



# THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

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

A. J. LAMOUREUX, 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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INSTEAD of spending a large sum of money on a perfectly useless representation of Brazilian products at the Paris exposition of next year, would it not be much more profitable and rational to spend the money in developing home industries and in improving the condition of the people. The chief advantage of an international exposition is for the manufacturer. Brazil is not a manufacturing country, and as her chief agricultural and forest products are already well known, the benefit of a representation is decidedly problematical. The judicious use of small sums of money at home, however, in developing certain industries and encouraging production, would be of material benefit. If the state could arrange for the breaking up of those great, uncultivated estates along the valley of the Parahyba and their settlement by small farmers, the results could not fail to be immediately beneficial. Then let local expositions be encouraged, and let premiums be paid for the best exhibits. Special prizes might be paid to the small farmer who accomplishes the best result in a given period—say one year after settling on his land—and for such results as the largest and best field of white potatoes, the best crop of maize, rice, peas, beans, etc., the direct object being to excite emulation and to increase the production of such articles of food as are still imported. The direct result will be to bring a greater area of land under careful cultivation and to bring about an improvement in the condition of the laboring classes. Several indirect results, however, will follow, such as an increase in railway traffic, a supply of fresh fruits, vegetables and other articles of food, and a decreased dependence on foreign countries for such articles of daily necessity. And it would be wise, perhaps, to give these premiums in money, which will be of more use to the thrifty farmer than all the medals ever struck off. We are well aware that small farming is not in favor at court, where only large planters are to be found, but these suggestions must stand for all that. The day is not far distant when Brazilian statesmen will begin to appreciate him and his work, and to know that his humble potato field is of far more importance to the country than his rich neighbors coffee orchard.

We appear to be passing through an era of reform just at the present moment, and it will not be out of place, perhaps, to indicate a few objects which merit attention, in addition to those already discussed. There may be urgent need of reforms in the

regulations governing the national museum, the academy of fine arts, the postoffice, etc., and we are glad to see them carried into effect, but we can not see that any great public benefit is likely to arise from them. Reforms are really needed in something deeper than routine matters, and chief among these is that of education. As the basis upon which all representative government depends, it is essential that special care should be taken to give every encouragement to education by increasing the number of schools and raising their standard of excellence. Aside from the question of public schools, efforts should be made to encourage the creation of schools and colleges through private gift. In other countries magnificent gifts have been made by rich men for the founding of colleges and universities, some of which rank among the foremost institutions of learning in the world. In the United States nearly all the great colleges and universities were created by private beneficence, and the good they have done and are doing every day is simply incalculable. If we mistake not, there is not one single institution of learning in Brazil originating in this way. This is not due to any lack of charitable feeling, for Brazilians have been most liberal in their gifts to hospitals, asylums and charitable fraternities connected with the church. They are supporting an ever increasing multitude of beggars, and they are continually giving for all sorts of purposes through the medium of subscriptions. In the aggregate, their gifts are certainly very large, but unhappily much of it comes too late for any lasting public good. The charity which seeks to relieve suffering is always good and praiseworthy, but it is less deserving of commendation than those charities which seek to prevent suffering. The church does not seem to have taught this principle, but it is none the less true for all that. The encouragement of private endowments of institutions of learning is therefore one of the objects which should receive official attention, and the reform suggested is in the laws which prevent the creation of corporate institutions whose properties and revenues may be administered by boards of trustees duly provided for in their charters, or endowments. We once asked why some one had not endowed an academy for girls in this city, and the answer was that there are no legal provisions for the security and administration of such a property. There are unquestionably many wealthy men in Brazil who might easily be induced to give liberally to endow a college or university, providing its funds can be made secure and its administration be left to its trustees and faculty. And certainly no one will contest the need of such an institution.

ANOTHER deserving object in connection with educational matters, which may be classified as a reform, is that of the creation of a number of normal schools, similar to those so successfully established in the Argentine Republic. Those schools were created some eighteen years ago by President Sarmiento, who had become an ardent admirer of the educational methods employed in the United States. His idea, however, was not to attempt a copy of the American school by experienced hands, but to bring out the teachers themselves and all the material required for a successful opening of several schools in various parts of the republic. And the result is that the Argentine Republic has some of the best equipped and most successful normal schools that can be found in any country. And they are not mere schools for instruction in pedagogics, but are practical, graded schools where children of all ages, from the "kindergarten" up to the normal

class, are received and taught according to the most approved methods. In view of the very backward state of public education in Brazil, nothing perhaps could be more directly beneficial than the creation of three or four of these high-grade schools, for which experienced teachers should be employed. They would at once have a beneficial effect on the public schools of the country by the influence of their model schools and later on by the better grade of teachers furnished, and they would raise the social standing of teachers by giving them greater professional skill and a broader education. There can be no disputing the fact that the Argentine Republic has left Brazil a long way behind in matters of education, and that the distance is being increased day by day. There are some thirty American lady teachers now in the employ of the Argentine government, and they have fine buildings for their schools, all the latest school apparatus and furniture, and the generous support of the people about them. The majority of these schools are for young ladies, but two of the largest and most successful are for both sexes. Brazil might easily maintain four or five such schools, the expense of which would be trifling compared with many of the unnecessary experiments which are continually being made. Let them cost what they may, however, they are essential to the best progress and development of the country and should be supported.

From all accounts it would appear that the department of justice has quite lost its head in regard to the reconstruction of theatres. Notwithstanding the fact that the style of theatre in use here precludes all such accidents as have occurred in Europe and the United States, the special commission appointed to report on them has ordered additions and changes which are required only in buildings wholly enclosed and built with narrow corridors. There is not a theatre in this city which can not be emptied in five minutes, while all but two are garden theatres open on all sides. The S. Pedro has some five or six exits, with roomy lobbies and corridors, a terrace and windows on three sides. The D. Pedro II has exceptionally spacious lobbies and corridors, two terraces, is unattached to any other buildings, and with two side exits would be in a shape to empty a crowded house—providing a very small amount of prudence and humanity were exercised—in less than three minutes. And yet, the commission orders all sorts of changes in these theatres, even to the building of iron side balconies, with fire escapes, on the old D. Pedro II. The electric light is also ordered and must be in operation before 15th June, notwithstanding the fact that it will be impossible to get the material out from Europe within that time. Without doubt the electric light will be a great improvement and is much safer than gas, but to use it either a common plant must be arranged for its production, or each theatre must mount its own engines, dynamos, etc., which would be a heavy expense for the small ones. If these improvements are enforced, it is more than probable that some of the small, popular theatres will have to close, for they can not stand the expense. It is evident that the commission has taken very little account of the special conditions and requirements of the theatres of this city, and has undertaken improvements similar to those recommended for cities like London, Paris and New York. And in its anxiety to do something which will sound well on the other side of the Atlantic, it has succeeded only in making itself ridiculous. The one great danger in any theatre arises from those panic-stricken brutes who strike down women and children

and trample on them to get out. It is reported that at the recent disaster in Portugal some of these monsters actually used their knives to clear a passage for themselves. We trust that for humanity's sake the report is not true, but we do know that there are plenty of brutes who would knock down helpless women and trample on them in their efforts to secure their own safety. The greatest danger in any crowded place is from creatures like these, and no provision of exits, balconies, electric lights, screens, etc., can save us from them. Even in the open street they are dangerous, for they are cowards by nature and brutes by impulse. If people could learn to restrain their fears and let these fellows get out first, there would be much less danger incurred and less loss of life to lament.

It is evidently and gradually dawning upon the Brazilian mind that there is not only a scarcity of the means for barter, for convenience sake entitled money, in the country, but that the change now occurring in the condition of laborers here will render something more than trite discussions as to what constitutes money an urgent necessity. There can be only two solutions for the problem that is daily becoming more and more urgent. Either the government must issue tokens that will serve the needs of the country, or institutions of some form must be created, with authority to issue their promissory notes, under guarantees, and relieve the annoyances to which the commerce and trade of the empire are now exposed. If the former hypothesis be considered the more favorable, the relief to trade will be merely temporary; because the amount to be issued is iron-bound by legislative action; its maximum once reached there can be no elasticity whatever, and as prices will always accommodate themselves to an issue of government tokens, sooner or later a new stringency will arise, and another issue of paper become necessary. If, as we are inclined to believe will be the case, banks of issue are authorized under proper and indispensable conditions, the natural ebb and flow of commerce can be readily gauged and our currency more or less rendered variable, as demand appears or slackens. Among the first to advocate a system of national banks, with issue based upon deposits of government indebtedness, we have seen the various ministers of finance shipwrecked upon every scheme that has been proposed to introduce bullion money into the country; and these *fascos* were as certain as that night succeeds day. We have read columns of rhetoric upon what constitutes money, upon the effect of a superabundant currency on rates of foreign exchange, upon the example of Italy, etc., etc., and we have seen that we are to-day just as far from a metallic currency as we were when *consule Dantas* exchange was between 17 and 18 pence. It must be now perfectly clear that, as we have so frequently pointed out, a metallic currency is out of the question, and the nearest approach to this must be the goal aimed at by our statesmen. We have never attempted to confound paper promises to pay with metal that has an intrinsic value. Our point all along has been that, as we cannot have real money, we must accept the nearest approach that modern financial experience has produced; and this is an issue of currency based on evidences of public debt, and so taxed that the various banks issuing will have no advantage in keeping in circulation one *milreis* more than will be necessary to meet the needs of their customers. The demands for currency must inevitably increase yearly. The planter formerly settled all his commitments by orders upon his agent, employed to dispose of his produce;

he in fact required no actual cash. But it must be conceded that this state of affairs has been completely changed. Immigrant and freedman will demand wages paid in money, and the probabilities are that, in the first case almost certainly, and in the second probably, currency will be hoarded, and the result of this is visible to the most voluntarily blind man. It must be conceded that either an issue of government, entirely unsecured, promises to pay is inevitable, or that properly fiscalized banks of issue have become a necessity.

THE action of the minister of agriculture in ordering the prosecution of the representative of the Singer Manufacturing Co. for transacting business in Brazil without duly complying with the joint-stock companies law, ought to be made a test of the legality of administrative action in this matter. If we are correctly informed the government holds that every foreign company represented in Brazil must send in a copy of its statutes, duly translated, for approval, deposit an amount fixed by the authorities to secure its transactions in the country, and to pay the taxes fixed by the law on its capital and dividends. As we have again and again argued, the requirements of the authorities are absurd and unwarranted. The joint-stock companies law was not intended to include the companies which the government is now trying to force into compliance. So far as it refers to foreign insurance, mining and railway companies, or to such companies as incur extended obligations in the country, the requirements of the law are proper; but to include purely commercial companies who carry on only ordinary mercantile transactions and incur no other obligations in the country than those attending the management of an office, or warehouse, is manifestly absurd and illegal. Take the case of the Glamorgan Coal Co. which was fined 5,000\$ for transacting business here without due authorization—a company whose only transactions here were those of selling coal, and whose only obligations were those of rent and wages. Recently a number of steamship companies have been ordered to comply with the law, including the two New Zealand companies which call here for coal, and receive passengers, freight and mail for Europe. It is altogether likely that if the exactions of the government are found to be inconvenient, or onerous, by these companies they will transfer their call to Montevideo. Take also the Havas Agency, which has an agent here merely for obtaining news and selling cable dispatches to newspapers—what reason can there be for exacting compliance with a local law from such an association? And how does the government propose to arrange the tax? Certainly a tax levied on the whole capital of a foreign company, unless its whole business is confined to Brazil, would be unjust. In case of the Singer Manufacturing Co. its Brazil agency represents a very small part of its capital and profits, and in the case of the New Zealand steamship companies comparatively nothing. The position assumed by the government, through the caprice of a few dull-witted department officials, is clearly indefensible and unjust. If the government wishes to kill out the foreign commercial enterprises of this country altogether, then let the purpose be openly declared so that we may know what course to pursue in the future. The time is not far distant when foreigners will find out that the trees in Brazil no longer bear *patacas*, and that the contributions and restrictions imposed upon commerce render the country a very unprofitable place to trade in. And then, perhaps, the great landed proprietors, who now rule the country by taxes levied on

commerce, will have to put their hands deep into their own pockets to pay for the expensive establishment which they have been keeping up.

It would seem, from a recent official letter to the minister of agriculture from the president of Paraná, that the pine-cutting industry in that province is not as successful as anticipated. In 1885 several capitalists purchased lands in the pine districts of Curitiba and S. José dos Pinhães, on which they erected large saw-mills, mounted with expensive machinery and having a capacity, says the president, of producing two million feet of lumber a month. These investments were made when exchange figured at 18½ to 19 pence. Since then exchange has been steadily going up until it reached 25½ pence, and with the result of completely upsetting the calculations of the mill owners. It thus appears that the aspiration of the last minister of finance to elevate the rate of exchange was actually bringing disaster to a much cherished national industry. The president calculates that this improvement in the rate of exchange has resulted in a depreciation of 30 per cent. in the value of these investments, a loss that can not be met by economies in working expenses. Besides that, the lumbermen have not been able to get the prices counted upon, and the high interest and discount-rates at the banks have prevented their procuring the means required to tide over so unfavorable a state of affairs. The result is that for some months past none of these saw-mills have been working, nor will they be able to go on unless the government comes to their relief. The remedies asked are: (1) an increase in the import duties on pine from foreign countries (now 9\$400 per cubic metre) to 15\$000 from the United States and 18\$000 from all other countries; (2) an exemption of the saw-mills and their wagons from all general, provincial and municipal taxation; (3) the abolition of the 7% export tax on native pine; (4) official instructions that native pine shall have the preference in all public works where equality of price and quality exist; and (5) a reduction of 20% in the rates charged by the Paraná railway, with better facilities for loading, unloading and transporting lumber on that road. It is unnecessary, perhaps, to make any comment on this singular state of affairs, from which it appears that the lumbermen of Paraná, with "pine enough to supply the whole empire for twenty years," can not compete in home markets with those five and six thousand mills distant. The complaints about exchange are absurd, for the proprietor of a saw-mill is not supposed to strike a balance on the estimated value of his property every year. He has made his investment, and like the planter, or stock-raiser, he must make his machinery and employés turn out the best possible result. The first care is to pay running expenses, which has nothing whatever to do with exchange, unless he has been starting a great enterprise on borrowed money. And if he can not pay working expenses and keep his plant in good running order, with a market at his very door and a duty of 9\$400 in his favor (over 50 per cent.), it is very doubtful whether the industry is worth preserving. As for the increase in import duties, when it can be shown that the people of this country ought to pay about 25 per cent. more for the lumber used in their dwellings, store-houses, and other constructions, in order to enable one or two dozen lumber capitalists to make a profit out of a few ignorantly-conceived and badly-managed industries, then we may find something to say in its favor. At present we are in favor of cheap lumber, no matter where it comes from—

and we are also in favor of letting every man run his own business, with his own brains and means, at his own risk, and without any help and protection from the public pocket.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The Turks are being summarily driven out of the interior towns of São Paulo.

—“Nossa Patria Paulista” has produced a chicken with four legs. We were looking for a mouse.

—A lady named Apocalypse recently died at Bragança, S. Paulo. It seems a pity St. John is so long dead.

—A question has arisen in the Bahia provincial assembly over the admission of novices into convents. We thought this question settled years ago.

—The March receipts of the Victoria custom house were 23,768\$794, of which 14,087\$022 were from imports. The provincial *neto de vendas* yielded 8,048\$074 in the same month.

—The province of São Paulo has made a contract for the supply of uniforms for the fiscal year 1888-89 to the police forces of the province, and the firemen, at a total cost of 165,498\$900.

—A Turk has been put in jail in Piracicaba, São Paulo, for stealing a child. Will some one really find out what the Turks want of these children?

—The were 10,072 immigrants received at the São Paulo *hospedaria* during the month of March, of which 8,262 were Italians and 1,744 Portuguese. The number credited to the “Sociedade Promotora” is 7,433, while 1,053 came spontaneously.

—We see by a São Paulo exchange that São Paulo, Paraná and Southern Minas form an independent country called “Patria Paulista.” Its form of government is not given. The rest of the empire is allowed to retain the name of Brazil.

—A Sorocaba, S. Paulo, journal states that an Italian died there from the effects of a bite from some unknown insect on his forehead, while he was sleeping. S. Paulo does not seem to be the happiest of hunting grounds after all is said.

—The child-stealing reputation of the Turks, who are also credited with cannibal tastes, has created a great panic throughout S. Paulo. Rumors are frequently circulated of the disappearance of children. Several municipalities have ordered the unwelcome strangers to leave.

—We see by a provincial exchange that nine chickens were taken to the public deposit in Santa Barbara, S. Paulo, a few days ago, for want of a license. The offense is a little puzzling, for we are not informed whether a license is required for taking a promenade in the street or evolving an egg.

—A Sorocaba, S. Paulo, journal states that there is a large movement of sufferers to a spring recently discovered near Una, some four leagues from Sorocaba. The waters cure various infirmities, which are not, however, specified; and near the spring is a rock which, magnificently worked by nature, resembles a temple.

—On the 15th, about dusk, thieves entered the office of a doctor in Campinas, S. Paulo, and secured 800\$ in money and 6,000\$ in bills. Our information is not clear as to whether the doctor was M. D. or B. L., but in either case the burglary was unjustifiable—unless the thief happened to be a despoiled patient or client. It is not explained where the doctor was just at the moment.

—São Paulo has recently been made the theatre of an active propaganda in behalf of a Brazilian representation at the Bastille Exposition in Paris next year. Senator Diogo Velho and Dr. José Avelino, both prominent conservatives, have the enterprise in hand. The desire to put in an appearance at Paris would appear to have forced the political sagacity of these gentlemen into the background.

—The *Diario Popular* of São Paulo, of the 18th, states that according to trustworthy information from the vicinity of Jahú the traffic in Indian slaves is being carried on actively. The Indians are captured and sold in S. Manoel and other places for prices even as high as 200\$. The pretext for this infamous traffic is “agricultural education.” The attention of the government is invited to this report.

—In accepting the statement of an exchange we were led into an error in our last issue in regard to the public illumination of Petropolis. The contract was not awarded to Mr. Hargreaves for electric lighting, as reported. The contract with Messrs. Mirandola, Benet and Goto, which was signed on the 18th inst., is for water, drainage and gas, and the contractors are to have preference in case it should be decided to employ electricity. Mr. Hargreaves will excuse us for inadvertently giving the contract to him.

—The March receipts of the Maranhão custom house amounted to 196,647\$039.

—The March receipts of the Pará custom house amounted to 833,103\$150, and of the provincial *recebatoria* to 233,580\$258.

—The March receipts of the Pará postoffice amounted to 7,355\$612, of which only 471\$130 were from agencies outside the capital.

—The new president of Ceará, Dr. Caio Prado, took charge of affairs in that province on the 21st inst.

—The revenue returns for the province of São Paulo in March amounted to 1,293,710\$991, against 1,334,373\$101 in the same month of last year.

—Six 200\$ treasury notes with blood stains on them were detected in the Amazonas sub-treasury at the end of last month. It is thought that they may afford some clue to the Garcia murder of May 16, 1886.

—During the year ending on the 31st ult. there was a decrease of 929 in the slave population of Santa Catharina, of which 877 were through manumissions, 9 by reason of age, and 43 by death. The slave population on 31st March was therefore reduced to 3,998.

—The Santa Maria Magdalena planter, Dr. Davino, who was tried [and acquitted] for having four of his slaves whipped to death, publishes a card in the *Journal* calling down the blessings of heaven on the jury and his counsel. If heaven responds in any such way, it will get no patronage from this shop.

—The March receipts of the Rio Grande custom house were 189,450\$037, and that of Porto Alegre 232,683\$573. This shows a decrease from the same month of last year of 80,441\$399 at Rio Grande and 133,779\$624 at Porto Alegre. The decrease is said to be due to smuggling over the frontier.

—The S. Paulo *Relação* has declared the failure of Mathias Costa & Santos to have been “casual.” Doing a big business on a very small capital, incurring obligations which one has no possible means of meeting, and then systematically defrauding others out of hundreds of contos, appears to be legal and regular.

—The well-known professor and writer Julio Ribeiro, a member of the São Paulo law faculty, has written an open letter to Minister Prado in regard to the low salaries paid the professors of that school. They are forbidden to engage in any kind of business and may not teach in any other school nor privately—and their salaries are fixed at 200\$000 a month. As it costs fully this for the bare necessities of life, not including clothing, the professors are sometimes reduced to great straits. The complaint is a just one, certainly. The salaries paid are not only insufficient, but they are disgracefully low.

—The *Correio* of Campinas, São Paulo, gives the following changes in the slave population of that municipality between 31st March 1887 and 20th March 1888:

|                                     |       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Matriculated, 31st March, 1887..... | 2,000 | 9,986 |
| Liberated gratuitously.....         | 4,378 |       |
| Enforced liberations.....           | 201   |       |
| By emancipation fund.....           | 10    | 4,589 |
| Deaths.....                         |       | 5,397 |
| Attained 60 years.....              |       | 69    |
| Estimated departures.....           |       | 19    |
|                                     | 200   | 288   |
| Slave pop. 20th March, 1888.....    |       | 5,109 |

—The municipality of Santos is authorized by an act of the São Paulo provincial assembly, signed by the president on the 21st ult., to contract a loan of 1,000,000\$, at 8 per cent. per annum, payable in 30 years. The proceeds are to be used for improvements in Rua de S. Bento, building a slaughter house and market, removal of the cemetery, construction of a pest-house, opening a new street to the sea through lands given the city by the Carmo convent, improvements and monuments in Praça José Bonifácio, gas, shade trees and paving in Rua Conselheiro Nêhas, and paving the principal streets of the city. The loan is to be guaranteed by the tax on alcoholic liquors and annual licenses.

—The debt of the province of Bahia, funded and floating, reaches 10,176,890\$317, divided as follows, viz:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Funded at 7 per cent.....                    | 5,761,300\$000  |
| do do.....                                   | 2,250,000 000   |
| Floating at 8 per cent.....                  | 1,570,000 000   |
| Government agency.....                       | 150,000 000     |
| Pawn office ( <i>cavsa de câmbios</i> )..... | 395,030 833     |
| Sundry recognized creditors.....             | 50,559 484      |
|  | 10,176,890\$317 |

The president of the province is not alarmed at the amount of the debt, as revenue, probably, will increase sufficiently to meet all calls, under “severe fiscalization in the collection of the revenue and scrupulous application in its employment.”



-The Academy of Fine Arts is undergoing a reform, while that of the National Museum is said to be accomplished.

-The Buenos Aires provincial assembly is discussing a project which permits foreigners to be elected to certain municipal offices.

-Will the director of the postoffice inform us why the newspaper mail for the *Aviza* closes at 10.30 a.m. when the steamer does not leave before 3 p.m.?

-A distinguished poet, one of the many here, was recently married at Barra Mansa. It is suggested that he turn into Alexandrine verse the protests of No. 1 against colic.

-The new postoffice regulations require the registry of letters containing postoffice money orders. Sending money through the postoffice promises to be expensive, as well as risky.

-On the 20th inst. the minister of empire asked the Treasury to pay 7,600\$ for four capitals of stone furnished the building destined for the Medical School. So the building is going on, after all!

-The creation of another army brigade out of the handful of men stationed in this city promises to provide places for a considerable number of officers, and our streets will soon wear a perennial holiday look. Nothing ornaments a street so well as a uniform.

-The *Gazeta de Noticias* says that the police authorities have instructed the theatres to keep two chairs for the two commissioners recently appointed to look after changes in construction. And let us hope that the two chairs will be appropriately labelled "dead-heads."

-The *Gazeta de Noticias* of the 22nd complains of the delays in the distribution of the preceding day's mail in the postoffice. We have had frequent occasion to complain of these delays, but no notice whatever has been taken of them. Perhaps the *Gazeta's* "growl" will be more effective.

-The minister of empire has caught the "reform" or reorganization fever, and is going to try his 'pretence hand on the "normal school." This important institution, which meets occasionally at night on an upper floor at the Polytechnic, is to have daily sessions and have a building for itself.

-The minister of marine is proposing to reform the fishermen of the bay. The president of the municipal council has offered an ordinance which prohibits everything not duly approved and taxed by his *fiscos*, and provides penalties for every infraction of the said ordinance. Singularly enough the boys who coquette with little fish with a pole and line were overlooked.

-The character of the reforms in the new post-office regulations may be inferred from the circumstance that the fine for sending money and other values in unregistered letters is raised from 20 to 25 per cent., and the "fine" gets one-half as before. And the wretch who does not treat a post-office employe with all due courtesy and respect will incur a fine of 30\$.

-It is pleasing to note that Commissioners Belfort Duarte and Schreiner have replied to the protest of the proprietor of the D. Pedro II theatre against the short time allowed for the specified changes, by telling him where he can get the work done. We thought so! What commissions are these eminent engineers getting for throwing jobs into the hands of local contractors?

-We may suggest that as the flying squadrons of the navy are likely to encounter more or less bad weather outside the bar, the midshipmen might go up to Mauá and back again. Expenses would be reduced also, for *tigellinhas* might be despatched from the Praia de Peixe and the health of Prince Augusto could be reported hourly, or even half hourly, were this to become necessary.

-It is proposed to divide the forthcoming regulations for the medico-legal-police service into something like this, viz: 1st—A section of traumatology forensis, 2nd—One of embryology and anatomy, 3rd—phrenesia forensis, and 4th and last—toxicology and histology. The important branch of pedology, which relates to the practice of getting there the same day, does not seem to be included in the above.

-We thought so. *O Paiz* of the 18th inst. gives the rainfall during the thunder storm on the night of the 16th, which was furnished by the City Improvements company, and reached 44.3 millimetres. *O Paiz* continues, "these observations were not furnished us by the meteorological department, for as this is working in one of the rooms of the secretariat of the navy, it is closed at the same time as this, which is at 3 o'clock p. m."

-The heavy rains which fell in this city on the 20th and 21st seem to have caused considerable damage. Many streets were so flooded that transit was interrupted for some time. A large number of houses situated on low grounds were inundated, the Mangue canal overflowed its banks, several walls and old buildings fell, happily without loss of life, and the Rev. sanitary improvements commission got its feet wet in travelling about to see how that "sheet of water under the city" had managed to get on top.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ROOMS AND APARTMENTS. With and without furniture, for gentlemen and families, to let in the magnificent Chacara, Rua de Santa Anna, 64. Shower bath, cleanliness and first-rate service. Moderate terms. English spoken.

COMMERCIAL.

Rio de Janeiro, April 23rd, 1888. Par value of the Brazilian mil reis (1000) gold 27 d. do do do do in U. S. ... 89 1/2 cts. ... do at \$1.81 per \$1 stg. ... 51 45 cts. ... do \$1.00 (U. S. com) Brazilian gold ... 18 1/2 ... do of £1 stg. in Brazilian gold ... 8 88 1/2

Bank rate of exchange on London to-day ... 2 1/4 d. Present value of the Brazilian milreis (paper) ... 89 1/2 cts. ... do do do do in U. S. ... 89 1/2 cts. ... do at \$1.81 per \$1 stg. ... 51 45 cts. ... Value of \$1.00 (U. S. com) in Brazilian currency (paper) ... 2 060 ... Value of £1 sterling ... 9 88 1/2

EXCHANGE.

Table of exchange rates for various banks and currencies, including London, Paris, Hamburg, and Rio de Janeiro. Columns include bank names, rates, and dates.

Table of daily coffee reports for Rio de Janeiro, showing various grades of coffee and their prices per 100 lbs. Columns include grades like 'Five per cent. apolice' and prices.

Table of latest London quotations of Brazilian stocks and shares, including government stocks, railways, and various companies like Alagoas and Bahia.

Table of market report for Rio de Janeiro, April 18th, listing various goods, their prices, and market trends. Includes sections for 'Exports' and 'Shipments'.

Table of weekly summary for April 14th, providing a detailed overview of shipments, sales, and market activity. Columns include dates and various metrics.

Table of market report for Rio de Janeiro, April 18th, listing various goods, their prices, and market trends. Includes sections for 'Exports' and 'Shipments'.

Table of market report for Rio de Janeiro, April 18th, listing various goods, their prices, and market trends. Includes sections for 'Exports' and 'Shipments'.

For the same time the daily foreign clearances at the custom house have been:

Table with 2 columns: Quantity (bags) and Destination (United States, Europe, Cape of Good Hope, Elsewhere).

The vessels cleared with coffee are:

Table with 2 columns: Date and Vessel Name (e.g., New York Br str Herschel, Havre Fr str Ville de Bahia).

Elsewhere:

Table with 2 columns: Date and Vessel Name (e.g., River Plate Ital str Adria, Talchubana Br str John Elder).

Receipts for the past nine days have averaged 3,069 bags per day, against 2,247 for the preceding ten days.

Table with 2 columns: Quantity (bags) and Price (per arroba).

Brokers' quotations this morning were:

Table with 2 columns: Vessel Name and Price (per arroba).

Stocks were this morning estimated to be 10,000 bags in first and about 11,000 bags in second hands awaiting shipment.

Vessels loading and to load.

Table with 2 columns: Vessel Name and Quantity (bags).

DAILY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS OF COFFEE AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

Large table with multiple columns: Date, Receipts, Shipments, and various coffee grades.

N.B.—We have somewhat modified this table to accord with the notes furnished us. The clearances show the number of bags on which duties are paid daily at our custom house.

Imports.

The movement in the markets has been moderate since our last report. Flour may be considered flat, under advice of very considerable shipments from the United States, and holders show some desire to meet buyers.

Flour.—Receipts since our last report have been:

Table with 2 columns: Vessel Name and Quantity (bols).

Destero, from River Plate: 2,979 bags.

Sales and withdrawals for the same time are about 7,500 bbls. and stock in first hands is estimated to be:

Table with 2 columns: Quantity (bols) and Price (per arroba).

Brokers report the market flat, at the following quotations:

Table with 2 columns: Vessel Name and Price (per arroba).

Pitch Pine.—Receipts have been 666,664 feet per Osmond O'Brien from Brunswick and 580,215 feet per Mary I. Baker from Pensacola.

White Pine.—There have been no receipts. Last sale was at 105 rs. per cent, and brokers report the market fairly steady at this quotation.

Swedish Pine.—There has been nothing to report.

Kerosene.—Receipts are nil, but, as we stated in our last issue, the market has been flat all along, and brokers do not quote to-day over 68,000 per case, for invoices.

Lard.—Receipts are 2,500 cases per Adda J. Bonner from Baltimore. We may continue quotations at 350-355 rs. per lb. for invoices, but the market is flat, and lower prices possible.

Coal.—Receipts, all to companies and dealers, have been:

Table with 2 columns: Vessel Name and Quantity (bols).

Cornmeal.—Receipts are insignificant. Brokers still quote British at \$800-\$850, German at \$850-\$900 and French at \$850-\$900 per bag.

Rice.—About 2,000 bags have been received via Europe, and quotations from second hands are unaltered at \$550-560 per bag.

Rosin.—Receipts have been 300 bbls. per Adda J. Bonner from Baltimore. There is no change in quotations, 68,500-113,000 per bbl. as to quality and weight.

Turpentine.—No receipts and the trade is so insignificant that quotations are of little value.

Bran.—The supply of River Plate bran seems to have ceased, and quotations are nominal.

Hay.—Receipts are 5,300 bales per Silas Fish from Montevideo. Dealers still quote at about 75-80 rs. per kilogram.

Indian Corn.—Receipts nil. River Plate is quoted nominally at \$380-\$420, and native, Penola, maize at \$380-\$420 per bag.

Codfish.—This article appears to be decidedly scarce. The cargo of St. Zofia is reported to have been sold at a low price, quality considered undesirable.

Shrimp.—Receipts have been 2,000 cases Norwegian, and 1,578 tubs per "85" from Jersey to dealers.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Vessel Name, Origin, and Agent.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Vessel Name, Origin, and Agent.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Vessel Name, Destination, and Agent.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Table with 4 columns: Vessel Name, Tonnage, Freight Rate, and Agent.

VESSELS AFLOAT & LOADING FOR RIO.

Table with 4 columns: Vessel Name, Tonnage, Destination, and Agent.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Vessel Name, Origin, and Agent.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN STEAMERS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Name, Where from, Consigned to.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN STEAMERS.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Name, Where to, Cargo.

Calling at intermediate ports.

FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT OF RIO DE JANEIRO, APRIL 23d, 1888.

Table with 5 columns: Name, Tonnage, Entered, Where from, Consigner.

FOREIGN MARKETS

From Messrs. James Cook & Co's Monthly Dispatch, London, March 22nd, 1888.

COFFEE.—The reduction in the European stocks for February of about 2,000 tons, was more than counterbalanced by the increase of 4,000 tons in the States, the total of the former being 116,878 tons, against 113,837 tons, and the latter 19,470 tons, against 16,166 tons. The European deliveries for consumption show improvement on those of January, 28,360 tons, against 23,312 tons. America, however, a decrease of 2,200 tons. The February imports, both in Europe and the States were in excess of those of January, the former by 3,800 tons and the latter by 3,300 tons.

It may be interesting to note, that in spite of the fall in the value of coffee the consumption of chicory in the U. K. for the first two months of this year amounted to 1,016 tons, very large in comparison with that of coffee which was 2,465 tons.

The total exports from Maracaiho for 1887 were 301,816 bags against 261,460 bags in 1886. From Puerto Cabello in January 9,336 bags, and from La Guaira 6,631 bags. The estimates of the coming Brazil crops remain unchanged, and the prospects according to the last mail advices, continue most favourable, both in Rio and Santos.

Table with columns for Country, Tons, 1886, 1887, 1888. Includes entries for Holland, Antwerp, Hamburg, Bremen, Trieste, Copenhagen, France, Total Continent, Great Britain, Total Europe, Six ports of U.S., and Stocks, 29th February.

Table with columns for Country, Tons, 1886, 1887, 1888. Includes entries for Holland, Antwerp, Hamburg, Bremen, Trieste, Copenhagen, France, Total Continent, Great Britain, Total Europe, Six ports of U.S., and Deliveries for consumption for two months.

Table with columns for Country, Tons, 1886, 1887, 1888. Includes entries for France, consumption, export, Other continental ports, Total Continent, U.K., consumption, half exports, Total Europe, United States, Total two months, In January, February, and CEYLON.

Table with columns for Month, Coffee, Tea, Cocoa. Includes entries for 1887, 1888, and SHIPMENTS EACH MONTH, 1887-88.

Table with columns for Country, Coffee, Tea, Cocoa. Includes entries for To United Kingdom, Venice, Trieste, Hamburg, Antwerp, Bremen, Havre, Rotterdam, Africa, Mauritius, India & Eastward, Australia, America, Total Exports from Oct. 1, 1887 to Mar. 1, 1888, Do 1886, Do 1885, Do 1884.

GOVERNMENT AND PROVINCIAL BONDS

Table with columns: MISSION, CIRCULATION, DENOMINATION, INTEREST, NOMINAL VALUE, LAST SALE, LAST QUOTATIONS. Includes entries for Apolices, Gold Loan of 1888, Province of Rio de Janeiro, and HYPOTHECAIR NOTES.

DEBENTURES AND SHARES

Large table with columns: CAPITAL, SHARES, CURRENCY, VALUE, PAID UP, NAMES, RESERVE FUND, LAST SALE, AM'T, PAID, LAST QUOTATIONS. Includes sections for BANKS, RAILWAYS, and MISCELLANEOUS.

Insurance.

GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Agents in Rio de Janeiro Smith & Youle. No. 62, Rua 7 de Março.

LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Agents in Rio de Janeiro Watson Ritchie & Co. No. 25, Rua de Theophilo Ottoni.

PHENIX FIRE OFFICE.

Established 1782 Agent in Rio de Janeiro E. W. May, RUA DO GENERAL CAMARA No. 2, Corner of Rua Visconde de Itaboraity.

HOME AND COLONIAL MARINE INSURANCE Co.

Agents for the Empire of Brazil Norton, Megaw & Co. No. 82, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março, Rio de Janeiro.

THE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

Capital £1,000,000 Sterling Reserve fund £ 450,000 Agents in Rio de Janeiro Phipps Brothers & Co. RUA DO GENERAL CAMARA No. 2, Corner of Rua do Visconde de Itaboraity.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Agents in Rio de Janeiro Okell, Mourão & Wilson, 87, Rua Visconde de Inhauma, Telephone No. 193.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, OF LONDON. FIRE AND MARINE.

Fire Risks Marine Risks Authorized 1870 Authorized 1894. Agents for the Empire of Brazil Wilson Sons & Co. Limited. No. 2, Praça das Marinhas.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LONDON AND LIVERPOOL.

Capital £2,000,000 Accumulated Funds £6,000,000 Insures against the risk of fire, houses, goods and merchandise of every kind at reduced rates. John Moore & Co, agents. No. 8, Rua da Candelaria.

BRITISH & FOREIGN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMTD.

Capital £1,000,000 sterling Agents in Rio de Janeiro Swanwick & Gordon, 31, Rua General Camara, Telephone No. 427.

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY.

Established 1797 Losses paid £5,300,000 Agents in Rio de Janeiro Swanwick & Gordon, 31, Rua General Camara, Telephone No. 427.

Shipping.

THOMAS NORTON'S

OLD REGULAR LINE OF SAILING PACKETS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL PORTS Established in 1805 Loading Berth: Covered Pier No. 17, East River. For Freight and General information apply to Thomas Norton, 104 Wall St., New-York.

Steamships.

ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY.

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

TABLE OF DEPARTURES, 1888

Table with columns: Date, Steamer, Destination. Rows include April 24 (Neva) and May 3 (Tagus).

This Company's steamers leave Southampton every alternate Thursday, and Rio de Janeiro, homeward, every alternate Tuesday. Insurance on freight shipped on these steamers can be taken out at the Agency.

For freight, passages and other information apply to E. W. May, Supt. Marítimo, Rua do General Camara No. 2, (Corner of Rua Visconde de Itaboraity.) Phipps Brothers & Co. Agents.

UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL MAIL STEAMSHIP Co.

CARRYING THE U. S. AND BRAZILIAN MAILS SAILINGS FOR NEW YORK: ADVANCE 9 June FINANCE 30 ALLIANÇA 28 July

ALLIANÇA, Captain BEERS

on return from Santos will sail 15th May at 10 a.m. for NEW YORK calling at BAHIA, PERNAMBUCO, MARANHAM, [entering the two last named ports] PARÁ, BARBADOS and St. THOMAS

Table with columns: Destination, Cabin, Steerage. Rows include Liverpool (\$220 gold), New York (\$145 \$75), and back (\$275).

For passages and information apply to Wilson, Sons & Co., Limited; Agents No. 2, Praça das Marinhas and for cargo to W. C. Peck. No. 6, Praça do Commercio

LIVERPOOL, BRAZIL AND RIVER PLATE MAIL STEAMERS.

UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE BELGIAN AND BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENTS.

INTENDED SAILINGS FROM RIO IN APRIL.

To New York: Every Saturday Enclit. Apr. 28th To Southampton (for London) and Antwerp: Maskelyne [Belgian Mail steamer] Apr. 29th To Rio Grande Ports: Carrou Weekly, Chatham Weekly, or Canning Weekly.

Mails are closed as announced by the Post Office. For cargo apply to Wm. R. McNiven, 89 Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março. For passages, parcels, specie, etc., to the Agents—NORTON, MEGAW & Co. 82 Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março.

Banks.

ENGLISH BANK OF RIO DE JANEIRO (LIMITED)

HEAD OFFICE IN LONDON BRANCHES: Rio de Janeiro, Pará, Pernambuco, Bahia, Santos, São Paulo and Porto Alegre.

Table with columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Capital £1,000,000, Divid. paid up £500,000, Reserve Fund £185,000.

Draws on THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, and transacts every description of Banking business.

LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON BRANCHES: LISBON, OPORTO, PARÁ, PERNAMBUCO, BAHIA, RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS, SÃO PAULO, RIO GRANDE DO SUL, PELOTAS, PORTO ALEGRE, MONTEVIDEO, AND NEW YORK.

Table with columns: Description, Amount. Rows include Capital £1,250,000, Capital paid up £625,000, Reserve fund £300,000.

Draws on: Messrs. GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE & Co., LONDON, Messrs. MALLET FRERES & Co., PARIS, Messrs. J. H. SCHRÖDER & Co., HAMBURG.

BANCO INTERNACIONAL DO BRAZIL.

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Grants letters of credit for travellers and for commercial purposes. Receives consignments of coffee and other produce for shipment, and advances on same as agreed upon. Advances made on coffee and other merchandise in accordance with the statutes of the Bank, and transacts every other description of banking business.

CRASHLEY & Co., Newsdealer and Booksellers.

Subscriptions received for all the leading English and American newspapers and periodicals. Agents for The European Mail.

A large assortment of English novels, of the Tauchnitz Editions, of the Franklin Square Library and of the Lovell Library constantly on hand.

Views of Rio and neighbourhood. Orders received for Scientific and other books. Agents for Longstreth's Rubber Stamps.

Dealers in Atkinson's, Piase & Lubin's and Royal Perfumeries and Prax's Soap. No. 67, Rua do Ouvidor.

D. K. POMROY & Co. COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

Ship and Steamship stores. Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Coal. No. 1, Rua de Belem. P. O. Address: Caixa 24, Pará, Brazil. Cable Address: "Pomroy, Pará."

WENCESLAU GUIMARÃES & Co.

WINE MERCHANTS. Importers of Oporto, Douro and Lisbon wines of the best qualities in bottles, or in casks, and under the private marks of the house. Sole Agents for

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Rua da Alfandega, 83.

RUBBER HAND STAMPS, Metal-Bodied Rubber Type.

S. T. LONGSTRETH, Office and workshops: No. 18, Travessa do Ouvidor, 1st floor. Caixa no Correio No. 906. Rio de Janeiro

HOLMAN'S LIVER PADS. GENUINE CARLSBADER SALTS

For sale by André d'Oliveira & Gad, Drugists. No. 14, Rua Sete de Setembro.

PHOTOGRAPHIA ALLEMÁ ALBERTO HENSCHEL & Co.

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WINES. PORT, SHERRY AND MADEIRA

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NOW READY Hand Book of Rio de Janeiro.

The publishers beg to announce the completion of this guide for the city of Rio de Janeiro for English-speaking travellers, which comprises descriptions of the bay and city, a historical sketch of the city, brief descriptions of the more important public edifices, squares and gardens, and a guide for some of the excursions in and about the city which travellers generally have time to make. It contains 228 pages, map and frontispiece. A part of the edition will be bound with photographs. Price 2\$500: do. with photographs 5\$000. For sale at this office.

THE RIO NEWS Published three times a month for the American and European mails.

THE RIO NEWS was established under its present title and management on the 1st of April, 1879, succeeding the British and American Mail. Although the style, title and frequency of issue were changed at the time of transfer, the designations of number and volume were continued. At the beginning of 1888 the style of the publication was still further changed by an increase from four to eight pages, and a diminution in the size of the page. This change not only largely increased the size of the publication, but it added greatly to its convenience for office and reference use.

With the beginning of its 15th volume (January, 1888) the editors feel themselves warranted in calling attention to the uniform and general satisfaction with which their policy and management have thus far been received, and in advising their patrons that no deviation whatever from them will be made. THE NEWS will seek to keep its readers fully and accurately informed on all commercial questions, and upon all matters of Brazilian news or policy which may have more or less bearing upon any and all enterprises and investments. In its discussions it will treat every question frankly, and for the opinions expressed the editors will hold themselves personally responsible. In its news columns it will seek to keep its readers fully informed on all matters and occurrences throughout Brazil, formed on all matters and occurrences throughout Brazil.

In addition to a large circulation in the United States and Europe, where its commercial reports are much appreciated, THE NEWS has a wide circulation throughout Brazil, this making the paper a valuable advertising medium. The rates charged are 15¢ per inch per quarter, with a reduction of 20% for additional space and time.

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