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NUMBER 25

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UNCLE ABNER'S RECOLLECTIONS.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF RIO.

And then, when Aunt Chloe and her daughters turned out at a festa, what a picture they made! They have been photographed many a time, but the camera could never give more than the outlines. It needs the brush of Alma Tadema to give life and color to such a picture. The glossy black skin and glistening white teeth, the full, short skirts heavily ruffled or flounced at the bottom, the spotless chemise with one or two hand's breadths of elaborate needlework at the top, the natty turban made of some light-colored material, the great gold ear rings and neck chains, very often solid and valuable, the dark-colored shawl thrown carelessly over one shoulder and drawn under the opposite arm, and the bare feet thrust into *laminhas* so small that only the toes and ball of the foot could find accommodation—it was a make-up that could not fail to delight the eye! Of course the proud owners of so much finery could not be slaves, except in cases where they were favorites. But there were many free Africans here in those days, and in some instances the slaves had secured control of their own time on terms sufficiently advantageous to permit them to lay up considerable money. And of these the most successful, perhaps, were the *quitadeiras*. I have seen them so prettily dressed, even when attending their portable fruit stands, that the newly-arrived foreigner could not help stopping to look at them. Perhaps the circumstance that these particular Africans were of a distinct tribe (the Mina) had something to do with their appearance, for they were certainly better types of men and women than the great majority of their color. And they were of superior intelligence also, for they were as good at a trade in small things as the whites.

Some of the small *festas* about Rio,—such as Copacabana, Gloria, S. Roque, Sta. Anna,—used to bring out our African Phyllis to special advantage. At Penha she ran the risk of spoiling her finery, but when the *festa* was near home and the weather was fine, all she had in fine linen, exquisite needlework and in solid gold and silver were brought out for inspection. And she was as proud of your admiration as any vain little girl ever was of her best clothes.

This, of course, was in sharp contrast to the miseries of slavery, but then Brazil is a country of contrasts—like many another. Under favoring circumstances the African can be as happy here as he has been miserable, and I am not sure but what the Anglo-Saxon might also see in it a terrestrial paradise

if he could only adapt himself to certain conditions. When the sun shines and there is a festa on, the African fairly glows with happiness. He is contented with little; he has no ambition to burden his mind and conscience with the care of much wealth. He earns little and he spends it all, and thus the conditions of life are easily balanced. And there is a suspicion of rude philosophy in their simple modes of life of which the polite world knows but little. I once heard of an old African, whom we will call Simplicio, who had steady employment at a Saúde industrial establishment whenever he cared to misuse his time and strength with manual labor. And it goes without saying, that he often gave his outraged muscles and distracted mind a good long rest in order to restore their disturbed equilibrium. Once he had been away from work longer than usual, and a friend, meeting him in the Largo da Lapa, called out: *Olá, Simplicio, is n't about time you were coming back to work?* *«Não, Senhor»* replied the old darkey, with a twinkle in his eye, *«ainda tem muita galinha em Botafogo!»*

When you want a piano moved in these degenerate days, you can call in the proprietor of a special van to do it for you, and the instrument comes on its own feet, or in a natural position. You might even put a professor in the machine and, barring the broken pavement here and there, have him tune the instrument for you while it is being delivered. But in the old days, your piano came under very different conditions. I was startled one day by hearing a peculiar barbaric refrain, accompanied by the rhythmic sounds of a dull rattle-box. It proved to be a half-dozen stalwart black porters, of the old coffee-carrier type, carrying a piano through the street on their heads. The leader wielded the rattle, a large tin box partly filled with dried corn, or something of that character, and sang, or chanted the burden of a song, while his companions joined in with a refrain that was as musical as it was barbaric. And it drew us to the doors and windows to listen just as imperatively as the military brass band now does. Perhaps I'm prejudiced, or there's something wrong with my ear, but I'd give more to hear one of those African piano-moving teams of twenty-five years ago, with their deep mellow voices and wild refrain, than the best brass band that Rio can now turn out. And I am inclined to think that there is many an old stager, who would fall into line with me and follow the piano band with enthusiasm.

Of course, the times have changed, and in most respects they have improved. The simple ways of our fathers were often rough ways, and the changes since then have brought us more comfort, better conveniences, greater refinement, and all that! But, at the same time, has it brought us more happiness? When we were served in the days long since gone, it may have been rudely and imperfectly according to present standards, but there was a savor of good will in it which went a long way toward making us content with it. Black servants are not and never were models of cleanliness and intelligence. They love to gossip above all things, and they rarely have a correct sense of proportion and time. Give them two missions to attend to, and they will either mix them up or one will be forgotten. It is difficult to make them appreciate cleanliness, either in dress, or in their work. Of course there are noteworthy exceptions, but as a rule they will not sweep out carefully, nor wash floors, nor clean doors and windows, nor brush down cobwebs, nor do anything of that description. They simply do not understand the need of doing such things, and their old-time mistresses very rarely understood them either. Have you ever gone into an old-fashioned Brazilian house, where the work was done by slaves, and noticed the hand marks on the doors? I have seen crusts that had been accumulating for years, a crust that would have driven a New England housewife wild. And the floors! Did you ever see them

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor

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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICES: 79, Rua Sete de Setembro.

POSTOFFICE ADDRESS: - Caixa 458. RIO DE JANEIRO, JUNE 20th, 1899.

Two bills were introduced in the chamber of deputies during the past week which should be united and passed without delay.

One of these bills provides that congressmen shall receive pay only for the regular session (four months), while the other provides that they shall be paid only for actual attendance.

The mere introduction of these bills shows that earnest, honest men are beginning to recognize the evil of non-attendance—an evil which is depriving the country of the legislation it needs while not relieving it of the heavy expense of such legislation.

ted it will still fail to remedy the abuse, for members will find means to avoid the penalty of non-attendance and the country will continue to be saddled with the costs of supplementary sessions.

In the editor of the Brazilian Review, instead of calling on the minister of finance for instructions, will consult the Diaria Official of the 9th instant, he will find a reply to the petition of the Brazilian Coal Co.

We are gratified to learn from Col. Jacques Ourique that there has recently been a marked improvement in the spirit displayed in the army, which, it seems, is becoming convinced of the utility of its wish to control the politics of the country.

The case quoted in another column in regard to the imprisonment of three sailors at Buenos Aires for a period of three years for the alleged smuggling of three bottles of whiskey and a waterproof, may be very funny.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LUPTON MEMORIAL.

To the Editor. Sir.—Half the truth is often worse than a lie. That barely half the truth is told by the person who furnished the report of what took place at the meeting held on the 7th inst.

psal lacked the element of charity, but found a precedent for it in Holy Scripture in the founding of Christ's feet. The suggested Hospital Bed Endowment, he admitted, had the element of clarity in it, but he considered it a most unsuitable form of memorial on account of lack of permanency, the hospital, in his opinion, not offering sufficient guarantee of endurance.

In proposing that a fund, to be called the "Lilian Lupton Memorial Fund," should be raised and invested, the revenue from which should be applied to defraying the cost of the maintenance of a bed for poor patients to be called the "Lilian Lupton Memorial Bed," in the Hospital Samaritano, I said this proposal had many advantages over that so ably advocated by Mr. MacNicol.

The vote was taken and there voted, for Mr. MacNicol's proposal, Messrs. MacNicol, Comber and Pennington; against myself.

Mr. MacNicol announced then his desire to amend his proposal, adding that any window left over after providing for devot to the Hospital Samaritano.

I then stated what I presumed would appear to all a logical conclusion from what I had formerly stated as to my conscientious objection to windows in churches.

I remain, Yours obediently, W. LOUDON STRAIN.

It would be most unfortunate in every respect for our São Paulo friends to continue this controversy further—not because of honest differences of opinion as to the best form which a memorial should take, but simply because it drags in the name of a lady who was not only charitable to a fault, but who would be extremely pained to see her friends falling out with each other over such a matter.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

JUNE 12.—Chamber of Deputies.—There was read a message from the President asking for a deficiency appropriation of 39,352,500 for the war department.

JUNE 13.—Senate.—The senate rejected the bill for a loan of 1,000,000 to each of the states of Goyaz, Rio Grande Norte, Piahy, Maranhão and Parahyba and postponed the bill regulating the classification and promo-

tion of the 2nd lieutenants and ensigns commissioned on Nov. 3, 1894.

JUNE 14.—Chamber of Deputies.—Deputy Francisco de Sá spoke against the bill on the new tax regulations. This bill, he said, does not grant the relief for which business men ask.

JUNE 15.—Chamber of Deputies.—There was received a message from the President asking for a deficiency appropriation of 88,175,055 for forage and accoutrements for the transportation corps, cavalry and field artillery.

JUNE 16.—Senate.—Senators Antonio Azevedo and Rodrigues Alves discussed political affairs in Mato Grosso. The former read a telegram from the governor of the state, who says that the federal government's pretended neutrality amounts in reality to aiding and abetting the adversaries of the state government.

JUNE 17.—Chamber of Deputies.—Deputy Luiz Adolpho called attention to the contradictions in the statements made by those who defend the conduct of the government towards the state of Mato Grosso.

COFFEE NOTES

The Monteur des Interêts Materiels says the coffee crop of 1895 with 6,500,000 bags realised £ 25,000,000. The result induced increased production, but in 1897 the exportation of 9,500,000 bags only brought in £ 13,000,000 and the 10,000,000 bags in 1895 only realised £ 15,000,000.

It is stated that near Cravinhos, S. Paulo, a plantation with 50,000 coffee trees, formerly valued at 181,000\$, has been bought by Dr. Alfredo Pujol for 22,000\$.

The conflict between the Sugar Trust and Arbuckle Brothers is centering here in the East, where prior to the war package coffee had a very limited sale. Very heavy advertising is being done by the rival interests to create a demand for package coffee.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

The news of a projected revolution in Rio Grande, which was telegraphed from Buenos Aires, is denied in Rio Grande.

A planter, Dr. Amos L. Post, residing at S. João da Boa Vista, S. Paulo, has been successful in raising alfalfa there, and it is said that his crop next year will aggregate 400 tons.

The Commercio de S. Paulo recently published a statement that a young Italian in that city had been repeatedly arrested by the police on trifling charges, which were never brought to trial, and that finally he was arrested and disappeared.

The shipments since our last report have been:

Table showing shipments of bags for the United States, Europe, Cape of Good Hope, River Plate, etc.

The following ships sailed with coffee last week:

United States :

Table listing United States ships (New York Br. str. Strabo, Envoje) and their destinations.

Europe :

Table listing European ships (Algier etc. Br. str. Chili, Southampton etc. Br. str. Danube) and their destinations.

Elsewhere :

Table listing other ships (River Plate Br. str. Magdalena, Constwise, various steamers).

The receipts for the past week were 54,277 bags, against 61,491 for the previous week and 53,131 bags for the week before.

Brokers' quotations, according to New-York types were the following :

Table showing brokers' quotations for various coffee types (No. 6, 7, 8, 9) for June 17 and 19.

The stock in all hands was estimated this morning at 101,520 bags, against 215,157 bags a week ago. The Santos stock is reported at 139,360 bags.

Daily receipts and shipments of coffee at Rio de Janeiro

Large table with columns for date (June 11-17) and various coffee grades (Recobras, Santos, etc.), showing receipts and shipments.

Imports.

Flour.—The arrivals during the past week were 3,600 bags from the River Plate ex. Nevada and 700 bags ex. Vilna. The quotations are unchanged as will be seen by the table we print below, but the market being very dull. We expect to see reduced prices next week, owing to River Plate flour being offered at lower rates in view of the improved exchange—

Table listing import prices for Flour, Rice, White Pine, Sweet Pine, Swarth Pine, Rosene, Turpentine, Rosin, Cement, Bar, Indian Corn, and Hay.

Coffee.—The s.s. Paraguassí brought 499 Norwegian cases from Hamburg, and the Phidra 455 cases from the same port. The stock in first hands consists of 4,500 Gaspe and 4,000 Halifax tubs, 2,800 barrels of St. Johns, and 500 Norwegian cases. Importers quote Gaspe at 62.500, Halifax at 63.000, St. Johns at 58.000 and Norwegian at 75.000. Brokers' quotations are from 26.000 to 28.000, and Norwegian at 28.000.

Leaf.—There were no fresh consignments to hand during the past week. The improvement in prices in last week have been maintained. American leaf is quoted at 14.500 per pound, but nominal rates are quoted for native produce.

Pork.—No fresh consignments have come to hand. The market is quiet with small demand, but the prices of last week have been maintained. American pork is quoted wholesale from 12.500 to 13.000 per pound, and native pork from 14.000 to 15.000 per kilo.

Rice.—The s.s. Paraguassí brought 300 bags of Rangoon rice from Hamburg, and the Phidra 100 bags from the same port. The demand continues good and prices have been maintained at the rates of last week. First quality Rangoon rice is still quoted at 2.500 per bag of 60 kilos, second quality at 2.250 per bag, and Aguilas at 2.150 per bag.

White Pine.—There have been no arrivals. The market is weak, and prices are lowering. Brokers quote 2.000 per bag of 60 kilos, second quality at 1.750 per bag, and Aguilas at 1.650 per bag.

Sweet Pine.—There were no arrivals. The market is as dull as it can be.

Rosene.—Receipts nil. The exchange market tells on this particular item more than any other, and prices rule steadily from 9.500 to 9.600 per case wholesale.

Turpentine.—Arrivals nil. The demand continues to be a good one and the market is firm at 15.500 to 15.600 per kilo.

Rosin.—No additions have been made to stock. The stock demand has caused prices to fall, and dark grades are now selling at 25.000 per barrel, and light grades at 26.800, a drop of 2.000 all round.

Cement.—The arrivals in the past week were nil. The market is firm with a fair demand. Belgian cement continues to be sold from 17.800 to 18.000 per barrel, but English cement has improved in price, and is now selling from 22.500 to 22.800 per barrel.

Indian Corn.—The Nevada brought 4,007 bags from the River Plate, and prices have gone up. The latest quotations ranging from 7.500 to 7.800 per bag. There have been no receipts from abroad, and the demand is a very small one. The produce of the local mills is still being sold at 4.500 per 40 kilos, and the apparent firmness of the money market, there has been a rise in prices, which are now quoted from 1.750 to 1.800 per kilo.

Hay.—No receipts. In spite of the heavy stock and the apparent firmness of the money market, there has been a rise in prices, which are now quoted from 1.750 to 1.800 per kilo.

Coffee.—The only arrival was the s.s. Magdol which brought a cargo from Cardiff. There was an average supply during the week, and prices in several cases went down as will be seen from the following table:—

Table showing coffee prices for various types (Penambuco and Maceio, Bahia and Aracaju, Campos, Paraiba and Paraty, Paralyha, Alcohol) for June 17 and 19.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

JUNE 18. RIO GRANDE DO SUL.—Dan. bg. Saphie; 255 to US Swarth; 14 ds; ballast.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

JUNE 17. ARICAT.—Br. bg. C. R. C. 125 tons; Romeril; ballast.

JUNE 15. BARRALOS.—Fr. bg. Ville de Cayenne; 37 tons; Ferraro; ballast.

FREIGHTS.

GENOA.—40 francs and 10% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. MARSEILLES.—50 francs and 10% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. SOUTHAMPTON.—25 shillings and 5% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. LONDON.—20 shillings and 5% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. HAVRE.—17 francs, 50 centimes and 10% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. ANTWERP.—25 shillings and 5% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. BORDEAUX.—40 francs and 10% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. LONDON.—35 shillings and 5% primage per ton weight or measure. VALPARAISO.—45 shillings and 5% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos. MONTEVIDEO.—1 ton of 1,000 kilos. BUENOS AIRES.—\$300 per bag of coffee.

ENGAGEMENTS.

GENOA.—Il. str. Città di Milano; 3,505 bags of coffee to Il. str. Duchessa di Genova; 4,000 do do. HAVRE.—Fr. str. Paraganazi; 1,000 do do. BORDEAUX.—Fr. str. Rivoli; 125 do do. MARSEILLES.—Fr. str. Biarra; 4,800 do do. RIVER PLATE.—Fr. str. La Plata; 1,000 do do.

CHARTER.

Braz. lug. Hermann; to load salt hides here, for the Channel at 35 shillings and 5% primage per ton of 2,200 pounds.

Vessels Afloat & Chartered for Rio

Table listing various vessels (Amel, Angler, Apollo, Antares, Bertha, Birnam Wood, Claudia, Cona, Charles Dickens, Cortez, Due Fratelli, D. Julia, D. Pedro II., Edmond, Ellida, Eudora, Falia, Fianconi, Figaro, Grazia, Gilda, Golden Rod, Hamburg, Jada, Jada, King's County, Kambira, Leuka, Landskrona, Lizzie Ross) and their destinations.

Table listing arrivals of foreign steamers from various ports (Londra, Liverpool, Antwerp, Porto, Maranhão, Havana, Rio de Janeiro, Chittagong, Saigon, Penascola, Rangoon, Leith, Passagoula, Sagunay, Glasgow, Cardiff, Rangoon, Porto, Hamburg).

Arrivals of foreign steamers.

Table with columns NAME, FROM, CONSIGNED TO, listing ship arrivals (June 12-19) from various ports like Vilna, Magdalen, Magdala, Livorno, Danube, Antisana, American, Santos, Pelotas, Rio, Marburg, Paraguassí, Les Andes, Ischny, Ionic, Indiana, La Plata, Milano, etc.

Departures of foreign steamers.

Table with columns NAME, FOR, CARGO, listing ship departures (June 12-19) to various destinations like Buenos Ayres, Bordeaux, River Plate, Southampton, Santos, Genoa, New York, Liverpool, London, Hamburg, Trieste, Buenos Ayres.

Foreign sailing vessels in the port of Rio de Janeiro, June 18th 1899.

Table with columns NAME, TONS, ARRIVED, FROM, CONSIGNED, listing foreign sailing vessels (American, British, Danish, German) and their details.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

Sales of Stocks and Shares.

JUNE 12.

Table showing stock sales for June 12 (Apollis, Lavoura e Comercio, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

June 13.

Table showing stock sales for June 13 (Apollis, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

June 14.

Table showing stock sales for June 14 (Apollis, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

June 15.

Table showing stock sales for June 15 (Apollis, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

June 16.

Table showing stock sales for June 16 (Apollis, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

June 17.

Table showing stock sales for June 17 (Apollis, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

June 18.

Table showing stock sales for June 18 (Apollis, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

June 19.

Table showing stock sales for June 19 (Apollis, Emprestimo Municipal, Sorocehana-Ituana R. R., etc.).

SATURDAY'S QUOTATIONS—S. PAULO.

Table showing Saturday's quotations in S. Paulo for various banks and companies (Banco Commercio e Industria, Credito Real da Carteira H., etc.).

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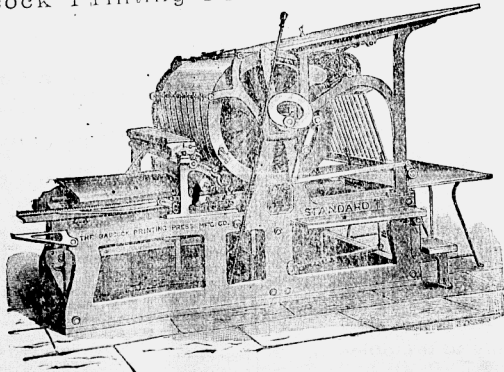
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" 25	Nile	Montevideo & Buenos Ayres
" 26	Minho	Santos, Montevideo Buenos & Ayres
" 28	Magda- lena	Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon, Vigo, Cherbourg and Southampton.

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