

THE RIO NEWS.

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NUMBER 2

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RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 13th, 1891.

We are glad to note that the complaints about the delays in the custom-house have at last produced an impression, and that efforts are being made to expedite the handling of merchandise. Unless some permanent and better measures are adopted, however, the relief will only be temporary. There must either be a large increase in the number of lighters in this port, with better facilities for discharging them in the custom-house dock, or the system of bonded warehouses must be considerably extended and vessels permitted to discharge alongside the piers. The best arrangement, in our opinion, is the one many times advocated in these columns—the extension of iron skeleton piers into the bay which should be connected with bonded warehouses. If each regular steamship company could own, or lease, its own pier with such a trapiche attached, the loading and unloading of their steamers would be greatly facilitated, heavy expenses and costly delays would be avoided, the travelling public would be served with less inconvenience, merchandise could be delivered more promptly and with less damage, and the service of the custom-house would be greatly simplified. Then, too, the construction of such open piers would not interfere with the tidal currents in the bay and would, therefore, occasion no prejudice to health through the accumulation of drift and filth in partially enclosed slips. If the Saude shore line could be extended so as to give a straight line from the Gamboa point to the marine arsenal, and if, then, this water front could be furnished with skeleton iron piers and properly constructed storehouses, the shipping facilities of this port would be equal to every requirement in the world. We do not require any docks built in the middle of the bay, nor any other costly works designed only to afford dividends and impose further burdens on commerce. Nature has made an admirable port for Rio de Janeiro, which requires no other improvement than piers and storehouses.

ACCORDING to the record made from day to day in the Constituent Assembly, the situation is becoming more and more critical as the debate on the constitution continues. The opposition to the provisional government has now reached so respectable a number, and contains so many influential names, that it can no longer be treated with indifference and contempt. Some time since the vote on certain provisions urged by the provisional government showed an opposition strength of nearly one hundred votes. During the past week, the banquet in honor of the first anniversary of the separation of church and state, brought out several bitter denunciations of the abnormal situation which still exists in Brazil. When it is considered that the presiding officer at the banquet was a high military officer, and that he was supported by a high naval officer and an ex-member of the provisional government, it can no longer be claimed that the opposition is merely a faction, nor that it is without influence and character. It must be clearly apparent that the opposition is not only becoming organized, but also that it is becoming strong enough to enforce its views upon the country. The provisional government has so grossly abused its authority, and has plunged the country into so many and so complicated evils, that it has unquestionably lost the sympathy of the public in general. More than that, we believe that it is now

sustained only by the armed forces garrisoned in this city, and by the sentiment that the constitution will soon be adopted and that these irresponsible acts of executive authority will then be at an end. There are but few uninterested men who now doubt the evils which the provisional government has brought upon the country. Brazil has been at the mercy of a gang of hungry speculators for one whole year, she has been robbed and swindled, and she is only just now beginning to see what it all means. The great fortunes which are being made almost in a day must yet be paid for by the toil and sufferings of the people. The reaction is still before us, and when it does come the people will not forget who promoted it under the flimsy excuse of developing the country.

ACCORDING to telegrams received here on the 7th, the long anticipated revolution in Chili has at last broken out. For a long time past the relations between President Balmaceda and Congress had been strained to a point where only the slightest excuse would serve to precipitate a conflict. We are unable at this distance, and with so limited a knowledge of the questions at issue, to determine the prime causes of the difficulty, but it would seem that the president has exercised practically a dictatorial authority for some time past, and has stubbornly refused to permit any appeal from his acts. For a long time he refused to call a session of congress to consider the state of the country, and he has enforced his authority by force of arms. Peaceful meetings have been broken up by his police, and lives have been sacrificed which made a peaceful settlement almost impossible. During the whole of last month the situation showed Balmaceda and his personal adherents, backed by the military and police forces, with the treasury of the nation at his service, on the one side, while on the other were arrayed the major part of congress, many of Balmaceda's former ministers and councillors, a few military men, and the great majority of the influential families of the country. The opposition had an unquestioned majority, but Balmaceda had the resources of the state at his command. At the opening of the year Balmaceda issued a manifesto which apparently brought matters to a crisis, for the telegraph reports that it was accepted by the press as a formal declaration of a dictatorship. The subsequent telegram of the 7th, therefore, occasioned very little surprise, for the inevitable had already been foreseen. What did occasion surprise, however, was the news that the Chilean navy, under Capt. George Montt, had espoused the cause of the revolution, and that one of the prominent officers of the Peruvian war, Gen. Baquedano, had taken command of the revolutionary forces. It is singular how frequently it happens that the army and navy take opposing positions in these struggles, but the fact remains that the naval officer is generally disposed to espouse the popular cause, while the army generally remains obedient to the executive power. Were it not for the unknown factor which decided the recent outbreak in Buenos Aires against the revolutionists, we should feel certain that the revolution in Chili could have but one result—a complete victory. But while public men are what they are, another result is quite as possible.

We have so often called attention to the unwise policy of imposing heavy taxes on paper that it is apparently quite useless to refer to it again. However, as a slight concession was made in the last tariff revision, it may not be amiss to bring it up again. Under the previous tariff the gross mistake was made of making only two classes, common rough printings and writing paper. Under that arrangement the paper used for this journal paid 220 reis per kilo as writing paper. The injustice and absurdity of this classification were so great that when the revision was made printings were divided into two classes, calendered and uncalendered, or common. The rates charged are 100 reis and 30 reis per kilo respectively. As the duties are now paid in gold, the currency rate on calendered printings, which we use for this journal, now amounts to nearly 140 reis per kilo. As any one can easily see, the paper here used is nothing more than a good quality of printings, and should not therefore pay so high a rate. Still further, and aside from the personal interest we have in the question, the excessive rates imposed on good paper compel the use of the commonest grades for

book work, especially school-books. This renders school-books dear, because of the poor material used, and renders it impossible to do the best descriptions of printing, which results in an injury to the eyes and places a serious obstacle in the way of art cultivation among pupils. The tax of 100 reis gold is therefore a serious obstacle in education and leads to physical injuries of the gravest character. If more care were used in the selection of paper and type for school-books, we are confident that there would be fewer spectacles used among comparatively young people. In our opinion there are better reasons for a low rate of duty on good printing paper, than on the common descriptions used for newspapers, not only on the score of providing a better class of school-books, but also because the tax weighs more lightly on the public when divided up into the daily paper, and also because of the higher grade of literary work done on books whose circulation should therefore be encouraged. A tax on book paper is an oppressive tax on the intellectual development of a country, and is therefore a self-created obstacle to progress. We have no doubt that the minister of finance thought he was making an important concession in this direction in his last tariff revision, but in reality it was so slight a concession that it affords almost no benefit at all. In our opinion, all printings, whether finished or not, should be classed together and at the lowest possible rate.

KOCH'S CURE OF TUBERCULAR DISEASE.

Eight years ago Koch announced his discovery of a *bacillus* which he found to be present in tubercular tissues, the expectoration and other excretions of persons who were the subjects of tubercular disease. He unhesitatingly pronounced this *bacillus* to be the active cause of tuberculosis and his opinion was received with a considerable measure of incredulity, but by degrees the truth of his first assertion has been admitted and is now one of the best recognized characteristics of tubercular diseases. The presence of the *bacillus* in the expectoration of a patient is recognized as positive proof that the disease is phthisis but the converse is not quite so certain, as the failure to discover its presence may be due to a number of accidental circumstances.

Since 1882 it seems that Koch has been patiently but steadily pursuing his enquiries and while the rest of the world were satisfied with recognizing the presence of the *bacillus* merely as an element of importance in diagnosis, he was pushing his investigation in the direction of finding a remedy to counteract the evils produced by the *bacillus*. His colleagues in Berlin became aware of the fact that he was engaged in a serious attempt to grapple with this fell disease and at their urgent request he read a paper before the International Medical Congress at Berlin in August of last year. This paper aroused a passing excitement but only in the beginning of November did it become known that Koch had obtained a fluid for which he claimed remarkable powers over the tubercular processes. Excitement became intense and an exodus to Berlin became general on the part of medical men and patients. The fluid has been submitted to numerous tests in many places, and amongst the earliest recipients of some of the precious fluid were two of the Glasgow infirmaries. Altogether some thirty persons have received injections, the dose varying from .0002 gramme to .01 gramme, the former being the minimum dose for children and the latter a medium dose for an adult. The most marked results I have observed were in two cases of *lupus*, i. e. tubercular disease affecting the skin, most frequently of the face and producing most hideous deformities. In these cases a most striking effect followed the injection, and after the repetition of the injection several times, marked improvement took place in the local disease. Both cases are still under treatment. Tubercular disease of joints and bones has shown marked improvement after the injections and in one case of phthisis pulmonalis the patient herself is convinced that she is greatly improved and still improving as treatment goes on.

Looking at all that I have read and what I have myself seen, I am convinced that Koch's discovery is a most important one, but only after a longer experience of its effects in the hands of careful observers will its full powers be known and the cases, if

any, that are unsuitable for treatment, be clearly defined. In the meantime it is being tried, and rightly so, on all forms of tubercular disease and also as a means of diagnosis in doubtful cases and in the course of a very few months it should be definitely ascertained what it can and what it can not do.

As to the composition of the fluid Koch has been fully justified and freed from the charge of keeping his secret to himself and thus violating one of the laws of honor which govern, or at least should govern, the profession. It is known on the authority of the German Minister von Gosler that Koch would have proclaimed all he knew in November, but seeing the disastrous results which would accrue from imitators, for mercenary purposes, putting a potent and dangerous drug wholesale on the market, and also how it would retard the forming of definite conclusions as to the mode of action of the remedy, he was strongly advised to preserve the secret for some time yet.

I am told on pretty reliable authority that the chief ingredients are: a fluid cultivation of the tubercle *bacillus* from which all *bacilli* have been removed leaving only the ptomaines, cyanide of gold as an antiseptic and glycerine. While I believe this to be true, I shall be sorry for having made the statement if it should lead to any of my Brazilian friends trying to manufacture a fluid to rival in its effects that of the celebrated Robert Koch.

W. LOUDON STRAIN.

Continued from our last.

THE PAST YEAR.

One of the very first questions which engaged the attention of the provisional government was that of the Missions boundary dispute. Although an agreement had been only very recently reached for the survey of the disputed boundary by a joint commission, which survey was nearly completed, and for the reference of the question to a foreign arbitrator in case a settlement satisfactory to both parties could not be arranged, the provisional government was suddenly seized with a desire to have the question settled. And so unexpected and precipitate was this anxiety that there has been a very general impression that the Argentines took advantage of the situation in Brazil to press for a settlement more favorable to themselves than could otherwise have been obtained. Filled with the idea that they were surrounded with monarchical plots, and that Rio Grande was not at all secure, and moved by some invisible force, the provisional government resolved upon the extraordinary recourse of sending the foreign minister himself to close up the dispute once for all. Accordingly the ironclad *Riachuelo* was made ready, and on January 16th Minister Quintino Bocayuva, accompanied by a numerous staff, left for Montevideo. The discussions which followed and the treaty, *ad referendum*, which was signed in that city between the foreign ministers of the two countries, have not yet been published, but enough is known to warrant the statement that Minister Bocayuva surrendered a considerable part of the territory in dispute. The satisfaction freely expressed by the Argentines over the result, and the discontent manifested by the Brazilians, particularly in naval circles, leaves the final outcome of this extraordinary convention still in doubt, for it is certain that the ratification of the treaty will be vigorously opposed. Owing to the outbreak of some kind of epidemic on board the *Riachuelo*, that vessel was ordered to return early in February, because of the quarantine imposed. Minister Bocayuva, however, remained for an extended trip through Argentina, where he was the recipient of every attention that the people and government of that country could devise. The unpopularity of the treaty led to fears that the minister's return would occasion a hostile manifestation and compel his withdrawal from the cabinet, but happily no such incident occurred. Minister Bocayuva returned on March 9th and the question has since occupied little attention beyond a recent discussion in the *Tribuna*, whose force was largely counteracted by the intemperate conduct of the editor of that journal.

Although the provisional government has maintained an unusual solidarity before the public for a body of such heterogeneous elements, it has been unable to get through the year without several internal dissensions,

which at times have brought the cabinet to the verge of dissolution. The first of these was caused by Minister Ruy Barbosa's bank decree of January 17th, which was vigorously opposed by Minister Demetrio Ribeiro. Failing to adjust their differences, and the minister of finance being unwilling to recall the extraordinary favors granted to the founders of these banks, the minister of agriculture tendered his resignation on January 31st and withdrew from the cabinet. A few days later a controversy between Gen. Deodoro and his minister of interior, Dr. Aristides Lobo, over certain removals and appointments of local sanitary officials, led to the latter's resignation also, on February 10. These two vacancies were filled by the appointment of Sr. Francisco Glycerio, of São Paulo, to the portfolio of agriculture and Sr. Cesario Alvim, of Minas Geraes, to that of interior. On April 19th a new cabinet department was organized, under the name of "public instruction, telegraphs and postoffices," by separating those services from the departments of interior and agriculture, and Gen. Benjamin Constant was put at its head. Gen. Floriano Peixoto, adjutant-general of the army, was appointed minister of war to fill the vacancy, and the two ministers took charge of their new portfolios on May 5th. On May 25th a decree was issued conferring the rank of "brigadier-general" upon all the civilian members of the cabinet, a measure so inconsistent with republican ideas and so absurd in its application, that it has been looked upon as a huge joke by the public, who can not easily understand how military rank can be earned by lawyers and journalists without military service. Such an honor adds nothing to a civilian's deserts, while it cheapens the real value of honorable military service.

At various times during the year controversies of a decidedly serious character have arisen, but the difficulties were adjusted without any further resignations. In May the arrest of a notorious character, called "Juca" Reis, occasioned a quarrel which nearly led to the withdrawal of the minister of foreign affairs from the cabinet. As the man arrested was the brother of the proprietor of the journal of which Minister Bocayuva was chief editor, the latter felt it his duty to interfere in the arrest, and threatened to resign in case the chief of police did not release the prisoner. The chief of police, however, would not give way, but the resignation was avoided by an arrangement which satisfied the latter in sending the prisoner to Fernando de Noronha, and then pacified the former by providing for his immediate release with permission to retire to Europe. The severe criticisms of the policy adopted by the minister of finance have more than once brought about divergences of opinion in the cabinet, and on one occasion led to the tender of his resignation. Unhappily, however, he has enjoyed so large a measure of Gen. Deodoro's confidence, that no outside opinion or influence, no matter how respectable and intelligent, has been able to disturb the security of his position.

The last and most serious crisis in the cabinet was that of November 30th, which was occasioned by an attack on the editorial rooms of the *Tribuna*, organized and directed by officers connected with Gen. Deodoro's household. This journal had indulged in some very intemperate attacks on the chief of state and some public questions connected with the Missions boundary treaty, and it is known that some of these attacks had given great offence to Gen. Deodoro, who wished to have the editor arrested. This was opposed by the minister of justice, who contended that the full liberty of the press must be respected. The officers in question thereupon took the quarrel into their own hands, raided the *Tribuna* office on the evening of November 29th with a party of some 30 or 40 soldiers in citizen's dress, broke up the furniture and fixtures of the office, wounded several persons, one of whom has since died, and then retired. The police had been withdrawn from the neighborhood, and no arrests were made then, nor since, although the parties implicated are well known. An informal meeting of the cabinet was held the next day, when a formal tender of their resignation was signed, to become effective in case the criminals were not punished and better guarantees given for personal liberty. A cabinet meeting followed on December 1st, and with the result that the ministers all submitted to an empty promise that every guarantee in the future should be secured.

The press of the city also protested against the assault, and threatened to suspend publication in case the criminals were not punished, but up to date nothing whatever has been done.

(To be continued.)

THE SOCIEDADE FRANZINI.

The records of this society, which is designed to assist laboring men and to protect them in their legal rights, show that the receipts in November were 300,000, while the expenditures were 376,060. The total number of families secured by the society during the month was 203, of the following nationalities:

Brazilian	8
Belgian	19
French	48
German	4
Italian	111
Spanish	6
All others	7

203

We regret to add that the founder of this much-needed society, Gen. M. M. Franzini, has been advised by his physicians to make a voyage to Europe because of the injuries recently suffered in the attack on the office of the *Tribuna*. Although the society will continue its good work, it will lose the personal direction of the man who has done so much for its organization and support.

And in this connection it may not be out of place to call attention to the fact that Gen. Franzini, who has been a suitor before the government here for 18 years, for losses and damages sustained by an act of bad faith in which the government broke a contract entered into for the introduction of colonists, after he had expended much money and had organized a company to carry it into effect, is now leaving Brazil without having obtained the satisfaction due him. In his efforts to obtain justice here he has expended his whole fortune and now returns home a poor man, not too poor to engage in benevolent work for the immigrant, but too poor to continue a contest against a government which has no memory for its solemn engagements, and no justice for a man whose life was attempted by assassins known to be in its pay.

From the *Jornal do Commercio*, Jan. 13th.

NEW COMPANIES IN 1890.

According to official information which we have had collected, the capital of joint-stock associations and companies which were organized in this city during 1890 was no less than 1,332,306,600\$, which exceeds by over 200,000,000\$ the total of our foreign and domestic debt.

Our capital, it is clear, is nominal. But even if we calculate that the various companies call or have called for 30 per cent. of their capital only, we will still have the respectable nominal sum of nearly 400,000,000\$. We say nominal, for the amount was not really employed, but the same money frequently represents various payments in sundry companies.

Here is, month by month, the capital of the companies formed in 1890:

January	3,300,000\$
February	210,350,000
March	2,250,000
April	24,776,600
May	17,700,000
June	19,950,000
July	163,450,000
August	121,400,000
September	262,380,000
October	286,750,000
November	81,600,000
December	37,900,000

1,332,306,600\$

Translation.

TESTIMONIAL.

Owing to the extreme kindness and consideration with which we have been treated by the Commander, James A. Crossman, and the officers of the steamer *Advance*, we the undersigned have resolved to give this public testimony of our gratitude.

S. S. *Advance*, 28th Dec., 1890.

- Domingos Olympio.
- Francisco Xavier Roiz de Souza.
- Arthur de Moraes e Castro.
- Romulo Barreto.
- Arthur da Silva Castro.
- José Vieira Braga.
- Martins Francisco de Andrada.
- Ignacio Nery da Fonseca.
- Fred. W. Davis.
- João Baptista da Cunha Honorato.
- Narcizo Luiz.
- A. J. Carvalho Lima.
- Emmanuel Corretz.
- Glycerio Wanderley F. Campos.
- Adeleide Campos Souza.
- Eduardo José de Moraes Jr.
- Claudio D. Augusto.

—ACCORDING to the annual report of the controller of the currency the total number of national banks in the United States on 31st October last was 3,567, with a total capital stock of \$659,782,865. The outstanding circulation of these banks at the end of November was \$178,434,659, or \$21,056,776 less than at the same period of 1889. According to inquiries made by the controller, the aggregate amount of exchanges made through these banks during the year ending June 30th, 1890, was \$11,550,808,255, upon which the drafts upon New York banks alone represented \$7,284,982,634. Including the settlements made by state and private banks, the total amount of domestic exchanges for the year was \$17,927,524,760.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—The increase of taxation in Argentina will make life almost unendurable.

—Saturdays gold quotations were 333 at Buenos Aires and 153¼ at Montevideo.

—The December receipts of the Montevideo custom-house amounted to \$835,633.63.

—There were 10,932 immigrant arrivals in and 5,585 departures from Argentina in December.

—The telegraph communication between Argentina and Chili was interrupted on the breaking out of the revolution.

—The Deputies at Buenos Aires have voted the new taxes and increased customs duties. Another exodus of poor laboring people may now be looked for.

—The distillers and vintners of Uruguay are protesting vigorously against the proposed taxes on their products, which they consider will be highly unfavorable to an important branch of national industry.

—The Buenos Aires *Herald* says that "a perfect epidemic of suicide seems to be prevailing;" and then adds, "many of the more recent cases of suicide in our midst seem directly traceable to the cruel pressure of social and business life."

—During the current year the Argentine government will collect a 5 per cent. *ad valorem* tax on the following exports: animal oil, horns and pieces of horn, jerked beef, bone ash, horse-hair, hides, and skins in general, hide cuttings, bones, washed and unwashed wool, ostrich feathers and tallow.

—The Uruguayan Chamber of Deputies has been increased to 69 representatives, who receive \$450 per month each, which gives an aggregate cost to the nation of \$372,600 per annum. It must be confessed that Uruguay has selected a most inopportune time for the increase of useless expenses.

—The Buenos Aires representatives of the Barings were formally notified last month that the municipality of Rosario was unable to pay the half-yearly interest on the loan obtained for street paving. The loan amounts to \$1,500,000 gold, and the half-year's interest thus defaulted to \$45,000 gold.

—A Buenos Aires telegram of last evening reports news from Chili. Balmaceda had assumed the dictatorship and had declared the revolutionists outlaws. Active work was in progress to raise and equip an army, to encourage which the pay of the same had been increased 50%. No actual fighting had occurred.

—The total funded debt of Uruguay on January 1st, 1890, was \$81,279,752.50. During the past year a new loan of \$2,000,000 was floated, which added \$6,400,000 to the debt, while a small sum, estimated at \$2,000,000, was redeemed. Adding to this the Montevideo municipal loan of \$6,000,000, and a considerable amount of floating debt, and it is calculated that the total debt of the country will nearly reach \$100,000,000.

—The Uruguayan minister of finance issued a decree on the 5th inst. providing for the gradual conversion of the currency, which must begin on the 8th inst. and be completed not later than July next. The total amount outstanding, in its various categories, was \$27,403,861. The 5 per cent. surtax and certain resources of the Banco Nacional are destined to this purpose, and the notes outstanding on July 1 will be convertible into gold.

—With regard to the much-talked-of financial negotiations with Brazil we hear the following on good authority. Some little time ago President Herrera applied to Marshal Deodoro da Fonseca to use his influence with the newly established Bank of the United States of Brazil to obtain a loan. After some further correspondence Marshal Fonseca laid the matter before the directorate of that bank, but as the statutes explicitly said that the bank was established "to assist Brazilian industries and enterprises," it was decided that the application could not be entertained. What other negotiations there have been, or are still, remains a mystery. —*Montevideo Times*, Dec. 27.

—Scarcely a paper but has occupied itself with the absolute necessity for reducing the monstrous and absurd expenses of the army and navy departments. A long communication appears in *Tierras de Siles* showing how a reduction of \$416,683 might be made very easily. Others, including ourselves, do further, and maintain that a million dollars could and should be knocked off. There is not the least necessity for a large standing army, and even if the financial condition of the country were far more prosperous, the army and navy expenses are out of all proportion to the population. This is, or should be, a peaceful country, and it is monstrous that the people should be heavily taxed to support a number of idle and useless officers, men and pensioners, whose presence and costs are looked upon with anything but favor by the civilians. —*Montevideo Times*, Dec. 27.

—The province of Buenos Aires proposes to leave nothing untaxed, except the ill-gotten gains of the thieves who have brought ruin upon it. According to a recent law, the following taxes will be levied on live stock and agricultural products: Transit rates on live stock: 5 cents for every cow, calf, bull or ox; 3 cents for every horse or colt; 1 cent for every sheep or lamb, and 5 cents for every pig. Transfers occasioned by epidemic will be exempt, but 50 cents will be charged for each lot of animals. Amounts for slaughter are 20 cents for every hog; 40 cents for every cow, etc.; 20 cents for every horse; 7 cents for every sheep, and 50 cents for every pig. Agricultural products will pay: sheepskins 6 cents per 10 kilos, ox hides 6 cents, horse hides 4 cents, nutria 16 cents, lambskins 2 cents per doz., wool 6 cents per 10 kilos, hair 8 cents, leathers 40 cents, bones 10 cents per 1,000 kilos, horns 50 cents for 2,000, wheat 5 cents per 100 kilos, maize 2 cents, linseed 3 cents, barley 2 cents, hay 10 cents per 1,000 kilos, tallow 15 cents per 100 kilos, turpise 3 cents, oats 4 cents.

—The provincial government (Buenos Aires) is about to repudiate a portion of its debts. It has borrowed a large sum of money by issuing cedulas, with the guarantee of the provincial bank and the provincial government itself. These are held by innumerable thrifty persons in this republic and in Europe who have invested their hard-earned savings in those securities on the faith of the said guarantees. The provincial government now alleges that it is inconvenient to pay the interest on the cedulas, because its officers have, through willful default or gross neglect, lent \$100,000,000 (nominal) in cedulas upon mortgage of property, worth, perhaps, only one-half or one-fourth of that amount, and to persons who, through the neglect or default aforesaid, have been allowed to escape from personal liability for their debts. Therefore the province declares itself insolvent, repudiates its liability in part, and will force the cedula holders to give up the interest for three years, and to take bonds at 4½% for a part of the principal and interest, or if they refuse this, an equivalent sum will be stolen from them by means of a tax on the interest payable. —*Buenos Aires Herald*, Dec. 20.

—In a note to the minister of finance, the president of the Hypothecary Bank explains the basis of the arrangements made with Messrs. Glyn, Mills & Co. for converting the cedulas. The amount in circulation is \$290,792,000; the highest amount of bonds to be issued is \$150,275,836, bearing interest at 5%, bonds being given for the first three years' interest. Cedulas A. to L. will be converted at the rate of two cedulas of \$100 each for a bond of \$100, and series K. to P. at the rate of two cedulas of \$100 each for a bond of \$84. The bonds will be payable on 1st January, 1900, but may, at the option of the government, be paid off previously at par. The interest will be payable half yearly, and will commence from 1st October, 1893. The conversion is not compulsory. No more cedulas can be issued till after 1899, and then only for three years to the amount of \$10,000,000 a year. The borrowers will have to pay the interest and amortization of their mortgage debts in the same manner as hitherto. Messrs. Glyn & Co. will receive one per cent. for the conversion, £1,000 a year for taking care of the cedulas exchanged, and a quarter per cent. for paying coupons. —*Buenos Aires Herald*, Dec. 27.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

January 2.—On motion of Deputy Aristides Lobo it was resolved to discuss on the following day the motion to suspend the organization of the states until there should be some guarantee for free elections. It was also resolved to discuss on Monday the motion of Senator Almeida Barreto for the appointment of a joint committee of senators and deputies to settle all questions of prerogative arising between the two houses. After a speech from Deputy Almeida Nogueira the discussion of Section II (Arts. 39 to 53), of the Constitution was closed. Deputy Amphilophio made a speech on Section III (Arts. 54 to 61).

January 3.—After speeches from Deputies Aristides Lobo and Oliveira Pinto and Senator Ramirez Barcellos, the motion to suspend the organization of the states was put to vote and rejected. Art. 40 of the Constitution was amended so as to reduce the term of office of the President of the republic to four years, and to exclude from election to the presidency for the following term the vice-president acting as president. By 88 votes to 85 it was decided that the President and Vice-President shall be elected by an absolute majority of the popular vote. If no candidate obtain an absolute majority, congress will order a new election to take place within three months after the official count of votes. At this election the voters will decide between the two candidates receiving at the previous election the greatest number of votes. For counting this vote congress may meet at any time fixed by its presiding officer, and any number of members present will constitute a quorum. It was resolved to postpone the vote on the provisions relating to the appointment of magistrates and diplomatic officers. An amendment to Art. 47, proposed by Deputy Nina Ribeiro, was rejected. This amendment prohibited the quartering of troops, in time of peace, in any state against the wishes of the state government. All amendments permitting ministers of state to sit or speak in congress were rejected, and also those making ministers responsible for advice given to the President. To Art. 53, defining the political crimes for which the President of the republic is subject to impeachment, was added a clause including in those crimes offenses against the laws, voted by congress, regulating the public revenue and expenditure.

January 5.—On the subject of Senator Almeida Barreto's motion for the appointment of a joint committee, speeches were made by the author of the motion, by Deputy Thomaz Delfino and by Senator Ubaldo do Amaral, all of whom seem to concur in thinking that if there is to be no difference except in number between the two houses, it is better to have only one. Deputy Leopoldo de Bulhões made a speech defining the nature of a federative republic, and opposing the hybrid form of government which, under the name of federation, it is proposed to establish. It will be found, he says, that in practice such a form of government will not work. If it is attempted, disastrous struggles will follow, and the final result will be either separation, a real federation, or a centralized republic. He considers the last-named a great misfortune, but a hybrid government is just as bad, if not worse. Indeed, the only form of government which, in his opinion, can hold the country together is a real federative republic. So appropriate, he says, is such a form of government to the circumstances of Brazil, that had it not already existed in the United States and Switzerland, it might be considered as

having been invented for the special benefit of this country. To those who proclaim the advantages of uniform registration, he answers that a great part of the present legislation of Brazil is in many localities a dead letter, because it is impossible to adapt it to the peculiar circumstances of those localities. Allow every state to have its own legislation, he says, and it will be found that as much uniformity as is desirable will be thereby attained. He was followed by Senator José Hygino, who spoke in favor of uniform legislation, and by Deputy Francisco Badoaro, who censured the inconsistency of the minister of justice in signing a constitution entirely opposed to all the theories which the minister formerly advocated. He compares the present condition of the states to that of travellers who have to traverse a forest peopled with robbers ready to attack them with intent to despoil them of their most valuable possessions.

January 6.—On the subject of the organization of the judiciary power, speeches were made by Deputies Augusto de Freitas, Gonçalves Chaves, and Espirito Santo.

January 7.—Congress adopted a motion of Deputy Demetrio Ribeiro congratulating the provisional government on the separation of church and state. Senator Tavares Bastos compared the present administration of justice with that under the empire, much to the disadvantage of the former. Under the empire, he says, the investigation of the attack on the *Tribuna* office would have been concluded in five days. He attacked the conduct of the minister of justice, who without waiting for congress to frame the Constitution, has proceeded to organize the judiciary and appoint judges. The minister made a sharp reply, twisting the previous orator with tarry regrets for the monarchy. He took occasion to expound his theory of a divided sovereignty, that is of sovereign states composing a sovereign federation. Deputy Amphilophio spoke in favor of a uniform legislation and single judiciary.

January 8.—Deputy Cesar Zama complained that the police authorities had denied him a copy of the examination of Gen. Franzini, who was wounded in the attack on the *Tribuna* office. He moved that the government be requested to cause the copy to be furnished. The motion was rejected. After a speech from Deputy Seabra, congress proceeded to vote on Arts. 54 to 61, and on parts of other articles on which the vote had been postponed. An amendment was adopted limiting to cases of impeachment the trial of supreme judges by the Senate. To the provision prohibiting state judges from interfering in cases before federal courts, was added a clause prohibiting the converse, that is the interference of federal judges in cases before state courts. The provision authorizing congress to codify the civil, criminal and commercial laws of the republic was stricken out. The appointment of federal judges by the president is made dependent on the approval of the supreme court. Deputy Retumba moved that Parts II, III and IV of the Constitution be discussed together. This motion was rejected, and a motion of Deputy Tosta to discuss together Parts II and III was voted. Deputy Amilcar Faria compared the present congress to the Argentine congress that confided dictatorial power to Rosas. He thinks the government can make retrenchments in its expenditures to the amount of 34,000,000\$ per annum. Deputy João Barbalho says that the most vulnerable part of the Constitution is that relating to the organization of the states and municipalities. The whole of the provisions relating to municipal organization should be stricken out. The federal constitution has nothing to do with this subject, which belongs exclusively to the states. The provisions in the Constitution relating to public instruction, to the division of the sources of revenue, to the army and navy, to the clergy and to the election of the President of the republic, are all contrary to the system of government which it is proposed to establish, and, unless altered, will reduce the states to the condition of provinces.

January 9.—Deputy Homero Baptista made a violent attack on the congressmen who took part in the banquet on the 7th inst. for celebrating the separation of church and state. He calls them generals without armies, admirals without sailors, politicians without a party and without principles, cowards, traitors and enemies of the republic, who covertly attack the government and dare not openly repeat their invectives in the hall of congress. He was answered by Deputy Demetrio Ribeiro, who, being interrupted in his speech by other deputies from Rio Grande do Sul, appealed to the state to decide between them.

January 10.—Deputy Custodio de Mello, replying to the speech made on the previous day by Deputy Homero Baptista, said that the real enemies of the republic are the vampires who suck the blood of the people. The people, he says, will some day arise in their might and drive the unclean multitude of speculators from the temple. Deputy Assis Brazil, in answer to this speech, said that if the state of Rio Grande do Sul decided against him he would withdraw from congress. He charged Gen. Senator José Simeão with sending a telegram to Visconde de Pelotas, Joaquim Salgado, and other enemies of the republic, asking them to favor the cause of Deputy Demetrio Ribeiro. Senator José Simeão caused to be read by the secretary a declaration assuming the responsibility of the telegram sent by him to friends in Rio Grande do Sul recommending Deputy Demetrio Ribeiro, who, in his opinion, is worthily and patriotically laboring on behalf of the republic. Deputies Meira de Vasconcellos, Angelo Pinheiro and Senator Americo Lobo spoke on the subject of the organization of the states.

—A RECENT census of the city of Mexico gives a population of 244,333, which is about 75,000 less than the popular estimate. As the government made the mistake of asking too many questions of an ignorant and suspicious population, as was the case recently in one of the capitals of South America, it is quite probable that many dodged the enumerators.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The new fishery company has begun its operations in Santos.

—There were 105 civil marriages in Santos last year.

—There were 748 deaths in Santos in the year 1890.

—S. Paulo is rejoicing in an abundance of small change. When will our turn come?

—The state of S. Paulo received 27,883 immigrants in the year 1890.

—The employés at the government iron works at Ypanema are asking for higher wages.

—Recent mail advices from Rio Grande do Sul state that typhus fever is raging at Bage.

—One of the machines at the Cayerois paper factory turns out 3,400 kilos. of paper per diem.

—There were 10,529 beeves slaughtered in Santos in 1890, against 9,418 in 1889. The Santistas have decidedly carnal appetites surely!

—It is said that the decree requiring religious marriage to be preceded by civil marriage, is not observed in many parts of the country.

—On the night of the 14th ult. the head nurse in the military hospital at Porto Alegre was killed by a soldier of the 30th battalion of infantry.

—On Christmas day a child was smothered in the parish church of Jaboatão, Pernambuco; the church was packed with people and hence the accident.

—A local colleague says that a man who has been confined for 12 years in jail at Bahia without trial, has moved for *habeas corpus*. Not at all surprising.

—The São Paulo public school teachers have selected two candidates to represent their class in the approaching state legislature—providing they are elected, of course.

—A decree of the 8th grants a concession for telephonic communication between the "federal capital" of the state of S. Paulo, and almost all the towns in the state.

—A contract for a 500,000\$ lottery has been signed by the governor of Rio Grande do Sul. The proceeds are for the benefit of the Misiocordia hospital at Porto Alegre.

—A police ward inspector was robbed by three impudent rascals in Nietheroy on the evening of the 8th inst. These thieves do not even respect police officers.

—It is stated that the government telegraph operator at Juiz de Fóra has received orders to establish a censorship on telegrams received at that office from opposition deputies.

—On the 7th inst. a police captain at S. Paulo attempted suicide because he had lost a sum of money belonging to the corps. The money was subsequently found in the street and returned to the authorities.

—A milk "enterprise" was recently inaugurated at Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul. Physicians, journalists, etc., were present, but the babies who are most interested in having pure milk, were all left at home.

—The custom house has been preying for a long time on the public, and now the thieves are beginning to prey on the custom house officers. The *guarda-mór* at Santos was recently robbed of 196\$00 and his hat.

—We have not the slightest doubt that the draining of the *terra baixa* in Rio de Janeiro is a patriotic movement on the part of its originators. But it required an interest guarantee of 6 per cent. as a stimulant to patriotism, all the same.

—At a place called Gravatá, Pernambuco, on December 19th, two farmers, both over 60 years old, quarrelled over boundaries and each wounded the other mortally. Four outsiders who joined in the fight were seriously hurt.

—A decree dated on the 3rd, and published on the 9th inst., grants the Bahia harbor improvements to two men, who by their names are foreigners. There is an interest guarantee of course, and the capital is fixed at 23,000,000\$.

—Gov. Chermont telegraphs to the Sociedade Geographica do Rio de Janeiro that Engineer Tocantins has discovered extensive campo lands near the Guiana frontier. Now let us have a big company to rear a little calf on these lands!

—On the 6th inst. the Parahyba river caused the suspension of electric illumination at Juiz de Fóra, Minas, and the aid of kerosene had to be invoked. The river was much swollen by rains and damaged the canal that furnishes the power to work the dynamos.

—In Ceará there is a woman 88 years old, who has children, grand-children, great-grand-children and great-great-grand-children, numbering 347 souls, all told. Why not send this family to France, where premiums are paid for such services to the state?

—A telegram from Pará reports damages to the following steamers: *Aripuana*, aground, with cargo badly damaged; *Aracua*, badly damaged and leaking; *Acre*, total loss of vessel and cargo; *Esperanza* and *Conde d'Eu*, leaking; *João Alfredo*, aground.

—In Santa Catharina, on the 2nd inst., a policeman, who was attacked by 3 soldiers of the 25th battalion of infantry, succeeded in wresting a knife from one of his assailants and in wounding him with it. The policeman was arrested, of course!

—Can any one let us know the facts as to the appearance of a "female lobbyist" in Nietheroy? We have heard that this lady has secured 200,000\$ for a piece of land that not long ago was bought for less than 10,000\$, but it may be a malicious slander.

—Besides the official and opposition tickets of candidates for the state legislature in Minas Geraes it is said there will be an eclectic ticket, containing names selected from those two, and a catholic ticket. In addition there will be many independent candidates.

—The *Correio do Povo* on the 5th publishes an extraordinary story of a police authority who has ordered gardeners in the Cordeiros parish, of the S. Gonçalo municipality, Rio de Janeiro, to move from their holdings and has been arresting those who do not obey his orders. Are we under a republic?

—An ingenious speculator at Pernambuco has availed of the practice there of passing rolls of copper money, representing 1\$ each, from hand to hand without opening them, to substitute a lead cylinder for the coins, and the Pernambuco people are anxious to discover the inventor of this new process of growing rich.

—The dismissal of one of the editors of the *Pharos* of Juiz de Fóra from the office of the prosecuting attorney is said to be due to the instances of the secretary-general of the provisional government, a prince of the reigning dynasty, who, according to public report, is implicated in the attack on the *Tribuna* office.

—Under one of the provisional government decrees the state of Paraná was entitled to vote for members of the *junta commercial* established in S. Paulo, which has jurisdiction in the former state. Owing to some informality the Paraná vote was thrown out at the recent election and S. Paulo declared its own men duly elected.

—The São Paulo municipal council has granted the use and enjoyment of the Carmo *varzea* to the continental exposition promoters for a period of 50 years. After closing up the exposition, which may last a year, the grantees can go into a very profitable land business at the cost of the people of São Paulo who permit such extraordinary grants as this.

—The record has been broken, and "all around the world in 80 days," or, in more modern parlance, 72 days, is a thing of the past. On the 10th of last November an ambitious letter set out from Santos for Campinas and accomplished the astounding feat of reaching its destination on Jan. 4th, that is, in 55 days. The distance, we believe, is 150 miles and the two places are connected by railway. Another portrait of Gen. Glycerio is now in order, with one of the youngest brother of Joseph thrown in. Why not put the physiognomies of both of them on the Mint postage stamps *ad perpetuam rei memoriam*?

COFFEE NOTES

—We have received Mr. Ernesto Greve's interesting annual statements of the receipts and export of coffee, for which we are under many obligations.

—"The coffee crop for 1891-92, according to appearances, will be at the minimum 4,500,000 to 5,000,000 bags, but, in view of the disorganization of agricultural labor at present, we must not count upon more than 4,000,000 bags for export. In the state of S. Paulo, notwithstanding that at some points the blossom suffered from drouth, we may even so expect a crop of never less than 3,000,000 bags. At a proper time we may make some modification, should this become necessary."—*Journal do Commercio*, Jan. 8th.

—A small amount of Kona coffee has been imported from the Hawaiian Islands, where it is grown, into San Francisco, but so far receipts have been light. An appropriation of \$10,000 was made by the last legislature of Hawaii to be devoted to the encouragement of coffee raising, and the import duty on foreign coffee was raised to 6 cents per pound, an increase of 3 cents. Although coffee is grown in several of the islands comprising the Hawaii group, the Kona district on the island of Hawaii has been found the best producing section on account of most favorable climatic conditions, and it is from this section that Kona coffee comes. The bean somewhat resembles the Costa Rica coffee, but the aroma, odor and flavor are entirely different from either that or any other sort of coffee. It is said that in the islands this coffee is used almost entirely, and strangers, tourists and other visitors who taste it consider that it makes a most delicious beverage.—*American Grocer*, Nov. 12.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The government has accepted the surveys for a change in the route of the Natal to Nova Cruz railway through the Ceará-Mirim valley in Rio Grande do Norte.

—It is said that the Santa Thezeza tramway company has resolved to use electricity on the inclined plane, and that Dr. F. P. Passos has been employed to study the question. We trust the company will try no experiments which may result in a serious disaster to life and property.

—At a meeting of the Jardim Botânico tramway company, yesterday, it was resolved to increase the capital to 12,000,000\$, the additional 10,000 shares (with 15\$8 paid up) to be distributed among the shareholders, and to be destined to redeem outstanding debentures. Besides these, 60,000 subsidiary shares will be issued.

—The shareholders of the Moggyana lines resolved by a vote of 4,287 to 3,063 on the 8th not to enter into a fusion with the Paulista on the terms proposed. We were informed some days ago that the proposed fusion would not be agreed to, and that the purchase of the English line would fall through. It was apparently too big a load for such weak legs.

—Dr. Francisco Leite Ribeiro Guimarães, a planter in S. Paulo, gives the railways of that state a serious matter for contemplation. In the *Journal do Commercio* on the 8th this planter charges the Moggyana railway company with "watering" its stock for the purpose of evading that clause in its contract with the government which provides for a reduction in tariff rates, when the revenue exceeds 12 per cent. per annum net. The doctor says he had vainly endeavored to secure attention to this scandal, and highly compliments the editor of the *Journal* for ventilating the matter as regards the proposed purchase of the São Paulo railway by the Paulista line, when it was coolly proposed that the government should grant an interest guarantee on no less than £7,000,000, at which price the São Paulo company estimated the value of their property.

LOCAL NOTES

—The *Aquidaban* and *Guanhara* passed Pernambuco on the 11th *en route* for Rio de Janeiro.

—According to the opening of the Brazilian permanent universal exposition has been fixed for 19th December next.

—To the many subscribers who have asked for tips, we say: Invest your bottom dollar in thermometers—a continued rise is almost certain.

—We are indebted to Messrs. Soares & Niemeyer, stationers, for calendars and artistic presentation cards of original designs. Many thanks.

—The minister of justice has advised the governor of Bahia that no fees should be charged for the marriage of poor people, nor for those obliged to marry by law.

—It is estimated that the pay of officers and men of the army and navy and the salaries of the civil employés of the government, were increased 50% last year, on an average.

—The first number of a new daily, the *União Federal*, was issued on Saturday last. It was printed at the office of the defunct *Tribuna*, which Sr. Medeiros has apparently resolved not to resurrect.

—Gen. Desolero has been elected honorary president of a Polish society here. We tried to give the names of the directory, but our printers threatened to strike if it were insisted upon; there is hardly a vowel in the whole directory.

—We regret to note the death of Mr. John Steele, eldest son of Mr. Andrew Steele, of this city, which occurred here on the 5th inst. Mr. Steele has long been identified with the commerce of this port, and his death will be regretted by many who knew him in business many years ago.

—The naval engineer, Capt. João Candido Brazil, has a year's commission to look up naval matters in England, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Austria, Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. If not dead when this commission is fulfilled, Capt. Brazil will go to the United States.

—It has been proclaimed far and wide that the Mint last month printed 2,526,600 postage and 657,040 revenue stamps. Well, we suppose that we too must congratulate it; but really it does seem to us that the result would have been more satisfactory, if it had printed fewer and better ones.

—We have found a new title in a Montevideo exchange which we turn over gratuitously to the Rio company organizers, who must be driven almost to the point of desperation in their search for names. Our "find" is called the "Sport Totalizador," and is a company for the promotion of betting on anything and everything.

—The *Correio do Povo* in its annual review is very severe on the ministers of finance and foreign affairs. The unanimity of the press in assailing Gen. Barbosa's vaccinations is remarkable, and as the press represents public opinion, the general should "pass in his checks." It is possible, however, that Sr. Mayrink and his followers represent the storeisad public opinion, in which case Gen. Barbosa is enthusiastically endorsed.

—Telegrams from Buenos Aires yesterday report grave disorders in the province of San Juan, owing to the elections.

—Telegrams published here on the 6th announced that the German empire had formally recognised the Brazilian republic.

—No less than 35 young gentlemen were let loose on society by the medical school this year. We hope the majority will try their 'prentice hands on people in the provinces.

—An association to improve the physical conditions of the inhabitants of Rio, and turn every one of us into an athlete, has adopted the curious title of "Associação Philantropica Bio-Restauradora."

—The *intendencia* has determined upon constructing a "monumental" market and has also conceded a grand avenue to extend from the old Mangue canal to Villa Isabel, to be some 8 kilometers long.

—On the 7th inst. the Banco de Crédito Movel cashed two forged cheques amounting to over 60,000\$. As the money has probably been employed in speculations, it must not be considered a total loss to the bank.

—Authority has been granted three individuals to introduce "tickers" here. What the "tickers" are to do is a mystery, but some company is sure to offer a thousand *contos*, or so, for the privilege of "ticking" nothing at all.

—It is reported that recent appointments at the post office here have caused friction between the director-general and the minister who directs this department. The director has subsequently obtained a leave of absence.

—On January 3rd the minister of marine ordered the *administrador* at the Rio Grande do Sul bar to collect 500 rs. per ton from vessels entering and leaving the port, "to relieve the state from the excessive expense with pilotage."

—On the 5th the inspector-general of hygiene issued a circular to his subordinates ordering that a fine of 50\$ be imposed upon all physicians who appear as forming part of companies organized for doing business as pharmacists.

—It is perhaps worthy of note that we are getting the December returns from nearly all the distant custom-houses before that of this port. The Rio custom-house is earning a very good reputation for incapacity and inefficiency.

—On the 9th *O Paiz* complains of the Western and Brazilian telegraph company, because the *Journal* was first in the field with the news of the Chilean revolution. *O Paiz* should cashier its correspondent, instead of referring to favoritism.

—Who dares say that the financial position is difficult? On the 31st ult. Gen. Benjamin Constant, minister of public instruction, etc., paid 6,000\$ for a collection of 1,788 medals and coins to enrich the National Museum and Library.

—The "National Gymnasium" is not, as many persons suppose, an institution for physical development. It is the Comtist name of the old D. Pedro II college. What has become of the title "Instituto Secundaria da Instrução Publica"?

—On the 8th there was to have been a meeting of the provisional cabinet at the Itamaraty palace and rumor has it that the Rio Grande harbor improvements had something to do with the meeting, but it was transferred.

—Art. 240 of the new regulations for the law schools orders the students to be polite to each other, to their professors, to employés and to visitors. This reminds us of the ancient request: "*Contenten* are requested not to spit on the floor."

—Aristides, the Just, has enough quarrels on hand to satisfy an Irishman. He is charged with making unjust charges against the S. Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul deputies to the Congress, which the elect are not inclined to permit to pass unchallenged.

—On the 4th a dead man was dug up and the police surgeons have apparently denounced a crime. Why not prosecute the persons who allowed the original burial without notifying the police? They are certainly accomplices in an attempt at concealing a crime.

—It has been announced that the Rio Grande bar is at last to be opened. The Rio press will be present of course, or at least such of them as feel thirsty. We are not informed as to the exact location of the bar—whether on the Ovidior, or near the theatres.

—A Spanish doctor has discovered a sure cure for yellow fever. The patient is put into a refrigerator and frozen; after the fever is conquered, the sick man is thawed out again—and there he is as sound as a guinea! We make no charge, for the *Correio do Povo* furnished us the accident item.

—The *Novidades* is rapidly becoming outrageous. "The students in Chile," it says, "started the revolution there" and our evening colleague cries "Viva a revolução Chilena!" We are surprised at this levity; for no one desires a revolution to level! We sincerely trust the students in Rio will not be getting up a long-lived revolution also!

—We are indebted to the American Bank Note Company for a package of their artistic and inimitable calendars for the current year.

—Among the arrivals here on Sunday, by the American steamer *Vigilancia*, was United States Minister Pitkin, en route for Buenos Aires.

—The almost constant rains of the last five or six days are keeping the temperature of the city well down, and are giving us a good supply of water.

—We deeply regret to note that the town of Uberaba had no census taken, for want of enumerators. Perhaps inquisitiveness is dangerous in Uberaba.

—The salaries of municipal officials have all been increased, and they are now high enough to warrant much better service than we have usually enjoyed.

—The foreign steamship companies are instructing their agencies to receive no more freight for Rio de Janeiro, because of the delays in discharging cargo.

—Several naval vessels of various nationalities have left Montevideo for Valparaiso to protect the interests of foreigners during the revolution in progress there.

—Those desiring to order artistic share certificates from one of the best engraving and printing establishments in New York, are invited to examine specimens at this office.

—Counterfeit 1\$ silver pieces are said to have appeared here. It is just as well to be cautious, for it is said that the spurious coin is worth very little more than legalized bank-notes.

—The physician charged with an inquiry into the sanity of the nurse who assassinated the midwife, Mme. Asty, some months ago in the Misericordia hospital, has reported that she is mentally sound.

—It is reported by telegram from Buenos Aires that the Chilean newspapers have all suspended publication. Perhaps it is thought that no one is interested in news while the revolution is in progress.

—We hear that Sr. Medeiros, formerly editor of the *Tribuna*, whose mysterious silence since the attack on his paper has been puzzling all of us, will soon make a trip to Europe. And it is said he will not go with an empty pocket either!

—The new American packet *Vigilancia* arrived in port on the 11th. We are glad to note that the new steamer is under the command of our old friend Capt. Baker, who, we trust, may make may a prosperous voyage with her.

—The newspapers this morning announce the appointment of Sr. A. F. Hasselmann as assistant customs inspector, the vacancy thus caused in the *guarda-moria* being filled by the promotion of Assistant Luiz da Gama Berquó to be *guarda-mor*.

—Can not something be done to check reckless riding in the streets by cavalry? With the telegraph and telephone there is no use of sending orderlies through crowded streets on a dead run. It is too dangerous to be permitted without protest.

—The news of the Chilean revolution has aroused some very significant incidents here. The newspapers announced "Revolution in Chili! Down with the Dictatorship!" in a manner which almost implied a personal feeling in the controversy. Besides that, some very eloquent parallels are being drawn in the *cafés* between Chili and Brazil.

—The appointment of Alexandre Afonso da Rocha Sattanini to be inspector of the custom-house of this port, was announced this morning. Sr. Sattanini has been for some time assistant inspector, and is thoroughly conversant with the duties of his new office. We believe this appointment will be satisfactory to the importers and all others having business relations with the custom-house.

—It is reported from S. Paulo that the military detachment detailed to accompany the telegraph work across to Matto Grosso revolted at Campinas when ordered to embark on a railway train on the 9th. Forced to take their departure, they made serious disorders on the train, stealing fruit, etc., frightening passengers, and finally firing upon the engine driver. Another exhibition of discipline!

—Bravo, *Novidades!* Our colleague wishes the Bolsa to be kept out of the Rua do Ouvidor at least, and that stock speculations be rigorously confined to the Rua da Alfandega. As the *Novidades* suggests no cure for the disease, we suggest suspension by the neck to the nearest lamp of any man of legal age heard speaking of shares after 4 o'clock p. m. Our remedy is severe, but it will reduce the number of speculators, who have become an intolerable nuisance!

—A clever check on dishonest conductors has been discovered by the Santa Thereza inclined plane company. Passengers are offered a half-penny for each coupon delivered them on paying their fares. As this sum is beneath the notice of Rio's millionaires, the company furnishes a box wherein the coupons may be deposited, and agrees to regularly pay the value represented by these to some benevolent society. It is hard on the conductors, but in these days of transition the conductors must take their share of the burdens.

—The minister of the interior has notified the governor of Santa Catharina that he has no money to send him the collection of the decrees of the provisional government. Perhaps Gen. Alvim is just a little bit ashamed of these decrees and does not wish them to be scattered all over the country.

—It appears that Sr. Bethencourt da Silva, contractor-general for all the public departments, and ex-chief of the laboring men's party, can give private little entertainments to his friend Gen. Alvim, the minister of the interior, at the Lyceo de Artes e Officios. Of course Gen. Bethencourt has a right to compliment his friend, Gen. Alvim; but why not give the *fiesta* at home?

—If the government *fiatal* of the city's tramway lines is not too busily occupied in doing nothing, will he devote just a little of his attention to the manager of the Jardim Botânico lines for the purpose of discovering the reason why more trams are not run during the hours of greatest travel? The time lost in waiting for a seat, and the number of passengers carried on the platforms and foot-boards, is ocular proof that Sr. Coelho Cintra is not using proper efforts to accommodate the public.

—The *Tribuna* investigation terminated on the 10th, and we may soon expect to learn why the police consider that no one was concerned in it and no one is to blame. The inquiry lasted 42 days, and 34 witnesses were examined. It may be surmised, however, that the inducements offered Sr. Meleiros to keep quiet will not form a part of the report. For the customary *chapa* about morality, patriotism, and the necessity of preserving order. A government which violates all these should not make any pretenses to the contrary.

—Our glorious protectors, the soldiers, have now got into trouble with the employés of the Santa Cruz abattoir. A quarrel occurred on the 10th between a soldier of the 5th artillery, stationed there, and an employé of the abattoir, and from this sprung a general conflict between the two forces. The laborers apparently held their own, but several men on both sides were wounded. Both parties were finally shut up in their respective quarters, so that when Gen. Cláudio de Queiroz went down on Sunday to investigate he could not help complimenting the soldiers for their discipline. *Vraa* discipline!

—The constant complaints of pocket-picking among that crowd in the Rua da Alfandega, where the representatives of the brokers offer their wares to unwary passers-by, at last induced the brigadier-general, chief of police, to remove the crowd to the alley between the post-office and the Exchange. The people in the Rua da Alfandega are happy, but those of us who are obliged to go to the Praça do not exactly see the fun of having the doors of this establishment filled by people, who certainly look as if a bath would improve them, and who smell most curious. Could not the police oblige this unwashed crowd to hold their festivals in the old Largo do Paço?

—It is so evident that it is ridiculous, this attempt at making the population of Rio appear, by census, more than twice what it really was on December 31st. One case is sufficient. A broker was importuned to fill up the list representing two persons resident in his office, when one lives in Nietheroy, where he was again registered, and the other resides somewhere in the suburbs, and, as a minor, will certainly appear once more as an inhabitant of Rio. This is not taking a census; it is outrageous nonsense. The same thing has occurred in commercial offices, where no one resides, but the collectors insisted upon having all the staff enrolled. There is one explanation: the collectors are paid *per capita*.

—One of the most characteristic signs of the times was the banquet which the first anniversary of the separation of church and state was celebrated on the 7th inst. At this banquet presided Gen. José Simião, senator for Pernambuco and ex-adjutant-general of the army. Among the guests were Admiral José Custodio de Melo, deputy for Bahia, ex-Minister Demetrio Ribeiro and other opposition members of congress. The toasts, instead of being confined to the usual commonplace, amounted to a real political debate in which were discussed the cause and cure of the evils of the present situation, which was described by one of the congressmen present as an undisciplined military oligarchy controlled by a set of speculators. The prevalent idea at the banquet seemed to be that this situation will be swept away by another revolution and that finally the real republic will be established.

—On the 7th inst. the *Jornal do Commercio* made a most just and righteous complaint against the delay at the custom-house in discharging lighters. It has been a constant source of annoyance, this delay, to steamship agencies, consignees of goods and the lighter companies, and the repeated complaints have been met with the indifference so dear to the government employé the world over. The *Jornal*, however, succeeded in "drawing" the acting inspector of the custom-house, whose explanation is quite inadequate. We are tired of making suggestions, but will yet be one more. Let the custom-house abolish its force of laborers and permit the steamship companies to discharge their own goods—in the custom-house if this must be done, or in bonded warehouses rented by the companies in case of need. It is a crying shame that the Rio de Janeiro custom-house has to confess its inability to handle the merchandise arriving there. If it consignees of goods unwillingly increase in the warehouses of the custom-house, increase the storage 100, 200 or 300 per cent. Do anything, rather than submit to such charges as are now made.

—On the 8th telegrams published here announced that Denmark had formally recognised the Brazilian republic.

—Dr. Figueiredo de Magalhães did not go to Africa after all! He returned to this much afflicted city on the 7th inst.

—From 4,000\$ to 10,000\$ certainly seems a modest sum to establish an English paper here to defend the true interests of Brazil. We are surprised that "Sr. Lafayette" did not apply direct to the Treasury, instead of advertising for so inadequate a sum in the *Jornal do Commercio*.

—Bravo! Sr. Eduardo Wandenkolk, the minister of marine, has informed some workmen at the navy-yard who want more pay, that they are quite at liberty to let out their services elsewhere. Lt. and Deputy Vinhas should come into play here, and have a talk with this close-fisted minister.

—The minister of finance has issued orders that no authentications of slave registry shall be issued from the books existing. Just what right and authority Minister Barbosa has to refuse a legal document does not appear. It is a piece of despotism which can not decently be labelled "republican."

—Sr. Arthur de Azevedo, journalist, playwright and public employé, has decided that Rio audiences know much better what good acting is than do the frequenters of the *Comédie Française*. If after this "soaping" the Rio audiences do not go crazy over Sr. Azevedo's next *Renata*, they are unthankful dogs!

—It is cabled from London that the new steamer *Petropolis*, building for the Petropolis service of the Cia. Geral de Estradas de Ferro do Brazil (ex Leopoldina, ex Rio and Northern, ex Príncipe do Grão Pará, ex Mauá) has been successful on her trial trip and will soon be ready to clear for Brazil. It is said that the trial developed a speed of 16 1/2 knots per hour.

—Many original republicans are realizing that they made a mistake in attributing to the monarchical form of government the political evils of this country. Dr. Aristides Lobo, who has been a republican since 1870 and who was the first republican minister of the interior, writes to a S. Paulo paper that he almost feels remorse for the part he took in the revolution.

—The want of discipline in the army continues to display itself in the criminal statistics of the country. On the night of the 5th inst. a man was severely wounded on Praça da Republica by a corporal of the 24th battalion of infantry. On the same day in Nietheroy a soldier of the 1st battalion engaged in a disgraceful brawl with a woman, both of them being severely wounded.

—There is certainly a want of consideration shown somewhere in importing thousands of Russians at this season of the year. However healthy these people may be, their sudden transfer from the depths of an European winter to the hottest season of a tropical climate can not but be a most dangerous trial to them. Can not the government restrict immigration during December, January and February?

DIED.

HOLDEN.—At Petropolis on the 4th inst., THOMAS HOLDEN, aged 66 years, after a brief illness.

FINANCIAL NOTES

—On the 8th the "Centros Pastoris do Brazil" company, capital 15,000,000\$ was formally organized.

—In the state treasury of S. Paulo there was a balance of 1,515,000\$, at the end of the year. During the year the state paid 700,000\$ of its floating debt.

—The municipal council of Casa Branca, São Paulo, has been authorized to contract a loan of 50,000\$, the product of which is to be expended on sanitary improvements.

—O *Paiz* on the 5th publishes a list to make most people stare. No less than 12 banks and 49 companies call upon their shareholders for a little more cash during the month.

—The "Melhoramentos de Santa Thereza" company will start with 600,000\$, and proposes to make the hill from which it derives its name a sort of Paradise, without either snakes, or apples.

—At the meeting of the shareholders of the Banco União Ibero-Americano held on the 15th it was decided to increase the capital to 10,000,000\$. This is probably designed to reduce the dividends.

—The debt of Uruguay amounts to about \$125 per capita. This is a state of affairs produced by the peculiar theories of national development adopted by the provisional government of Brazil.

—The Co-operative Company of Economists is a good title and seems to show a tendency towards free-trade. We rather think that these "economists" are after the savings of the people, however.

—At the end of the year the state of Minas Geraes had the sum of 291,491\$227 in the state treasury, 52,473\$393 in the Banco Nacional and 1,173,091\$218 in the Banco dos Estados Unidos do Brazil.

—"Water and Light" is the title of a new company here, capital 1,000,000\$; but strange to say sewerage will also form a feature in its operations.

—The Banco Nacional distributes 3\$ per share (10 per cent. per annum) to its shareholders for the latter half of 1890, carries 500,000\$ to reserve fund and 2,640,187\$550 to profits in suspense and the next half year.

—The "Minerva Progresso Pernambucano" company, capital 200,000,000\$ (!) is to be organized to work a patent that dispenses with steam for vessels afloat. Air pressure drives the vessels and whistling is probably the motive power.

—On the 9th the prospectus of the Norte-Oeste do Brazil railway appeared. The proposed capital is 40,000,000\$ in gold, or 4,500,000,000\$ in paper. The building of railways to connect the states of Pernambuco, Ceará and Piahy is the purpose of the company.

—If 2,000 in gold received from England are worth 20,000\$ and 2,000 in gold exported to Montevideo are worth 23,600\$, Brazil is growing rich very fast. We refer to the *Diario do Commercio* of the 8th inst. from which these figures are derived.

—A telegram in O *Paiz*, an authority now in S. Paulo affairs, on the 5th says that the Banco Constructor de S. Paulo made 300,000\$ in 4 months, and will divide 12 per cent. among its shareholders. Perhaps the Banco Constructor had a land and colonization contract?

—So great was the concourse of subscribers to the capital of the Rio Doce railway that the directors, or the incorporators, were obliged to grant late comers "the time indispensable" for paying their deposits. This is a delicate attention to subscribers unknown in barbarous countries.

—In four months the Nova Era Rural do Brazil (agriculture) company earned sufficient to distribute 55,000\$ among the shareholders, place 5,000\$ to reserve fund and carry 134,867\$780 to the next account. This is certainly a very favorable return on a paid-up capital of 2,000,000\$.

—It is proposed to establish a bank with a capital of 200,000\$ at Vassouras, Rio de Janeiro. We applaud the idea, what is wanted is a number of small banks scattered through the interior, with local interests, and not enormous institutions directed by residents in Rio with branches in the country.

—At the meeting of the shareholders of the "Fabricação e Commercio de Assucar" company held on the 7th inst. it was decided to increase the capital to 10,000,000\$, and change the name to the "Industrial do Norte" company. The facility with which companies—and individuals—change their names in Brazil, renders statistics very difficult.

—The representative of the Banco Emissor de Pernambuco has deposited 100,000 in the national treasury to guarantee its first issue of notes. A deposit of 158,000\$ had already been made in the sub-treasury in Pernambuco, which makes the total 258,000\$ up to date. This bank has been authorized to make one-half of its issue here in Rio de Janeiro!

—The "Manufactora de Brinquedos" company only asks for 200,000\$, in exchange for which it will turn out playthings to delight the hearts of the Brazilian youth. A peculiar feature is the incorporation of this company—which is a company for a lighter and ballast service in this port. If the Brinquedos company will now buy and operate a laundry, the combination will be perfect.

—On the 7th the shareholders of the Banco dos Estados Unidos enthusiastically approved the fusion with the Banco Nacional, as was only to be expected. At the meeting called for the same day of the shareholders of the Banco Nacional to approve the fusion with the Banco Nacional, which occurrence may—or may not—have significance.

—The receipts at the *recebedoria* in this city (internal revenue) amounted to 17,012,061\$433 in 1890, against 12,234,543\$481 in 1889, or an increase of 4,777,516\$352. Stamp taxes increased from 2,257,253\$023 to 4,484,055\$518, tax on transfers of real estate from 1,551,903\$553 to 3,025,653\$909, licenses from 1,859,608\$327 to 2,059,978\$209 and house tax from 3,562,172\$109 to 3,835,391\$794.

—On the 9th inst. Gen. Barbosa apparently awoke to the fact that affairs in the custom house are not as they should be, and issued "an order of the day" for their correction. While talking about the custom house, we may mention a rumor that Lt. Com. Hasselmann, *guarda-mor* and director of *Zebras*, has accepted a seat in the directory of the "União dos Trapiques" company; salary 20,000\$ per annum.

—The day after Epiphany when the Christmas holidays were terminated, was particularly rich in prospectuses. The "Central do Brazil" company, capital 6,000,000\$, will acquire an established factor business, build central sugar factories under interest guarantees from the state of Rio de Janeiro, etc. The "Estreito e S. Francisco ao Chopim" company, capital 60,000,000\$, will build a railway, with branches, from Estreito on the coast of the state of Santa Catharina, to the banks of the Chopim river in Paraná, and the "Empresa de Construções Civis" company, capital 15,000,000\$, will buy unimproved land, improve it and sell it, besides doing a general building, leasing and letting business.

—Which invited who? Conde de Figueiredo says the Banco Nacional was invited to join the Banco dos Estados Unidos...

—The decree of the governor of Rio de Janeiro granting an interest guarantee to the Banco do Estado do Rio de Janeiro...

—The minister of finance has found it necessary to repeat to sub-treasurers that the government is not called upon to redeem notes of the banks of issue...

—In the commercial section we publish to-day the balance-sheet of the Banco União Ibero-Americano. From it our readers will see the marvelous results which this institution of credit has reached during the four months of its existence...

—On the 7th the Banco dos Estados Unidos made public its method of issuing gold certificates. For use in paying import duties. The bank will charge 1/2 of one per cent. payments to be made at the sight rate of exchange on London on the previous day...

COMMERCIAL

Rio de Janeiro, January 13th, 1891.

Table with exchange rates for various currencies including US dollars, British pounds, and gold prices.

EXCHANGE.

January 6.—Epiphany. Business at the banks and Bolsa was suspended, and the Exchange closed.
January 7.—The market opened with 20 1/2% the official rate on London at the banks and this was continued throughout the forenoon...

LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.

Financial statement table for London and Brazilian Bank, Limited, showing Capital, Assets, and Liabilities.

Capital, subscribed. 11,111,111 £100
Deposits in account current. 607,904 40

SALES OF STOCKS AND SHARES.

Table listing sales of stocks and shares for various companies and regions.

Railways.

Table listing railway companies and their respective shares.

Miscellaneous.

Table listing miscellaneous items and their prices.

1000 Econ. Popular. 10 425 Un. de Cred. 25 62

Table listing various financial instruments and their values.

January 9.

Table listing financial data for January 9th.

Railways.

Table listing railway companies and their shares.

Miscellaneous.

Table listing miscellaneous items and their prices.

January 10.

Table listing financial data for January 10th.

Railways.

Table listing railway companies and their shares.

Miscellaneous.

Table listing miscellaneous items and their prices.

MARKET REPORT.

Rio de Janeiro, 12th January, 1891.

Exports.—Business to a moderate extent has been doing the past week, but the supply of coffee continues so small, and stocks are so moderate...

Imports.

Table listing import data including ship names, origins, and cargo details.

Elsewhere:

Jan. 9 Cape of Good Hope Nor bk Modeta. 3,000
Receipts for the past week were 15,245 bags, against 38,026 bags for the preceding week and 38,979 bags for the week before.

Railways.

Table listing railway companies and their shares.

Vessels loading and to load.

Table listing shipping companies and vessel details.

DAILY RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS OF COFFEE AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

Large table showing daily receipts and shipments of coffee at Rio de Janeiro from Jan 5 to Jan 11.

DAILY COFFEE REPORTS.

Rio Associação Commercial daily cablegram to New York regarding position and quotations of the Coffee market.

Table showing weekly summary of coffee market data from Jan 7 to Jan 13.

STOCK AND SHARE LIST.

January 10th, 1890.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Table with columns: Present Amount, Interest payable, Rate %, Denomination, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Includes entries for Apolices, Gold Loan 1868, and 1869.

DEBENTURES.

Table with columns: Present Amount, Interest payable, Rate %, Companies, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists various companies including RAILWAYS, SHIPING, and MILLS.

HYPOTHECARY NOTES.

Table with columns: Present Amount, Interest payable, Rate %, Banks, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists banks like Brazil, Credito Real do Brazil, etc.

RAILWAYS.

Table with columns: Capital, Capital paid up, Reserve fund, Companies, Dividend paid, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists railway companies like Geral do Brazil, Leopoldina, etc.

MILLS.

Table with columns: Capital, Capital paid up, Reserve fund, Companies, Dividend paid, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists mill companies like Alliança, Brazil Industrial, etc.

BANKS.

Table with columns: Capital, Capital paid up, Reserve fund, Name, Dividend paid, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists numerous banks such as Rio de Janeiro, Agricola do Brazil, etc.

SHIPPING.

Table with columns: Capital, Capital paid up, Reserve fund, Companies, Dividend paid, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists shipping companies like Amazon Steam Navigation, Lloyd Brasileira, etc.

INSURANCE.

Table with columns: Capital, Capital paid up, Reserve fund, Companies, Dividend paid, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists insurance companies like Alliança, Argos Fluminense, etc.

TRAMWAYS.

Table with columns: Capital, Capital paid up, Reserve fund, Companies, Dividend paid, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists tramway companies like Carris Urbanos, Jardim Botânico, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Table with columns: Capital, Capital paid up, Reserve fund, Companies, Dividend paid, Nominal value, Last sale, Closing quotations. Lists various miscellaneous companies like Agr. Coloniz. de Vassouras, etc.

