

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 24th of the month.

A. J. HAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily coffee reports from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, OCTOBER 24th, 1887.

A TELEGRAM received here on the 17th announced that the slaves on two plantations near Itú, S. Paulo, had abandoned their work and were advancing towards the capital of the province. A small force of police was despatched to capture the negroes, who, however, captured the police, disarming and stripping them, and ill-treating them, but not to a serious point. A force of cavalry, was then sent against the fugitives who defeated the cavalry, killing one of the soldiers, who are also reported to have killed one of the negroes. The fugitives then appear to have changed their march towards Santos, but were cut off by military detachments and the advices from the president of the province received here on the 21st state that the slaves had separated without any further conflict and that the troops were watching the district, in which they are supposed to be. The general peace of the province is unaltered. There has been great difficulty in obtaining any information as to this serious matter, but it appears official that some 100 or 150 slaves are at liberty and although they seem to have done no damage so far, it cannot but be apprehended that there is danger in the future. Regular troops were sent from Rio and an examination is to be prosecuted. This is the total that we have been able to learn as to this matter.

The practical results of the Legislative session closed on the 15th inst. have been, as usual, decidedly meagre, but various occurrences during its deliberations render it of interest, and a short summary may not prove useless. The session was opened while the Emperor was suffering from that mysterious disease that has not as yet been clearly explained to the public. The early sessions were of little interest, and the election of two members of the Cabinet (Srs. Belisario, minister of finance and Prado, minister of agriculture) to the Senate had rendered necessary a re-organization of the government. Very prematurely a deputy presented an emancipation scheme that was promptly strangled, and a senator presented a project for a law regulating civil marriage based on a project offered many years ago by the present premier, which has never again been heard of. The military question, arising from certain reprehensions of officers by Sr. Chaves, when minister of war, had caused his resignation and the then minister of justice had taken the war portfolio in addition to his own.

Various attempts were made by the opposition both in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies to force some explanations from the government as to the resignation of the minister, but these were steadily resisted until on the 20th May a motion by an Opposition senator opened a door for the government to escape the imbroglío of the military question, and was availed of. Early in June no less than 14 senators signed an emancipation scheme which was presented by Senator Dantas and was destined eventually to produce a curious effect. The project for the organization of a national bank system was proposed and signed by two senators, who have been chiefs of the finance department of the empire; even the respectability of its endorsees was not sufficient apparently to bring it before the legislature for discussion. On June 20th the necessary forms for the Emperor's leaving his empire were proposed and duly passed. H. Majesty left Rio on the 30th June by a French steamer. On the 20th July the minister of empire was forced to offer his resignation, Deputy Portella accepting the vacant portfolio. Late in July the abolition element in the Senate presented a project somewhat similar in character to that accepted by the government in relation to the military question. On a question of urgency the government was defeated, but as the Senate is considered to be not a political power, albeit elected, the premier threw aside the vote and declared that so long as the Crown and the country, represented by the Chamber, endorsed the cabinet, no vote of the Senate could affect its stability. As an offset to the senators' vote the deputies passed a vote of confidence in the ministry on the following day. A rather injudicious letter from the chief of the Brazilian commission engaged in surveying the boundary between the empire and the Argentine Republic caused considerable debate, but was carefully smoothed over by a later communication from this same chief. A decided point was made by the premier in advising against any investigation as to the employment of government funds in newspaper articles, which the opposition quietly accepted. A Senate committee reported unfavorably on a project of Senator Tannay for the secularization of cemeteries: a majority of the committee appears to think that any bit of ground is good enough to plant Protestants in. The question of settling once for all the claims of the Duke de Saxe, husband of the late Princess Leopoldina, caused some very sharp remarks, but the authorization was ultimately passed; as the payment to the duke has been some 70,000\$ per annum, an arrangement to pay 1,200,000\$ down seems to be a very sensible move on the part of the government. The objection of the Bank of Brazil to loan more money to bankrupt planters also produced some rhetoric but the minister of finance quietly pointed out that the bank was acting within its agreement with the Treasury. The deduction seems to be that by withdrawing Bank of Brazil notes and government circulation at one and the same time, exchange is to be kept steady, or even advance toward par. A credit of 5,000,000\$ for the navy was asked for on 27th Sept. On the 13th Sept. a modest motion for information by Senator Prado caused a commotion such as has rarely been seen in a Brazilian legislature. The opposition picked it up and continued attacks on the government for days, until the mover was obliged to declare his position, in opposition to the look-on policy of the government, and Sr. Prado was accompanied by Senator João Alfredo, the leader of the conservative party in Pernambuco, both of whom made strong speeches against the *laissez aller* policy of the government and asked, not for immediate, but for near

measures as to the solution of the emancipation question. The premier at first declined any accommodation, but finally appears to have promised to examine the question during the recess. The amendments of various descriptions added by the Senate to the budget estimates as passed by the Chamber caused many angry remarks, but the Chamber passed the amendments, without much resistance. On the 24th September a very clever parliamentary manoeuvre was made. Senator Silveira da Motta (evil tongues say he was inspired by the government) forced a vote by proposing the urgency of a vote on the emancipation project of Sr. Dantas and 13 other senators to which we have referred above, which motion was lost; both Senators Prado and João Alfredo voting "no." Barão de Cotegipe, the premier, was not slow to seize the opportunity and read the emancipationists a well merited lecture on their diversity of ideas which he claims embarrasses the governments in presenting any scheme. Our summary is necessarily very much condensed, but the Princess Regent's speech at closing the session needs no commentary. H. I. Highness absolutely makes fun of the legislature, who have done nothing as the speech very clearly points out. A bill to reform provincial elections when every Brazilian agrees that the whole system must be reformed, is not much. A law for the punishment of rowdiness, which is safely filed away in the Senate, pending no doubt a new election, is still less. And what the Legislature have done during this session, but pass the budget laws, we cannot discover, unless indeed the votes to cover Treasury mistakes as to interest, and 18,000,000\$ for railway extensions are to be considered hard work.

We had occasion in our last number to announce that the premier had declared that the request of Deputy Nabuco for a day and hour to be marked when he might ask certain questions relative to the health of the Emperor, was inconvenient. The "inconvenience" appears to have been that Barão de Cotegipe preferred to have declared in a speech from the Throne, by the Princess Regent, that the Emperor was deriving every benefit from his voyage, rather than to declare it in answer to questions put by a deputy only just seated, and who was known to have taken that seat with the firm purpose of "baiting" the ministry. The action of the president of the council was perfectly correct. Any assertion from him would be received, as were those of his lieutenants, with discredit; but when the Princess Regent declares from her Imperial father's throne, that H. Majesty's health has improved, and when she expresses the filial and beautiful hope, that her August father may shortly return to continue in that path to which he has always dedicated himself, and which has for a bourn the improvement of his Empire, no one, and much less ourselves, has any reason or right to call into question such an assertion. So far as we in common with all inhabitants of Brazil are concerned the declaration of H. I. H. the Princess Regent must be accepted as a settlement of the much debated question regarding the precious health of H. Majesty, the Emperor. It may of course be insinuated that the speech is less an expression of H. I. H. D. Isabel, than a platform upon which the ministry proposes to pose in political gymnastics. With this question we as foreigners have nothing to do. We accept with implicit faith the declaration of the daughter that her August father is improved in health, and we accept it the more readily, that we have always recognized the strenuous efforts that H. M. D. Pedro II has exerted for the benefit of his

country. That Providence may grant that he may shortly return to his Empire is the earnest wish, which we dare to add to that of his loving daughter. We venture a hope also that D. Isabel will continue to imitate her August father in his love for his country and her mother, the universally esteemed Empress, in that sweetness of character that is not always found in royal personages.

DAILY the local press is full of notices that slave-holders all over the empire are freeing their slaves under conditions, and it is now hinted that these philanthropists will receive decorations, if not titles, in recognition of their sacrifices. There can be no earthly objection to making a man a Barão for freeing a certain number of slaves now, than there was, when during the Paraguayan war decorations, if not titles, were distributed among those citizens who showed their patriotism by placing a certain number of slaves in the army. This has nothing to do with the question. What we most strenuously object to is, that any conditions at all are to be attached to the restitution of freedom to a being made in God's image, and whose sole crime appears to be that he is the offspring of free Africans, forcibly abducted from their native country. The most sedate and circumspect of our native colleagues has again and repeatedly pointed out, that these conditionally freed-men require some form of protection from the law, (if there be such a thing for blacks). One can fancy a planter calling his slaves around him and declaring that on July 14th, 1892,—any date will serve as an example,—they are to become free. How many will understand what his *Senhor* is talking about? Not one in fifty. They see that their service continues the same; they see no efforts made to improve their condition, nor their education; if ill-treated and they escape they are arrested and punished and they cannot see that *Senhor* João Manoel da Costa has been made Barão de Massambuca for having freed all his slaves; for they cannot read. Conditional freedoms are defended on the ground that absolute emancipation would so disorganize the labour of the country that a cataclysm would result. Such argument is puerile, and contrary to the experience of that country where the transformation of labour was the most violent ever known—the United States. The ex-slave holding States of the American Union are to-day in a position that would have been impossible with slavery in existence. Even at their very doors the defenders of conditional emancipation may look to the province of Ceará as a direct refutation of their arguments. But, if it be granted that conditions must be imposed for the good of the country, must nothing be done to improve the condition of these serfs who within a few years will enter upon their privileges as Brazilian citizens? Is liberty to be the right to leave their ex-masters' plantations as unprepared for their new condition as they were on the day when with emotion these masters declare them free conditionally? The answer is so evident and so forcible that it is almost criminal to ignore it. If a planter declares his slaves free with the condition of serving him a certain number of years, it is clearly his duty to prepare the freedman, by having him taught the rudiments at least of education, to secure his attachment by certain concessions as to an interest in the out-turn of the plantation, to endeavor to promote morality by improving his means of living; in fact to treat the new freedman as a being, not as a beast, who is to be driven into his quarters at night and as roughly awakened in the morning. We have no patience with this pretended philanthropy. These conditional freedoms are liable also to the greatest abuses. Who is to inform the

slave on the eve of his freedom, that on the morrow no one can order him off to his work without remuneration? A special edition of calendars might meet the necessity. Again, only within a few days the minister of agriculture approved the action of the president of Bahia in ordering that certain conditionally freed slaves should be struck out of the lists organized for a distribution of the emancipation fund. Does it seem credible that a man will free his slaves with conditions, and then apply to the tax-payer, to pay him for the man he has declared free? If there ever was a person, or persons, deserving a decoration, it is he, or they, who invented this neat scheme to cover his philanthropy. On no sensible ground can these emancipations be defended. Let us have pure slavery or absolute liberty; there is no intermediate state, and this will be forcibly proven, we very much fear, sooner or later.

THE planters of the province of Rio de Janeiro seem determined to show their contempt for law and humanity. The brutal outrage on slaves at Parahyba do Sul has not yet been entirely effaced from the public mind, when we are furnished with another case of even greater atrocity. The story as told by the *Jornal do Commercio*, which must be considered disinterested, is, that a planter had freed some or all of his slaves under condition of serving him for a certain period. His treatment of these freed-men was such however that they fled, and were subsequently arrested by the police to whom the ex-master applied for them, they being bound to serve under the conditions of their emancipation. The police claim to have warned this gentleman, who is of color, that his treatment of his ex-slaves should be less in accordance with preconceived ideas as to how a slave could be used, and reports that this warning was accepted. But no sooner are the slaves in the power of his monster in human form than he orders his two immediate subordinates to torture these unhappy freedmen, that three die under their executioners' punishment. A fourth was alive when the police detachment arrived, but died very soon after. Now, what words are strong enough to stigmatize this atrocious four-fold murder? We confess we do not find any such. And prefer to leave it in all its disgusting and horrible distinctness, that English reading people may for themselves decide upon the pretensions to civilization of that part of the Empire of Brazil which contains its capital and where such barbarities may and do occur. It will be of course argued that if there is an occasional bad, there are many good planters. No doubt; and if there are occasional thieves there are, we hope, some honest men. Honest men however will assist in the capture and punishment of a thief; good planters rarely if ever have been brought to see that slave-murder is a greater crime than shooting or otherwise killing an animal of a lower genus, than that of the *fazendeiro*. The province of Rio de Janeiro does well in not exerting itself to attract immigrants. It appears to be about the last place on God's world where an immigrant should expect anything but ill treatment, so long as the system of importing tenants, or perhaps serfs, is the grand immigration scheme of the country. If a planter may thrash a Brazilian, free under the law, to death, what protection can there be for a foreigner? We trust in Senator Prado's assertion that the advancing provinces are not being hampered by the deliberately obstructive policy of the others. Rio de Janeiro, the province, is growing of less and less importance every year and is moreover nearly overwhelmed by debt. Let the rising stars of the Brazilian constellation cast this exhausted planet, that yet

chooses to figure as a star of the first magnitude, out of the political system. The stigma of this last slave butchery will be cast on all Brazil, not upon the province of Rio de Janeiro alone, and we do not believe that S. Paulo, Rio Grande do Sul, Ceará and other provinces will quietly accept the blot cast on them by the planters of Rio de Janeiro.

In view of the fact that the president of the council appears to have agreed to examine into the question of emancipation during the recess, it is not illogical to suppose that his colleague at the Treasury will also employ a part of his time in examination of the financial question. It is difficult to specify which is the more important; for if Senators João Alfredo and Prado are the spurs that stimulate the premier's meditations on slavery, it seems nothing less than proper that the views of so respectable a trio as Senators Teixeira Jr, Afonso Celso and Lafayette, should meet with an equally judicious examination from Sr. Belisario. The great difficulty seems to be that the former more directly affects the omnipotent planting interest; the latter is more interesting to commerce and trade. The minister of finance has not had an easy time during the past session. His budgets were cut and patched both in the Senate and Chamber; what one took off the other put on again, and only a determined and devoted adherent to his political chief could have retained the finance portfolio. Now, during the recess and freed from the attacks of Deputy Andrade Figueira, whose animosity is raised by an increased expenditure as easily as the rage of a bull is by a red flag, the minister of finance will we trust have time to look into the banking question, and present in March—when it is currently reported an extra session will be called—to the legislature the results of his recess meditations as to whether it is more convenient to preserve in the hands of Treasury officials the facility of aiding a favored few, or whether it would not be advisable to extend to the public at large the faculty of employing their money in such banks, as will become of use to all borrowers, and not as at present, where the Treasury calls to itself all the loose cash of the market. A loan appears inevitable. Notwithstanding the economical programme of the minister of finance, the demands of friends and the exigencies of opponents have virtually forced the minister to abandon the policy he has always advocated. He has to meet a considerable deficit this year, and 1888 promises him no relief, except that a phenomenal coffee crop is promised. We have no desire to detract from the praise we have heard expressed, that by his temporary financial arrangements the minister has secured a steadiness in exchange, for which importers are grateful. We have yet to learn however that it is a part of the duty of a finance minister to keep exchange steady for one branch of commerce by operations that may clearly and without fear be called "kiting," and which have unquestionably been detrimental to other branches of trade. We are not naturally officious, but cannot resist the inclination to offer Sr. Belisario some topics for his meditations *sub tegmine fagi*. The first is whether an appeal to some one for a loan being conceded necessary, it is better to apply again to the London market through Messrs. Rothschild, or to home capitalists under similar conditions as those with which his *début* as a negotiator of loans was made. Secondly, would it not be quite as consistent with ordinary business practices to retire from the banks, under discount, the Treasury bills that are deposited as guarantee of advances of currency, as to appear as a debtor and creditor at one

and the same time. Third, should the currency in circulation be considered yet as the reason that the exchange value of bullion fluctuates, or merely that the urgent demands of the Treasury are so important a factor, that, these once removed, exchange rates show little if any variation beyond what may be fairly attributed to supply and demand. Fourth, whether it should be considered a benefit to the agricultural interest, who contribute the least to the expenses of the empire, that exchange should have been maintained, to the end that the item of "differences in exchange" may appear less important, and finally how does he propose to settle for that credit for £2,000,000? They are not factious suggestions we are making; they are worthy of contemplation. And if the constant attacks of opponents finally forced so determined a man as Barão de Cotegipe to cede, why should not the well meant suggestions of admirers have the same effect on the minister of finance?

As was clearly inevitable our receipts of coffee are showing a smart increase, and this can have but one signification; the speculators who have been buying coffee in the interior are at last despondent of seeing the precious bean reach 20\$000 per arroba, and are now anxious to realize before it touches 9\$000. The speculation in coffee that has paralysed the market here for so many months may we think be considered as ended, and although fluctuations will undoubtedly be seen, yet we are of opinion that no further attempt will be made to create an absolute scarcity for the purpose of forcing unwilling and unbelieving markets to pay extreme prices. We see no reason to believe that there has been any real mistake in crop estimates; our point is, and has been, that given a certain quantity of coffee at 8\$000 per arroba and another quantity though very much smaller at 12\$, this latter would meet the demand, and we may fairly claim that we have been right. Moreover, we long ago called attention to the evident manipulation of receipts, and warned our readers that a dislocation was likely to ensue; coffee even with our short crop should have been under normal circumstances coming in much more freely than we have yet seen, and if as generally conceded the planters could not well afford to hold even their small crops, the inference was clear that intermediaries had come in to interfere in the natural marketing of the crop. The commendable reserve of exporters in July, August and September showed us clearly enough that they, and not the speculative interest, had the control, provided their reserve was based on a well-founded belief that consumption would be greatly reduced, and that they had this belief, which has been verified, is now certain. Believing as we do that there is no mistake in crop estimates, and that speculators have become alarmed by the reserve of exporters and the very modest monthly reduction of stocks abroad, the question remains as to what may be considered "hard pan"? This seems a question decidedly beyond our modest capacity. Prices cannot go very low at once; a certain quantity of coffee must be taken, even if chicory has so sharply entered into competition with it, and we are in the season when most activity is to be expected in the consuming markets. Therefore prudence would seem to advise rather a moderate squeeze of the gentlemen (who deserve greater losses), than a regular slaughter. We once had occasion to advise the "bulls" when prudence was necessary and our advice was seasonable, we venture to hope that we may not be considered as exceeding our functions in tendering an opinion to the "bears", the more so as we have most unjustly been charged with partizanship towards that side of the coffee trade.

MACEIO WATER WORKS.

To the Editor:

Sir.—Our attention having been called to an issue of the Rio News dated August 15th, we beg sincerely to thank you for having inserted the letter addressed to you by Messrs. Hugh Wilson & Son, of Brazil and London, as we are equally anxious with those gentlemen that the public should know that the two firms are in no way connected or associated.

We note your comments upon the Maceio Water Works scheme, but as we have only agreed to accept the contract for the works, we are not responsible for the financial details of the undertaking, but at the same time we feel bound to state that we believe it to be in every way a sound enterprise and likely to prove a very profitable one for the investors.

We are, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

WILSON & SONS.

London, 23rd September, 1887.

PERNAMBUCO MISSION TO SEAMEN.

The third annual meeting of this Society was held at the British Consulate on the 6th instant.

From the yearly summary presented by Mr. Walker, the following may be of interest:

Ships visited and had reading.....	195
Services.....	47
Attendances.....	973
Hospital visits.....	182
Prison visits.....	12
Sailors' Home, inmates for 12 months	154

Commenting on the above the Committee in their Report make the following observations:

"From this it will be seen that the Mission has been doing its beneficent work quietly and unostentatiously, but not ineffectively we hope. Nothing, indeed, is more evident than the change for the better which has taken place amongst the seamen at this port since the Mission was started. Instead of the drunkenness, the street-brawls, and the lying in gutters exposed to the sun and rain, often followed by deadly fevers, which formerly were so painfully familiar to us here, we now have seldom to complain of 'Jack's' behaviour; whilst the loafers and sailor-vagabonds, that formerly infested this port and neighbourhood, have been fairly got rid of. Decent men are provided with a comfortable home, the weak are shielded from temptation, the destitute are sheltered and fed. These results, not to mention other and still higher ends, will, the Committee feel assured, secure to the Society the continued and cheerful support of our community."

The Treasurer was able to report a gratifying increase of local subscriptions for the year. This increase of subscriptions, however, was not sufficient to cover the loss arising from the maintenance of the Sailors' Home; and a somewhat larger measure of support will be required to maintain the work of the Society on its present footing.

Communicated

SMALL CHANGE FAMINE.

Great scarcity of the smaller notes of 5\$, 2\$, 1\$, and 500 reis is again causing much inconvenience to mercantile transactions here. The local banks are quite unable to meet the demand from the simple fact that they have little or no small change left, and are unable to obtain a fresh supply in proportion to the calls made upon them.

The assistance afforded by the Treasury here is so trifling as to be of no real value and although the local banks send to Rio de Janeiro for notes of the smaller denominations, and by so doing incur a charge for freight and insurance on the shipments, they are unable even to obtain a sufficient supply from the capital to meet the daily requirements of their customers.

At this time of the year entries of sugar and cotton increase largely, and sellers here of produce to export houses require small change to send to the planters to pay ordinary farm expenses; large notes of 500\$, 200\$, and 100\$, being almost useless in the country districts; and, moreover, Pernambuco has to supply at this time of the year the outports of Goiana, Parahyba, Rio Grande do Norte, etc. and a little later the demand from Macció will commence.

There is besides a growing industry in the exportation of goat skins, and as these skins are collected in small quantities in every part of the country, from the port of Ceará in the north to the port of Bahia in the south, the collectors, or agents employed by the exporters, require small change to pay for the skins they buy as the persons employed in breeding goats are usually of the poorest class and have no change to give. The value of a goat skin varies from 1\$000 to 1\$200, and therefore notes of the smallest denominations are required to enable buyers to pay for their purchases.

Our export houses naturally look to their local bankers to provide them with the small change they require to conduct their business, and undoubtedly, at times, feel annoyed and hurt at being unable to get the accommodation which they have a right to expect, but our local banks are not to blame in the matter for they are helpless, and unable to obtain the small notes they require from the quarter where they ought to be able to get them.

In addition to the local requirements already referred to, there is a continual demand for small change for paying the wages of labourers, etc. on works under construction, not only in this province, such as the extension of the Great Western of Brazil Railway from Nazareth to Timbaúba, but at Ceará, and there are railways also further north that require small change, from time to time, for the same purpose.

The recent calling in, all at the same time, of three issues of notes, 10\$, 5\$, and 2\$, withdrew so much small change from circulation that the equilibrium which formerly existed between the various denominations of notes has been disturbed, but it could easily be readjusted by prompt action on the part of the Government authorities in Rio, by placing the Treasury here in a position to supply the banks with the small change required by their customers.

"CLIO."

Pernambuco, 13th Oct. 1887.

The communication above is worthy of the prompt attention of the Treasury officials. There seems no earthly reason that commerce should be annoyed in this manner, and there can be only one explanation; gross carelessness on the part of some one.—*Eds. Rio News.*

THE BUDGET.

The expenses of the Empire for 1888 are fixed by the Legislature as follows:

Department of Empire	8,028,675,8497
do Justice	6,381,498 908
do For. Affairs	939,796 666
do Navy	10,787,184 291
do War	14,633,046 161
do Agriculture	35,177,942 344
do Finance	64,383,049 997
	141,230,104,8834

The proposals presented by the government were:

Department of Empire	9,079,855,8497
do Justice	6,474,793 208
do For. Affairs	949,206 666
do Navy	10,847,314 291
do War	14,654,684 317
do Agriculture	35,291,342 354
do Finance	64,203,711 814
	141,491,908,8147

Among the additions are: authority to reorganize the post-office service at not over 10 per cent.

increase on the amount voted [2,714,830\$400]; to continue for five years the contract with the Hamburg colonization society; to guarantee 5 per cent. per annum on 500,000\$ for the Morretes to Anjoima railway branch; to contract for the railway extension to Caruarú; to contract for navigation on the Rio das Velhas; to reform the fire department without increased expense; to continue the authority as to improvements on the Rio Grande do Sul bar, with the following modification of tariffs, viz: 11\$680 per ton dead-weight and 1.44 per cent. *ad valorem* on foreign trade by sail vessels; 2\$520 dead-weight and 2.16 per cent. by steamers. On coastwise trade, 1\$120 per ton dead weight and 0.96 per cent. *ad valorem* on cargoes by sail and 1\$680 dead-weight and 1.44 per cent. *ad valorem* by steam. The credit for 500,000\$ for sanitary [cholera] measures is approved. The usual table B is authorized. The payment of 10,537,299\$435 under table C is authorized in which is not included the sum necessary to settle the claims of the Duke de Saxe. The renewal of the contract with the United States and Brazil Mail steamship company is authorized. The expenditure of 75,000\$ in executing the civil registry law is authorized. Besides these are the credits passed for interest charges and for the railway extensions. As it seems preferable to await the publication of the decrees fixing the expenditure and receipts of the Empire, we do not now publish our figures as to the total deficit.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

October 15.—The Senate and Chamber of Deputies, by their representatives, met in the Senate Chamber, and Her Imperial Highness, the Princess Regent read the following speech:

August and most Worthy representatives of the Nation;

It is with the greatest satisfaction that I appear before the representatives of the nation in performance of the duty imposed upon me by the Constitution of the Empire.

The absence of my August and much loved father must be felt by all Brazilians, and especially by me. Happily His Majesty is deriving the hoped for benefits from the voyage he has undertaken. I trust in God that the day may not be far distant, when, resuming his imperial authority, the Emperor pursues that desire, to which he has always been dedicated: the promotion of the greatness of our country. The precious health of Her Majesty, the Empress, my much beloved mother, has been unchanged. Their Imperial Majesties have everywhere been received in a manner that calls for our gratitude.

The steadfastness with which you have applied yourselves to the various subjects of general interest is worthy of praise. The annual laws and others of lesser importance, but of evident utility, give testimony to your zeal for the public good. I trust that in the next session you will decide upon the projects for judiciary and municipal reform, for that of the law on public lands, and for the more prompt repression of certain crimes against individuals and property, already passed by the Chamber and awaiting action in the Senate.

Public order and tranquillity have not been disturbed.

We continue to maintain with other nations the most friendly relations. The joint commissions for the surveys of the Pepery-guassú and Sauto Antonio and the Chapeco and Chopim rivers, and of the territory by these divided continue their work, already well advanced, in the best of harmony.

August and most Worthy representatives of the Nation; I am certain that upon returning to your homes, you will continue to inspire our fellow-citizens with sentiments of loyalty and respect for the Constitution and laws, the principal guarantees of individual and political liberty.

The second session of the 20th legislature is closed.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—A proposal has been submitted to the municipal authorities of Juiz de Fora, Minas, for lighting that city by electricity.

—A telegram received here on the 20th from the president of Pará states the slave population of that province to be 9,721.

—Decree no. 3,347 dated on the 14th inst. approves the law recently passed for the subsidy for steam navigation on the Araguaia, Tocantins and Vermelho rivers.

—The *Argos Paulista* insurance company was duly organized on the 15th by the election of its directors. The capital is 1,200,000\$, of which 10 per cent. is paid up.

—Both in Pernambuco and Bahia the sugar mills have commenced work and good crops are expected. The planters, however, complain greatly of the prices ruling.

—A criminal recently escaped from a prison in Minas Geraes who had taken the precaution to soap himself all over. The idea is not a bad one at all, and is cleanly also.

—The September receipts of the S. Paulo post office continue to show a very satisfactory increase. They were in 1885, 23,205\$150; in 1886, 24,699\$070 and in 1887, 28,480\$580.

—The commission appointed to examine the rubber districts of the province of Maranhão will shortly report. The commission has discovered large tracts covered with rubber trees.

—A decree dated on the 14th inst. declares lapsed the concessions to the North Brazilian Sugar factories company for a factory at S. José Mipilau, Rio Grande do Norte, and Pau d'Alho, Pernambuco.

—The races at Santos seem peculiar. On the 16th the Barra people assembled to see the fun, but in the first race one jockey seems to have got into the water, while his opponent was carried off to the woods, and appeared no more.

—The president of the province of Rio de Janeiro recently fined the aldermen of the town of Sapucaia 200\$ each for obstruction; they would not meet to elect a member. If the principle could be applied in higher assemblies it might be of very much use.

—A telegram published here on the 22nd states that in his report at the opening of the Pará provincial assembly the president states that the debt of the province amounts to 3,529,281\$. The revenue for 1888 is estimated at 3,795,131\$ and expenses at 3,548,340\$.

—As we had confidently expected it would be, Sr. d'Attri has fallen out with his admirers in S. Paulo. He appears have discovered that thrashing an immigrant is not unknown in S. Paulo and very properly denounced such a horror. The *Correio Paulistano* of the 15th prints a long contestation containing pretty much every thing that can be said, and showing up how the Brazilian Constitution and laws protect the individual, even in a state of slavery, but very judiciously does not state that both Constitution and laws are far from infrequently both evaded and ignored. Sr. d'Attri afterwards appears to have apologized.

—The daily press published on the 15th a horrible story. A planter in a municipality of Rio de Janeiro recently freed some, or all, of his slaves with the condition of service, but his treatment of them was so barbarous that they ran away. The police arrested the fugitives and upon the ex-master's application, they were returned to the plantation; but not before the authorities had warned him that they were free, and as such could not be so inhumanly treated. The barbarian agreed, but no sooner had he the unfortunate freedmen in his power, than his overseer and assistant were ordered to thrash the poor creatures, with the result that four died. If this crime does not meet due punishment then Santa Maria Magdalena and Parahyba do Sul, in the province of Rio de Janeiro, should at once send congratulations to the government on its attitude on the slave question.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The Rio do Ouro (government) railway traffic receipts in August were 7,300\$ and in September 7,064\$.

—At the request of Deputy Alvim the directory of the Leopoldina railway decided to permit native grown wines to pass free of freight over the line.

—An interim dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum was declared on the shares of the Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia railway company for the six months ending 30th June.

—The directors of the S. Paulo railway company recommended a dividend for the half-year ended 30th June at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 6 s per share. A year ago the dividend was at the rate of 5 per cent.

—The sale of the Cantagallo railway is likely to get into the courts. It is charged that the sale was not effected in accordance with the call for tenders, and that the provincial authorities of Rio de Janeiro could not grant the Sumibour connection.

—A London exchange prints the following glossary which may be of use to some of our readers.

American	English
Railroad	Railway
Ticket office	Booking office
Station agent	Station clerk
Baggage room	Cloak room
Car	Carrage
Baggage	Luggage
do car	do van
Mail car	Post van
Conductor	Guard
Trunk	Box
and so on.	Any one can see which is most expressive.

COFFEE NOTES

—We have received another circular from Messrs. Lacerda & Co. of Havre. The world's supply of coffee is rapidly declining.

—May not the steadily reduced stocks in Havre mean that dealers there see that it has become necessary to stand from under?

—A correspondent from Amparo, S. Paulo, writes a Campinas paper that the coffee crop in that district has been destroyed by a hail storm. Have not we heard so nothing like this before?

—As a great novelty we have been informed that the coffee now coming to market does not belong to planters, but to merchants who had purchased it. As our informant does not subscribe to the *Neos*, we received his novelty with the surprise he evidently expected it would inspire.

—The figures we print elsewhere as to the increase of imports of chicory into the United States and Europe may be instructive to those sanguine people who claim that consumers must pay the prices for coffee demanded by Rio. We would much appreciate any figures as to how great has been the increase in the production of ground coffee in the United States and Europe.

—If Brazil desires to maintain its supremacy in the coffee markets of the world some assistance in the way of attracting immigration should be extended the province of Espírito Santo. The inhabitants seem quite as energetic as their S. Paulo brethren, but every published information from them bitterly complains of the abandonment of their province by the authorities.

LOCAL NOTES

—The Editor of the Rio News, going to the River Plate on a short visit, declines to assume any and all responsibility for jokes appearing in these columns, during his absence.

—It is not good form to say "give us a rest." One should say "apply the closure."

—*Ur!* Dr. Silva Costa does not want to be a *commendador!* What will the high-life say?

—A decree dated on the 14th approves the recent law reforming provincial elections.

—It is reported that the Sta. Theresia inclined plane has been sold to the Belgian company organized here for 230,000\$.

—When a doctor commits suicide, the coroner's jury should bring in verdict of "death from remorse."

—According to *O Paiz* we have a visible deficit for the year 1888 at the Treasury, of 31,872,000\$, to which are to be added a few items.

—H. I. H. the Prince of Grão Pará, eldest son of the Princess Regent and heir to the Throne, was 12 years old on the 15th.

—An American exchange says that in Manitoba it is so cold that they use whiskey as desk weights. In Rio we use it to preserve human life.

—The maiden loves the sewing machine, because it has a feller in it. The Singer company's representative has gone south.

—A peculiarity of the match is pointed out. Wherever it is thrown, it lights on its head. Always providing of course, that it lights at all.

—Somebody died the other day of *actinomyces*. The disease appears to be a new one however, so there is as yet little ground for alarm.

—The local papers all insist that "envy killed Cain", we are certainly under the impression that Abel was the first candidate for a cemetery.

—Foot pads are again putting in an appearance. There have been several cases recently of persons stopped and robbed in the streets.

—Another slave preferred death to returning to his mistress and while in custody on the 18th, in a railway wagon, threw himself out and was horribly mangled.

—There has been published in the United States a book entitled "How to collect Railway revenue." It is very simple in Brazil. The Treasury pays on demand.

—An unbeliever tells us that we are not to have a coffee exchange after all. We can hardly believe this, but if it be correct, what will the gentlemen who naturalized themselves think about it?

—The birth day of the Prince of Grão Pará coincided with that fixed for closing the Chambers. The display of hunting was not in honor of the latter fact, as many persons supposed.

—The daily papers on the 15th publish the names of 20 officers appointed to various posts in the National Guard. Strange to say the strength of the various battalions is not given.

Table with 2 columns: Item description (e.g., Five per cent. apolices, Banco Industrial) and numerical values.

Receipts for the past eight days have averaged 7,000 bags per day, against 4,790 bags for the preceding ten days. The daily average since the 1st inst. has been; against 18,853 in 1886...

Sales and withdrawals for the same time have been about 12,000 bags, and stock in first hands is estimated to be: 15,000 bbls. American, 3,000 Trieste, 5,000 River Plate, 23,000 others.

CLEARED AND READY FOR SEA. SAIGON—Amer ship Southern Cross same cargo. PENSACOLA—Ital bk Raffaella ballast.

DAILY COFFEE REPORTS.

Table with 4 columns: Stock this morning, Receipts yesterday, Sales of the market, and various price points for different coffee grades.

DAILY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS OF COFFEE AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

Table with 4 columns: Receipts, Shipments, Total, and various price points for coffee.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Name, From, and Agent for various foreign vessels.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN STEAMERS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Name, From, and Agent for foreign steamers.

WEEKLY SUMMARY.

Table with 2 columns: Item description (Sales for United States, Europe, etc.) and weekly totals.

MARKET REPORT.

Stock at Santos this morning, 1st and 2nd hands 270,000 bags. Receipts during week to 14th Oct. 27,000. Sales for United States 4,000.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS. BUENOS AIRES—Ger lug Hedwig, 227 tons; Badewer; 15 ds; Jerked-leaf to Fris Hermand & Co.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN STEAMERS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Name, Where to, and Cargo for departing steamers.

MARKET REPORT.

Imports. Coffee—The market has been quiet and flat since our last report and prices are lower. The expected increase in receipts has appeared, although opinions vary as to whether the recent move may not have induced holders to forward coffee...

Imports.

Table with 2 columns: Item description (Yamoyden, Castilla, Codorus, Chesapeake) and quantity/price.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

OCT. 14. PARANAGUA—Ger bk Olive, 805 tons; Petersen; sundries. LONDON—Port bk Marie, 202 tons; Terklussen; coffee.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN STEAMERS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Name, Where to, and Cargo for departing steamers.

FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT OF RIO DE JANEIRO, OCTOBER 22nd, 1887.

Table with columns: NAME, TONNAGE, DESTINATION, ARRIVAL, DEPARTURE, AGENT. Lists various ships like American, British, and Danish.

Table with columns: MISSION, CIRCULATION, DENOMINATION, INTEREST, NOMINAL VALUE, LAST SALE, LAST QUOTATIONS. Lists various bonds and securities.

DEBENTURES AND SHARES

Large table with columns: CAPITAL, SHARES, ISSUED, VALUE, PAID UP, NAMES, RESERVE FUND, LAST SALE, LAST DIVIDEND, LAST QUOTATIONS. Lists numerous companies and their financial details.

FOREIGN MARKETS

Table with columns: FROM, MEAS, TONNAGE, COFFEE, SUGAR, etc. Lists market data for various commodities from different regions.

Shipping.

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LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE Co. Agents in Rio de Janeiro Watson Ritchie & Co

PHENIX FIRE OFFICE. Established 1782 Agent in Rio de Janeiro E. W. May,

HOME AND COLONIAL MARINE INSURANCE Co. Agents for the Empire of Brazil Norton, Megaw & Co.

THE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED. Capital £1,000,000 sterling Reserve fund £ 440,000 Agent in Rio de Janeiro E. W. May,

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, OF LONDON. FIRE AND MARINE. Agents for the Empire of Brazil Wilson Sons & Co. Limited.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LONDON AND LIVERPOOL. Capital £2,000,000 Accumulated Funds £5,245,104 John Moore & Co. agents.

BRITISH & FOREIGN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIM'D. Capital £1,000,000 sterling Agents in Rio de Janeiro Swanwick & Gordon,

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY. Established 1797 Losses paid £5,500,000 Agents in Rio de Janeiro Swanwick & Gordon,

Steamships.

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October Departures: To New York: [Every Saturday] Herschel [Leading also in Santos] Oct. 8th

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TABLE OF DEPARTURES, 1887. Table with columns: Date, Steamer, Destination. Includes entries for Oct. 24 and 30.

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LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED. HEAD OFFICE: LONDON BRANCHES: LISBON, OPORTO, PARÁ, PERNAMBUCO, BAHIA,

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