends no positive course. The president replied in an equally vague manner that the situation of the country was improving, and that when he handed over the Government in November next, it will be in a better condition than he received it!

In the political world things are beginning to stir. The Attorney General yesterday solicited from Congress authorization to prosecute the deputies Alcindo Guanabara, Francisco Glycerio, Irineo Machado, and Torquato Medeiros, as "intellectually" responsible for the attempted assassination of the President in November last. The fat is on the fire now with a vengeance.

The war. The Americans have attacked Cardenas, which they bombarded in an attempt, apparently, te protect the landing of forces, but were repulsed. The blockade of Havana has been suspended, the fleet being wanted elsewhere. Puerto Rico was likewise bombarded, and according to American advices obliged to capitulate. Telegrams of Spanish origin give the result of the action as a complete victory to Spain, the American ships having, according to these accounts, suffered greatinjuries and been compelled to withdraw from the harbour. Which is true, it is difficult to That Spain should gain an occasional advantage and the United States suffer an occasional check is only to be expected of the fickle fortune of war. The outcome of it all is, however, daily more palpable, and seems more likely than ever to lead to new developments in international politics. It it results in approximation of the great Germanic races a little earlier than otherwise might have been the case, the war will to them at least prove a blessing in disguise.

The American Cruisers Oregon. Marietta and the transport Nictheroy, that left the port about a week age, have put back into Bahia, and after coaling, left again yesterday. It is to be hoped the will reach home without falling in with the Spanish fleet last heard of at Martinique.

With the Spanish and American fleets now in such close quarters an engagement can scarcely be avoided, which will in all probability be decisive, should it prove

fatal to the Spanish arms.

A new idea.— Our Contemporary, the Gazeta Commercial e Finance ra states that Dr. Campos Salles had an interview with the Rothschilds of Paris, when he accentuated his intention of maintaining the punctual payment of all foreign obligations, hinting at the same time at the possibility of a reduction of the legal value of the Brazilian monetary unit! We doubt very much the accuracy of such a statement. In the first place we fail to see what possible advantage such a measure could operate at the present juncture, unless it was extended and made obligatory to foreign creditors. This, however, would be incompatible with Dr. Campos Salles' previous declaration of his intention to respect foreign payments, and, in our opinion, would be more injurious to Brazilian credit than even the temporary suspension itself, or an arrangement with creditors on the Rothschild-Romero basis; because it must permanently reduce the rate of interest in an arbitrary manner that would never be accepted. Besides, foreign creditors have nothing to do with rates of exchange or local units. Their engagement is to reveive payment of interest in pounds sterling, not in milreis nor in Brazilian money of any kind. It is this contract that the country cannot go back-on without repudiation, except it be by mutual agreement. The only possible advantage of reducing the padrao is to keep exchange from going up and the cost of local production low. There is not much chance of exchange going up for a long time to come, so we need not trouble much about that. The great thing to do is to keep it from going down, and in that the reduction of the value of the legal tender would not assist at all, but rather the countrary.

London Opinion.—An important financial house in

London writes as follows:

"There is an extremely nervous feeling here with regard to the financial position of Brazil, and all Brazilian stocks have fallen heavily. The last loan issued by Rothschild at 90 is to day quoted at 56 and default is openly spoken of. Neither at Brazilian Banks nor in other quarters can we get any satisfactory reason for the continued fall in Exchange, but we all realise that at the present figure—slightly over 6 d., it is impossible for the government to maintain its sterling engagements for long.

The general opinion is that the government should endeavour to obtain a revision of their Constitution with their various states, which now collect such a large part of the revenue, and that a custom's loan, somewhat similar to that which the Argentine government issued in 1890 should be raised, and the interest for from 3 to 5 years paid in these bonds. This would give the country breathing time to put their finance in a proper position, always provided that some real control over their expenditure was exercised."

That some relief is wanted by our overladen market seems now to be generally admitted, the only question seeming to be what form the relief should take; whether that of a partial suspension such as would be afforded by a temporary reduction of the rate of interest following the lines of the Romero-Rothschild arrangement of the Argentine Republic, or that of total suspension by means of a funding loan that would relieve the market of the necessity of furnishing any exchange at all for a few years, and give a chance to recuperate some of the lost ground.

We ourselves are of the opinion that the relief should be absolute: that the Market is incapable of supplying Exchange for even a reduced service, at any rate until some economical change for the better take place, which will not be until the price of coffee go up again to something like its old level of £ 3. to £ 4 per cwt.

In order to secure this indispensable relief, no sacrifice, we feel sure, would be spared; and any reasonable garantees that may be exacted will be gladly given. But any pretence at foreign control over revenue will be certainly resisted, and, in our opinion, perfectly justifiably in this case, where the *bona fide* of the debtor cannot be called in question.

As regards the complaint of our correspondent as to the difficulty of obtaining trustworthy information in regard to the causes of the fall of exchange, we imagine he cannot have applied to the right quarter, as there are many persons in London quite able and willing to give information on the

subject.

Mr. Herdman in this speech at the statutory meeting of the Leopoldina Company pointed out clearly the causes of the depreciation to be the disequilibrium of foreign payments, in consequence of which the demand for bills is always in excess of the supply, and the value of bills, that is sterling, keeps going up, and consequently that of paper money going down. That is the situation in a nutshell, and makes it easy to comprehend why suspension of Government sterling payments by reducing the demand, whatever form it may take, is a means of realizing the equilibrium and stopping the fall.

In our next issue we hope to publish a carefully developed scheme for treatement of the debt on the Romero-Rothschild basis that a correspondent has kindly put at our disposal, and that merits careful attention, should such a measure ultimately come within the range of practical finance.

From "Fairplay".—"The Brazilian Government would seem to be making serious efforts to bring about some sort of reorganisation of the national finances. An investigation into the economic condition of the country is now going on, and the President seems to be desirous of devising some means of improving the exchange and diminishing expenditure. At the same time the President elect has suarted for Europe for the purpose of consulting some of the leading financial houses with a view to raising a considerable loan, part of which it is proposed to apply to the redemption of currency and part to the building up of a sterling fund in Europe, which may be drawn upon for the purpose of meeting the service of the debt, and saving the Treasury the terrible cost of remitting gold. Anyway, in some quarters there is an inclination to believe that the Government have awakened to the desperate situation of the Treasury, and that they are imbued with less ambitious ideas as to the terms to be obtained by sales of State property".

Brazilian Finance.—"In our last issue we referred somewhat fully in a leading article to the general financial position in Brazil. During the past month that position has been very little altered, and the exchange at one time has been as low as 6 1/8d. The fact that the Brazilian Government has sold two of its warships building in this country, is, however, considered in good quarters as an earnest of intended economy and retrenchment by that Government. As we explained last month, it is this more than anything else that is required to bring about an improvement in Brazilian finance". The Bankers' & Insurance Magazine.

The fall of Exchange.—A correspondent of the London, "South American Journal", commenting on the financial situation, remarks that "the Vice-President of the Republic, Dr. Manoel Victorino, so far as one can judge at this distance, is the only public man in Brazil who has shown either capacity to understand or resolution to grapple with the evils that are ruining the country; and he appears to have been contemptuously cast aside as a trouble-some zealot by his countrymen in general, and especially by the patriots who consider themselves entitled to live and flourish on public abuses. Now, indeed, instead of the amount of incovertible paper being reduced (the only known way of increasing its value) there seems good ground for supposing an increase of paper to be going on quite recently. At any rate the country is flooded with the rubish, and no one believes in any serious attempt to diminish its supply; and hence the milreis is now under 6d., with prospects of being worth 3d. at the time President Moraes retires from office".

That the scheme introduced and initiated by the Vice-President of the Republic was really the one best adapted for the circumstances, there can be little doubt. To raise the value of the currency is now the only way by which financial and economical equilibrium can be obtained. But there were in the scheme itself vices of origin that condemned it to failure. The conception was unquestionably excellent and able, as was the energy with which it was put into execution. But in regard to the details, for which others than the Vice-President were responsible, it cannot be denied that they were lamentably insufficient for the The whole scheme, in fact, as we said at the time, depended on the realization of the lease of the railways failing that, it must fall to pieces like a pack of cards; and that was precisely what occurred. The lease of the railways, in its turn proved a failure principally because the terms offered by the Government were wholly unacceptable to European capital; and, moreover because, a proper attempt to make known the conditions and prospects of the railways abroad was newer attempted. In fact, the whole business was botched; and consequently the scheme of the Vice-President became an impossibility.

To blame the present Government for that, or for the abandonment of the Vice-President's scheme for the redemption of the currency is unreasonable. It was an impossibility to attempt any withdrawal of the currency without the indispensable means that the lease of the railways alone

could supply. As regards new emissions, the Government itself has repeatedly denied the insinuation. There have been no emissions of any kind since the substitution of 80,000 contos of bonus by paper money, carried out by the Vice-President himself. To Cesar what is Cesar's. An unmerited aspersion on the present Government will not enhance the unquestionable merit of Dr. Manoel Victorino's programme, nor will disparaging reflections on his government improve the present situation Both have unquestionable merits, and unfortunately grave drawbacks too.

The Latest Treasury. Returns state that during the past year the purchase of securities by Messrs. Rothschild for amortization of the foreign debt amounted to £564,400, whereby the foreign funded debt is reduced to £34,647,300, exclusive of the Western Minas Railway guaranteed loan that raises it to £38,357,300; or, taking population at the low estimate of 15,000.000, only £2,11sh. per head. The amounts current were as follows on 31 Dec. last:

$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1883 1880 1889 1895	£ 3,382,000 5,393,000 18,533,300 7,338,900
Western Minas Ry'.	and the state of t	£34,647,200 3,710,000 £38,357,200

The service of this debt requires £1,505,656 for interest and £346,973 for sinking fund in addition to £219,714 for the Western Minas Railway guaranteed debt, in all £2,072,342 per annum. In consequence of the low price of Brazilian bonds in London, the nominal value of £564,400 was paid off with an expenditure of only £346,973, in addition to £48,100 of Western Minas bonds purchased for £37.100; so that Brazil made a nice little profit of £228,427 on the operation. What a pity that, instead of paying off all the debt at this rate, we should be obliged to borrow more.!

Commercial development of São Paulo.-A despatch, dated 21st February last, has been received at the Foreign Office from H. M. Minister at Rio de Janeiro, in which it is stated that British capital has been embarked in the State of São Paulo in railway and other enterprise, and giving the following information in regard to the commercial development of that State.

The imports into São Paulo have increased from 46,000 contos in 1893 to 110,000 contos (or at the present rate of

are the official values as declared at the Santos Custom House, but if to this sum be added (the following are mere estimates) 18,000 contos representing the official value of articles imported by the Government free of duty, 29,000 contos (estimated) worth of nationalised articles, 28.000 contos of national articles imported by coasting trade and about 25,000 contos imported via Rio de Janeiro by rail-a total of 210,000 contos or about £6,000,000 would represent tha total imports into the State.

Probably, in consequence of the stagnation in trade which has affected the whole of Brazil, the figures for 1897

which are not yet available, would be less flattering.

The increase exhibited in 1896 is mainly in articles of primary accessity, in articles of consumption, and in materials for construction, etc.

In this trade Great Britain and Germany principally supply metallurgic products and raw material, while Italy, Portugal, and Argentina, which transmit cheap alimentary articles, have mainly profited by the increase in the consumption of imported articles (in 1896) produced by the considerable and persistent development of the population of the State and capital. São Paulo, which in 1862 had a population of 10,000, now numbers 230,000 inhabitants, of whom over seventy thousand are Italians.

The commercial movement, according to an estimate made, is as follows:

2		oports 0,000 dols.	Ex 280,00 (Exclusi	cports 0,000 vely C	dols.
Great Britain	26 p	er cent.	_	r cent	
Germany	22 1	,,	25	11	·•
France	9	91	15	,,	
Italy	8	',	3	"	
Belgium	4	,,	ž	**	
Austria-Hungary	3	**	9	11	
United States	8	,, '	30	,,	
Argentine Republic	8	11.	0		
Holland, Spain, Den-	_				
mark, etc	7	1)	9	19	*
Portugal	5	11	ð		
	•				

Probably Belgium plays a larger part in the importation, as many of her goods are sold to foreign houses and enter under foreign marks, German trade in São Paulo has largely increased of late years, that of France has decreased, while that of England remained stationary.

The São Paulo Railway General Meeting. - The 77th ordinary general meeting of the Shareholders of this railway was held on the 22nd April, Mr. Martin R. Smith (the Chairman) presiding. The Chairman stated that the considerable increase in the traffic during the last 6 months recouped the Company for the loss in exchange, which averaged 7 ¼ for the last half year, being 1 ½ d. less than for the corresponding period last year. The necessity of the second of the corresponding period last year. cessity of providing for the ultimate payment of the transit tax, which was being retained by the Company until it was decided whether it should be paid to the National or State Government, exacted £ 15,000 being deducted from profits. Including this expense, working expenses now represent 42 % of gross receipts against 39 % previously.

You must remember, "said the Chairman, "that this

does not alter the satisfactory fact which I had already mentioned, that we have an increase in the fraffic for the half year, which sufficed to recoup us for the loss caused by the full in exchange. But is it not too much to hope that this happy equilibrium will te indefinitely maintained, and that if decline in exchange continues it will always be met and compensated for by a corresponding increase of traffic - in other words, that increasing financial embarrassment will continue to be accompanied by increased commercial activity? Surely this is a bit of a paradox, and as reasonable men we cannot expect it to continue, and it behaves us to shape our course accordingly. My words on this subject are preparatory to a distinct declaration of policy, which is that we consider it a desirable thing to commence the formation of a special reserve fund to be exclusively devoted to the equalisation of dividends. exchange about 3,000,000 £ sterling) in 1896. Such at least Under normal conditions, and with a prosperous company like this is, we might not think it necessary to propose such a scheme to you; but with the present uncertainty as to how financial affairs will shape in Brazil, it behoves us to be extremely careful. Who can say how long such a depreciation of the exchange will continue, and, indeed, to what extent it may fall? As a commencement of this cautious policy we are proposing to pay you an interim dividend of $5\ \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in lieu of the 6 per cent. dividend, to which for some time past, I am glad to say, you have been accustomed, and to carry forward the large sum of £ 105,448. At the end of the year we shall see what money we have in hand, and shall then ask you to take such measures in the direction of the policy I have foreshadowed as may be considered necessary and desirable. "

The new works under Mr. James Fforde's direction are progressing favourably and are expected to be finished well within the allotted time. In answer to a shareholder, the Chairman said that the fall of exchange was very advantageous for new constructions and would probably result in a saving of £ 170,000 to £ 180,000 on the extension. The fresh capital is to be raised by firstly an issue of £ 500,000 of debentures, next the balance of preference shares, and ultimately, if required, the balance of ordinary shares. The mileage of the new extension is 86 ½, of which 40 are already ready and the rails laid. In addition to the new reserve now initiated there is an old reserve of £213,000, of which £100,000 in Consols. "This" the Chairman said "had been kept intact for many years. There had been proposals from time to time, to sell, but the directors had never agreed to it, and they intended keeping the amount as it was. Some day or other when bad times came, it might to wanted. Who can tell what might be the future of Brazilian Exchange? It might go as low as 2 ½ d. for all they know (Editor's Note: Why strain at a gnat; say ½ d. at once, and have done with it!) and it was wise to make a provision in time of prosperity."

The Chairman, who evidently has never tried to make a milreis at 6 d. go as far as one at 27 d., ventures on a rather risky statement when he says, in respect to remittances, that there was no doubt that the people of the country did not fell the effect of the fall in exchange nearly so much as their creditors. It was not such a trouble and such a tax

on them as it was to the company.

In conclusion Mr. Witton moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, and said that the had heard their chairman described as very pessimistic. If that was a true description of him, he (Mr. Witton) was very glad of it, for the chairman of public companies were very often far too optimistic. Mr. Smith's speeches had much the same effect, as they were told the X rays had—they showed everything right down to the bone."

Editor's Note. - Pessimistic, we should say, is no name it! With such a perspective the Company does well to lay by a nest egg, the mistake being in not putting aside a regular collection of them. Were exchange to go, we will not say to 2 1/2 d. (the 1/2 d. beats us!) but to 4d. we think the chance of dividends would be exceedingly small. The profits in paper money vere as far we can make out, about 11,300:000\$, which at 7 ¼ d. give some £ 340,000. At 4 d. these would be reduced to £ 188,000, and to about £ 118,000 at the Chairman's suppositious rate of 2 ½ d., supposing even that traffic did not fall off under such circumstances, which is not probable, or that the proportion of working expenses did not increase, which is certain.

The shareholders can, however, console themselves with the assurance that exchange is more likely to rise than to fall much lower. If it does fall it will be impossible to maintain foreign payments, and suspension must occur and

send it up again.

The Chairman, however, can be scarcely sincere in even putting questions to his faithful shareholders that seem to indicate that the fall of exchange was the direct agent of the increase of traffic, when he must know very well that the contrary is the case.

The large increase of traffic last year was almost exclusively in coffee carried from the interior to the port of Santos, the up traffic showing a decided falling off, the result of high prices (in paper) of imported commodities and the general

poverty of consumers. The favourable returns were, therefore, this year largely accidental, the result of an enormous record crop that is not likely, if all accounts are to be believed, to be repeated in a hurry.

The São Paulo entries for this year's crop exceed 5,600,000 bags, against only 4,600,000 this time last year. Estimates by competent judges allow four million bags as a maximum for next crop; so that, unless exchange rise in the interim and stimulate imports and up-traffic, the look out of the São Paulo Railway for next year is not overcheering, and there seems every probability of its having to draw before long on the recently created reserve.

As regards the Mogyana dispute the Chairman states that though that Company furnishes about 20 % of the traffic, the loss to the São Paulo Ry. will not probably exceed 12 %, as little of the up-triffic would be deviated, and that such a loss could, in view of the rapidly increasing traffic, be viewed with equanimity. In this we are entirely at one with him. But, how would the Company stand were the Paulista and Mogyana to amalgamate and carry a joint line to Santos, as has been mooted? We much fear that the São Paulo shareholders are living in a but a fool's paradise, from which they may one day receive a rude awakening.

The Report of the Banco da Republica. During the past year this institution has undergone great modifications. The debt to the Treasury, which stood at 194,649:000\$510 was reduced to 94,670:149\$783 by transfer which stood at on account of its debt to Government of property and securities estimated at that amount.

The debentures of the Companhia Sorocabana and Lloyd Brazileiro were appraised for transfer at 25 olo less than their nominal value, any excess on that valuation will be credited to the Bank, and is excected to be not less than

5.000:000\$.

For the payment of the balance of 94,670:149\$783, due to the Treasury, the Bank is allowed 20 years without payment of interest and with a moderate sinking fund during the first ten years. During the five years' existence of the Bank, it has accumulated a reserve of 17,540;122\$000 and redeemed 1,140:000\$000 of the notes of the extinct Banco do Brazil. It is to be expected, therefore, that at the end of 20 years, the accumulation made in this manner will amply suffice for extinction of the debt to the Treasury.

"Debentures and Shares" accounts, which stood at 120,958:108\$ in 1895 has been reduced to 56,416:158\$.

"Securities in Liquidation" were also reduced from 36.071:518\$ to 13,553:857\$, whilst Guaranteed Accounts fell from 314,921:650\$ to 140,897:441\$.

In accordance with the agreement between the Bank and Government, capital has been reduced from 125,721:600\$ the realized capital in 1895, to 113,621:000\$ and will shortly

be still further reduced to 110,000:000\$.

The business of the Bank appears, in spite of all difficulties with which it has had to struggle, to be always on the increase. During the year new account current to the amount of 23,882,865\$100 have been opened.

In regard to exchange, we recommend the following

pertinent remarks to our readers :

"During the year 1897 exchange continued to fall and oscillated between 10 5/16 and 7 7/8d., the lowest rate that it has yet reached. In 1897, the highest rate was 8 31/32, and the lowest 6 7/8. In 1898, consequently, the pound sterling cost 4\$433 more. Many causes have combined to produce this situation; principally, in our opinion, the fall in the price of coffee, the representative of our public wealth; and secondly political disturbances so destructive of confidence. We should also mention speculation in coffee abroad and in exchange here, both for the fall, and both taking every possible advantage of the elements that favoured and assisted it. We have no words strong enough to stigmatize speculation in exchange, so injurious to the public weal. The total of exchange operations in 1897 was £ 10,830,364, of which the Bank sold bills to the amount of £ 4,178,499 and purchased £ 6,651,865. Profits from this source were insignificant and were not even passed to the account of Profit and Loss, it being judged prudent to leave them to the Credit of exchange operations

Operations in exchange were always considered by this Bank more or less as risky, and day by day become more so, especially to this Bank, whose mission is to attempt to raise by all means in its power, and not to depreciate the circulating medium of the country.

THE MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF PARÁ.

The second message of Dr. Paes de Andrade to the State Congress brings into high contrast the respective prosperity of this opulent State with the embarrassments and poverty of the Union. That the States should be almost all well-to-do, and some rolling in riches, whilst the Union Government cannot make ends meet, appears an anomaly difficult to reconcile with our idea of the fitness of things. But, as we pointed out in a previous number, the Central Government has brought its difficulties on itself for the most part, and has no right or claim to expect assistance or even

sympathy from the States.

If, however, in one sense the States have benefited by the fall of exchange enhancing the nominal value of their exports from which revenue is mostly obtained, whilst expenditure has increased in a far less ratio, on the other hand the continuous depreciation of the currency, which is the real secret of the Union's difficulties, exercises so pernicious an effect on private fortunes and accumulations, and in factm local values of every description, that a revolt against so destructive a system was ultimately inevitable in spite ofits apparent advantages to the different State Treasuries. It was also to be expected that the States that suffer most, are almost exclusively creditors and not debtors to the otherStates of the Union, and that they should be the first to show signs of discontent; which, unless some measure of relief is offered shortly, must give rise to independent movements for the reform of the monetary system or end in its total repudiation.

In relation to this subject, the message states: "In my last year's message I already referred to the powerful assistance that the universal reserves contribute to countries enjoying a metallic currency, stating that the same advantages would accrue to Brazil, also, the day when she resolutely undertook the elimination of paper money from her economy, the very contact of which alarms sound money and expels it from circulation. Unfortunately the measures that have been attempted in this sense have not been characterized by sufficient resolution to inflexibly combat this the worst enemy of the Country's and Republic's honor and welfare.

"A mortal, but not intemperate, blow is what is wanted, that will destroy the abnormal situation in which the National vitality is impoverished by the virus that day by day contaminates it more and more. To-day it is the Union that, overcome by ever growing embarrassments, struggles on painfully increasing taxation in the vain attempt to maintain the equilibrium of revenue that the fall of exchange destroys again in turn, and the States with relatively pros-perous finances and high-priced production, such as Pará, that, victims of the deplorable circulating medium imposed by the Union, are unable to offer to Capital the indispensable se-curty and guarantee; and to-morrow it will be the Union and States together, all impoverished, that will appeal in vain to radical and healthy methods that they did not know

how to apply in time.

"Such is the perspective that threatens now. To spare it, is evidently the first duty of the country that should put the question of its monetary system above all others, and resolve it without further delay or procrastination.

"The Minister of Finance in his report for last year states that the amount of paper money in circulation slightly exceeds 700,000 contos, for which the Treasury is now alone responsible. To consolidate, I will not say all, but a great part of this floating debt by means of local resources, would, in my judgment, constitute an equitable operation advantageous to all. The bearers of treasury notes with a depreciation today of more than 350 %, and threatened with a depreciation still greater, would not hesitate to exchange them for securities emitted especially for this object, even if the rate of interest guaranteed were considerably less than that actually paid for other bonds.

"This would be a forced loan? To this must be objected that paper money is itself a forced loan, an abuse of authority that the Republic is bound to repair, and such a measure will guard both public and private fortune against

new and inevitable injury otherwise.

It may be objected again that such a proposal would create a run on the banks to withdraw deposits and exchange for bonds? But against such a danger it is easy to guard by the exercise of prudence and method in its application, and by the subsequent and gradual valorisation that will convert the balance in circulation into a useful and adequate medium of exchange, not only by the means I have indicated, but by a simultaneous foreign loan to be effected with the assistance of the States. This double sacrifice would allow the Union to rehabilitate its finances and the country to develope its resources, so terribly depressed at present in consequence of the depreciation of the currency and rate of exchange

"The Provincial law No. 1384 of 1st October 1889, for example, fixed the revenue of the State at 3,149:000\$ of 27d. per mil reis, whilst that of 1897 calculates it at 15,000:000\$ of the value of 7 pence per mil reis, maximum! Comparing these figures, and bearing in mind the relative real value of their units, but a poor idea will be gathered of the progress of the State of Para in these nine years, in spite of its ever

increasing production and development!
"In 1889 the Provincial revenue reached £ 354,262 and in 1897 only £ 83,238, or less than 750:000\$ at 27d. compared with 3,149:000\$ in 1889!

" As with the State, so also every individual is a victim sacrificed to the voracity of Exchange and its continuous depreciation. Such a situation, in which the difficulties of the Federal Treasury maintain the States' and general interests in constant disorder, should not and cannot continue.

When the Constitution of 24th February, the basis of our federal organisation, guaranteed to the Union the exclusive right of legislation in regard to banks of emission, the end it had in view was to create a fundamental point to which all national interests might converge, and restrain in this manner any tendency towards weakening the federal bond, had such prerogative been abandoned to the different But, what the Constituent Assembly never dreamed of was this usurpation of attribute constituted by emissions of inconvertible paper money; and even less the unhappy and inextricable situation in which the States daily find themselves more and more involved. This is conclusively proved by the fact that this perfidious medium does not conduce to convergence of general interests at all, but, on the contrary, provokes a dissolving and disintegrating influence; not binding together spontaneously the constituent elements of the Federation, but rendering existence in common unbearable. and threatening them with absolute ruin!

"Let the Federal authorities listen to our petition and demand of us the assistance we will not deny, but let them free us, too, from this crushing burden of inconvertible paper money before we too are ruined! But until this happens, and the Union benefit the Nation by banishing this nightmare that torments it; until it can fulfil the constitutional precept that the attribute of exclusive legislation in banking matters conferred under the supposition of convertibility involves; until all this come to pass, it is necessary, as I said in February last, that the States, in spite of paper money, should do all they can to make the actual conditions less precarious and more attractive for capital than they at present can be.

"It was in obedience to that design that I had the honor of pointing out to your judgment last year the convenience of estimating the expenditure and revenue of the State on a gold basis, although the necessity of paying and receiving in paper at current exchange continue to persist; a necessity that will, however, be possibly eliminated by the localisation of a sufficient stock of gold that our own resources are sufficient to supply for the necessities of local exchanges.

"Admitting the possibility and convenience for commerce in combining all its transactions on a gold basis, it is easy to comprehend that it must be equally possible and convenient to the State to found its estimates, on the firm basis of our exports valued in gold.

"It is urgent for us to extricate ourselves from the present equivocal situation in which the most regular and correct operations are transformed into a disastrous hazard. And this is possible once the Public, Congress, and Government, all comprehend aright their own interests, initiating the former the régime of specie payments, the latter its estimates in gold. etc.

"It may be objected that paper money will expel metallic currency and take its place; and certainly this would be the case unless an agreement were arrived at in the interests of the States precisely to resist any further perturbation from

this cause.

"It is a fact that we should be unable to banish paper money entirely from our economy, but the rôle reserved for it would be but secondary. The Argentine Republic is setting us an example how to regulate internal commercial transactions on a gold base, the use of paper money in contracts being more and more advanced every day; whilst we have sen Rio Grande, after a disastrous civil war, and with inconvertible currency in full force maintain a gold stock by the force of will of its laborious and sensible population. It may be still objected that should all the States adopt such a policy, paper money must depreciate more and more until it lose all value whatever, and be abandoned altogether as an agent of exchange. On the contrary, the formation of a stock of gold in the country would exercise a valorizing effect on paper currency, as was observed during the last few years of the Empire.

"Moreover, it is indispensable that the States combine to uses the Union, cooperating with it to elevate the value of the medium in which their own and the Union's revenues are collected, so reduced to day, not on account of any organic defect of the Federation itself, but simply by the fatal depreciation of its inconvertible money, an abuse that existed

before the Republic was created.

The revenue of the State for the past year reached 15.101:797\$, being 2,000:000\$, more than estimated! In spite of this and of having received 801:955\$ carried forward from last year, the necessity of concluding the construction of the water works, and the liquidation of the debt incurred for their expropriation, in addition to the large sums expended in the establishment of colonial neces; resulted in resources being this year insufficient to satisfy the necessities of the Treasury. The deficit was covered by two loans for 1,000 and 1,500 conces respectively.

Revenue for the current year up to the end of December amounted to 11.191:000\$, and at the end of March had risen to 16,137:000\$, the balance of each in hand being then 3.840:000\$. If, therefore, during the last quarter, revenue continue on the same scale, it will reach 20,300:000\$, and leave a large supe av't applicable to public works of an urgent

nature.

The message of the Governor of Para is important and interesting, not only on account of the acudemic interest of the problem he proposes as to the possibility of co-existence of two distinct currencies or circulating media in the same locality; but, because it is the first voluntary effort on the part of the States towards a solution of the financial problem that, as Dr. Paes Andrade says, is surely sapping the vitality of the country, and even threatening its corporate

existence.

Let those that so lightly appreciate the value of National credit that they are willing to sacrifice it at the first difficulty on the altar of selfish convenience, read well between the lines of this important message, dissect similar exhortations to Rio Grande, São Paulo, and other Legislatures during the last year or so and they will find all antinated by the same sentiment of regret and complaint as to credit injured and progress paralized, that, increasing in volume year by year, passes from regret to complaint, and thence to protest, and must end in action finally, unless the Union Government take heed in time and listen to the warning voices.

The problem to be resolved is, however, far more complex than the Governor of Para imagines. Brazil is so vast that the interests of one section are often absolutely opposed to those of another; and a measure that might conciliate one,

would, perhaps, offend the other. The existence even of a depreciated currency may have its advantages for some parts of the country, whilst in others it can only be the source of loss and damage. The Central issuing district, the Capital, it is scarcely venturing too much to say, has lost nothing at all, but gained largely by the issue of paper money absorbed in immense quantities by the Provinces. It has succeeded in getting rid of successive emissions, for all of which it has received its quid pro quo at the time in full value. By the successive emissions it has then depreciated its own medium of exchange, whilst remaining with the objects already exchanged for it, so that the greater the emission and consequent depreciation, the greater the profit must have been. There has been, therefore, a positive incentive to multiply emissions so long as they could be absorbed by the Provinces, which finally paid the piper. But now that the Provinces themselves are beginning to understand the innocent rôle they have been so long enacting, we may expect to see a full stop put to any further emissions for the future, every one of which, if, indeed, it depreciated still further local values of all kind, yet always left some profit or advantage to the issuing authority. If we trace for a moment the consequences of a new emission in regard, say, to Pará, the reason why the Centre suffers so comparatively little becomes easily comprehensible, and how it benefits at the expense of Supposing with the exchange at 20d. a new its members. emission is made, in consequence of which exchange gradually falls to 14d. during which time Rio has been busily engaged in buying all the exchange it could in the Para market at prices ranging from 20 to 14d., say, at an average of 17d. Pará owes little money to Rio, and consequently must retain a greater part of the paper money thus received, so that at a greater part of the paper money thus received, so that at the end of the assumed period, it will find that its money has been depreciated $30 \, {}^{\circ}/_{0}$ in value, whilst the value received by Rio in exchange has been fully maintained and must represent always $85 \, {}^{\circ}/_{0}$ of its original nominal value, having undergone a depreciation of only $15 \, {}^{\circ}/_{0}$, whilst that in Para is $30 \, {}^{\circ}/_{0}$. This is clear. All the money sent to Para for purchase of exchange is liable to depreciation as exchange falls, whilst the bills of exchange representing gold or foreign commodities, which have been representing gold or foreign commodities, which have been purchased with them, do no depreciate at all, but maintain their full value, howsoever often they may change hands In fact the position of Rio towards Pará is precisely that of. a bear operator in exchange, that for years has been buying all he can lay hands on, realizing always at a profit and to the prejudice of the seller. Consequently, Rio grows rich and Para keep; poor in spite of its enormous produ-

If Pará were heavily indebted to Rio, this could not occur, because it would at one exchange its paper for commodities again and thus get always its right quid p o quô, or nearly so, in exchange, as occurs with São Paulo and Minas. But Pará and Amazonas do not buy largely from Rio, and only remit money here in payment of federal taxes, for investment, or for the small purchases it requires to make. Consequently an ever increasing surplus must be accumulating in Pará that accounts to a large degree for the tightness of money in these markets, in spite of the enormous emission of 800,000:000\$.

For eight years Rio has been steadily buying exchange at Pará with depreciating paper, little of which returns: the accumulation must be eno mo and represent to Pará a dead loss of very many thousand contos of reis, and a nearly equivalent gain to Rio, excepting such part as has been taken for Government purposes. But what happens in Pará is not the case with all the other Provinces. In some, for example, where the conditions are reversed, and which, in lieu of being creditors, are heavy debtors to the Central States, such for example as Rio Grande do Sul, the depreciation of the currency has been a distinct advantage, enabling them to liquidate their debts at an ever increasing profit.

Rio Grande, in fact, is the antithesis of Pará; a buyer of

Rio Grande, in fact, is the antithesis of Para; a buyer of Rio exchange instead of a seller of its own to Rio; and not only a buyer, but a buyer with resources largely furnished by Rio itself to satisfy the balance of National expenditure in that State, always in excess of the revenue derived from

federal taxation.

Consequently Rio Grande, tho' only very moderately productive, grows rich, just as the consistent bear of exchange must do, on the depreciation of the currency.

Other States such as São Paulo, where the exchanges are not confined to representatives of values, but include values themselves, there is not much profit or loss to either, tho'

probably Rio gains even then in the long run.

Indistinctly, the effect of the depreciation of the currency on public wealth is gradually coming to be understood and appreciated in each case; but to expect unity of action when interests are so widely divergent seems to us too optimistic to be easily realized.

The depreciation of the currency is distinctly advantageous to Rio Grande, Parana and other Provinces, that sell and buy commodities largely in Rio, and buy but do not sell exchange; whilst it is distinctly pernicious to those that like Para are but poor customers of the centre. Still, it is unlikely now that comprehension has begun to dawn on the productive districts of the Union that they are the only losers by this financial carnival, that it can continue indefinitely; and the protest of the Government of Para is the first warning note to show that a change has become inevitable if unity of interests is to be preserved.

That Pará should protest at last against the continuous impoverishment it has suffered so long and uncomplainingly, is not to be wondered at, but rather the form that the protest has taken in a message to a local Legislature that reads somewhat as a menace or warning to the Centre to mend its ways. Proposals of reform, too, however efficacious and well meant, seem out of place when addressed to a Provincial Legislature, and to assume the appearance of a manifest.

No doubt Pará has suffered and is suffering. But we doubt that the measures proposed by the Government would do anything except make confusion worse confounded. There are instances, of course, of a double standard being successfully maintained side by side without artificial restrictions of any kind. But they are the effect always of special circumstances that are wanting in this instance. In California, for example, gold has always been current even whilst the paper of the Union was most depreciated; but that was possible only because California was itself the producer of the gold and exported only the excess that remained after satisfying its own necessities, as is the case with all products be they what they may. Currency in California was requisite only to pay taxes to the State, a sufficient quantity for such expenses being maintained in circulation. As a legal tender it could not be refused, but its limited quantity and the inconvenience of its employment as a medium of ordinary exchanges practically excluded it from the common daily transactions of sale and purchase that were carried on entirely in gold or in paper with due allowance for depreciation. We doubt it. Could such a duality be maintained in Pará? No doubt if exporters refused to sell their bills, gold might be imported and a stock formed. But why should they? So long as not only the rubber exported, but taxes of all kind are payable in paper, there must be a real advantage to exporters in selling their bills to the greatest advantage, that is at the lowest possible rate of exchange to be obtained, investing the proceeds in rubber again and preserving their capital always at its full or at an increasing value, the loss, whatever it may be, falling on the producer. To appeal to exporters, therefore, seems hopeless; whilst producers, being for the most part ignorant and habituated to the use of paper money, are not likely to favor any plan that would reduce even the apparent value of their earnings. Besides the agencies of exchange are so numerous before the real producer is reached, every other intermediate having a real interest in preserving the use of the depreciated currency, that it is hopeless to expect to reach him, or that if reached, to impress upon him that he is really the only ultimate loser in the transaction. Until, therefore, the Government of Pará can make it worth while to exporters to adopt its gold standard, we fail to see how it can be generalized. Even were State taxes made payable in gold, which would be unconstitutional as things stand, it is probable that it would only be employed for that purpose, ordinary transactions being still carried out in paper; the reverse of what occurred in California.

In order to bring about such a reform, it must be made worth while to people to adopt it, and that is precisely what the Para Government, hampered with restrictions, cannot do.

The proposal to convert the paper money into securities is still more impracticable. Instead of a run on the banks to obtain money to convert, we imagine, such an enormous addition to the funded debt of a country not excessively prosperous would produce a distinctly opposite result, a rush to sell Government securities at any price. There are, of course, no means of estimating in what quantities paper money is held on an average, but it may be safely concluded that very few who do not absolutely require to make use of it, preserve their savings in the form of actual money in preference to investing in some shape or other.

There are, of course, many who hoard, but these would not be attracted by offers of bonds in exchange, whilst the greater part of the deposits held by the banks in the large towns are of a commercial character, or only awaiting a favorable opportunity for remitting to Europe and would certainly not be attracted by such an offer. If such a voluntary conversion were praticable there is no reason why it should not be done in the shape of a loan, and the fact that any such operation is at present impossible is the best proof that the whole scheme would be a failure.

To make it obligatory is likewise impracticable. To do so in toto, it would be necessary to provide first some other medium of exchange, or our whole economy would be deranged and commerce paralyzed; whilst the demonetisation of paper without previously creating a market for the immense quantity of securities that would be offering, must be the ruin of every one whose capital consists of paper money or debts dischargeable in that medium. To immobilize the whole circulating capital of a Nation would, of all the wild schemes that have been projected, bethe worst and wildest!

To make partial conversion obligatory would tax still more the ingenuity of the legislator. In fact, the scheme is impossible whatever way it is regarded, and would result in bankruptcy within a month.

The internal debt of Brazil amounts to 1,274:065\$ in 1895, of which about 200,000 contos in gold besides 354,000 contos of foreign debt. At present the interest demands about 27,000 contos for the gold debt and 53,000 for the currency debt, or about £4,500,000 at present exchange for both. Estimating our exports at 30,000,000\$, this represents nearly 14% at par. With a gold currency the annual interest would be raised to £9,000,000, and with another £3,000,000 interest on the paper money converted the total amount annually payable on account of interest would amount to £12,000,000, or 40 % of the value of exports!! How is such a sum to be raised? Certainly no taxation could contribute it, and six months after such a measure were decreed, another must follow suspending payments!

The country can scarcely pay its way as it is. Increase its indebtedness and it becomes straightway bankrupt.

All attempts to remedy the situation by artificial means will fail because the country is already loaded with debt to the utmost point that it can bear, and, in fact, far more than it can it can bear under the present circumstances of low prices of coffee and consequent small earnings. To increase its potentiality for taxation, production must be fomented or its value raised, and until the country can produce enough to not only satisfy its necessities in regard to foreign commodities, but also for fixed foreign payments and private remittances of all kinds, it is idle to talk of increasing our debt, as of thinking of retaining gold when the balance of payments is against us. To simply decree a gold basis will not restore economical equilibrium; and without it all the projects are so much time and labour thrown away, whilst with it none are required, because in that case exchange would take care of itself, and paper go to par again of its own accord.

By gradually reducing the volume of the currency, no doubt Government can assist in the valorisation of the balance. But this object will not be attained by converting a non-interest bearing debt of low value into an interest bearing one of higher value without any previous attempt to proportionate the resources of the country to the burden.

Just as Pará is so prosperous because her production exceeds largely in value her external necessities and allows of large accumulations; so, inversely, the country at large is improverished because its production is insufficient to satisfy its foreign engagements and leaves a permanent deficit, that reacting on the currency depreciates it continuously. Even had we no paper money at all under similar circumstances we should still be poor, because having more to pay than what we receive we must either produce more or stop paying part of what we owe. That is the predicament in which we find ourselves, and of which no amount of projects will extricate us until we balance our foreign payments by one method or the other.

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Money and Share Market.

QUOTATIONS DURING THE WEEK, ENDING FRIDAY

MAY 13th, 1898, WERE AS FOLLOWS:

•	Maximum and Minimum Bank Counter Brawing Rates				OFFICIAL RATES											
May	90 d/s 3 d/s			/s	Sight 30 D/S				SIGHT							
	Lon- don	Paris	Ham- burg	Italy	Por- turni	New- York	Lon-	пор	Paris	Hum. burg	Lon-	don	Paris	Bum- burg	ltaly	New York
							Γ				l					
7th	5 5/8 5 11/16	1.677 1.696	2.068 2.094	1.620 1.660	640 665	8.789 8.989	5 2 	21/32	1.677	2.070	5	43/64	1.651	2.076	1.622	8.716
9th	5 11/16 5 3/4	1.659 1.678	2,046 2,075	1.605 1.650	640 667	8.740 8.910	5 2	23/32	1.668	2.059	5	45 /64	1.662	2.064	1.613	8,668
10th	5 11/16 5 3/4	1.660 1.678	2.053 2.065	1.620 1.648	640 665	8.789 8.883	5 2	23/32	1.668	2.059	5	45/64	1.662	2.064 	1,613	8.668
11th	5 11/16 5 3/4	1.659 1.677	2.046 2.071	1,605 1,629	640 667	8.692 8.883	5 9	23 32	1.668	2.059 	5	45/64	1.662	2,064	1.613	8.668
12th	ъ 11/16	1.677 1.678	2,068 2.075	1.620 1.650	640 667	8.789 8.910	5 2	23/32	1.668	 2.059 	5	45/64	1.662	2.064	1.613 	8.668
13th	Holi- day			ļ					.						ļ	
	-	l	I				 		!	·	.		\ 		¦	
Ave-	5 45/84	1.674	2.060	1.635	651	8.837	5	45 64	1,669	2.061	5	45/84	1.662	2.066	1.615	8.677

42\$548 1\$691 £. sterling..... 18700 28099 Franc 28087 88764

done at one time at 5 13[16, but towards the close sellers found money at 5 25[32].

Tuesday 10th. The River Plate continued drawing at 5 3[4, but the other banks only posted 5 11[16, giving, however, at better rates. Little business was done most, of the money going to the "River Plate".

Wednesday 11th. All Banks drawing at 5 3[4: Bills at 5 25[32. Thursday 12th. Opened at 5 23[32, weakened to 5 11[16. Commercial paper 5 23[32. Friday 13th. Holiday

Saturday 14th. The "London and Brazilian" opened at 5 21[32, the "River Plate" at 5 11[16 and "Brazilianische" and "Française" at 5 5[8, thelatter rate ruling, with Banks drawing at 5 5[8 to 5 21[32, with moneyin the Banks at 5 11[16, and bills at the same figure. Outside bills were done at 5 21[32, option of taker for all May.

Up to the hour of going to press we have not received our weekly telegram from our Pará Correspondent.

Exchange opened on Monday at 5 11/16 d. and closed on Saturday at 5 5/8 to 5 21/32, with money in the Banks at 5 11/16, and bills offering at the same rate, and at 5 21/32 for all May at option of taker. The rate, therefore, has fairly maintained in spite of the scarcity of coffee bills both here and at Santos, declared sales being only 86,000, sufficient to furnish about £133,000 in exchange.

There is no doubt that the comparative firmess of the market is due to the action of the banks in checking speculation at this critical period for the market.

period for the market.

£1,010,009

Speculation, though scotched, is not dead, but only sleeping; and in spite of all the difficulties placed in the way, still finds means of operating through private houses that reap all the advantages of so artificial- a situation. It is not to be expected that the arrangement will be indefinitely prorogued; the Banks are certain to gat tired of seeing their business absorbed by outsiders, and to continue on the old lines. If, however, they will carry the market over the next month, there are hopes that the new coffee and rubber crops will furnish resources sufficient to maintain the rate after that without any extraneous assistance, if only Government can refrain from taking. The necessities of the Government for June and July are as follows:

June
1883 loan, amortisation......
Legations and Consulates, more or less. £ 54,662 July loan, interest and amortisation; and interest on 1879 and 1889 foreign loan. 1895 £275,347 500,000£785,347 10,000 £830,009 180,000

Total requirements for June and July.

There have been reports current that the Government is already in the market for the July coupon; but we have the direct authority of the Minister of Finance to deny the report absolutely, there being funds enough already on the other side. One thing is certain, that any attempt to enter the market for such a sum at the present juncture must be fatal to the rate!

The sale of the Methoramentos port property is confirmed by a telegram from the Correspondent of the Jornal do Commercio, to a Company registered in London under the name of the Anglo Brazilian Docks Company, Limited. The purchasers are said to have bought the property for £830,000 payable part in cash in 6 months time and part in shares, the buyers depositing £10,000 by the end of the current month in guarantee. No further confirmation has been as yet received that the business has been closed, though it is believed that it is in a fair way to be so. Methoramentos shares have been a good deal dealt in, but at rather lower prices than last week. Nothing further has been heard of the Carris and S. Christovão deals. Another deal is said to be on the tapis in regard to the Jardim Botanico tramway. is said to be on the tapis in regard to the Jardim Botanico tramway.

BUSINESS DONE ON THE RIO DE JANEIRO STOCK EXCHANGE DURING WEEK ENDING MAY 19th, 1898.

		4,24 x 5,272 g	MILITARY BY	N. 18 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	<u> 18 a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a </u>	1 .15
					CLO	SING
		Sales	Highest	Lowest	This	Last
			-		Week	week
	STOCKS AND BONDS.	ا ۔۔۔۔		01000-0	Danhara	01 (0000
	Apolices Geraes 50/0 Currency. ditto "Miudas	271	8218000	8108000	820\$000	8148000
	ditto " Miudas	- 18	8008000	780\$000	780\$000	810\$000
	ditto 4 % Gold	146	9888000	9608000	9808000	960\$000
	ditto ditto Miudas		000000			0.000000
	Ditto 1868National Gold 6 % loan	5	2:2008000	2:2003000	2:200\$000	2:200\$000
	Ditto 1895 National 5 % Currency		2.2004.00	2000	wn03555	-ntanco
	loan	163	800\$000	790\$000	7908000	795\$000
	Ditto 1895 National to bearer	72	8208000	8108000	820\$000	8108000
	Ditto 1897 National 6 % Currency		οευφυνο			1.5
	loan	2	880\$000	880\$000	880\$000	
	loan					
			1200000	1492000	1508000	149\$000
	Ditto ditto to Order	38	1508000	155\$000	1558000	_
	BANKS	1	155\$000			
	Donablina	905	1100000	1438000	144\$000	143\$000
	Republica Nacional Commercio, fully paid Iniciador	1	146\$500	:		
٠,	Commercia fully naid	5	noracce	205\$000	2052000	208\$000
	Iniciador	73	2053000	48500	4\$500	
		30	48500	9\$000	98000	. —
	DATE WATER AND TO A MINAYS		9\$000	1		L
	Sapucahy Leopoldina Sorocabana Minas de São Jeronymo.	100		3\$500	38500	33250
	Luonolding	7100	38500	8\$000	8\$000	6\$500
	Caron bana	200	88000	428000	428000	. —
	Mines de Cae Terenymo	2,720	428000	48000	48000	
	S. Christovão tramway	91	48250	165\$000	165\$000	165\$000
والأو	INSURANCE COMPANIES		1652500	1000000		to the state of the state of
-8	Confiner	21		408000	403000	403000
'n.	Confluiça		408000	100000		
Ġ	Alliança	200		190\$000	190\$000	195\$000
13	Miscellaneoues Melhoramentos no Brazil de S. Paulo		190\$000	1000000		
70	Melhorementes no Brazil	7.764		238000	288000	248000
-6	de S. Paulo.	40	268000	858000	25\$000	-
	Loterias Nacionaes	150	359000	408000	40\$000	
	Debentures		408000	100111		'
	Leopoldina R'y (2003) Ditto (1003)	466	1003000	908000	1088000	928000
¥2,	Ditto (100\$)	550	1088000	98500	98500	9\$250
	Ituana and Sorocaban. R'y	1 66	98500	548000	548000	538000
	Jornal do Commercio	190	548000	1588000	158\$000	158\$000
1	Conflança Industrial (Seguros)	30	1589000	1948000	194\$000	
1::	Banco de Credito Movel	136	1948000	308000	308000	
١.,	MORTGAGE BONDS	1 1	308000	5005000		
	MORTGAGE BONDS Banco Hypothecario	240	OF OF OF	958000	95\$000	·
	" Predial	88	958000	20\$000	20\$000	
n,	Solae by Tudicial arder (ulvará)		208000			
	Internal 1895 five percents.	. 4	MUDBUUN			
	Shares Banco do Commercio,		798\$000			
a,	40 % paid	50	000000			
	Shares Banco Lavoura e Com-		803000			
1	mercio fully paid	25	018000			
	Shares Banco Lavoura e Com-		81\$000			
	mercio 50 % paid	110	400000			
	mercio 50 % paid Shares Bauco Rio de Janeiro	. 5	409000			
		18 $\frac{95}{100}$	58500			
	" Leopoldina R'y	100	68300			4.5 -
14		50	, ,			
	" Insurance Co. "Alliança" " Argos Fluminense	5	28000			
	" Forjas e Estaleiros	500	3478000	11	l . 1	İ
	" Hippodromo Nacional	6	0.8600	,	31,000,000,000	
	". Norte Mineirs, 40% paid	100			212, 1129,15	
Ŋ.	Norte Mineracio Dia-		38200	1.0		
	". Cia. Mineração Dia- mantes, (500\$)	4			l.	100000
	mantes, (buo)	10	158000			11.
	Debentures Leopoldina R'y (2003)	24	86\$000	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	135 132	- 48 H
	ditto ditto (1005)	$2\frac{57}{100}$	00000	ingiiii	व की ऋद्वीत	學程度經濟
			1 (25/4/16/16)	1 .	1	,

(20£)....

836₀

Geral

The declared movement of the week on the Rio Stock Exchange was Rs. 1,455:5328. distributed as follows:

Government Securities	823:579 \$
Bank Shares	132:848 \$
Railway	91:370\$
Insurance	840 \$
Cotton Mills	
Miscellaneous	
Debentures	
Mortgage Bonds	24:560\$
Judicial Sales (Alvará)	32:004\$
<i>b</i> • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

The movement was less than last week, in spite of the speculation going on in *Melhoramentos*, of which 7.764 were disposed of at prices slightly lower than last week, ranging between 233 and 265 and closing at 235 against 243 last week.

In Leopoldina shares and debentures, too, there was a little more animation prior to the conversion, which commences on Monday shares closing at \$\$000, a rise of 1\$500 since last week, and 200\$ debentures at 10\$\$ against 92\$ last week, and 100\$ at 9\$500 against 92\$50. Government securities show little alteration since last week, prices being fairly maintained; the movement, however, is insignificant.

The movement on the São Paulo Stock Exchange for the week ending May the 13th, was as follows:

Mortgage Bonds, Banco Credito Real		
de São Paulo	868 shares a	t 66\$ to 67\$000
do. do. Banco União	143 shares a	it 71\$ to 73\$000
Shares of the Banco Commercio e In-		
dustria	50	at 290\$000
do, do, Banco Credito Real de		
São Paulo (c/ hyp.)		
20 % paid	42 1/2	@ 130 \$ 000
do. do Banco União de São		•
Paulo, 70\$ paid	837	@ 30 \$ 500
do. do. Banco Lavradores	4	ക്ക് 100\$000
do. do. Paulista Railway Co	317 a	t 250\$ to 251\$000
do. do. Mogyana Railway	160	at 238\$000
do. do. do. 40 % paid	72	@ 111\$000

The total movement was only 283:635\$ and it is scarcely worth chroniciling. There is little change in prices, Mogyana and Paulista shares being a little firmer.

The London Stock Exchange Quotations. The all round slump that occurred on the declaration of war could not fail to affect Brazilians as well as other securities. 1870 4 per-cents suffered most severely, 8 points; 1895 five-per-cents and Western Minas fell 3; 1889 four-per-cents 2 1/2; 1883 and 1888 four-and-a-half-per-cents 2 points; there being no alteration in São Paulo and City of Rio 4 per-cents. Amongst Railway securities there was very little alteration. Alagoas 6 % Debentures suffered most, fulling 4 points to 79—83, and the So. Brazilian, Rio Grande do Sul, 6 % debentures, D. Thereza Christina 5 1/2 per-cent debentures, and Minas & Rio 6 % debentures, which all lost 2 points more. Brazil Great Southern. Minas and Rio, and São Paulo Ry, shares lost 1/2 point each, and D. Thereza Christina 7 % preference 1/4; Rio Claro 5 % debentures stock likewise lost a point, falling to 124—126.

Bank Shares. British Bank were weak at 9 1/2 to 10, and both London & Brazilian and London & River-Plate gave way 1/2 point.

London & Brazilian and London & River-Plate gave way 1/2 point.

Miscellaneous. The only alterations were in Rio Janeiro Flour
Mills which lost 1/2 point; Western Brazilian, L. and preferred shares,
which fell 1/4; and Royal Mail Stock which rose 1 point, to 53—55.

Latest quotations from London received by the Banco da Republica from Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons continued to show considerable improvement in Brazilian securities.

	12th May	9th May	25th April
1879, 4 1/2 0/0	56	51	48
1888, 4 1/2 %		44	43 ′
1889, 4 %	46	42 1/2	43 1/2
1895. 5 °/ ₀	52	48	47

The Bank of England rate for the same date was unaltered at 4 %, the open market rate 3 3/4 %, and checks on Paris 25.35.

The Gazeta Commercial e Financeira states that the Electric Lighting Company's plant and properties have been expropriated by the State of Amazonas, the Company receiving 4,000 contos as compensation. It is said that not long ago the whole thing was as compensation. It is said that not long ago the whole thing was offered for 1,200 contos! Some one is in luck!

The assets of the Cia. de Tecidos de S. Lazaro (Cotton Mill) were finally sold by auction on the 10th instant for the sum of 3,800 contos, being bought in by the principal creditor, the Banco da Republica.

OCIETE' GENERALE DE TRANSPORTS MARITIMES A VAPEUR DE MARSEILLES.

Agents Karl Va als & Co. Rua 15 de Novembro, 17. P. O. Box Santos.

TOTAL O RETREET A	Official Broker.
ESTEVÃO ESTRELLA	34, RUA 15 DE NOVEMBRO
São Paulo.	Р. О. ВОХ 182.
LEONIDAS MOREIRA	Official Broker. Office: Rua do Commercio, 50. Residence:
São Paulo.	Rua Conselheiro Furtado 2. P. O. BOX, 174.
FRITZ VON OERTZEN	Exchange Broker. Associação Commercial, Sala Nº. 8.
São Paulo.	P. O. BOX 512.
HENRY WHITE	Official Broker. Praça do Commercio N. 3. 1st Floor
São Paulo.	P. O. BOX, 376.
M. KLEMPERER	Exchange Broker.
Sao Paulo.	Associação Commercial, P. O. BOX, 480.
ALFREDO VITALE VITALE & C.	Exchange Broker. Money Changers. L'ARGO DO THESOURO, 18. P. O. BOX, 286.
VITALE & GALLIAN São Paulo.	Produce Importers. Rua da Conceição, 92
FRANCISCO CARNEIRO	Official Broker.
sãoPaulo.	Travessa do Commercio, 12.
ELOY CERQUEIRA	Official Broker.
São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio, 50.
A NTONIO C. DA ROCHA	Official Broker. Rua do Commercio.
São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio.
	Rua do Commercio.
São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Praça do Commercio.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo. RAFFAELE BALLI	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo. RAFFAELE BALLI São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo. RAFFAELE BALLI São Paulo. ALBERTO BORBA	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio. Agente Commercial 3 A, Rua Boa Vista. Importer & Commission Agent.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo. RAFFAELE BALLI São Paulo. ALBERTO BORBA Sao Paulo. RAYMOND GIOVETTI	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio. Agente Commercial 3 A, Rua Boa Vista. Importer & Commission Agent. Rua da Quitanda, 1 A — 1st floor Telegrams "Giovetti"—S. Paulo
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo. RAFFAELE BALLI São Paulo. ALBERTO BORBA Sao Paulo. RAYMOND GIOVETTI São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio. Agente Commercial 3 A, Rua Boa Vista. Importer & Commission Agent. Rua da Quitanda, 1 A — 1st floor Telegrams "Giovetti"—S. Paulo P. O. Box, 426.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo. RAFFAELE BALLI São Paulo. ALBERTO BORBA Sao Paulo. RAYMOND GIOVETTI São Paulo. ADRIANO MOURA	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio. Agente Commercial 3 A, Rua Boa Vista. Importer & Commission Agent. Rua da Quitanda, 1 A — 1st floor Telegrams "Giovetti"—S. Paulo P. O. Box, 426.
São Paulo. CARLOS WOLFF São Paulo. MAX O. HÜBENER São Paulo. MAX KRUG São Paulo. RAFFAELE BALLI São Paulo. ALBERTO BORBA Sao Paulo. RAYMOND GIOVETTI São Paulo.	Rua do Commercio. Exchange Broker Associação Commercial P. O. Box 71 Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio. Exchange Broker. Praça do Commercio. Agente Commercial 3 A, Rua Boa Vista. Importer & Commission Agent. Rua da Quitanda, 1 A — 1st floor Telegrams "Giovetti"—S. Paulo P. O. Box, 426.

Coffee Market.

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a ^z	Average Daily Entries			Tot	tal Enti	ies	Total Entries for Crop		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	This Week	Last Year	
Rio	6.377 7.083	8.902 7.993	4.531 5.529		62.317 55.955		3.973.308 5.865.503		
Both	13.460	16.895	10.060	94.219	118.272	70.417	9.838.811	8.057.443	
Transit Coffee at	249	2.279		1.740	15.952		234.670		
Total for the Week	13.709	19.175		05,959	134,224		10.073.481		

The Coffee transhipped at Rio was of the following origin. Cabo Frio..... Macahé.....Santos.... 450 390 South..... Total...... 1,740 bags

Aggregate entries for Rio and Santos show a considerable falling off, compared with last week, but still maintain an excess of 33.7 %, compared with last year. The reduction of entries is principally at Rio, those of Santos being better maintained. Entries at Rio for the week are 140.7 % of the corresponding week last year, and those at Santos 128.1 % giving the estimate of 4,472,111 for the Rio crop and 6,205,248 for that of Santos, or a total of 10,677,359 bags against 10,678,652 last week. Estimates for the coming crop are most conflicting: some asserting positively that the crop will not exceed 6 to 6 1/2 million bags, whilst others are equally confident that it will reach 8 1/2 to 9 millions. All, however, seem to expect some reduction compared with the current year; and further than that, it seems impossible to go, the vastness and constant additions to the cultivated area making estimates extremely difficult.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF SHIPMENTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 13th, 1898.

			3911171.	21 (1 2322)	1 100.00, 1				
						TOTAL		TOTAL	FOR OP.
	U. States	Europe		British Coloni- es	Other Ports	This week	Same week last year	Rio & This week	Last year
Rio	43,066	2,556	4,281		600	50,503	67,101	4,048550	2.778948
Santos .	10,210	35,395				45,605	98,869	5,762606	4354,813
		. ,							
Total	53,276	37,951	4,281		600	96,108	165,970	9,811156	7,133761
Daily average	7,611	5.421	6,11		85	13,724	23,710	30,950	22,523

The aggregate shipments at Rio and Santos show another important reduction from an average of 19,544 per diem to only 13,724, and are in great contrast to the average of 39,495 only a fortnight ago. Of the total only 37,951 bags went to Europe, nearly all from Santos; 37,951 to the States; 4,281 to the Coast; and 600 to the Cape. Shipments for the crop now amount to 9,811,156 bags against 7,133,761 for the corresponding week last year; and the daily average for the crop to 30,950 against 22,523 last year.

Shipments from Victoria during the month of April were about nil, being confined to a single shipment per the Herschil for New York of 18,554 bags, of which 10,554 consigned by Pecher with Luigi & Co., and 8,000 by Hard, Rand & Co.

Local Stocks, which have been reduced only 1,889 bags during the week were as follows on Friday evening. May 13th:

May 13th—98 May 6th—98 May 13th

Rio		May 6th—98 146,820	May 13th -97 216,013
Santos		317,848	311,632
Both	452,779	464,668	527,645
Foreign stocks were	as follows on l May 7th—98	May 7th:	May 7th-97
United States Port	s 464.000	547,000	406,000 684,000
Havre	· ———	1,094,000	1 000 000
	1 750 000	1 041 000	

1,556,000 The reduction at New York and Havre for the week has, consequently, been insignificant, 85,000 bags only.

Coffee Shipments from Bahia for the month of April were as follows:

Bordeaux	310 bags
Buenos Aires	1,150 ''
Genoa	
Hamburg	
Havre	
Oporto	
Marseilles,	1.098 ''
New York	
	
	18,287

The Lamport & Holt s.s. Newton sailing on 7th May took the record cargo of 33,000 bags of coffee from Bahia, the largest ever shipped in one bottom.

COFFEE PRICE CURRENT FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 18th. 1898

Description	May.	7	9	10	11	12	13	Avera- ge
Rio No. 6 per 10 kilos	min. max.	10\$213 10 \$ 349	10\$213 10\$349	10\$649 10\$485	10\$533 10\$632	10\$622 10\$758		108480
" No. 7 " "	min.		98533 98668		9\$804 9\$804		Holiday	98763
" No. 8 " " {	min. max.	83987 93328		9\$124 9\$260	9#328 9#464		Hol	9\$273
" No. 9 " "	min. max.	8\$375 8 \$ 579			8\$715 8\$919			8\$688
Santos Superior per 10 kilos, Good Average		103600 9\$800	11\$000 9}800	10\$700 9\$900	10\$800 10\$000	10\$900 10\$100	! }	10 \$ 720 9 \$ 520
N York. per lb. Spot. No. 7		6 1/2 6 1/4 5.85 5.70 5.75	6 1/2 671/1 5.85 5.75 5.80			6 5/8 6 3/4 6.05 5.80 5.85		6.562 6.313 5.92 5.76 5.82
Havre, per 50 kilos. Options, May. July. Sept'r	100	36.00 36.25 36.75	86.25			36.76) 	36.33 36.55 37.05
Hamburg per 1/2 kilo.			İ	,				
Options May		29.75	29.77 30.00 30.27		30.50	30.7	5 	29.95 80.25 30.50

Reduced to their gold equivalents at the average rate of exchange of the week, the average price for No. 7 Rio comes out at 28039 gold per 10 kilos, and that of Santos good average at 18988, against 2\$172 and 2\$086 last week, a fall of 1.1 % for Rio and 4.7 % for Santos spot prices.

New York No. 7 spot price opened at 6 1/2 cents on the 7th, rising to 6 5/3 on 11th, at which rate it closed on Friday 13th, giving an average of 6.56 cents for the week against 6.87 last week a fall of 4.6 %.

New York No. 7 July options averaged 5.76 for the week against 5.81 last week; and at Hamburg 30.25 against the the same last week; and 36.55 at Havre against 36.16.

The Market is dead dull, and nothing doing here or at Santos,

The Market is dead dull, and nothing doing here or at Santos, declared sales during the week being more insignificant even than last week! 86,000 for both markets against a weekly average of nearly 137,000 for the last month of April and 205,000 for March.

The São Paulo Pauta was 8990 per kilo, and the average quotation of guias at Rio 71.2 o/o, making the average f. o. b. value at Rio 23233 gold and at Santos 23300 per 10 kilos. At these rates the value f. o. b. in these ports; of the coffee embarked amounted to 1,300,7303 gold or £147,010, compared with a weekly average of £302,105 from the commencement of the crop amounted on the '13th May to £16,297:465, of which £6,498:182 were sinpped by Rio and £9,790,238 by Santos.

From ourown Correspondent, Santos, May 12th, 1898.

Our market was almost featureless since we last wrote. Little or no encouragement came from consuming quarters, which on the contrary showed signs of weakness, and only to-day they picked up

again and even sent a few more orders at somewhat better limits.

Commissarios here were firm, and the little which was sold went off at about

108700—118000 for superior 108000—108500 for goods. The value of other qualities is nominal and so are cost and freight fations: onotations.

Peaberries were in fairly good demand, and Bourbons are still asked for from the States.

asked for from the States.

The decrease in the visible supply of the world of 24,000 tons was not considered sufficient to put prices up at the consuming markets, exet they cannot reckon upon a decline here, as there is no pressure to sell. It appears to us as if the fact that the fall in prices during the last two years was only brought about by Brazilians forcing their

supply on the market, is too much left out of sight now, and we canno believe in a further fall of cost and freight prices, provided exchange remain more or less at the present rate before new pressure is exercised, and this can only happen through large arrivals of new crop

The general opinion expressed here is that the harvest is later than usual during the last three years, and should rain set inin June, it will be still further delayed.

A very sudden and sharp fall of the temperature is to be observed since Sunday and frost has appeared. We were informed of the phenomenon, very rare at this time of the year, from Ribeirão Preto, São Carlos do Pinhal, and Jundiahy, but it must have been pretty general; fortunately, it had not rained before, so that not much visible damage is done. ble damage is done.

Financial Preparations for War.—Washington, April 2.—Preparations are already under way at the Treasury Department for recommending in Congress the necessary taxes and loans in case of a serious war. The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics has been called upon for a statement of articles subject to tariff duties during the civil war which are not now taxed, with the estimated duties which could war which are not now taxed, with the estimated duties which could now be raised at the rates then prevailing, and with a suggestion of such changes in existing duties as would increase the revenue. This list has not been completed, but will probably be laid before Secretary Gage within a day or two. There is serious talk of a duty of ten cents per pound upon tea and four cents per pound upon coffee. The importations of tea during the fiscal year 1897 were 112,407,548 pounds, and a duty of ten cents would yield a revenue of \$11.000.000. The imports of coffee were 724.559,530 pounds, and a duty of four cents per pound would afford a revenue of about \$29,000,000. Another article from which a revenue of a million dollars of two might be obtained is unground spices, of which 46,344,703 pounds, valued at \$2,576,816, were important source of revenue, which will probably be

Stance is inground spices, of which 40,524,005 points, valued at \$2,576,816, were imported during 1897.

Another important source of revenue, which will probably be availed of without delay, is the increase of the beer tax from one dollar to two dollars per barrel. The Commissioner of internal Revenue has reported that this would afford a revenue at present rate of production of \$36,000,000. The three items of tea coffee and beer, therefore, would afford a revenue of nearly \$75,000,000 if there were no reduction in the volume of imports. Such a reduction is expected to occur, but is not likely to affect tea so much as coffee, since tea will be brought largely in British vessels to Pacific ports. (**e*c*)

If the war promises to be prolonged resort will probably be had to a general stamp tax upon checks, deeds and all other legal instruments. No estimate has yet been made of the amount such a tax would yield, but the amount would be several millions at the lowest rate likely to be adopted. Another measure which may be adopted from the experience of the civil war is the levy of license taxes npon occupations, known in Europe as the patent tax. A tax of this character could be made to yield almost any desired amount if it were made sufficiently extensive in its application. It might be applied to all retail trades, like yield almost any desired amount if it were made sufficiently extensive in its application. It might be applied to all retail trades, like groceries, meat dealers and general stores, and might be graded according to the number of employees in the great manufacturing industries, like woolens, cottons and iron. This measure will probably not be adopted if the war promises to be brief and there is not a serious shrinkage in other sources of revenue. The fact that the financial interests of the country are preparing for trouble is indicated by the withdrawals of funds which are taking place at New York by the country banks. — The N. York Journal of Commerce.

The New Chilian Tariff that came into force on 1st January establi shes a duty of 10 per cents. per kilo on coffee.

STEAMERS SAILED WITH COFFEE DURING THE WEEK ENDING MAY 13th 1898

			MAT 15th 2000	
	Date		Vessel's name Destination Quantity	
	RIO			
May.	1898	7th 8 8 9 10 11 12	S. S. Paraguassú. Hamburg "Olbers New York "Italiba Southern Ports "Brayança Northern Ports "Manitoba New York "Bearn Marseilles "Cordillère River Plate "Kaffir Prince New York "Manaos Northern Port "Oracia Chile Bk. Fernando Port Elizabeth	29.517 110 2.569 3.000 2.470 2.068 27.692 490 610
Total	from	Rio		78.812
S	ANTO	os		*
and	fron	n Rio	S. S. Rosario. Genoa. "Garrick. New York. "Concordia. New Orieans. "Wolf. Hamburg. "Petropolis."	8.183 2.027 27.938 4.475 124.417

MANIFEST OF COFEE Sailed during the week ending May 13t	.h.	
		\$
RIO Per Hamburg, Sud, Amer. Damp. Gesell. Paraguassú, sailed May 7th:	s. s.	G N G
=	bags	G
Hamburg E. Johnston & Co	of coffee 1.450	S
Gustav Trinks & Co	1.000 i	.,
Karl Valais & Co	850 125	
Ornstein & Co	100 95	
Q. W. Gross & Co. Queiroz Moreira & Co.	66	
Total	3,686	_
Per Lamport & Holt S. S. Olbers, sailed I		F
New York	bags of coffee	
Arbuckle Bros	27.017 2.500	
Hard Rand & Co		
Total	29.517	ì
Per Brazilian S. S. Itaituba, sailed 7th M	lav:	٦
	bags	8
Southern Ports	of coffee	
Saraiva Gracie & Co	10 100	
	110	
Total	110	5
Per Brazilian S. S. Bragança, sailed May i	Bth:	_
Northern Ports	bags of coffee	1
Zanka Barras & Co	992	İ
Zenha Ramos & Co	127	
Jorge Dias & Irmão	1,000 450	C
	2,569	
Total	2,,104	
Per Norton Line S. S Manitoba, sailed Ma	y 8th:	
	bags	
New York	of coffee 1,500	G
E. Johnston & Co	750	A
Hard Rand & Co	500 250	ľ
J. H. Boune & Co		
Total	3,000	
Per Soç. Gen. Transp. Mar. de Marsei Bearn, sailed May 8th :	lles S.S.	
	•	
Bearn, sailed May 8th :		1
Marseilles options	of coffee	1
Marseilles optious Karl Valais & Co	of coffee 1.000 500	7
Marseilles options Karl Valais & Co	of coffee	7
Marseilles options Karl Valais & Co. Pierre Pradez & Co. Gustav. Trinks & Co	of coffee 1.000 500	7
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Marseilles optious Marseilles optious Pierre Pradez & Co. Gustav. Trinks & Co Marseilles. Pierre Pradez & Co. Constantinople. Ornstein & Co. Salonique.	of coffee 1.000 500 250	7
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Total

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Per P. S. N. Co. S. S. Oravia, sailed May	11th :
Valparaiso .	bags of coffee
Mello Lucerda & Co	210 100
C. W. Gross & Co	50 50
Mello Lacerda & Co	50
Gustav Triuks & Co	50 50
Saraiva, Gracie & Co	50
Total	610
Per Norwegian Barque Fernando, sailed M	Iny 19th,
Part Dimelath	bugs of coffee
Port Elizabeth: P. S. Nicolson & Co	6,500
SANTOS	
Per La Veloce S. S. Rozario Sailed May 6	oth ;
Genova	of coffee
Nossack & Co Henry Woeltje & Co	875 750
Nossack & Co	750 500 107
sundry,	2,982
Total	2,002
Per Soc. Gen. Trans. Mar. de Marseilles S. Sailed May 7th;	S. Bearn
Marseilles	bugs of coffee
Karl Valais & Co	500 150
Prado, Chaves & Co	100
Genon C. Cresta & Co	75
, Total	825
*	Tu v 0+b
Per Lamport & Holt S. S Garrick, Sailed M	bags
	of coffee 3.643
Goetz Hayn & Co	2.040 1,500
Krische & Co	1,000
Total	8,183
Per Chargeurs Reunis S. S. Concordia, St 10th.	tiled May
New Orleans	bags
	-
Naumann Gepp & Co	of coffee 950
Naumann Gepp & Co Hard Rand & Co	of coffee 950 716 281
Naumann Gepn & Co Hard Rand & Co. J. W. Doane & Co. E. Johnston & Co.	of coffee 950 716 281 100
Naumann Gepp & Co Hard Rand & Co	of coffee 950 716 281
Naumann Gepn & Co	of coffee 950 716 261 100 2.027
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Naumann Gepn & Co Hard Rand & Co. J. W. Doane & Co. Per Hamb. Sud. Amer. Dampf. Gesell. S.: Polis, sailed May 11th: Rotterdam: J. W. Doane & Co. Henry Woltje & Co. Hard Rand & Co. Ilamburg: E. Jubnston & Co.	of coffee 950 716 201 100 2,027 S. Petro- bars of coffee 1,000 500 125 1,500 1,600 250 100
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Santos. Both ..

Th met by prices Wednes from W to cong not so from V Cuban a still l either later is hand o Chicag getting day, ar At the aoffees declare alone, grades, 2 to 3 c are bei very st

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Agents

The above mentioned coffee was consigned to the following

	U. States	Europe	Coast	R. Plate	Total
Rio Santos Both	43.066 10.210 53.276	2.556 35.395 37.951	4.281	600	50.503 45.605 96.106

The "Chicago Grocer" of April th. Coffee has been a very interest ing article in the Chicago market this week, having advanced 1 1/2 per lb. on the New York exchange market, and this being more than met by holders both in Chicago and New York, who advanced their prices about 2 c per lb. Buying, however, was almost stopped on Wednesday last, when the market dropped very suddenly on news from Washington that the president would not send his Cuban message to congress. This depression only lasted during Wednesday afternoon and Thursday moraing, when the buyers began to realize there was not so much in this as was thought at first. Later news received from Washington regarding the attitude of the administration on the Cuban question has caused a steady advance in prices, and therefore a still heavier demand for coffee. Buyers did not realize the advance in prices until they began to make offers on mild coffees, which were either turned down or prices advanced 3/4 to 1 cent per pound, and later in the day on Monday last New York holders reported all first hand coffee either sold or passed in to second hands. On Tuesday Chicago buyers continued to make offers, but very few succeeded in getting any of their orders filled at prices named by holders on Monday, and very few coffees were bought, except at a yery heavy advance. At the end of the week there were no mild coffees being offered to cmount to anything, and buyers have resorted to giving orders for aoffees to be shipped promptly, hoping to get them in before war is declared and a duty imposed. The above does not refer to mild coffees alone, but to all others, especially old crop Santos coffees of the higher grades, which are extremely scarce and are held at an advance of from 2 to 3 cents per pound over the prices two weeks ago, and very few are being offered at any price. The New York coffee market closed very strong, while no foreign markets were open on Friday, Saturday and Monday being close holidays. Thursday's market closed very strong and advancing.

April 16. Coffee trading on the spot market still continues to be heavy and has gone on increasing with but one break, which was only visible on actual coffee and not on the exchange markets. This break, or rather stumbling block, came in the form of a report from Washington, that the Ways and Means committee of the house had agreed on a plan for raising a revenue in case this country goes to war with Spain, viz., to put an increased tax on both beer and tobacco, and an import duty of 3c per lb. on coffee and 10c per lb. on tea, and a like internal revenue on all stocks of tea and coffee held in the United States. This latter part of the bill was the stumbling block referred to above, which is foolish in the very sense, and unjust to the large jobbers in the big trading centers, as it would simply be impossible for the United States to collect such a tax from the smaller cities and would cost more to collect it than could be gotten out of it. It is not thought constitutional by any of the larger jobbers here and in New York. It is also reported that the sugar trust is doing all in its power to push this through, as it is well known that the Arbuckle's have a very large stock, while the sugar people have a very small stock. The prices on coffee are still held very stiff and big jobbers are looking for fine old crop Santos, and are buying all they can lay their hands on. The exchange markets are still very firm

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P. O. Box 55

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SHIPPING ARRIVALS AT THE PORT OF RIO FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 15th, 1898.

DATE	NAME	FLAG	DESCRIPTION	TON-	WHERE FROM
MAY	9 Cordillere 9 Ville de Montevideo 9 Phidias 9 Alliança 9 Guanabara 9 Helene 9 Meteor	French do British Brazilian do Norwegian British	S. S. do do do do Barque Barkentine	310	Bordenux Havre Ulusgow Prado Laguna Loudon Swansea
	9)/udith 9 Oravia 10 Rimutaka 10 Mercurio 10 Assú 11 Buffon 11 Orcana 11 Muguy 11 Concordia	Brazilian British do Argentine Brazilian British do Brazilian French	Barque S. S. do do do do do do	828 727	Macho Liverpool Liverpool Welmington River Plate Mossorá New York Vulparaiso Vulparaiso Vulparaiso Santos
	2 La Plata 2 Itapemirim 2 Petropolis 2 Garcia 3 Brazil 3 Esperança 3 Itanema 3 Itanema	do Brazilian German Brazilian do do do	do do do do do do	156	La Plata Victoria Santos Paraty Manaos Aracajú do Porto Alegre
]]]	3 S. João da Barra 3 Prince Albert 3 Antigua 3 Loanda 3 Arethusa 3 Almirante 4 Cuvier	do British do do German Brazilian British	do Ship Barkentin Ship, do Barkentine S.S.	248 1.498 735 1.447 1.730	S. João da Barra Cardiff Brunswick Cardiff Raugoon Itaja by London
•	14 Mendosa 14 Ilacolomi 14 S. Pedro 14 Vencedor 15 Mortiake 15 Country Antrin 15 Bella Frmigosa	German Brazilian do do British do Portuguese	do do Schooner do S. S. do Barque	73 27 1.079 1.283	Hamburg Estancia Angra Macahé Rangoon Montevideo Porto

VESSELS CLEARED FROM THE PORT OF RIO DURING THE WEEK

			ENDING MA	Y 15th, 1898.		- NEEK
DAT	Е.	NAME	FLAG	DESCRIPTION	TON- NAGE	DESTINATION
MAY.	9	Cordillere	French	s. s.	1	River Plate
	9		Brazilian	do		Santos
	8	Moçambique Ville de Montevideo	Portuguese	do		do
	9	Ville de Montevideo	I rench	do	1	do
į.	Ş	Adelina	Portuguese	Barque	254	Pernambuco
	g	Sultão	Brazilian	Schooner	49	Cabo Frio
	10	Rimutaka	British	S. S.		London
	10	Rimutaka Kaffir Prince	do	do		New York
			do	do	1.555	Buenos Aires
	10	Satellite Manúos	Brazilian	do		Montevideo
	10	Mandos	do	do		Manaos
	10	Amamark	do	do	750	Rio Grande
	10	Aguamaré S. João S. Francisco	do	Schooner	43	Macahé
	10	S. Francisco	do	do	34	Cabo Frio
	11	Orcana	British	S. S.		Liverpool
	11	Oravia	do	do	1	Valuarnian
	11	Baltazan	do	do	2.096	Buenos Aires
	17	Trindade	Brazilian	do		
	11	Alexandria	do	do		Porto Alegre
	11	Montevidéo	German	do		Santos
	11	Phidias	British	do	1	do
	11	Alexandria Montevidéo Phidias Teixeirinha	Brazilian	_ do	223	S. João da Barra
	11	Competidor	do	Schooner	195	do
	- 11	Pinho I	do .	do	34	Cabo Frio
	11	Competidor Pinho I Iniciador Lapa	do	ďο	100	do Cabo Frio do
	11	Lapa	do	do,	1 30	1 00
	12	La Plata	French	S. S.		Bordeaux
	12	La Plata Mainz	German	_ do		Suntos
	12	Hernando	Norwegian	Barque	357	Port Elisabeth
	12	Lyllian Kara	Brazilian	Barkentine	363	Macau Middlesbourg Buenos Aires
	13	Kara	British	S.S.	1.507	Middlesbourg
	13	Wenvoe	do	do	1 918	Buenos Aires
	19	Castanos	_ do	do	1.920	do do
	19	Piuma Max	Brazilian	do		Victoria
	10	Max	do	do	116	Florianopolis
	10	Areola	Norwegian	Barque	852	Brunswick
	10	Schwanden	do	do	817	Savannah
	14	Sylvia	do	s. s.	1.093	Barbadus
	17	Petropolis	German			Hamburg
	1.7	Biela Lucina	British do	do	1 600	New York Philadelphia
	14	Pallas	German	do	1.009	Buenos Aires
	14		Brazilian	do	1.001	Paranaguá
	14	Vulcano	do	Tug Boat	402	Paraty
	14	Sveo	Swedish	Barkentine	978	Falmouth
	15	Dianeta	Brazilian	S. S.	1 210	Montevideo
	15	Esperança Itaperuna	do	do		Arsenia
	15	Itaneruna	do.	do		Porto Alagra
Sec. 15 14 1	TO	rruz kewer	Norwpeign	Ship	1.485	Porto Alegre Mobile Barbadoes
	15	Ruby	British	do	1.315	Barbadoes
C. 769900	340	Sec.		1 v (1°		

SHIPPING ARRIVALS AT THE PORT OF SANTOS FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 12th 1898.

DATE	NAME	FLAG	DESCRIPTION	TON-	WHERE FROM	
6 6 7 7 7 8 8 9 10 10 11 11 11 11	Rearn Xoniu Xoniu Comandt Alvim Industrial Frederico Itabira Cordovan Strius Aymore Wille de Montevideo Normandia Montevideo Lussich	French American Brazilian do Italian Brazilian French British Brazilian Portuguese French Brazilian German Argentine	S. S. Harque S. S. do Ship. S. S. do do do do do do do do	1.059 336 171 1.075 465 2.094 435 1.372 381 2.196 1.184	Lisbon Havre	

VESSELS CLEARED FROM THE PORT OF SANTOS DURING THE WEEK ENDING MAY 12th.

DATE		NAME	F1.AG	DESCRIPTION	TON- NAGE	DESTINATION
Mny.	6 6 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 10 10 10 10		French Brazilian British do do Norwegian Brazilian Brazilian French Brazilian French German Brazilian	S. S. do do do do do do do do do do do do do	1.315 783 927 2.189	New Orleans Buenos Aires New York S. Vicente Florianopolis Bio Buenos Aires Porto Alegre New Orleans Hamburg Montevideo
	11	Villede Montevideo Wolf Normandia	German Brazilian	do do do		Hamburg Itajahy

LIST OF VESSELS AFLOAT AND SAILING FOR THE PORTS OF RIO AND SANTOS.

Name	Flagand descr.	From	For	
Aalborg	Da. Bg.	Cadiz Mar. 24	Rio	
Alice Reed	Am. bg.	New York, Nov 30	Santos	
Altair	Ge. bg.	Leith Ap. 5	Rio	
Angara	Br. bg.	New York. Mar 25	Santos	
Anna & Mathilde.	Ru. sc.	Hamburg., Mar. 12	••	
Argentina	No. bg.	Clyde Jan. 1	Rio	
Anakonda	. Ge. bq.	Boulogne. Ap. 5	••	
Australia	No. bq.	Shields Ap, 12	Santos	
Baldur	. Ge bq.	Hamburg., Mar. 18	. , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Bellucia	. Am. s.	Glasgow . Ap. 19	,	
Bella Formigosa	. Po. bq	Porto Mar. 19	Rio :	
Bouny Doon	Am. bq.	New York. Mar. 28	Santos	
Birnam Wood	. Br. bq.	Pensacola, Mar. 30	Rio	
Brodick Bay	. Br. bq.	Rangoon Feb. 24	11 :	
Clara	Po. bq.	Figueira Mar. 23	•,	
Criffel	. Br. bq.	Rangoon . Feb. 28	,,	
Constanze	. Ge. s.	do Feb. 14		
Dione	. Ge. bq.	Hamburg., Mar. 30	Santos	
Enterprise		Sout pton Ap. 3	Rio	
Falls of Des		Grimsby Ap. 20	,,	
Ferda	. No. bq.	Pensacola . Ap. 9	Santos	
Frithjef	. No bq.	Hamburg —	**	
Havilah	. Am. bq.	New York, Jan. 9		
Halvar	. Sw. bq.	Rangoon Feb. 24	Rio	
Louis		Hamburg . Ap. 15	Santos	
Lovisa	. No. bq.	Pensacola Ap. 7	Rio	
Eagle Wing		New York. Mar. 6	,,	
Canova	. Br. s.	Clyde Ap. 17	,,,	
Leonor		Hamburg, Ap. 15	,,	
Mystery		Halifax Ap. S	,,	
Mortlake	Br. bq.	Rangoon. Mar. 27	Santos	
Nuova Antonietta.		Messina Feb. 28	Rio	
Machrihani h		Rangoon. Feb. 27	\mathbf{Rio}	
Nimrod	T-0	London Ap. 4	,,	
Primus		Rangoon Feb. 27	,,	
Resi	Au. bg.	Hamburg. Mar. 29	,,	
Sierra Colonna	Br. s.	Rangoon . Ap. 9	l ;;	
Sterna		do Mar 7	, ,,	
Vareiro		Baltimore . Feb. 20	, ,,	
White Wings		New York, Ap. 6	,,	
White Wings		Oporto Feb. 13	,,	
Wilhelm Anton		Pensacola . Ap. 6	,,	
Voorwaerts	Du. sc.	Hamburg., Mar. 28	Rio	
Wandering Jew	. Am. bg.	Pensacola Mar. 9	Santos	
Wray Castle	Br. s.	Tacoma Mar. 26	Rio	

Rio Freight Market. The freight market is duller than ditch water, with little coffee offering. Only 3,000 bags had been booked up to Friday for Hamburg, and none at all for New York or New Orleans. Freights, however, remain unaltered at 40c. and 5% for New York, 40s. and 5% of Friday for Hamburg, Trieste, etc.

The only charters reported are the Norwegian Bark Mataura by Wm.R.Mac Niven, to load 1,900 tons, mm, of old iron for Mr. Wm. R. Mac Niven, to Glasgow direct, £1,550.11s.

The Brit. S.S. Manitoba, arrived on 3rd of May, having left Buenos Ayres and Montevideo on 29th April, reported having had fire aboard. On examination it was found to have been confined to the part of the cargo consisting of Xarque and hides, the ship having suffered no damage whatever.

The Brit. S. S. Cumeria when leaving port on 30th April ranon a rock in the passage of the Ilha dos Ratos. Her cargo has been discharged and she goes into dock on the 12th instant for survey.

The Brit. S. S. *Loandu*, loaded by Cory Bros, at Cardiff, for Hong-Kong, put in leaking on the 13th. The cargo, 2000 tons of steam coal, were discharged here.

The Local Coal Market. Coal is still quoted nominally at 1003 and though customers grumble, under the circumstances it cannot be considered dear at that. Before the late rise commenced, steam coal was being sold at 603000, when the price should have been £2, or about 803000 The result of the strike was to put it up to 1003, half of the rise being the result of the fall of exchange and the balance of 203000, only, properly attributable to the rise in prices.

The last news from Cardiff is of a sale at 25s. which with freight at 20 s, brings the c.l.f.price up to 45 s. a tou, or Rs. 943000 exclusive of duties, expenses or profits. Now no coal is to be got at Cardiff at any price.

Health Of The Port. During the fortnight ending April 30th, there were only 150 cases of yellow fever, of which 140 were fatal. It is believed that many cases reported as of yellow fever are in reality of other diseases.

There were no cases of small pox at all.

THE FREIGHT MARKETS.

THE FREIGHT MARKETS.

The English Markets. Fairplay of 21st April states that "with few exceptions, homeward freights have continued to rise, whilst in some directions the advance has been on such a substantial scale as to almost indicate a semi-boom in rates. Apart from the coal strike and the possibility of a rupture between Spain and the United States and the effect of same in the freight markets, there is undoubtedly a good outlook for the remainder of this year; tonnage is wanted almost everywhere. New trades are opening out, especially to the far East, whilst there will be an enormous quantity of grain, etc., available for shipment in the long-voyage trades. Fixing ahead, therefore, cannot be too strongly deprecated, for, with markets good all round, owners can afford to hold their tonnage."

Argentine Market. There has, says the Review of the River Plate, been great activity in the freight market during the week ending May 7th, and prices for steamers have risen from 20 to 23s. up-river loading, with a tendency to a further rise.

with a tendency to a further rise.

Charters. No charters are reported from the Plate for Brazi.

during the week

during the week.

Departures for Brazil from Buenos Aires;
Buenos Aires, April 20th.

S. S. Danube for Rio with 1,025 bales xarque, 28 boxes butter and 210 baskets fruit.

S. Bearn for Rio with 150 hogsheads May 1st.

tallow.

" " 3rd. Bk. Nora Wiggins for Pernambuco, with 483 pipes and 34 hogsheads tallow, and 3,002 bales hay.

sario, April 30th. Bk. Bellarena for Rio with 8,378 bales hay.

Vessels loading for Brazil in the Plate:

S. S. Felippe Lussich for Santos.

S. S. Nord Kap for Rio for Wildermuth and Ehlert.

S. S. Ambassador for Rio.

Bk. Kremtin for Rio.

Bk. Bonito for Pelotas.

Bk. Chas. F. Lefurgey for Santos.

Bk. Cornelia for Santos.

Bk. Vesta for Rio.

Bk. Vesta for Rio. Bk. Gleneida for Santos.

Bk. Greneuta to Santos.

Bk. Somaralide for Rio.

River Plate Cereal Market. Wheat is firm in view of the rise in European prices. Good Barletta is quoted at \$12.50 to \$13.00, and f. a. q. 12 to 12.50. Entre Rios wheat is in demand. Arrivals are steady and exports for the week ending May 6th show no falling off. There is still a large amount to come in. In Rosario prices closed at \$11 to \$11.30 on warron. \$11.30 on waggon.

Maize is steady, yellow at \$3.00 to \$4.20 for good quality. Arrivals are not heavy, and condition not fit for export.

Linseed is quiet. Shipments of cereals for the week were as

follows: From Buenos Aires to Rio per s.s. Bearn: 40 tons Maize, 228 tons

wheat. From Rosario to Rio per County Antrim: 1,441 tons wheat, making a total of 1,660 tons for the week and 29.884 since 1st January, and 30 tons maize for the week and 2,105 tons since 1st January. The visible supply in Argentine Ports on Thursday 5th May, are 55,000 tons wheat, 5,000 tons linseed, and 40,000 tons maize, against 54,000 tons wheat, 8,000 linseed and 30,000 tons of maize last week. Cattle Market. The only shipment to Brazil for the week was 270 steers per S. S. Mercurio on 28th April for Rio. Fat mestizo steers are quoted at \$48 to \$57.00, withlittle demand for export on account of difficulties of coaling at St. Vincent.

The killings in the Son Buenos Aires	aladeros to	April 30th a	re as follows	:
	1898	1897	1896	1895
	89,700	233,200	167,600	248,200
	455,700	467,000	415,000	504,600
	188,300	240,800	221,600	265,900
	260,000	240,000	150,000	155,000
	993,700	1,190,000	954,200	1,173,700

The exports of Xarque for the second half of April are 3,401 tons to Brazil and 87 tons to Cuba.

Coal in Spain. It is generally believed that Spain has no coal, but according to the *Revista Minera* the production of the Asturias mines was 1,895,947 tons in 1896 and 1,883,800 in 1897.

The Amazon Steam Navigation Company, Limited, have received telegraphic advice from Rio de Janeiro that the Brazilian Government has granted their petition to reduce the contract service on certain lines found to be unremunerative, owing to the fall in exchange, a small reduction being made in the subsidy. As yet, no increase in tariff rates has been allowed.

From "Fairplay". The Companhia Transatlantica of Barcelona recently bought the Hamburg American Line boats, Normania and Columbia, and afterwards sold them to the Spanish Government.

The shipping statistics of the port of Marseilles for the year 1897 in comparison with the previous year show an increase of 163,040 tons in the tomage of vessels entering the port, but a falling off of 48,936 tons in the quantity of mechandise shipped and unshipped.

With reference to the rumours afloat as to the purchase of North German Lloyd boats by the Spanish or American Governments, the announcement is made at Bremen that the swift steamers Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, Kaiser Friedrich, Lahn, and Trave will maintain the regular service between Bremen, Southampton, and New York, while the Havel and the Saale will run between Bremen, Cherbourg, and New York.

Messrs. Norton & Son, shipowners, of New York, who recently started a new line of steamers between that port and India, have now established a regular steamship service between New York and Australia. The pioneer boat will be the Sahara, announced to sail on the 25th May from New York for Port Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Fremantle. After that date a boat will be despatched once a month in each direction. Messrs. Bucknall Brothers, of London, will be the managers of the new line, while Messrs. Norton & Son will act as general agents.

"Made in America". According to a report furnished by an American who visited Birmingham, England, not long ago, the street trolleys in that city are constructed of rails made in Pittsburg, the cars were from Philadelphia, the boilers from Erie, the engines from Milwaukee, and the general electric fittings from Schenectady.—

American paper. American paper.

The Coal trade. Undoubtedly the situation for coal shippers is serious, with nothing to be got in Wales, and such a restricted supply in Scotland that two steamers chartered to load in the Clyde for the Mediterranean have been ordered to Antwerp for Belgian coal instead. The docks and harbour at Glasgow are crowded with tonnage waiting for coals, which no one knows when they will receive. The Fife ports are busy enough, and the Fife pits are at full work, for the men there are on fortnightly working contracts. But the Fife miners have not only demanded an advance of 25 per cent. but have been advised by their leaders to terminate their working contracts and go on strike if it is not at once conceded. So a stoppage of work in the Fife pits is quite on the cards, for the coalowners there, like those in the West, are heavily under contract at low prices which cannot afford the advance claimed. Of course in the hope of quickly clearing up contracts and realising good prices for future output, the masters may give way, but this is doubtful, for some of them are pretty tightly, pinned, and all must, act together. Meanwhile, Northumberland and Durham are hauling in the foreign orders at pretty much their own terms; the Midlands are overrun with buyers for South Wales consumers, and Cardiff contractors at their wit's ends to meet their avergeness. terms; the Midlands are overrun with buyers for South Wales consumers, and Cardiff contractors at their wit's ends to meet their engagements; and Lancashire, so long in the doldrums, is having a fine spell of breezy demand at good figures. In South Wales prices are unquotable although a few collieries which have made terms with the men continue to turn out coal. Anything from 20 s. to 25 s. is named for best steam, and 20 s. is also named for bituminous coal.

The Welsh strike has been the means of diverting a large number of steamers to Glasgow to load coal for Genoa, Alexandria, etc., and there is quite a block at the crane berths in the Queen's Dock in consequence. A big jump has taken place in the retail price of house coal, thus bringing the strike home to the minds and pockets of domestic consumers in a way which augurs badly for the success of any mestic consumers in a way which augurs badly f appeal for strike funds from the public at large.

THE HAMBURG AMERICAN STEAM NAVIGATION COM-PANY—IT says great deal for the skilful and enlightened management of this great German Company that, notwithstanding a variety of unfavourable circumstances with which they had to contend in the past working year, the directors are enabled to declare a dividend 2 per cent, higher than that for 1896, viz., 12 per cent, against

10 per cent. The report states that the first endeavour of the directors during the past year has been to bring the fiest up to the level of modern requirements by adding to it new and larger ships. To this end the old steamers Bahia, Curityho, Olinda, Antonina, Pelotas, and Santos have all been disposed of, while four boats of improved type and larger dimensions (Petropolis, Pernamburo, Bilgrama, and San Nicolas) have been delivered and set to work. All these new vessels have turned out satisfactory in every respect. But the first will be still further increased before long by three more splendid boats now building at Hamburg, and which will receive the manes of Bahia, Pelotos, and Antonina, the last mentioned two being intended to replace the two steamers of the same name in the last half of the original service, which have been rold, that year was the falling off in outward the beautiful of the state of the same name in the last half of 1897. Losses made to call at Leikrogelas well as Lisbon, while the boats for Argentina to be obtained to the same and the last half of 1897. A consequence of this the steamers bound for Brazil were in many cases made to call at Leikrogelas well as Lisbon, while the boats for Argentina called regularly at Coruña and Carril or Vigo; these last-named calls. however, were, as a rule, only made for 'tween-deck passengers, but the full complement was not even then often obtained. The directors are of opinion that until the financial position of Brazil improves (of which there is very little prospect) it will be useless to expect any improvement in the outward trade. Nevertheless, freights for what business has been done in that directions are the company and the Nh editories and the New Coruman Lloyd. As regards the South Bruzellon for what the same and the Nh editories state of Paraná and Santa Catharina has not yet, it appears, acquired the impulse that was expected after the repeal of the Prussian prohibition against emigration to those States; it is thought, however, the spurit written ou, which amount is not stated, so that this important item in the economy of the Company will remain unknown, unless it is elicited at the meeting of shareholders. The book-value of the steamers, tugs, and lighters is 14,570.012 marks, against 13,850,300 marks in 1896. Fairplay, April 14.

AMERICAN LINE .- It is reported that the steamers Columbia and Normannia, of the Hamburg American Line, and the steamers Spree and Saale, belonging to the North German Lloyd, have been sold to Messrs, H. E. Moss & Co., London. for Spain.

The case of the "Rounton". In regard to the refusal of a crew to The case of the "Rounton". In regard to the refusal of a crew to proceed to Santos, reported in our last issue, Fairplay of the 21st April says: "I have received the following letter on the Rounton case. After all that one has heard and read of Santos it is impossible not to sympathise with men who, having been shipped for another port, find themselves ordered to proceed to Santos, which, as the writer of the letter says, has been not unreasonably regarded as a death-trap. I believe that sanitary affairs are better at Santos than they were, but still the port has an evil reputation, based on past experience, and men who go there, should do so with their eyes open. On the other hand, it is quite clear from the note in last week's Fairplay that, when the Rounton was chartered, it was for the Plate

There was no trick in the matter as my correspondent ts, as the men were not shipped "ostensibly" for the Plate to disguise a proposed ultimate voyage to Santos.

suggests, as the men were not shipped "ostensibly" for the Plate to disguise a proposed ultimate voyage to Santos.

April 18th, 1898.

Dear Sir.—Referring to the article in your last week's issue respecting what is termed the insubordination of the officers and crew of the s. s. Rounton in refusing to proceed in the vessel to Santos. I, as a member of a senfearing family, appeal to you to take up the cudgels and endeavour to secure such an alteration in the maritime law as will prevent a prosecution of this kind from again being instituted. I am perfectly awar that, owing to the vague manner in which the ship's articles were drawn up the officers and crew were "legally" bound to go to Santos, but I ask you was it fair to sign on the men ostensibly for a voyage to Santos the crew receive an enhanced wage. But that her destination to a place which is well known to be a white man's grave, and is, with foundation thought by saliors to be a veritable death-trap?

I cannot speak with certainty, but I am informed that when vessels do sign on for a voyage to Santos the crew receive an enhanced wage. Be that as it may, I know from experience that it is difficult to man a ship when it is known she is to proceed to this unhealthy spot. Again, it is noticeable that repeatedly officers and men alike resign their appointments rather than travel there: in some instances these appointments have been held by them for many years, but rather than incur the risk of sickness, and perhaps death, they prefer to give up their hoats and seek employment clsewhere. When these facts are so well known does it not seem rather a supterfuge to sign on a crew for, as in the present instances the River Plate, and then when the men are away from England and almost without the chance of either legally or illegally leaving the ship, send her to Santos? It would almost appear as though a crew could not be obtained except by this somewhat underhand method.

As I have previously stated. I belong to a scafaring family, my father and grandfathers have

Purchase of Steamers by Spain and the United States.

The United States and Spanish Governments are busily engaged in negotiating for the purchase of fast steamers for special services, and of cargo boats for coaling their fleet, etc. As already announced in the daily papers, the U.S. Government have taken over the New York and Paris which are to be re-named Harvard and Yale, and the Nork and Paris which are to be re-named Harvard and Yale, and the Spanish Government have become possessed of the Normannia and Columbia of the Hamburg-American Line, which vessels are now at Cadiz being fitted as cruisers. It is reported that the Allan liner Lucerne, on her arrival at St. John, N. B., is to be handed over to purchasers who are understood to be or to represent the U. S. Government. The Spanish Government has been trying to purchase the Recouck and the Reindeer belonging to the Great Western Railway Company, both 20-knot boats, and it is said that £30,000 beyond the value of the two steamers was offered to the Company and declined, It is also stated that offers have been made for some of the fast steamers running in the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway and the London & North-Western Railway joint service, but that the offers have been declined. It is said that the s. s. Hampstead, a British cargo-boat of 3,450 tons deadweight, has been sold to the U. S. Government. Several owners of fleets have been applied to, and on Tuesday some fifty or sixty cargo-boats were under offer to the United States and Spanish Governments, and it was supposed that five or six of them would be purchased Fairplay.

The Pernambuco Shipping Movement for the year 1897 was as

The Pernambuco Shipping Movement for the year 1897 was as

follows;
Entries and Clearances in tons: Greart Britain 444,845; Brazilian coasters 320,444: German 91,636; Italian 320,444; Austrian 20,921; French 153,364; Belgian 52,073; Argentine 26; North American 16,792; Portugal 3,745; Norwegian 20,030; Sweedish 607; Uruguay 400; Russia 775; Holland 619; Spain 1,267; and Denmark 677; making a grand total of 1,167,066 tons. Great Britain's share in this trade represents 37% of the total, including the Brazilian coasting trade that amounted to 27%, Germany showing little less than 8%, and the United States only 1%. The tonnage was divided amongst 1,160 different vessels of which 709 steamers, 230 sailers and 712 barges.

There were 11,046 entries of passengers and 9,997 departures during the year; 9,787 of the former being by coasters, and 1,259 by ocean steamers exclusive of 58, 414 in transit, and of the latter 8,989 and 1,008 respectively.

ocean steamers exclusi and 1,008 respectively.

By mr. Luiz Campos, Nor. Barque Fernando to load 6,500 bags of coffee of Port Elisabeth. Freight £ 600 lump surn.

The São Paulo Gas Company, Limited. — The directors of the São Paulo Gas Company, Limited, in their report for the year ended December 31 last, state that the revenue account shows the profit on the year's working, after meeting all charges, to be £24,825, which, added to the sum of £1,479 brought forward from the previous year, makes a total of £26,304 available for dividend. Out of this sum an interim dividend of 5 per cent. was paid in September last. The directors now recommend the payment of a final dividend at the same rate (making a total distribution of 10 per cent. for the year), free of income-tax, and to carry the balance of £1,804 to the current year. The revenue receipts and expenditure have been converted into sterling at 75/8d, per milreis, being the average rate of exchange during the year. The currency assets of the company in Brazil have been written down to the exchange of 7d., being, approximately, the current rate of exchange on December 31 last. The manager reports that the works and plant have been maintained in thoroughly, good order and repair. The number of public lamps of December 31 last.

was 3,028 against 2,563 on same date in 1896. The number of private consumers was 5,368 against 5,268. The quantity of gas delivered for consumption last year was 5,597.151 cubic mètres against 5,333,694 cubic mètres in 1896. The directors informed the shareholders by circular in October last that a new contract had been concluded with the Government of the State of São Paulo for the lighting of the city of São Paulo for thirty years. They now confirm the opinion then expressed that the contract which came into force on January 1 ult. will be found to be satisfactory both to the consumers and to the shareholders. For some time past the need has been felt for suitable premises in São Paulo to serve as office, showrooms, &c., and in view of future developments the directors have acquired a valuable property in the most central part of the city. The building is modern, of excellent structure, and will form a very convenient local headquarters of the company. In view of the obligations consequent upon the new contract, and to provide for further extensions of the works and plant and for a sufficient working capital, the directors propose to raise a sum not exceeding £ 50,000 on debentures, bearing interest at the rate of per cent. per annum. at the rate of per cent. per annum.

The dividend of 10 $^{\circ}/_{\circ}$ is undoubtedly highly satisfactory, especially in view of the assets here being written down to 7d. per mil reis, and, with the negotiation of the new contract, shows that the interests of the Company in this country are well looked after by its representatives. The £10 shares are quoted at 16 to 17.

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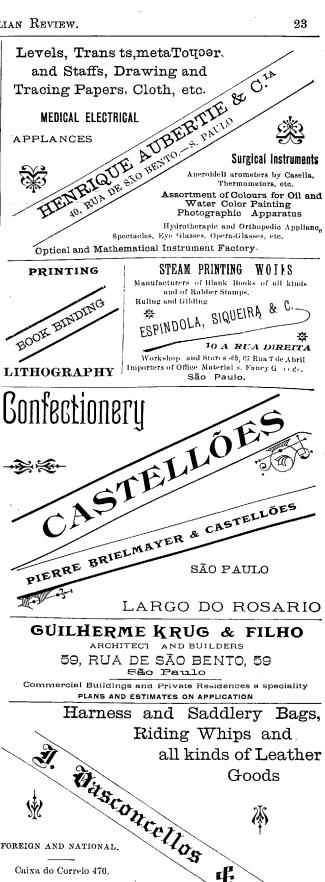
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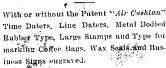
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