

THE RIO NEWS.

PUBLISHED ON THE 5th, 15th AND 24th OF EVERY MONTH.

Vol. IX.

RIO DE JANEIRO, OCTOBER 24TH, 1882

NUMBER 30

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

AMERICAN LEGATION.—7, Rua Nova das Laranjeiras.
THOMAS A. OSBORN,
Minister.
BRITISH LEGATION.—No. 8, Travessa de D. Manoel.
EDWIN CORBETT,
Minister.
AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 30 Rua do
Visconde de Inhauma. C. C. ANDREWS,
Consul General.
BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 8, Travessa
de D. Manoel. GEORGE THORNE RICKETTS,
Consul General.
AMERICAN NAVAL OFFICE.—No. 3 Rua Fresca.
D. P. WIGHT, U. S. N.
Paymaster.

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Acting Chaplain.
Residence.—135A, Rua das Laranjeiras.
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—No. 15 Travessa da Barreira.
Services in Portuguese at 11 o'clock, a. m., and 7 o'clock,
p. m., every Sunday; and at 7 o'clock p. m., every
Thursday.
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Services in the
Sunday-school chapel at Largo do Catete on each Sunday,
as follows: Preaching in English at 11:20 a. m., and
in Portuguese at 11 and 7 p. m. Sunday-school in English
and Portuguese at 10 a. m. J. J. RANSOM,
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Residence: No. 41, Rua Santa Christina.
City Rooms: No. 48, Rua do Ouvidor, 2nd floor.
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p. m., every Wednesday. Sunday school at 4:30, p. m.

TRAVELLER'S DIRECTORY

RAILWAYS.

DOM PEDRO II.—Through Express: Upward, leaves
Rio at 5 a. m.; arriving at (Barra junction) at 7:45 a. m., Entre
Rios (central line) 10:11 a. m., Barbacena 3:45 p. m., Porto
Novo (branch from Entre Rios) 12 m., Cachoeira (S. Paulo
branch) 11:45 a. m., São Paulo (Por S. P. & Rio R.R.) 6 p. m.,
Downward: leaves São Paulo 6 a. m., Barbacena 8:34 a. m.,
Porto Novo 12:13 p. m.; arriving at Barra 4:11 and Rio 7:12
p. m. Connects with Valenciana line at Desengano; Rio
das Flores line at Comercio, União Mineira line at Seraria;
Oeste de Minas (S. João d'El-Rei) line at Sitio;
Leopoldina line at Porto Novo; Rezende e Areas line at
Surubiy; and S. Paulo and Rio de Janeiro line at Cachoeira.
Limited Express: Upward, leaves Rio 7:13 a. m.; arriving
at Barra 10:25 a. m., Rio Novo (central line) 7:07; Cachoeira
(S. Paulo branch) 5:28 p. m., Downward, leaves Cachoeira 6:48
a. m., Rio Novo 5:50 a. m.; arriving at Barra 1:42 and 1:57 p. m.,
Rio 5:45 p. m. Stops at all stations. Connects with Santa
Cruz branch at Sapopemba, and Macacos branch at Belém.
Mixed Trains: Leave Rio at 9:10 a. m., 5:12 and 4:10 p. m.;
arrive from Belém 7:15 a. m., from Barra 8:45 a. m., from
Entre Rios leaving 6:07 a. m. at 5:28 p. m.
Suburban Trains.—Passenger trains leave at 5:00, 6:30,
7:40, 8:40 and 10:22 a. m., and 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:50, 7:30,
8:30 and 10:00 p. m. all stopping at Cascadura except the 10
p. m. train, which runs to Sapopemba. Returning, the train
leave Sapopemba at 3:30 and Cascadura at 3:50, 6:10, 7:40,
8:40, 10, and 11:35 a. m., and 2:10, 3:20, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8:30 and
9:40 p. m.
CANTAGALLO R.R.—Leaves Niteroiy Santa Anna
7:30 a. m., arriving at Nova Friburgo 1:02 Cordeiro 1 hour
per trainway from Cantagallo 4:25 and Macuco 5:45 p. m.
Return train leaves Macuco 6:30, Cordeiro 7:50 and Nova
Friburgo 11:10 a. m., arriving at Niteroiy 4:35 p. m. A ferry
boat runs between Rio and Sant'Anna, connecting with trains.
PETROPOLIS STEAMERS and K.R.—Steamers leave
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holidays, passengers arriving at Petropolis at 5:30 p. m. week
days, and 3 p. m. Sundays. Returning, diligence leaves Petropolis
at 6 a. m., the boat arriving at Rio at 9:30 a. m.

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BENJAMIN FRANKLIN DE RAMIZ GALVÃO,
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MUSEU NACIONAL.—Praça da Acclamação, cor. Rua da
Constituição. LADISLÃO DE SOUZA MELLO E NETTO,
Director.

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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

on the eve of departure of the American packet
the French packet of the 15th, and Royal
Mail packet of the 25th. of the month.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

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THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER AGENCY,
New Haven, Conn.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The remaining numbers for the present year will be sent gratis to all new subscribers for 1883.

RIO DE JANEIRO, OCTOBER 24TH, 1882.

AMONG the curious and somewhat instructive parliamentary occurrences of the last week was the confession of Senator Teixeira Junior on the 20th instant that his action in the matter of presenting a grand lottery project for the Monte-Pio Geral was taken at the instance of the council of state. The senator stated that in view of the attitude assumed by the government and the public in this matter, "he was forced to declare that when he had submitted the petition asking its approval of the important reforms voted by the general assembly of that association, concerning the reduction of 50 per cent. in the pensions, it was agreed by the majority of the sections assembled [council of state] that the Monte-Pio Geral should not resort to a measure so disastrous for its pensioners without first ascertaining whether the powers of state would not in some manner aid the institution, as, for example, by the concession of lotteries." This statement was confirmed by the minister of empire. In accordance with this opinion and through his desire to help the Monte-Pio through its difficulties, he presented his amendment asking for the concession of a lottery. This amendment was accepted in second reading, and was then thrown out in the third. In further defense of his proposal Senator Teixeira Junior argued that the object for which the lottery is asked is equally as deserving as many others heretofore granted. Building associations have been aided in this manner so as to enable them to acquire a good revenue-producing property, and even for a lyric theatre tens of lotteries have been granted. He then concluded his explanation with the assertion that if it is proposed to condemn all lotteries, his vote can be counted upon for that purpose.

As a matter of convenient record for the present moment we put into print the following amendment to the budget estimates which was presented to the Senate by Senator Henrique d'Avila, of Rio Grande, on the 20th instant, and rushed through to its adoption on the same day. It has a very innocent and unsuspecting look, and may well be one of the most harmless measures in the budget. The amendment reads as follows:

The government may contract for supplies for the army and navy, in national factories on equal terms, for a longer time than that determined in Art. XIX, of law No. 3,018 of November 5th, 1880, not exceeding five years.—H. d'Avila.

As before stated, this may be one of the most innocent measures in the whole budget. It specifies nothing, claims nothing, and enacts nothing beyond a modest permission to make contracts for supplies; and yet it creates a loophole through which a great many choice jobs can easily be arranged. It is strange that it was reserved until the last moment when due consideration is impossible, and it is equally strange that it should have been couched in such general terms and with so few restrictions. Heretofore these contracts have been made for one year; this amendment asks for five. Heretofore the importer has been permitted to compete; now the contracts are to be given to national manufacturers. It may be—as is to be hoped—that the delay was caused by oversight, and the general terms and new conditions are warranted by special circumstances, but if the signs have not failed us we shall have occasion to again refer to this matter.

The hydraulic system of working auriferous gravels, the introduction of which into Brazil promises to be of considerable importance, was tried for the second time in this country by Col. Alex. Del Mar at Campanha in southern Minas a short time since. The first trial of this system was made in 1879 at Itabira de Matto Dentro by Mr. Frank H. Spear, in the interests of a local Brazilian company that had purchased the material brought out some time before by the ill-starred São Cyriaco company. This experiment was particularly interesting as it demonstrated the practicability of working the friable ironstone deposits, known by the name of *jacutinga*, by this method; but unfortunately, owing to dissensions in the company, the working was soon abandoned. It is to be hoped that this second attempt will be more successful and will lead to the general introduction of this cheap and effective method into this country. Col. Del Mar has taken out letters patent for some improvements of his own invention, but we fancy that the local paper must have been misinformed when it stated that the Brazilian government had granted him a privilege covering the whole process. It can hardly be possible that the government should have granted a general patent for a process of which only a part is patentable in the country where it was invented, and on which the patents, if there ever were any, must have expired. It is equally incredible that a reputable mining engineer, one who, according to the statements of his friends, stood at the head of his profession in the United States, should have lowered himself to the level of the adventurers who are constantly importuning and, to the shame of the country, obtaining patents in Brazil for other people's inventions, or for so-called inventions, which have long since become common property elsewhere.

It is worthy of note that the interest guarantee voted by the provincial assembly of Rio de Janeiro on the capital invested in a central usine at Macahé carries with it the onus of providing the city of Macahé with water and light. What connection there can be between the establishment of a private sugar manufacturing enterprise, and the public supply of water and light, it will be very hard to determine; but yet that is the condition upon which the privilege and guarantee are based. The reasons given for this are that the projected usine will pay from 12 to 20 per cent. on its capital investment of 600,000\$, and that the province can not undertake to provide Macahé with water and light on its own account. According to the legislative logic of the day, therefore, this promising private enterprise, which is to yield a net result of not less than 12 per cent. must pay the

costs of these public improvements as the condition of granting the monopoly and guarantee which it asks. At best, it is a very queer transaction, and it is one which foreign capitalists should take into careful consideration. It is clearly evident that the public policy of this country is rapidly settling into this abnormal and dangerous system of granting monopolies on condition that they shall effect some public improvement. The system is vicious and venal in the highest degree. Take this one project as an illustration. If a central usine at Macahé, of which the actual cost will be somewhere between 300,000\$ and 400,000\$, can pay a net income of 12 per cent. on a capital of 600,000\$, what need is there of giving either a privilege or a guarantee? No sane capitalist will require a guarantee of 6 per cent. where 12 per cent. is already assured. Then, too, if the central system of sugar manufacture is so profitable, no encouragement should be necessary to start the enterprise, and no monopoly is required to secure its income. There are a great many capitalists who would be highly satisfied with much less than 12 per cent., providing the ordinary security of their investments is assured. According to this strange policy, however, the fact that an enterprise is highly profitable is no reason for letting it take care of itself; on the contrary, the aim seems to be to concentrate and privilege the industry, and then to make the monopolists divide the spoils. The contribution for "public improvements," which should be met by a tax directly on those benefitted, is only the cloak for a very questionable business.

We note in the published proceedings of the provincial government of Rio de Janeiro an *edital*, dated the 3rd instant, calling for tenders for the purchase of certain slaves to be sold under a judicial process. The slaves formerly belonged to Commendador Antonio Joaquim Ferreira, but were seized by the provincial authorities in execution of a judicial sentence, and are now to be sold in accordance with the legal formalities prescribed. For the benefit of the curious, as well as intending purchasers, we would say that sealed proposals will be received up to the 4th proximo, and if the purchaser is very much ashamed of himself it is probable that the goods will be struck off and delivered with the least possible publicity. The lot to be sold comprises eleven slaves and two free-born children. The list contains five, possibly six, able-bodied slaves, valued from 500\$ to 1,000\$ each. It also contains one old African of 80 years valued at 80\$, another of 70 years valued at 100\$, a sick woman of 36 years with two children valued at 700\$, and two men in the hospital, viz.: "Firmino, 38 years more or less, crioulo, grievely ill, valued at 50\$ (in the condition in which he is found); Antonio, crioulo, 40 years more or less, ruptured and ill, valued at 150\$." The tenders for these slaves should be addressed to "Conselheiro Dr. Luiz Antonio Pereira Franco, at Niterohy, who is a *juiz de direito*, and also a *juiz dos feitos* of the provincial treasury. If any intending purchaser desires to see this desirable property, he will find six of them, including the two old Africans and the sick woman, in the Niterohy jail, and two of them in the hospital—providing they have not changed their address to the cemetery. Intending purchasers are invited to be present at the ceremony of opening the tenders, and the successful applicant will be permitted to carry his property away with him—always excepting the sick and the dead. To fitly celebrate the event the favored applicant will be expected to furnish the disappointed ones with a choice little lunch in honor of his success. As the affair has no political significance and is

simply an ordinary business transaction, in which the provincial government merely happens to be a party, it will be managed quietly and without any public demonstration whatever. The lot containing no pretty young women, the sale will be devoid of all sentimental interest, and will be limited strictly to a business speculation—the investment of money in a few worn-out human machines, in which there may yet be enough work to reimburse the purchaser. Old mules are often bought on the same principle. With the hospital cases the speculation must necessarily have a slightly different character, as the elements of dead loss or increased value take precedence of all other factors. If the slaves die, the purchaser loses his investment, for the *edital* requires him to take them just as he finds them. Should they get well, however, their value will be largely increased, as both are still young and may have many years of profitable work in them. The investment is something of a lottery, but this only adds to the attractiveness of the venture, and will undoubtedly lend an unusual attraction to the sale.

The budget appropriations for the department of agriculture have been finally voted by the General Assembly for the current year, and also for that of 1883-84. The total amount voted is 24,136,496\$801—though what that *one real* is to be expended on no one can imagine. This sum is a reduction of 1,581,001\$750 from the original estimates of the minister. Several reductions have been made in minor items, through which it has been possible to insert several large appropriations without increasing the aggregate. Thus in the item of "public works" new appropriations have been included, as follows: 100,000\$ for improving the Rio S. Francisco between Jatobá and Sobradinho; 100,000\$ for the improvement of rivers in Maranhão; 100,000\$ for the substitution of material employed in preserving and improving the port of Pernambuco; 840,000\$ for the Rio Grande bar and the Rio Jaguarão, the bar either to be improved or avoided by a canal; 50,000\$ for the improvement of channels and lakes in southern Alagoas, and 50,000\$ for improvements in the Rio Parahyba, province of Piahy. The appropriations for colonization and public lands is reduced to 700,000\$ and the government is authorized to reform the contract with the Hamburg society on more favorable terms. The Companhia Bahiana gets a subsidy of 155,000\$, the Companhia Seripipana 24,000\$, a Paraná company for navigating the Rios Iguaçu and Negro 12,000\$, a towing company at the Rio S. Francisco bar 12,000\$, and an interior navigation company in Matto Grosso 15,000\$. Among the special credits, which for some strange reason are never included in the budget totals, are authorizations for granting a guarantee on 4,000,000\$ for the D. Pedro I railway of Rio Grande do Sul, another on 2,000,000\$ for the extension of the "Natal a Nova Cruz" line in Rio Grande do Norte, another on 800,000\$ for the extension of the Conde d'Eu railway in Parahyba, and another of 6 per cent. on 2,500,000\$ for improving the port of Fortaleza, Ceará. The latter authorizes a privilege for 33 years, specifies that the works shall be according to the plans of Sir John Hawkshaw—notwithstanding the advantages offered by those of W. Milnor Roberts—and authorizes a special port tax of 1 to 10 reis per kilo on merchandise and 100 to 150 reis per metrical ton on shipping. The Companhia Brazileira is required to extend its service to Mandós, province of Amazonas, without additional subsidy. The contract with the Rio Gas Company is rejected and the government is authorized to invite tenders

for a new contract on conditions of lower prices, mixed gold and currency payments, reversion of property to the state at termination of the contract, obligatory substitution of present system by any other or by electricity at the will of the government with a three years' notice, the responsibility of consumers alone for the company's accounts, and the subdivision of the city for two or more gasometers if deemed most convenient, the government reserving the right to contract with two or more companies for the divided service. In case the contract is made with another company, the government authorizes the indemnification of the present company on the terms fixed by a formal valuation of material.

The opening of the second annual coffee exhibition Sunday, under the auspices of the Centro da Lavoura e Comercio, brings the coffee question once more prominently to the front. There has been and will continue to be the usual amount of self glorification and congratulation, and the industry will go on as before. There have been accumulated a large number of fine samples, and a better display of foreign products has been secured. In some instances the information accompanying the exhibits is much more valuable than last year. But at the same time, while we can not fail to commend the enterprise and perseverance of the Centro in its work, we can not help asking the question: *What will it all amount to?* We believe in fairs and exhibitions of course, but at the same time we can not avoid the conclusion that this coffee exhibition is wrong both in conception and execution. It is some thing like holding a wheat exhibition in Chicago or a raw cotton exhibition in New Orleans; it is even worse, for the benefit to producers would be greater in these two cases than in a coffee exhibition in Rio de Janeiro. If this enterprise is to have the character of a fair, in which competition between producers is the stimulus, and an improvement in production the object, then it should be held in the coffee districts where the planters can readily attend. If on the other hand it is purely a commercial exhibition—as it apparently is designed to be—then some central consuming market would be far preferable. An exhibition for the purpose of making the product known in this city is time thrown away, for we are up to our ears in it all the time. No more coffee will be sold than before, and the system of marketing the product will remain unchanged. The doors of the sample rooms are now open to the public, and thousands of curious visitors will visit them to admire and praise King Coffee. We shall hear nothing but praise and thanksgiving, and the scales upon the eyes of the Brazilian planter will be thicker than ever. In plain terms—and we say it with honest good will—what is the use of going on with all this nonsense! The world won't buy one single bag more for all this local display; prices won't go up; production and transportation will not be cheapened; and the planter won't be one whit the wiser! As long as Brazilian agriculture remains in its present condition, as long as the slavery question is unsolved, as long as the transportation question is unsettled, as long as the present system of marketing the product continues, and as long as all the profits of labor and enterprise are swallowed up by the government in taxation, just so long will these displays be futile. Brazil is now producing much too large a quantity of coffee, for she is producing at a steady loss. What is really needed is the introduction of other industries in which the capital and labor of the country can be employed. If the Centro will give its intelligent attention to this matter, and at the same time to those

vital questions of taxation, transportation, and improved cultivation, we shall expect to see some practical benefit from their efforts. The heavy hand of official control must be taken off the neck of industry, export taxes must be abolished, import taxes must be reduced and rearranged so as to bear less heavily on necessities and more heavily on luxuries, the heavy freights now exacted by the railways must be reduced and greater facilities and encouragement must be given for the cultivation of land in small plantations. These are vital questions in the industrial development of this country, and they should receive the earliest and fullest consideration.

Much has been said in one way and another about the sale of the Cantagallo railway a short time since by the province of Rio de Janeiro, but probably the severest criticism thus far made was that of Deputy Paulo Cesar in the provincial assembly on the 4th instant. (*vide Jornal do Comercio, October 18.*) As is known there were only three proposals received, one of which was withdrawn before the decision of the provincial government was rendered. The other two were from Manoel Gomes de Oliveira and C. P. Mackie. The provincial government accepted the former because its terms were deemed more favorable to the province, one of which was the payment of the purchase money within a period of six months from the date of the contract. The other bid specified ten months. No sooner is the contract signed, however, than the purchaser asks an extension of six months, which is at once granted by the provincial assembly. The contract also specifies the payment of the purchase money in cash. The purchaser now asks permission to pay the province in its own titles of indebtedness issued for the original purchase of the road from the Baão de Nova Friburgo, and the assembly assents. The contract specifies a term of proprietorship of 70 years, after which the line reverts to the province. The purchaser now asks for an extension to 90 years, and it is granted. And in his petition for these changes the purchaser complains that the conditions of the contract are hard and difficult, notwithstanding they were proposed by himself, and afterwards formally accepted in the execution of the contract. In view of these facts Deputy Paulo Cesar very pertinently asks what advantages remain in the terms proposed by Sr. Gomes de Oliveira over those proposed by Mr. Mackie. All the favorable conditions have turned out to be "hardships," and the province is to receive its own obligations instead of cash. And further than that the course pursued in this transaction warrants the conclusion that the whole affair was prearranged, the favorable terms being made with knowledge of those offered in the other proposals, and with the sole purpose of driving them out of the field. In view of these conclusions, what fair play can be expected from any further affairs of this character. If these competitions are to be nothing more than farces, it is full time that foreign capitalists should be made aware of it.

AFTER so much has been said, in the way of complaint, about the sale of Brazilian coffee in foreign markets under the names of "Java," "Mocha," etc., it is amusing to note the large number of samples labeled "Mocha" now on exhibition at the Typographia Nacional, and the high degree of satisfaction expressed over them on every side. It is to be admitted that these samples of Brazilian "Mocha" are so excellent and so superior that it is doubtful whether they can be excelled in any part of the world. As far as appearance goes they are everything that can be desired, and the praise lavished

upon them is certainly well bestowed. As to the choice of name, however, it must be confessed that there are good grounds for criticism. The complaints of Brazilian planters, and newspapers, and legislators about the sale of Brazilian coffee in consuming markets under foreign names, have been long and loud; even one of the objects of these coffee exhibitions is to make the Brazilian product known on its own merits. And yet we find one of these foreign names widely used on a special grade, and that too, for the simple reason that the Brazilian grade resembles a certain popular foreign product which takes its name from the locality where it is produced. More than that, the planters have been long accustomed to assort their coffees on these foreign grades, and have machinery for that purpose. Now what conclusions are we to draw from this? To be consistent in their complaints the Brazilian coffee planters and dealers should never have prepared their products in this way, and most certainly not to the extent of using these objectionable foreign names even here. If the planter assort his coffee so as to have an imitation of Mocha for sale, then what objection can there be to the sale of it as such by the foreign dealer? If, however, this name has come to represent a type, rather than a limited Arabian product,—as is really the case—then there should have been no complaints. Every one knows that there is now very little genuine Mocha produced—and yet a very large quantity is sold. The individual product has been transformed into a type, and as such Brazil is producing as fine a quality as can be found. It is unjust, perhaps, that the Arabian product should have been robbed of its distinctive appellation, and for this spoliation Brazil is largely to blame. Had some other name been selected to represent the type, there would have been just the same general result, and with less confusion. Besides that, it would have made the inconsistency of Brazil's complaint less apparent and ridiculous. As the unwritten decrees of commerce have despoiled this little Arabian district—the very one which gave this industry to the world—of its distinctive name for its own product, there is now no cause for complaint, and we shall expect to hear no more of it.

In view of the proposition of an important Italian commercial house of this city to introduce ten thousand Italian immigrants into the province of São Paulo, the *Eco d'Italia* of the 15th instant takes occasion to enter its protest against the transaction. The main grounds of the objection are that Brazil does not offer the requisite economic, social, commercial and industrial conditions for an immigration of this character, and that Italians will not find remunerative labor in the country. To this the *Correio* and other journals of São Paulo have entered a vigorous protest, and on the grounds that some seven millions of francs are annually remitted to Italy from Brazil, that the same races and customs exist here as in Europe, that free colonies have been established in São Paulo for Italian colonists which are highly prosperous, that the small business enterprises of the provincial capital are largely in the hands of Italians, and that the minimum wage for manual labor in that province is 30¢ per month, with food and lodging. From these statements the *Correio* concludes that the *Eco d'Italia* is mistaken in its charges and that its opposition to Italian immigration is an outbreak of "exaggerated sentimentalism." But is this so? Is not the *Eco* perfectly right in the position which it has assumed? The *Correio* should remember that this opposition is based upon a feeling which it can never know—the feeling of a stranger

in a strange country who seeks to better his condition there. If his expectations were realized just so far that he might feel this new country to be his own and that he had really bettered his condition by the change, very few complaints would be heard. The simple fact that these complaints exist, and that a foreign journalist dare oppose all further traffic in the labor, if not the bodies, of his countrymen, even in the country which seeks them, is *prima facie* evidence that something is seriously wrong. The arguments advanced by the *Correio* really prove nothing. We are told that seven millions of francs are annually sent to Italy from this country, but whether this sum is the earnings of immigrants, or remittances in ordinary commercial transactions, or what proportions of the two enter into it, we are not told. Figures are the best of proofs, of course; but we must first know their relations before they can have value. Then as to the social inducements held out, the *Correio* knows perfectly well that it is no answer whatever to the charges of the Italian journal. Similarity of language and institutions may be worth much or little to the immigrant; the local customs and prejudices, however, always mean much. The Portuguese retailers in the north some years ago, who were made the objects of a popular political movement, never got a single crumb of comfort from this circumstance; on the contrary, the feeling that a people to whom they were related by blood, language, and institutions, could be so narrow and jealous, made their treatment a cause for greater and more bitter complaint.

And to show that this feeling of jealousy and antagonism still exists we need only refer the *Correio* to the proceedings of the national legislature where even the appearances of hospitable intention are not preserved. It is only a few days ago that a prominent senator interrupted a speaker with the sweeping question whether a naturalized foreigner could really become a Brazilian at heart. From all that we have thus far seen—and we are glad to say at the same time that we have known many noteworthy exceptions—the foreigner is not admitted into a social, political and economic equality with Brazilians, and the *Eco* is perfectly right to make that fact known. The desire for immigration—as every Brazilian well knows—is not for the acquisition of citizens, but for laborers; and the nearer these laborers approach the slave in their social and political status, the better they suit the market. If there were real advantages here for Italian immigrants, there would be very little need for these expensive contracts, and for their introduction under conditions but little removed from that of slaves. At the present time the emigration of Italians to the United States, the River Plate, and even to Mexico, is going forward on a large scale; were the inducements similar, a good part of it would certainly come to Brazil. Instead therefore of seeking to demonstrate that everything here is good and right, our Paulista colleagues will find infinitely better occupation in seeking to remedy the evils of which the foreigner complains.

THE MONTE-PIO GERAL.

A meeting of the policy-holders (*insituidores*) of the Monte-Pio Geral was held on the 18th inst., at which it was decided by 116 votes to 38 that the institution should not be wound up. So far, so good; but even assuming that the 154 votes taken represented the total number of *insituidores*, we should like to know if the matter is to rest here? Knowing, however, as we do, that there are many non-resident foreigners interested who were not represented at that meeting, we would like to ask on their behalf what justice is going to be done to those who

consider that liquidation is the only way to save anything from the total wreck which many regard as inevitable?

If the institution was an ordinary limited liability company their remedy would be simple, for they could just sell their shares at the market value, and invest the proceeds in some more solid undertaking; but, as the Monte-Pio policies are inalienable, what are those *instituidores* to do who have regularly paid their annual premiums in the faith that the institution was perfectly solvent? Sr. Teixeira Junior, the president of the Monte-Pio, distinctly stated in the Senate, on the 13th inst., that while the liabilities were in round figures 15,000,000\$ the assets were only 7,400,000\$, and an extract from the minutes of the board meeting of the 29th ult. (published in the *Jornal do Commercio* of the 18th inst.), discloses the unwelcome fact that at the end of last month the board was compelled to apply to one of the banks for a loan, because there were no funds in hand to meet the current monthly expenses! And yet the directors of 1871 were warned in that year that the disaster which has now overtaken the institution was inevitable!

The remedy proposed is to cut down all the annuities to 50% of their value for an indefinite period, and that the state should contribute its aid by authorising a monster lottery in favor of the institution. Assuming both of these measures to be carried out, we would ask if they are sufficient to rehabilitate the concern, or to restore public confidence? It seems idle to ask the question. And, even if public confidence were restored, is there any guarantee not only that the institution will be reconstituted on a sound basis, but that it will be better managed in the future? History has a tendency to repeat itself, and we may be forgiven if we express a misgiving that the same elements which have led to the present catastrophe may not be altogether absent in future boards of directors.

The important question, however, is: What is to be the fate of those who regard liquidation as the only way out of the difficulty? That those who believe in the vitality of the institution should vote against its being wound up is quite intelligible, and they are only exercising an undoubted right in doing so; but that those who consider that it must sooner or later come to grief, and that a prompt liquidation is the only way to protect the interests of all concerned—that these should be compelled either to forfeit all the premiums already paid, or, *nilens volens*, to continue in the concern, pay their annual premiums as heretofore, and lose everything at the end of the chapter, would be simply monstrous.

The proper course would be to wind up the old Monte-Pio, and found a new one on a thoroughly sound basis, respecting the rights of those already in receipt of annuities (subject if necessary to a temporary discount) but allowing the present *instituidores* the option of entering the new Monte Pio without examination, or of surrendering their policies (or paid-up premiums) on equitable terms. Such a course would, we feel convinced, merit the approval of the dissentients, while, so far from injuring, it would only improve the position of the majority who are so sanguine of the ultimate resuscitation of the institution. Considering that the Monte-Pio can only pay 50% of its liabilities and that—on the admission of the board—its future existence depends upon its fundamental principles being entirely remodelled, common justice demands the prompt execution of some such plan as we have indicated, even if self-interest does not suggest it to the directors as the shortest and surest way of regaining public confidence.

Since the foregoing was set up the Senate has thrown out the proposal to grant a grand

lottery for the aid of this institution. This will unquestionably compel a further consideration of the question of liquidation, but with what result it is difficult to foresee.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The September receipts of the Maranhão custom house amounted to 236,438\$82.

—The *Provincia* of São Paulo says that no new cases of small-pox have appeared in that city.

—The good people of Tietê, São Paulo, are circulating a subscription for the construction of a theatre.

—The city of Taubaté is about to celebrate a contract for public illumination, the bases proposed having been accepted by the municipal council.

—The September receipts of the Pará custom house amounted to 1,004,182\$236, against 866,808\$820 in the same month of last year, and 486,139\$712 in 1880.

—The floating indebtedness of the province of Minas Geraes is about 530,000\$, and the funded debt is 2,441,000\$, according to the last *relatório* of the provincial president.

—A special credit of 1,000\$ has been opened in the São Paulo provincial treasury for carrying on the construction of the wagon road from Pindamonhangaba to the Campos do Jordão.

—The *Gazeta*, of Campinas, São Paulo, says that the maize and bean crops are looking well at present and promise an abundant yield. In this case why not export a little for consumption elsewhere?

—The Rio de Janeiro provincial assembly has passed a bill granting a 6 per cent. guarantee to a central usine at Macahé, on a capital of 600,000\$. The period for the duration of the guarantee is 15 years.

—The *Ordem* of Cachoeira, Bahia, of the 11th, says that a savage fight took place on the track of the Central railway, on the 8th inst., between some 20 *garimpeiros*. Three men and two women were gravely wounded.

—The *Pharos*, of Juiz de Fora, notes the arrest of a stranger at that place, who is suspected to be the man who counterfeited the Bank of England notes lately in circulation in London. The name of the man is not given.

—The opposition to paying rent for the use of gas meters in São Paulo still continues. A writer in the *Provincia* accuses the government of pusillanimity, in being frightened by the company with a threat of interference by the British government.

—The September receipts of sugar and cotton at Pernambuco, compared with those of the same month of last year, were as follows:

	1882	1881
Sugar.....	1,152 bags	8,807 bags
Cotton.....	6,055 sacks	8,774 sacks

—The provincial 4 per cent. export tax on coffee in Minas Geraes—or more correctly the export tax of 15 reis per kilo—produced a revenue of 1,060,868\$191. The official statistics show that the total export for the year was 80,368,802 kilos, or 1,337,450 bags. The difference between this quantity, and that represented by the tax is not explained.

—Messrs Fioria & Tavolera, a mercantile house and steamship agency of Rio de Janeiro, have submitted a proposition to the provincial government of São Paulo for the introduction of 10,000 Italian immigrants into that province. The terms of the proposed contract have not yet been made public. The organ of the italians in São Paulo, the *Eco d'Italia*, has entered a vigorous protest against the project.

—The people of São Paulo are to have an opera at last. The manager of the company now at Bahia has just visited São Paulo, and has concluded arrangements for a series of operas in that city. He makes no pretensions about having a first class troupe, and is content with a guarantee of 25,000\$. As a result the people of São Paulo will have a season of opera at about half the prices asked by Ferrari.

—The *Diario da Gram-Pará* draws the following sharp comparison between the imperial receipts and expenditures of the provinces of Rio Grande do Sul and Pará during the fiscal year 1879-80:

	Rio Grande	Pará
Receipts.....	5,451,338\$144	7,311,246\$131
Expenditures..	8,787,347 006	2,196,733 391
Rio Grande, deficit.....	3,336,008\$862	
Pará, surplus.....		5,124,512 740

—An able speech was made in the Minas provincial assembly on the 22nd ult., by Deputy Patão, in favor of changing the fixed *paute* (official valuation) on coffee to a varying one similar to that at Rio de Janeiro. The present fixed rate of 375 reis per kilo, is much higher than the market rate and is causing a direct loss to the planter. When the rate is below that in Rio, the *guias*, (export dispatches) are sold at a premium, and are speculated in to a considerable extent.

—The September receipts of the Maceió custom house amounted to 72,908\$970.

—The September receipts of the Ceará custom house amounted to 204,716\$379.

—The Pernambuco provincial assembly was closed by the president on the 14th inst.

—The September receipts of the Rio Grande do Norte custom house amounted to 46,083\$340.

—The rainfall at Ouro Preto, Minas Geraes, during the month of September, amounted to 135 3/4 millimeters.

—The September receipts of the Maranhão custom house amounted to 225,746\$902, and of the provincial treasury to 42,324\$862.

—The people of Campinas, São Paulo, are still afflicted with an epidemic of burglary. All pathological remedies thus far have been fruitless.

—The latest advices from Pará report a continued scarcity of food along the lower Amazon. At Santarem there is almost an absolute lack of meat.

—The September receipts of the provincial *meza de vendas* of Espírito Santo amounted to 13,274\$837. The customs receipts for the same month were 9,901\$770, against 8,593\$334 last year.

—An assassination occurred at Ribeiro Grande, near Pindamonhangaba, São Paulo, on the 1st inst., a man named João Baptista do Nascimento being shot in the breast by his nephew, José Ferreira Leite. The assassin escaped.

—Two important projects were introduced into the Rio provincial assembly on the 21st inst., one for the water supply of Niterobý by Victor Francisco de Braga Mello, and the other for the sewerage works of the same city by Oscar Leonardi & Co.

—The material for the iron market house at Manaus, Amazonas, has been received at that city. It will sound just a little strange that one of the capital cities of the Amazon, located in the Amazonian forest region, is importing iron building material.

—The Club Abolicionista de Pernambuco has effected the emancipation of 33 slaves (six for this year, at a total cost of 11,180\$, of which 8,015\$ came from the savings *propios* of the slaves themselves, and 3,165\$ from the generous aid of the club. It is a deserving work, and merits the highest praise.

—According to the minority in the Minas provincial assembly the public indebtedness of that province will be increased to over 3,800,000\$ by the end of the present fiscal year, the deficit for the year being estimated at 500,000\$. The railway legislation of that province seems to be bearing fruit early.

—An interior paper of the province of Bahia describes the state of affairs there as something deplorable. There is no coffee; the caterpillars have devoured the maize; the tobacco plantations are unworked; and among the poor people there is almost a famine. Add to this the depreciations of hands of robbers, and the picture is one which can not be viewed without grave forebodings.

—Telegrams from Pará on the 18th inst. announce a popular manifestation against the provincial assembly. A mob attacked the assembly house, breaking the windows and doors, and jeering at the deputies. Measures were at once taken to suppress the disturbance. The cause was politics, the conservatives charging that the liberals in the assembly were aided and directed the attack.

—A heavy robbery occurred at Pernambuco on the 5th inst., the master of the British bark *Genie Goodwin* being robbed of 6,700\$ by a Canadian named Fitzsimmons, whom he had brought out with him from the United States. The master, Capt. Gibson, had received the above named sum at Maceió, and Fitzsimmons saw him put it away. On arriving at Pernambuco the latter went on shore to see the city, and failed to return. He does not speak one word of Portuguese and consequently his detection is inevitable.

—According to the *Gazeta*, of Piracicaba, São Paulo, a fight occurred near that place on the 10th inst. between a young man named Joaquim Pio Mattoso and a spotted tiger (*onça pintada*). Mattoso, accompanied by a small boy, was going through a piece of woods, at a place called Lagedo, when his dog was attacked and killed by the tiger. He fired upon the animal, but succeeded only in wounding it slightly. The enraged tiger then sprang upon him. Mattoso succeeded in destroying one of the animal's eyes with his knife at the outset, but it was only after a desperate struggle that he succeeded in killing him.

PROTECTIONISM, says the *Collian Times*, is becoming rampant in that republic, and measures are being discussed for the protection of native industries born and yet to be born. A bill has been presented to the Senate to restrict the coasting trade to the Chilian flag, and it is proposed to levy a higher duty on lucifer matches in order to protect a native made article.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The Santo Antonio de Padua railway will be opened to traffic to the station of Barra on the 1st proximo.

—The September receipts of the "Oeste de Minas" railway amounted to 21,421\$910, and the expenditures to 13,707\$810.

—The D. Pedro II line will issue excursion tickets at reduced prices to all planters who desire to attend the coffee exposition.

—The September receipts of the Baturité railway amounted to 40,590\$532, and the expenditures to 24,762\$777, leaving a surplus of 15,827\$754.

—The government has extended the time for the incorporation of the "Maceió a Jucueipe" railway, Alagôas, to the 11th November, 1883.

—The August receipts of the "Bahia ao S. Francisco" railway amounted to 25,319\$470, and the expenditures to 52,460\$150, leaving a deficit of 27,140\$680.

—The surveys on the Rio Grande railway to Uruguanayana are reported as progressing rapidly. The surveyors are expected to arrive at the latter place at an early day.

—The contractor's corps of engineers for surveying the "Victoria a Natividade" railway of Espírito Santo, arrived here from England on the 21st inst. on the Royal Mail packet *Trent*.

—The bill for the extension of the Mogyana line to the Rio Grande, *en route* for Matto Grosso, passed the Senate on the 13th inst. It concedes a guarantee of 6 per cent. on a capital investment of 7,000,000\$.

—According to the *Discussão* of Pelotas, Rio Grande, the surveys of the "Quararê e Itaquí" line have been completed for 484 kilometers. No difficulties for construction have been encountered. The line will require six 20-meter bridges, and one large bridge (Ibicuby) of 200 meters, with a viaduct or embankment over some 1,200 meters of low ground subject to inundation.

—The Santa Isabel do Rio Preto company has effected a loan of 1,600,000\$ with Messrs. Finnie Brothers & Co. of this city for the completion of this line. The loan is made on preferred obligations of 200\$ each, at 7 per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, and running 25 years. The line has a provincial guarantee of 7 per cent. for a period of 30 years. The company has already expended 17,000,000\$ on the road.

—A project was introduced into the provincial assembly of Minas Geraes on the 25th ult. for granting a thirty years' per cent. guarantee and a fifty years privilege for a branch line from some point on the Bahia and Minas railway to Gataculy, on the Rio S. Francisco. The guarantee is to be 7 per cent. in currency, or 6 per cent. in gold, on a maximum capital of 12,000,000\$. The projected line passes through S. João Baptista and Montes Claros.

—A correspondent of one of our Pernambuco exchanges, writing from Limoeiro on the 11th inst., names two cotton merchants of Pernambuco who are buying cotton in that vicinity, and sending in down to market on mule-back instead of on the "Recife a Limeiro" railway. The freight rates are so high that these buyers find it more economical to revert to the old-fashioned methods of transportation. A few more cases of this character should lead to a little intelligent consideration of the railway question.

—It is announced that the coasting steamer *Maria Pia*, which is to sail on the 4th prox., will take a party of gentlemen to Caravellas to witness the formal inauguration of traffic on that part of the Bahia and Minas railway between Caravellas and the Serra dos Aymorés, 142 kilometers in length. The *Jornal do Commercio* informs its readers that this line has been constructed by private enterprise and without guarantee of interest. If, however, the *Jornal* will look the matter up it will find that the company is receiving a subsidy of 9,000\$ from the provinces of Minas Geraes and Bahia for every kilometer of completed line. Half truths are sometimes just a little deceptive.

—According to an official report of Engineer J. J. Revy, from Ceará the Baturité railway tariffs are so high that much freight is brought down to market on mule-back, the railway being patronized only for freights too heavy or bulky for animal transportation. Mule trains are used in direct competition with the railway, and thus far with success. The coffee from the mountains is brought down in this way. Mr. Revy says that the costs of transportation on coffee are now \$500 per 120 kilos, including carriage to the Canôa station, against 35000 for the same before the *secca*. From these comparisons it would seem that the government railways in Ceará are not an unmix'd blessing after all.

—The Piracicaba branch of the Ituana railway, São Paulo, earned a surplus of \$8,300,880 during the half year ending June 30 last. This surplus was due, in large part, to the transport of the plant of the central usine located at Piracicaba.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

From the Buenos Ayres *Standard*, October 8.

—It is said that the murderers of the lamented Mrs. Perrens are to be summarily shot.

—Governor Rocha has written to Europe to have 2,000 navvies sent out for the railway works of the province.

—Lieut. Boré and his gallant companions left yesterday for home. We wish them a safe and pleasant voyage.

—Efforts are being made in Montevideo to discredit the innocence of Volpi and Patroni in the Betancourt tragedy.

—Forty-six vessels, including fourteen steamers, entered this port and sixteen vessels including ten steamers, left between September 23rd and October 6th.

—The *direction general de rentas* received during the past month the sum of \$18,965,54 pats, from the following custom houses: Zarate, \$6554.16; San Pedro, \$4,466.14; Rosario, \$507,970.24.

—The custom house collector of Rosario has refused permission to a person requesting to be allowed to ship some fossil bones from that port, among which is an entire skeleton of a megatherium.

—The provincial government has received from January to October of the present year \$9,538,357 for stamped paper and postage stamps. Yesterday stamped paper was sold to the value of \$139,880.

—The *Union* of San Juan, in its issue of the 23rd Sept., says that a valuable mine of coal has been discovered in that province; and that at Valle Fertil a rich mine of silver has been found.

—The municipality has granted the requisite permission for the erection of the proposed Garibaldi monument on the Paseo de Julio. The lion of Caprera will be worthily remembered.

—The *Rebecca*, with a cargo of railway material for the Southern railway, which sunk last Sunday, is in the same position still, and completely covered with water. On account of the rise in the river it has not been possible to get out the cargo.

—On Friday, the petition of the *saladeristas*, who asked Congress for a reduction of export duties, was refused. This measure will doubtless destroy the *saladero* interests throughout the country.

—Four men belonging to the British barque *Estrella de Chile* have deserted at Rosario. They took one of the ship's boats with them but it was found and recovered again. Nothing has since been heard of the men.

—During the month of September there have been shipped from this country the following amounts of jerked beef to Brazil 41,850 quintals, and 11,000 for Cuba. There are loading for the former destination 25,600 and for the latter 17,000 quintals.

—The provincial minister of finance has requested the national minister of finance to admit free of duty various materials, intended for buildings in the new city La Plata, which are now on board various ships anchored at Ensenada.

—A crime showing an extraordinary amount of savagery has been reported from Olimar Chico, B. O., where a woman named Susana Sanchez murdered one Tomassa Perez, giving her 94 stabs. No further details of this sanguinary affair are to hand up to the present.

—During the six months just past of the present year there have passed through the custom-house of Rosario 411,273 tons of merchandise, which have paid duties to the amount of \$51,123,517. During the month of September there have entered that port 456 vessels between steamers and sailing vessels.

—The finance commission of the national Chamber of Deputies is occupied at present studying the project for consolidating the national debt by an emission of 100,000,000 in 5 per cent bonds. It is one of the affairs included in the extended session, which shows that the national executive desires its adoption.

—Advices from the country districts report a general want of rain and, though this is not felt with much severity except in a few districts, any continued drought would certainly be followed by serious losses throughout the country. Otherwise the prospects of the incoming season are pretty good, and the first lots of wool that are just putting in an appearance obtain very fair prices.

—The representative of the Brush electric light leaves shortly for Brazil where he goes to provide some of the cities with the beautiful light we are witnessing a trial of in Calle Florida. It would have been creditable for Buenos Aires to have been the first city in South America to make this magnificent light its own, but it will not be so bad for it to be the second or third, which we hope soon to see.

—The municipality of this city has collected for taxes on lighting, sweeping and scavenging for the month just past the sum of \$1,233,616.

—The municipality has ordered all "conventillos" and houses of ill fame to remove themselves outside of Calles Comercio to the south; and Callo to the west; Santa Fé to the north and Paseo de Julio and Colon to the East. A term of six months has been granted for the effecting of this removal and in the meantime, no new places of the kind will be permitted to establish themselves inside of those limits. This will comfortably surround the city with a border of filth and moral corruption.

LOCAL NOTES

—Senator Teixeira Junior has resigned the position of director in the Monte-Pio Giral.

—The formal opening of the annual coffee exposition in this city took place on the 22nd inst, instead of the 15th as previously announced.

—The corvette *Bahiana* is to be disarmed and stationed in this port as a store ship, attached to the marine arsenal. The *Bahiana* is one of the oldest vessels in the Brazilian navy.

—The president of the board of health has finally discovered that there has been a rapid increase in the number of cases of small pox in this city. He recommends vaccination.

—It is announced that the director-general of the state telegraph service is about to begin the determination of the geographical position of the several telegraph stations throughout the empire.

—The agents of the Pacific Mail Co. in this city have offered to the government gratuitous transportation of the instruments and material of the Cape Horn expedition to observe the transit of Venus. Their destination is Punta Arena.

—There was a general stirring-up among the daily papers on the 19th inst. on the subject of small pox. Our colleagues appear to have waited for the president of the board of health to officially discover the epidemic, after which they have expressed themselves with great unanimity in the matter.

—In view of the fact that his name has been given to the comet now visible in South America Dr. Cruls of the Imperial Observatory writes that the discovery was first made by a telegraph operator at Cangas, 3, Ilo Grande do Sul, on the 10th September, and that the comet was not seen here, because of the atmosphere, until the 12th.

—A Buenos Aires exchange publishes the opinion of some one that the site at which sediment is now being carried down the rivers of China, the Yellow sea will be transformed into dry land in about 36,000 years. The news has caused great excitement in Argentine real estate circles.

—The official report of Dr. Louis Couty on the investigations of two assistants as to the injurious effects of coffee, having excited considerable adverse comment in the local press, that gentleman has hastened to explain that his report has been misinterpreted. The statements should be accepted in their Pickwickian sense. The Dr. meant to say nothing disparaging of coffee, especially in Brazil.

—We have much pleasure in giving a place—unsolicited—in our columns to the following advertisement, which we have taken verbatim from the *Journal do Commercio* of the 15th inst:

CHALEZ OLINDA—Comfortable hotel, luxuriously mobilized and equal to the first of Nord America. There are apartments for family and for a only person. The prices are moderated and subjected to a convention.

—According to experiments now making in the physiological laboratory of the National Museum it has been discovered that the use of coffee is highly detrimental. Its effect on the human constitution is that of a fat-consumer instead of a fat-producer. Besides that it causes inanition to a greater or less degree. In some cases the administration of strong black coffee to animals fed with meat, caused death in from three to seven days. The influence of these discoveries upon the coffee exhibition are not yet apparent.

—We are in receipt of a convenient and valuable little volume published at the offices of *The Observer*, Colombo, Ceylon, entitled *Coffee Cultivation in Brazil: Its Condition and Prospects*. The book, which contains something over 150 pages, is composed chiefly of letters addressed to *The Observer* from Brazil by two well known Ceylon planters, Mr. G. A. Cruwell and Mr. A. Scott Blacklaw, but also contains much valuable information on Brazil collected from other sources. It was first published in 1878, and does not therefore contain the many valuable letters from Mr. Blacklaw which have been published during the last few years. The purpose of the book—that of giving the Ceylon planters all available information about Brazilian coffee production—is one which is worthy of the highest praise, and might be imitated here with the best results.

—Should nothing happen to extend the sittings, the sessions of the General Assembly will be closed on the 28th instant.

—There seems to have been a recent increase in the number of beggars, owing probably to the new addition of 10 per cent. to the duties on imports.

—The sanitary state of the Ilha das Cobras is said to be incredibly bad. It is anticipated that the hot season will certainly cause some kind of an epidemic there.

—An imperial decree of the 7th inst. grants permission to Gustavo Emilio Olander to bore for petroleum in the *comarcas* of Campo Largo and Lapa, province of Paraná.

—The Emperor has conferred the title of an *official* in the Order of the Rose, upon Theodoro Christensen, president of the Associação Commercial of Pernambuco.

—The local press is just finding out that there is small-pox in the city, and at the same time that in many localities no efforts have been made to remove the patients to the hospital.

—The amendment to the budget estimates authorizing provincial presidents to grant letters of naturalization and abolishing the taxes on the same, passed the Senate on the 20th instant.

—The "10 per cent. additional" amendment to the budget estimates passed the Senate on the 14th inst. by a vote of 21 to 15. Senator Junqueira's 1 per cent. drawback on exports in domestic bags was rejected.

—The measure voted by the Chamber authorizing the government to grant a 7 per cent. guarantee on one agricultural establishment of the projected Companhia Zootécnica e Agrícola, was rejected in 3rd reading in the Senate on the 20th inst.

—The total number of deaths in this city during the first half of this month was 435, or an average of 29 a day. This is equivalent to an annual average of 32.5 per thousand. Among the several cases, there were 67 from small-pox, 77 from consumption and 11 from violence.

—An attempted assassination occurred in Rua Escobar, São Christóvão, on the evening of the 19th inst., a man named Antonio Ferreira being shot in the head by an endog-house clerk named Bittencourt. The latter has not yet been captured, and Ferreira is in the hospital in a serious state.

—The various commissions for observing the transit of Venus are now setting out for their posts in great haste. Dr. Cruls leaves to-day for Cape Horn, the Barão de Tefé is on his way to St. Thomas, and all the subordinates are packing up their wardrobes and commissary departments with all dispatch.

—A murder took place on Rua Taylor, Gloria parish, on the night of the 19th inst., a corporal of the 1st battalion of infantry, named João Braz da Luz, being killed, as is supposed, by a private soldier with whom he had quarreled. Several soldiers and policemen were concerned in the disturbance. Luz was stabbed through the heart with a rapier.

—The trial of George Wilson for the murder of Capt. Arthur Penery, of the British bark *Aurora*, on the 18th of May last, took place on the 20th inst. There being no positive evidence as to who fired the shot, four men being engaged in the struggle, the prisoner was discharged by the jury by a majority of 7 votes.

—The second Brazilian coffee exhibition opened on Sunday at the rooms of the Typographia Nacional with about 1500 samples from 1000 exhibitors, against 1,145 samples and 922 exhibitors last year. The samples are exhibited in small sacks, as last year, and are open to the inspection of all visitors. Brazilian "Mocha" is represented this year by a large number of samples. Altogether the display is a very fine one.

—As a matter of history it is to be recorded that the Bazar Julio Cesar, recently held at the Typographia Nacional, came to an inglorious end. After the first flush, the visitors began to drop off and soon the rooms were left wholly deserted. The commission then found themselves encumbered with a quantity of odds and ends which could neither be sold nor raffled. The donors did not want them either, so, in a fit of desperation, the commission gave the whole assortment to the Lyceu de Artes e Officinas. What use Dr. Bethancourt can make of them remains to be seen.

—The *Journal* of the 20th calls attention to the alarming proportions of the epidemic of small-pox in this city, and notes that deaths are occurring daily in Ruas do Barão de S. Felix and Senator Pompeu, in many houses of which deaths have repeatedly taken place. Some distinguished physicians assert that all the fatal cases are restricted to those not vaccinated. As the public vaccinating service is on only two days of the week, and at inconvenient hours, it would seem time to take some further measure of this character to secure general vaccination among the poorer classes.

—The Monte-Pio lottery amendment to the budget estimates was thrown out in the Senate on the 20th inst.

—The budget estimates finally passed the Senate on the 20th instant. The measure now goes to the Chamber of Deputies for concurrence, where it will be passed without delay.

—William Mogen, a sailor of the British bark *Asshur*, who was gravely injured on the 13th inst. by a stick falling upon his head, died in the Misericórdia hospital on the 17th.

—The *Journal do Commercio* of the 18th inst. continues its trenchant criticisms upon the non-payment of the accounts of past years (*exercícios findos*). The Chambers, however, are placidly looking forward to dissolution, and no attempt will be made to reform the abuse.

—The Emperor has bestowed the title of "Conseheiro" upon Dr. Nicoláo Joaquim Moreira. The title could not have been more worthily bestowed, but at the same time the many friends of the recipient will prefer to know him under the familiar old designation which has deservedly become a household word everywhere.

—In view of the circumstance that a great many senators are important house owners in this city, it has been found eminently desirable that the tenants only shall be responsible for their gas bills. The measure is perfectly just, but it requires just one other reform to make it practicable—better provisions for collecting small accounts through the courts.

—The provincial assembly of Rio de Janeiro has passed in third and last reading, by an almost unanimous vote, the privilege asked by Messrs Antony Taaffe and Edward Klingelhofer for the manufacture of paper pulp in that province. The privilege confers an exclusive right for a term of fifteen years. We understand that the concessionaires propose to immediately mount a large factory at the first station of the Principe do Grão-Pará (Petropolis) railway, employing the most improved machinery and having a producing capacity of one thousand tons per annum. In a country like Brazil, where the raw material is so abundant and the consumption of paper so great, a simple industry like paper manufacture would certainly seem a very sound investment for capital.

—Some time since the only spy-glass possessed at Fort Drum, at the entrance to the port of Pernambuco, got out of order, thus disabling the station in the matter of giving an early report of the arrivals of vessels. A slight repair to the object glass would have made the instrument fairly serviceable, but how could it be effected? The commandant of the fort was not authorized, nor the director of the Pernambuco arsenal, nor the military commander stationed there. The president of the province, as the representative of the imperial government, seemed to be the only authority competent to tackle the emergency, and to him was sent the application for repairs. This official, however, did not feel himself fully authorized to meet the said emergency, so the application was finally referred to the imperial minister of war in this city. We are now able to say that, after due deliberation in accordance with all the prescribed formalities, the minister has at last issued the required instructions and authorizations, and the Brum spy-glass, in due time, will be repaired.

—Under the title of *Breve Notícia sobre a Primeira Exposição de Café do Brazil*, the Centro da Lavoura e Commercio, of this city, has just published its report of the coffee exhibition held one year ago. It is a carefully prepared little volume of about 100 pages, to which are added several charts showing the character, source, and preparation of the 1,145 samples on exhibition. Besides the reports of the steps taken to establish the enterprise the comments of the daily press, and the opening ceremonies, the work also contains a condensed report of the results obtained in sending representative exhibits abroad, and an alphabetical list of exhibitors. The report of the foreign exhibits is very brief and shows no result beyond favorable newspaper comment and two exhibition premiums. On the contrary, much disappointment is expressed as to the barren results, especially in Paris where so much was expected. It is to be regretted that the book was not published much earlier, or soon after the exhibition, so that its classified lists could have been used. The foreign reports could easily have been left for the succeeding report, and the book would then have had a value which it can not now have.

—The present price of gas in the city of Philadelphia, United States, is \$1.90 per thousand feet. The reduction was caused by the electric light.

—The lighting of lower New York with the Edison electric light has resulted in a great success. The expense is calculated to be a little below that of gas, but the light is immeasurably better.

This output of coal in the United States, up to August 10 of this year, amounted to 17,311,028 tons, as compared with 16,669,466 tons in the corresponding period of 1881.

THE NEW AUSTRIAN TARIFF.

Austria is disposed to follow the lead of Germany in an economic policy which proposes additional burdens upon the masses for the benefit of the few, and the effect of this will probably be to start as sweeping an emigration of the working classes from that country as has lately been witnessed in the dominions of the Kaiser. The minister of finance and commerce has just succeeded in pushing through the Reichsrath a new general tariff, the more prominent features of which disclose higher duties from beginning to end. "Protection to home industry," especially from competition with the United States has evidently been a dominant idea with the finance minister, for in the report accompanying his scheme special reference is made to the "invasion of Western Europe by United States grain and pork, which threatens to close the markets for these products to Austro-Hungary." Being no longer capable of resisting American competition in these foreign markets, "self-protection," we are told, "demands that home markets should be reserved for domestic trade, particularly so in regard to grain, canned goods, meats, lard, leather, sewing machines, agricultural implements, domestic utensils, cotton yarns and textiles, and refined petroleum; or, in general, whilaw materials for industrial purposes; in the past have been admitted free, articles for food and manufactured goods will be forced to pay still higher duties." That is to say, because America has provided or proposes to provide the masses of the Austrian people with cheap bread and meat—the greatest boon that can possibly be conferred upon any impoverished industrial population—the government contemplates barring out pretty much everything of American manufacture. It is needless to say that such a policy is as short sighted as it is unwise. In its practical operation in the course of time it must inevitably defeat the ends which it professes to have in view. If the working classes have to pay more for the necessities of life in consequence of these extra duties, they must have correspondingly higher compensation for their labor. If this demand be conceded, then the products of their industry will have just so much more added to their cost, and to that extent they will be at a disadvantage in competing with cheaper countries in the world's markets. How is that going to help domestic industry? On the other hand, if the demand for higher wages is refused, strikes will be inevitable, with their attendant social and political discontent. It is incomprehensible that the dentry experiences of the past have taught Continental statesmen and political economists so little wisdom in this respect. They go on from blunder to blunder, until, with the last leather on the people's back, the latter are impelled, from an absolute sense of self-preservation, to rebellion or revolution. Where the facilities for emigration are at hand, and where these are not interfered with by authority, consequences of this character may be averted for a while, but as a period comes when even food, rations must be exhausted, emperors, kings and prime ministers will have to look these in the face. It is only a question of time. It may be retorted that the United States to-day have an economic policy quite as odious in its restrictions upon commerce and trade as that of Austria or Germany, and the retort must be acknowledged; but to this it may be urged that our vast natural resources, together with the exception of our population from the sweeping military conscriptions which the European political system make a periodical necessity, have saved our people from the calamitous results which have attended, and which must still attend, such experiments elsewhere. In other words, we are prosperous here in spite of, not in virtue of, restrictive legislation. Imperial Austria and imperial Germany are not the most becoming models for the United States. We are old enough to have a policy of our own, in harmony with republican institutions, on the basis of free trade for free men.—New York Commercial Bulletin, Sept. 2.

THE COMET.

The following very interesting communication has been addressed to the Argentine minister of public instruction, in Buenos Aires, by Dr. Gould, director of the Observatory at Cordoba, Argentine Republic: NATIONAL ARGENTINE OBSERVATORY, Cordoba, Sept. 30th, 1882.

To Dr. Don Eduardo Wilde, minister of justice, worship and public instruction:

On the occasion of the brilliant comet which has just visited the sun, and knowing public interest to have been awakened on the subject of this magnificent phenomenon, I addressed Y. E. by telegraph, as soon as the comet became visible in daylight to the naked eye. The relative positions of the earth, the sun and the comet have been such that ordinary methods are of no avail for the determination of its orbit, so that this has necessitated an amount of labor three or four times as great as it otherwise would have been, giving at the same time results

which are far from being exact. The sun and the comet were both almost on the plane of the equator where the same has its intersection with the ecliptic; part of the series of observations were effected previously to the perihelion, and the rest subsequently to the same; in the beginning, it could not be known whether the comet, which on the 17th was twice in the same direct line with the earth and the sun, had passed in the first instance before or behind the same, or not, the ascendant is quite close to the equinoctial line; finally it has continued its apparent course with the same route on approaching and withdrawing from the sun.

The course of the comet has been the object of observations on all the favorable days since the 9th inst. both during the day and before day-break. The development of the matter going to form the tail has been observed; careful drawings of the position and magnitude of the same have been taken, and the orbit has been repeatedly estimated, more exact knowledge of the position and form of the same being from time to time obtained. The astronomer Mr. Francis Wiggins, assistant at the Observatory, after repeated trials, has succeeded in arriving at estimates which cannot be very far from the truth.

Now that its orbit is known, the similitude supposed to exist between this comet and that of 1868 has disappeared, and it may be said that it cannot be identified with any that have been previously observed. What is specially notable about it is its limited perihelion distance, which, though not so small as that of the comet of 1843 and 1880, nor even as that of 1680, is, nevertheless, notable. It is evident that the great brilliancy of the comet subsequent to its access to the sun is due to its incandescence through the great heat it has borne.

Generally speaking, comets only shine through the reflected light of the sun, but to this one there appears to have been added another intrinsic brilliancy, its very body having attained a white colour.

The tail, which has measured during the week a length of from 15 to 20 degrees, and a width of about one degree, was prolonged at one edge to a distance of from 12 to 15 degrees more, and by a streak of bright light giving it the appearance of having lost nine-tenths of its tail, leaving what remained thereof twice as wide as it otherwise would have seemed.

On Sunday, the 17th inst., it approached the sun with an extreme apparent velocity, passing once before and again behind the body of the same, so that on the day following it was visible at a distance of five or six degrees from the solar disc, on the same side as it had arrived on.

Hence, instead of being visible after sunset, as it seemed probable, in the beginning, that it would be, it has always remained visible before sunrise, and it even affords us a magnificent spectacle towards the rising of the sun during the last hours of the night.

Queries have been addressed to me from various sources as to the identity of this comet with that of 1812.

In that year there appeared a relatively small comet, which, however, was visible to the naked eye, with a tail measuring two degrees that was seen during a few days. Its orbit was studied by Encke, the Astronomer, who discovered that its period must be between 70 and 81 years. His calculations have been repeated by several astronomers, of late years, always with the same results. Seeing the uncertainty of the period cannot exceed one or two years, the reappearance of this comet is shortly expected and the parts of the heavens in which it must be sought for have been carefully determined under various hypotheses.

For the last few months a systematic investigation has been established here respecting those regions of the Southern hemisphere in which its appearance is possible, and it is my intention that this investigation shall proceed.

The position of the present comet, however, is so remote from that which could be occupied under any supposition by that of 1812, that no calculations of any nature have been requisite in order to demonstrate the utter impossibility of their being identical.

At present the comet is receding at once from the earth and from the sun; it is probable, notwithstanding, that it will continue as an object of observation for ten or twelve days longer. It appears at an earlier hour every day, moving, at the same time towards the South.

I have the honour of salading Y. E. very attentively, whom may God preserve many years.

B. A. GOULD.

COMMERCIAL.

Table with exchange rates for Rio de Janeiro, October 23rd, 1882. Includes items like Par value of the Brazilian mil reis, Bank rate of exchange on London, Present value of the Brazilian mil reis, and Value of \$1.00 in Rio Grande currency.

Table with exchange rates under the heading 'EXCHANGE.' Includes items like October 15—The rate of the bank continued to-day unchanged at 21 1/2 on London, 4 1/2 on Paris, and a fair amount of business was transacted. Private paper was negotiated at 21 3/16 and 2 1/4 on London and at 4 1/2—4 1/4 on France.

Table with the heading 'The September receipts of the Paid custom-house were as follows:' Includes items like Imports, Despacho maritimo, Expans, Internal, Extraneous, Special application, and Deposits.

Table with the heading 'SALES OF STOCKS AND SHARES.' Includes items like October 15, Six per cent apolices, Banco do Brazil, National Loan of 1879, and various insurance and telegraphic companies.

Table with the heading 'October 16.' Includes items like Six per cent apolices, Banco do Brazil, Banco Commercial, Sorocabana R.R., Companhia Agricola Pastoral, and various other financial instruments.

Table with the heading 'October 17.' Includes items like Six per cent apolices, Banco do Brazil, Banco Commercial, Sorocabana R.R., and various other financial instruments.

Table with the heading 'October 18.' Includes items like Six per cent apolices, Banco do Brazil, Banco Commercial, Sorocabana R.R., and various other financial instruments.

Table with the heading 'Oct. 19.' Includes items like Six per cent apolices, Banco do Brazil, Companhia Industrial, and various other financial instruments.

MARKET REPORT. Rio de Janeiro, October 23rd, 1882. Exporto.

Coffee.—After our last report, on the 19th instant it seemed as if the receipts would continue on the small scale existing since the beginning of the month and some activity set in, resulting in considerable sales, principally for the United States.

Since the 16th, however, the receipts have again increased and the market quiet one has, in consequence, again returned, the market closing flat as the quotation we give below which are the same as those which ruled on the 19th instant, the sterling co. being also unchanged.

Table with coffee sales data: 104,330 bags for United States, 108,280 for Europe, 10,400 for Cape of Good Hope, 12,400 for Elsewhere.

The total sales since the 1st instant amount to 356,650 bags, viz: 255,170 bags for United States, 108,280 for Europe, 10,400 for Cape of Good Hope, 12,400 for Elsewhere.

Table with the heading 'The cleanees have been:' Includes items like United States, 13 New Orleans Nor. hgn. Fern., Baltimore Ann. Br. D. Pedro H., New York Belg. str. Tycho Drake, and various other ship cleanees.

Table with the heading 'October 16.' Includes items like Mediterranean H. str. Egypt, Havre Frst Frst, Bordeaux Fr str. Cremona, and various other ship arrivals.

Table with the heading 'October 16.' Includes items like River Plate L. str. Sackmann, River Plate L. str. Frst, and various other ship arrivals.

Table with the heading 'Washed Super.' Includes items like Washed Super, Good first, Regular first, Ordinary first, Good second, Ordinary second, and Capitaines.

Table with the heading 'Flour.' Includes items like Flour, 2 1/2 c. barrels per cwt. a Cheery from Richmond, and various other flour types.

Table with the heading 'Wheat.' Includes items like Wheat, 2 1/2 c. barrels per cwt. a Cheery from Richmond, and various other wheat types.

Pitch Pine.—There have again no arrivals. Market steady. Last sale at \$65.00 per dozen.

White Pine.—No arrivals. Market firm. There continues to be a good demand and 120 to 125 per foot would probably be obtainable.

Swedish Pine.—There have been no further arrivals but the market remains over-supplied and prices nominal.

Spruce pine.—The arrivals consist of 177,000 feet per 7000 from Halifax which are reported sold at \$75.00 per dozen.

The market continues depressed in view of the heavy supply of Swedish pine.

Kerosene.—Arrivals: 500 cases per *Borghese* from New York 11,700 " *Virginia L. Stafford* from New York.

Lard.—No arrivals. Market firm at 47.00-50.00 per lb. for George Foslin in arrivals.

Market unchanged at 10.00-10.50 per barrel. Turpentine.—Arrivals: 950 cases per *Virginia L. Stafford* from New York.

Market quiet at 47.00-48.00 per kilo. Codfish.—Arrivals: 705 cases per *Montevideo* from Hamburg.

The market continues firm and retail prices are maintained at 22.00-27.00 for tubs and 25.00 for cases. Coals.—Arrivals: 183 tons per *King Celtic* from Liverpool.

375 " *Amber* from Cardiff. Quotations continue nominal. Cement.—Arrivals: 300 casks per *Willmitz* from Marselle.

8750 " *Fredrik Stang* from London. We quote: English 6 000-7 000 German 6 300-6 500 French 6 000-6 000

Hay.—Arrivals: 488 bales per *Pampa* from River Plate 1130 " *Eliz* from Rosario 500 " *Thales* from Buenos Ayres 100 " *Rio* from do.

Market steady. We quote 75-78 per kilo for Rosario. Bran.—Arrivals: 500 bags per *Orénoque* from River Plate.

541 " *Pampa* from do 680 " *Rio* from do 151 " *Tagus* from do.

Market firm. We quote today \$3.00-3.60 per bag. Indian Corn.—Arrivals: 365 bags per *Pampa* from River Plate.

2456 " *Catalina* from do. Market quiet. We quote 48.00-50.00 per bag.

Butter.—Arrivals: 1077 cases and 150 barrels per *Vila de Bahia* from Have.

We quote: French, in barrels, 14.00-15.00 per lb. do in tins 1.00-1.20 do Danish 1.05-1.10 do Italian 1.00-1.10 do American, in tins, 8.00-8.50 do do in barrels, 6.00-6.40 do.

Beer.—We quote: Bass (Hiers & Bell) 74.00-75.00 Tennent 5 500-6 000 Guinness' Stout 7 300-7 400 German, Carlsberg 7 000 do Cavallo 7 000 do Sundry brands 5 000-6 500 Danish, Carlsberg 7 000.

Arrivals: 552 barrels per *Montevideo* from Hamburg 32 " *Kepler* from London.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

OCTOBER 12. BALTIMORE.—Br bk *Campanero*; 211 tons; Flower; 54 ds flour to E. Clemente & Co. B. Ayles.—Sp bk *Agathe*; 236 tons; Paquet; 14 ds jerked beef to G. N. de Vincenzi & Sons.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

OCTOBER 12. BALTIMORE.—Am bk *Adelante*; 397 tons; Bailey; coffee. Bahia.—Fr bk *Calixt*; 147 tons; Janfert; ballast. PANAMA.—Sw bk *Angusta*; 338 tons; Oman; ballast.

OCT. 17. CALCUTTA.—Br bk *Colnet Adams*; 1,516 tons; Clement; bk. CHILE.—Br bk *Mary*; 520 tons; Jones; ballast.

PANAMA.—Sw bk *Luzia Perry*; 1,136 tons; Henry; ballast. BALTIMORE.—Am bk *Amazon*; 233 tons; Baker; coffee.

N. ORLEANS.—Br bgn *Rosita Smith*; 516 tons; Green; coffee. PANAMA.—Sp bgn *Roger de Flor*; 174 tons; Alsina; ballast.

OCT. 19. CAPE TOWN.—Nor bk *Soknumner*; 217 tons; Klavensko; coffee. BALTIMORE.—Br bk *Winifred*; 280 tons; Dutton; coffee.

PANAMA.—Fr bk *Superior*; 1,397 tons; Shaw; ballast. LISBON. 1. o.—Dan bgn *Catharina*; 159 tons; Paulsen; coffee.

PANAMA.—Br bk *Eliz*; 396 tons; Andersen; coffee. MARIANA.—Port bk *Sultana*; 431 tons; Almeida; ballast.

RIO GRANDE.—Port bgn *Saudade*; 186 tons; Freitas; sundries. PANAMA.—Port bgn *Pineiro*; 18 tons; Gonçalves; sundries.

Sp bk *Victoria*; 247 tons; Xiblier; ballast. The following are the particulars of the collision between the British bk *Zene* and the Italian bk *Antonio D. Abundo* at the River Plate on the night of the 4th inst.

The *Zene* left Montevideo at 4 p.m. on the 3rd and, when about 11 miles off Esenada, and running at 11 miles an hour, she came in collision with the Italian bark, which "ad" to lights on board.

The *Zene* sustained severe damage, to her mast, but the Captain thinks that the Italian vessel was not much injured.

STEAMERS: FREIGHTS: Sailing-Vessels:

Table with columns: London, Liverpool, Antwerp, Hamburg, Havre, Bordeaux, Marseilles, New York. Includes freight rates and sailing dates.

FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT OF RIO DE JANEIRO, OCT. 22nd, 1882.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNEE. Lists various ships and their destinations.

AMERICAN SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNEE. Lists American ships and their cargo.

ITALIAN SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNEE. Lists Italian ships and their cargo.

RUSSIAN SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNEE. Lists Russian ships and their cargo.

SPANISH SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNEE. Lists Spanish ships and their cargo.

PORTUGUESE SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNEE. Lists Portuguese ships and their cargo.

BRITISH SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNEE. Lists British ships and their cargo.

A new line of steamers named the "Societa Italiana Transp. Maritime Raggio & Co." has been established.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN STEAMERS.

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