



THE RIO NEWS.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 13TH, 1900.

NUMBER 7

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OUVIDOR 57

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A SECOND EDITION of this useful guide book is now in course of revision and will be published at the earliest date possible. It will be considerably improved and enlarged. A few good advertisements will be received. For terms and other information apply to the Editor of The Rio News.

Travellers' Directory.

Sao Paulo: Through express trains leave the Central station daily at 6 a. m. and 8.30 p. m. (dormitorio); returning leaves S. Paulo at 5 a. m. and 5 p. m. (dormitorio). Change of cars both ways at Taubaté. Numerous steamers weekly for Santos, connecting with the São Paulo Railway.

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Official Directory

U. S. LEGATION.—Petropolis. CHARLES PAGE BRYAN, Minister.

BRITISH LEGATION.—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Ita horary (opposite Custom House), Petropolis EDMUND C. H. PHIPPS, Minister.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 99, Rua 1, de Março. EUGENE SEEGER, Consul General.

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Church Directory

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Irvine Crawshaw, M. A., British Chaplain

74 Rua Mendo de Sá, Icarahy.

IGREJA EVANGELICA FLUMINENSE.—Rua Largo de S. Joaquin, No. 179.—Divine service in Portuguese on Sundays. Prayer meeting at 11 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Biblical class to study the Holy Word at 11 a. m. on Wednesdays. Gospel preaching at 6.15 p. m. on Wednesdays. Biblical study and preaching at 7 p. m.

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—No. 15, Travessa da Barreira. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., and at 7 p. m. Thursdays.

ALVARO R. DOS REIS, Pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—No. 25, Rua de Sant' Anna. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., and every Wednesday at 7 p. m.

W. B. BAGBY, D. D., Pastor.

Caixa 552

IGREJA PRESBYTERIANA DO RIACHELO.—No. 234, Rua D. Anna Nery, Estação do Riachuelo. Services, Sundays 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., Wednesdays 7 p. m. FRANKLIN H. NACIMENTO, Pastor. Primary school in the church building.

PETROPOLIS METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Avenida Marechal Deodoro, No. 9. English service at 4 p. m. Sundays, Portuguese services at 11 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. Sundays; 7.30 p. m. Wednesdays. Sunday School at 10 a. m.

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Miscellaneous.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY.—No. 20 Rua d' Ajuda.—H. C. TUCKER, Agent.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY.—Rua Sete de Setembro, No. 71.—On sale, the Holy Scriptures in Portuguese, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and other languages. JOAO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Agent.

BRITISH SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.—31, Rua Gonçalves Dias.—Open from noon to 6 p. m.—For terms, apply to Librarian.

RIO SHAMEN'S MISSION.—Rent and Reading Room: 10, Rua Camerino (formerly Imperatriz), 3rd floor. W. J. LUMBY, Missioner. Gifts of books, magazines, papers, etc., also of left-off clothing will be gratefully received at the Mission, or at No. 27, Can delaria.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—No. 39, Rua da Quitanda, 2nd floor. Rooms open from 8 a. m. to 10 o'clock p. m. Secretary's office hours from noon to 1 o'clock p. m. R. A. W. Sloan President. Myron A. Clark, General secretary, Domingos de Oliveira, Hon. Treasurer.

WEST COAST ITEMS.

—There was a disastrous accident on the railway near Tabon on the 7th inst., a passenger train for Santiago being derailed and several people being killed and injured.

—The Chilean health authorities have decreed quarantines against arrivals from Santos, Rosario and Buenos Aires. But why Santos? The so-called plague has been extinct for weeks!

—A Chilean sensational and mischief-making sheet called La Ley (what a misnomer!) pretends that President Errazuriz has discovered a conspiracy between Peru, Bolivia and Argentina against Chile. What humbug!

—The French minister in Chile has protested because Archbishop Casanova has expressed sympathy to Assumptionist associations there for what has occurred in France. It is decidedly beyond his privileges to interfere with the personal sympathies of a Chilean prelate. Is Chile going mad again? A Santiago telegram of the 9th says that General Körner will soon leave for Europe for the purpose of studying a vast plan for fortifying the coast of Chile. And who is threatening to meddle with Chile? Her fleet is protection enough. Way impoverish and discredit the country any more in order to get means for unnecessary military armament?

—We have some fifteen or twenty enthusiastic Britishers here in Santiago who are anxious to proceed to the Transvaal to help uphold the old flag. Six of the number are going to pay their own passages, and these are trying to get a party here of about fifty. They have approached the British minister, Hon. Gosling, on the subject, but as yet he cannot do anything officially.—Chilian Times.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—In January there were 2,730 births, 494 marriages and 1515 deaths in the city of Buenos Aires.

—In Rosario, Argentina, there were 60 cases of sunstroke on the 6th inst., of which 11 were fatal.

—The police have prohibited the celebration of carnival in Asuncion because of the sanitary state of the city. Good!

—On the 25th ult. President Roca visited the United States cruiser Chicago at La Plata and took lunch with Rear Admiral W. S. Schley on board.

—Buenos Aires was visited by an eight-hours thunderstorm on the 9th, the temperature falling to 20° C. There were 64 cases (of which 4 fatal) of sunstroke on the preceding day.

—Two wise men from the east, namely, two Uruguayan medicos, arrived in Buenos Aires on the 9th to study the new epidemic and sanitary conditions. We deeply regret to hear that they were not sent to the lazaretto for six months!

—There are five canvas factories in Buenos Aires with a capital of \$2,500,000 which give work to 2000 persons of whom 1800 are women and children. The yearly output is four and a half million yards. The factories employ 1250 horse-power.

—The tanneries in the city of Buenos Aires and Barmecis at Sud represent a capital of \$5,770,000 paper, and give employment to 2250 persons who earn a yearly salary of about \$1,858,500. Only twelve to fifteen of the tanneries use steam power, and those that do represent 1200 h.p. The value of yearly output is about \$9,390,000.

—The Uruguayan legislature has approved the budget for the current year in the sum of \$16,124,324.86 gold, both for revenue as well as for expenditure, so that on paper there is neither surplus or deficit, but South American budgets on paper are very different from the result obtained by actual working as surpluses always become large deficits by the time the year is over.—Review, Buenos Aires.

—According to telegrams from Buenos Aires on the 7th there were 250 cases of sunstroke in that city on the preceding day, of which 30 had proved fatal. The number of cases was diminishing, which might very naturally be expected. With such a terrible mortality, people will suffer less and take much more care not to get overheated. It was said that there were 150 corpses at the Chacarita cemetery awaiting recognition, and complaints were made in regard to their being kept unburied for so long a time.

—The measures adopted by the national government for the isolation of Rosario will have a very bad effect on railway receipts, and will put a check on shipments of cereals. Since the national government has declared officially that the bubonic pest exists in the country there is nothing more to be said, but the mere fact of such a decree will not make everybody believe that any such plague does or has ever existed in the country. Trade will suffer severely and the vanity of a few will be rewarded.—Review, Buenos Aires, Feb. 3.

—In Buenos Aires on the 7th inst., 180 cases of sunstroke were reported, and the thermometer registered 38° C., the heat being suffocating even through the night. There was a very general suspension of work through the middle of the day; the banks modified their hours of service and the bolsa suspended the second official call. There was very little inclination shown anywhere to transact business. One fool doctor announced that he had discovered several points of contact between the influenza and influenza, which will of course start no end of tiresome and profitless speculation.

—In an algaie in a mansion in Calle Callao the body has been found of a new born child. The body was cut up and had been thrown in by the mother, a woman who had been taken into the house out of charity. The body had been in the well a long time and the family had been drinking the water from it.—Buenos Aires Herald. [No wonder they have sunstroke and other forms of sudden death in Buenos Aires]

—The Buenos Aires Herald surprised us very much a few days since by heading an editorial on the Anglo-Transvaal war with the words "Too Early to Blame or Praise." The advice is sound, but it started us to find the Herald giving it. After having read the Herald's war comments from the beginning, we had arrived at the conclusion that it is never too early to praise or blame.

—The U. S. squadron, "Chicago," "Montgomery" and "Wilmington," 300 men in all, are expected up from La Plata this morning. Why they are coming we cannot say, as they will have to endure the penance of five days' quarantine for their impudence in coming to this port, so they would be much better off if they remain where they are. They do not seem to understand that the health authorities do not want to see vessels in this port and are doing all they can to keep them away and discourage their visits.—Montevideo Times, Jan. 30.

—On the 6th there was another increase in temperature, the thermometer in Montevideo marking 40° C. (or 104° Fahr.) in the shade. Thirty cases of sunstroke were reported, of which 18 were of laborers in the custom houses. In Buenos Aires 50 cases were reported, and the telegram says that up to the preceding day there had been 250 fatal cases. The Buenos Aires doctors are trying to create an epidemic out of it and are making what they call bacteriological examinations. They have succeeded in finding, however, nothing but indications of violent congestions.

—The mission of the Argentine minister of foreign affairs in Europe has always been a mystery to us. There was discord in the Argentine arbitration commission in London, and it was given out that the minister was going to London to put matters straight. He went to Paris, however, and sent for the commissioners to come there to see him. And, apparently, he has remained in Paris ever since, for a telegram of the 9th from that city reports him to have said that the arbitration is suspended because the British officials engaged in it have gone to South Africa. It's all very mysterious, surely!

—The condition of public finances is not encouraging. The President is cutting down the expenditures voted by Congress to their lowest limits, taking the ground that an appropriation is permissive and that the executive is not under obligations to carry out the expenditures voted. This is a convenient theory now with General Roca as President, for he is far wiser than Congress has shown itself, but it is a dangerous principle to adopt, for it amounts to autocratic powers on the part in a negative direction and may at any point neutralize the wish and vote of Congress. However, it is a good thing for the moment. The President admits the seriousness of the financial situation and will do what he can for its amelioration. By executive act, he would far better reconsider the action of the last Congress since no great damage would in that case have been done.—Buenos Aires Herald, Feb. 3.

—It was only to be expected that the practical closing of the port of Rosario should throw additional work on the sanitary ports, probably more than they are able to face, certainly more than they are entitled to. It might also have been expected that the laborers in these other ports should take advantage of the locking up of their comrades in Rosario, and strike for better conditions of labour; and really few would grudge them some amelioration in the present awful heat. Perhaps little incidents of this kind will convince our administrators of the folly of the steps taken. Quarantine does not exclude, and no military or quasi military cordon has ever proved effectual. We ourselves know persons who have come from Rosario to Buenos Aires during the present week without undergoing any disinfection, and there must be many more whom we do not know. It is really time to leave off a sanitary policy which consists of alternations of carelessness and funk.—Review, Buenos Aires.

—Since the imposition of the quarantine against Buenos Aires, the traffic in the port has been reduced to a minimum, only three or four steamers calling a day. The health authorities have thus succeeded in their sinister design of doing the traffic and the port as much injury as possible. The traffic could hardly be less if the port were really pest infected instead of being merely quarantine plagued; in fact it would probably be a great deal more in the former case, for captains of vessels will risk the chance of infection much sooner than they will face the certainties of the delays, annoyances and extortionate charges of quarantine. The quarantine drives away far more vessels than the plague does, and if a few cases of the plague occurred so that there could be no more excuse for quarantines, the port would be in a better and more prosperous condition than it is to-day when its only disease is the infliction of a set of panic stricken, incompetent, inconsiderate and irresponsible health authorities for whose extravagances no censure and no contempt are too strong.—Montevideo Times, Feb. 3.

Banks.

LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital..... £ 1,500,000
Capital paid up..... " 750,000
Reserve fund..... " 600,000

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON.

BRANCH OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO
10, Rua da Alfandega

Draws on Head Office and the following Branches and Agencies:

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Capital. . . 10,000,000 Marks.

BRANCH OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO.
(Caixa 108.)

Branch-offices in São Paulo and Santos
(Caixa 520.) (Caixa 185.)

Draws on:

Germany..... Direction der Disconto Gesellschaft, Berlin and correspondents. Hamburg, Hamburg M. A. von Rothschild Sohn, Frankfurt a M.
England..... N. M. Rothschild & Sons, London Manchester and Liverpool. District Banking Company Limited, London. Union Bank of London, Limited, London. Wm. Brandt's Sons & Co., London.
France..... Crédit Lyonnais, Paris and branches. Heine & Co., Paris. Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris, Paris. Lazard Frères & Co., Paris. De Neufville & Co., Paris.
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THE LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED.

LONDON: Princes Street, E. C.

PARIS: 16, Rue Halévy.

Rio de Janeiro:

No. 21, Rua da Alfandega.

Authorized by Decree No. 591, of 17th October, 1891.

Subscribed capital. £ 1,500,000
Realized do " 900,000
Reserve fund " 1,000,000

BRANCHES:

Paris, 16, Rue Halévy, Pernambuco, Pará, Santos, S. Paulo, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Rosario, Mendoza and Paysandú.

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Decree No. 2,432 of 2nd January, 1897.

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Reserve Fund Rs. 16.787:304\$006
Profits in suspense Rs. 10.384:820\$735
on 30th June 1899.

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From The Review, Buenos Aires, Feb. 3.
FROM ALTA GRATIA.

The long plain gathers upward; and the way slopes toward the aim steers; in the west lying the fierce intolerable day. Flares across red behind each purple crest.

Where white the Mission gleams against the dark, sofly the Angel's message on the bells. Steals down the cañon, and the echoes mark. And catch each cadence as it falls and swirls.
Out woe the Cross: fair falls the fragrant night: O sweet; deep darkness after bitter drought; and on burnt breast and brow and aching sight. Blows cool the Benediction of the South.

O Dear and Far, stoop over toward the West. Across the long grey seas that leap and fall. And lay your healing hands upon my breast. To still the heart's throbbing thro' the bosom's wall.

Lean down your face, rose-pale against the skies. Like some sweet star that after sunset slips. Adown the curve, and on my laggard eyes. Bestow the largess of your lingering lips.

January, 1900.

ARNOLD PINCHARD.

From The Morning Leader, January 1.

LADYSMITH'S FIRST WEEK OF SIEGE.

LONG TOM'S CHARMED LIFE.

A SHELLED AT THE DINNER TABLE.

From Our War Correspondent.

Ladysmith, 2 Nov.

(Continued from our last.)

During the day's operations—I am still writing of Friday—our war balloon was hit by one of the enemy's shells. The Boers had expended a deal of ammunition upon it, never neglecting to take a pot shot when they got it on the sky line of the hill behind the hollow from which it was sent up. Now they had their hearts' desire. Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Rawlinson, of the headquarters staff, was aloft making a reconnaissance when a sirrappel shell went clean through the balloon and burst some distance beyond. Had it exploded whilst traversing the gas bag it would have been good-bye for ever; as it was, the balloon sank to the earth without any exhibition of undue haste. The next time it ascended a black patch showed where the damage occurred, and that was all.

It would be difficult to over-estimate the assistance we are deriving from this new implement of modern warfare. Our regular and volunteer cavalry is spared an immense amount of scouting; men and horses are able to spend hours in the shelter of cool ravines where, under ordinary conditions, they would have to be out and about watching the enemy's movements.

This day of bombardment was not to the liking of a good many townsfolk. Although a number of women and children had gone down country, no official intimation to do so had been made public, and it was really sad to see hundreds of defenceless creatures crouched behind walls and huddled in the open plain in front of the town. The corporation held a hurried meeting, at which it was decided to approach Sir George White with a view to an endeavor being made to get not only the women and children, but also the sick and wounded out of Ladysmith.

The latter had a bad time, because in the course of Friday's bombardment at least six shells fell within a hundred yards of the hospital, frightening the wounded and diminishing their chances of recovery. The effect of this demarche was forthcoming next morning

(Saturday), when the following handwritten intimation was posted all over the town:

LADYSMITH CORPORATION NOTICE.
IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION FROM SIR GEORGE WHITE REGARDING MEANS OF PROTECTION.

The following letter is written for general information:
Ladysmith, 4 Nov., 1899.

Sir George White has written to General Joubert to suggest that non-combatants, men, women, and children, be permitted to leave Ladysmith, and is awaiting his reply.

Meanwhile Sir George suggests to you that if the town is bombarded he thinks the safest place is near or beyond the grand stand on the racecourse, and that anybody proceeding there may go under the white flag to show they have no connection with the combatant forces of the garrison.

(Signed) A. HUNTER, General.

His Worship the Mayor.

Later in the day Gen Joubert's reply was received. It was brought in by a native who was blinded on reaching our lines and led through the town so that he might not carry back any information to the enemy. The Boer commander's letter was read to the inhabitants assembled outside the town wall. Considerable indignation was expressed by a section of the population at the tone of Gen. Joubert's communication. "I will do this!" "You must do that," sounded very badly to British ears, but it was impossible to ignore the fact that the Boer was top dog at that particular moment, and that we were asking him a favor. Anyhow the town feeling and the town vote went against accepting Joubert's offer to establish a neutral camp at the foot of the Bulwer Hill.

Volunteers were called for to dig pits for the women and children, enthusiastic fighting speeches were made with the enemy's guns frowning on the town from the surrounding hills, we sang "God Save the Queen," and cheered and dispersed, challenging the Boers to do their worst.

"Better be blown to pieces in Ladysmith than put our women and children under the enemy's protection, for him to bring up his guns behind them and interfere with our means of defence." That was the popular view in Ladysmith. There is no trust put in the word of the Boer in this part of the world. Everybody was anxious to proclaim Gen. Joubert's good faith, but doubted his ability to hold the young Boer when relief approached us, as it was bound to do sooner or later.

Nevertheless, as the resolution of the meeting provided that individuals should enjoy liberty of action, a certain number of the inhabitants took their families to Intombi Spirit next day with the sick and wounded.

Those of us who remained in town devoted the whole of Sunday to barricading houses, digging shelter pits and trenches. We lugged a good deal at one another at the idea of going to earth, but it really had to be done. With the enemy's big guns lining the hills we were literally in a rat-trap, and seemed likely to be absolutely helpless for at least ten days. There were no strongly constructed buildings in the town to afford protection; half the place being built of common red brick, with corrugated iron roofing. Ladysmith is a typical colonial town from that point of view.

It was a question of getting every living thing in town and camp out of sight. A general shift was made on Friday afternoon, the Boers dropped four shells so close to our ammunition stores that there could be no sort of doubt but that some kind friend had informed us as to where they were situated. They might have pitched 40 shots there on Saturday and they would have been a long way off bringing about the wished-for explosion.

On Sunday morning it was rather amusing to see ourselves prospecting for safe spots to entrench against the coming bombardment. The town was so well covered by the enemy's artillery that, as a matter of fact, our safety depended more upon luck and the quality of the Boer shells than upon anything else. There were one or two spots which could be reached only by a very shy shell, but we had to recollect that a splinter will often go where a shell cannot, while that delightfully murderous accessory, the sirrappel, is ever above our heads ready to drop like the gentle dew from heaven upon the place beneath.

We are no longer fighting in days where projectiles travel dead straight towards the object they are intended to hit. They are trained to drop over ridges—the next thing we shall find them turning corners. We correspondents worked like niggers to make ourselves refuges in case of necessity. One of our colleagues decided after the first trial of his shelter pit that as there was not room for both a shell and himself in it he would cede his claim in favor of the shell.

Mr. Melton Prior and myself fared almost as badly. We had hewn a proud little cave in the river's bank. Indeed we were really in no danger of it. But the Boers fairly penned us on the second day of our occupation by pitching shells at a merry rate around the entrance. It was not entirely our fault. The situation of our "dig out" was safe enough until the Natal Carabineers were ordered to make their shelter trenches in the same bank, and when they came into hiding they naturally drew the enemy's fire upon our retreat.

A curious thing happened during this part of the bombardment. One shell burst in the Carabineers' shelter trenches about 20 yards beyond our cave and drove a splinter upwards through the bank, which caught a civilian full in the back and toppled him over into

the river as neatly as if the performance had been rehearsed.

Sunday opened sensationally for many of us. All our horses were "commandeered" by the military authorities. The stable boy came across to my quarters before five o'clock and could scarcely tell the news for fear and trembling. I went over in my pyjamas and slippers to enter a protest against my two paces and a capture from the enemy at purpose. Still, they were taken away and put through their paces with three or four hundred other "commandeered" animals, and it was only upon renewal of the protest in higher quarters that the military authorities released them with profuse apologies.

Despite the town's vote the sick and wounded were taken to Intombi Spruit on Sunday afternoon. Personally I think it was a wise resolve on the part of Sir George White. Free as I am to move about, and to "dodge" shells or seek cover as I judge well, I cannot disguise the utter helplessness of the feeling one experiences. Of course, you trust to your luck. How much more intense must be the sensation of helplessness felt by our poor fellows glued to a bed of sickness. There was no dodging behind a wall or falling flat on the ground for them when they heard the shriek of an approaching shell.

It may have been faulty marksmanship, possibly it was, yet that does not alter the fact that Boer projectiles fell uncomfortably close to buildings over which the Red shells were hoisted. Some medical men declared that more sick would die from exposure in the open plain than Boer shells would kill if the hospital remained in Ladysmith. Heaven knows our wounded had enough to put up with here, poor fellows. Things don't always go right in a besieged place. . . .

I have noticed no shortness up to the present except in luxuries—fresh vegetables, milk, butter, and clean linen. One effect of the bombardment has been the fitting of the laundress. Another is that the Standard Bank of South Africa, the Natal Bank, and the "commandeered" by the government, so we have no money to spend—and few ways of spending it if we had it, because the stores are either closed by refugee proprietors or else seized by the military authorities.

I am beginning to think that as my ponies are eating their heads off in stable during our involuntary confinement to Ladysmith, I might have been a trifle smarter if I hadn't been in such a hurry to regain possession of them. The post and telegraph office is closed. The railway started yesterday morning to run a trainload of provisions to the sick and wounded at Intombi Spruit. How refreshing sounded the shriek of an engine-whistle after hearing nothing but the shriek of shells for days!

The streets are deserted. On Sunday night the Boers came down to the neutral camp on the plain and repeated a phrase which they attributed to Gen. Joubert: "God help those who have stayed in Ladysmith!" We waited patiently all day Monday for something to happen. Not a shot was fired.

And so ended the first week of our siege.

E. W. S.

GERMAN INTERESTS IN BRAZIL.

At a meeting of the Hamburg department of the German Colonisation Society, Dr. Kraul, some time ago German minister to Brazil, expressed his opinion on the state of affairs in Brazil and the course which he thought it desirable to advance German commerce in this country.

After a rapid exposition of the political occurrences of the last ten years, which he considers as having no real influence on the stability of the republic, the regulation of its boundary question with Argentina and the friendly relations with all nations, he passes on to the business part and divides Brazil into three sections for commercial convenience, each of which is different, considering its production, consuming capacity and conditions of transport.

First the tropical north with the valley of the Amazon, on which the German flag is not seen, the principal port of that section, the city of Pará, is not visited by German steamers and for this reason almost the whole export, which is very important, goes to Liverpool, Havre and New York. Even so, there is a large consumption of German goods, capable of a still much larger extension in competition with English and American goods. Banking is in a flourishing state in Pará and it is desirable that the Brazilianische Bank should establish a branch there.

Pernambuco is the city furthest north where German steamers call, but even there English and American goods are prevailing, although an increase in the consumption of German articles is to be noted.

The first demonstration of the importance of the German-Brazilian trade is shown at Bahia, whose tobacco trade is largely in German hands; the exports to Bremen in 1899 amounted to 22 1/2 million marks. The construction and management of railways in that state are in English hands, as also the manufacturing of cotton fabrics; but the intermediaries of exports and imports are principally Germans, who may be considered the first in rank of the foreign colonies at Bahia, being second to the English only so far as shipping is concerned.

The second section, comprising the central states, São Paulo, Rio and Minas Geraes, is the richest and might be called the most

modern part of Brazil. In the port of Santos, German shipping comes near the English in importance. Germany is in the third place regarding imports to Rio and São Paulo, but if the total transactions are considered, they are probably larger than those of any other nation. German capital is largely invested in industrial establishments, principally in breweries. English capital is working largely and profitably in railways under English management, while German capitalists made the experience that the possession of a railway is a very uncertain affair while under Brazilian management. No German interests are represented in the state of Minas Geraes, with its large treasures of minerals; recent discoveries of manganese ore are explored by English capital.

Paraná, Sta. Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul are the three southern states of special interest to Germans, having been for a long time the recipients of a numerous German immigration. There has been much said and written about these states, and only of late has it been found out that the only feasible way to economical victories should be based on material help, improvement of shipping connections and conditions of transport, greater facilities for imports and exports, with the exclusion of any political ideas. An enlargement of colonisation in the state of Paraná would be out of question, its population of German extraction having almost lost their German language and usages.

Different are the conditions in Sta. Catharina with the flourishing colonies of Joinville, Blumenau, etc., and large tracts of land in German possession, although these interests should not be overestimated. The consuming capacity of that state is not very great at present owing to the fact that products do not yield large incomes. For that reason the Hansatic Colonisation Association of 1849 had not been able to show large financial results. Its transformation into the Hansatic Colonisation Company was, therefore, timely. It is too soon to give any opinion on the latter company, as its different undertakings are merely at the starting point. Of importance is the projected railway from São Francisco, via Blumenau to Aquidaban, with an extension of 150 to 160 kilometres.

Still more important is the state of Rio Grande do Sul with a German population of about 150,000, with its direct steamer line to Germany. Business and industries are there principally in German hands, based on their trade with the agricultural districts populated by about 200,000 Germans and 100,000 Italians. The Rio Grande North-West Railway and Colonisation Company is the owner of a concession to build three railway lines.

These are the general outlines of German interests in Brazil but much more could be achieved.

To find out the obstacles in the way of a further improvement, it is necessary to explain the present conditions of Brazil. As far as the interior political affairs are concerned, there is hardly any trouble to be feared. But there exists a patriotic tendency which under the motto of "Brazil for the Brazilians," opposes every influence of foreigners. The nationalists as they call themselves, have gained a decided influence in the commercial-political legislation against the economical exploration of the country by foreigners. This movement was the cause of the prohibition of coasting navigation under foreign flags, decreed in favor of a native navigation company, which, in spite of it broke down.

Another source of disturbance is the Brazilian tariff legislation, first because decreed always for one year only, and secondly fixed always about the middle of December, so that at the beginning of the year nobody knows where he stands; furthermore on account of its vexatious terms and execution.

Astonishing are also the regulations of a consumption tax on different articles on which a stamp is to be affixed, it being in many cases impossible to find a place where to put those stamps.

These experiments of the government to produce with it a larger revenue have been no more successful than its efforts to stop the further decline of the value of their currency. The nationalists have tried to make the foreign banks responsible for this decline; but every business man knows that its real cause is the financial mismanagement of the government, the chronic deficits, paper issues and the decline in coffee prices.

It is to be assumed that this will be followed by further vexations, especially when concessions will have to be renewed.

A further obstacle in the development of intercourse are the traffic interruptions and the bad management of Brazilian state railways, and for this reason has the government decided to lease them, excepting the Central railway, which passes through the most populated districts of Rio and Minas and connects with São Paulo. The lease of this railway has not yet been realized on account of strong political opposition, but I think that this measure has been only temporarily postponed. I do not believe that Brazil will be able to resume the payment of interest after expiration of the moratorium, and then will come the time when the last valuable asset, the Central railway, will have to be considered.

A deficient justice is another obstacle to commerce, as the German creditors of the Oeste de Minas railway were sorry to find out.

There only remains now to mention the competition of other nations. England has a great advantage over ourselves through its interest in railways, which keeps their iron industries continuously and profitably busy, although we compete successfully with

their other trade and banking business. American competition has been taken into consideration, as the United States government is continuously engaged to secure favorable reciprocity treaties and has the advantage of possessing a strong point in their favor, as the principal article of Brazilian export, coffee, is admitted free of duties.

It remains now to point out the means which we have in our power to elevate our interests.

In the first place a treaty of commerce and navigation will have to come under consideration, which should secure us against unforeseen surprises and arbitrary elevations of tariffs. At present there is little chance for such a treaty, or for special immigration treaties as dreamt of by professors and journalists.

It is of special importance that the German minister in Rio should be personally on good footing with the general government and with the governors of the different states. I have tried to strengthen the confidence of the Brazilian government and to convince them that we, as buyers of about 140 million marks, might be considered good friends of the country.

It is also commendable that certain circles in Germany are engaged to cultivate intellectual intercourse with the Brazilian nation, as done by the German-Brazilian society in Berlin and their organ, the *Deutsch-Brazilianische Nachrichten*. In this direction there is still much to be done.

To summarize a programme of action for the time to come, I would suggest the following:

For the northern section: Extension of our steamer connections to and on the Amazon, calling at Pará and Manóas by German steamers, and establishment of a German bank branch.

For the central section: Gradual substitution of the present steamers by larger and faster vessels for the purpose of catering for a larger passenger traffic, a larger participation of German capital in industrial establishments and railways, and principally the representation of Germany in the syndicate which will take over the management of the Central railway.

For the southern section: Encouragement of the enterprise of the Hansatic Colonisation Company and the Rio Grande do Sul North-West Railway Company.

—An additional list of subscriptions to the Mansion House Fund at Montevideo, published on the 28th ult., shows that the British colony of that city had been able to raise the very creditable sum of \$3,326.20.

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" Soare & Niemeyer, " 6, " da Alameda.
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The apartments have been repainted and repaired throughout and are luxuriously furnished. The dining-room has also been refurnished, and no expense has been spared to make this

The most comfortable Hotel

in the city. The baths have likewise been improved. As before particular pains will be taken to provide the guests of this Hotel with a first-class table, and with the best of service and attention. The electric tram passes the door every few minutes, making it the most convenient as well as the pleasantest Hotel in Rio de Janeiro.

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TELEGRAMS OF THE WEEK

OUR OWN SPECIAL SERVICE

LONDON

LONDON, 7th FEBRUARY, 5.50 a.m.

The situation in South Africa, at all the different points of military interest, continues unchanged.

Information has been received that the Boers were heavily bombarding Ladysmith on Monday, but with what results the public is not informed.

There is significant silence everywhere, the general impression being that it implies the inauguration of a new forward movement.

LONDON, 7th FEBRUARY, 9.45 p.m.

According to official advices, General Sir Redvers Buller crossed the Tugela river on Monday (February 5th), and is engaging the enemy.

The result is as yet unknown.

LONDON, 8th FEBRUARY, 5.25 a.m.

Unofficial advices from the front in Natal state that General Sir Redvers Buller occupied Vaal Kraantz kopje on Monday, east of Potgieters-drift, by means of a feint movement.

On Tuesday an attack on his lines by the Boers was repulsed. The losses are said to have been slight.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts and General Lord Kitchener have left Capetown for the front.

It is believed that the invasion of the Orange Free State is being initiated.

The Boer forces assembled at Dordrecht are attacking General Sir W. F. Gatacre's column at Sterkstroom.

General Hector Macdonald in command of a mixed force at Modder river is trying to turn General Cronje's right flank. (It will be remembered that General Macdonald succeeded the late General Wauchope in command of the Highland Brigade, forming part of General Methuen's column.)

LONDON, 9th FEBRUARY, 5.25 a.m.

Nothing further has been received in regard to General Sir Redvers Buller's advance except from unofficial sources.

No further advance on the part of the British forces has been made.

On Wednesday our losses were reported to have been 233, mostly wounded.

From Sterkstroom it is reported that General Sir W. F. Gatacre easily repulsed the attack made by the Dordrecht Boers, with but slight loss.

Nothing of importance is reported from General Lord Methuen's column.

LONDON, 10th FEBRUARY, 5.20 a.m.

According to advices received from the scene of operations in Natal, General Sir Redvers Buller abandoned the position on Vaalkraantz kopje on Thursday last owing to the difficulty of conducting operations over the ground in that vicinity.

He recrossed the Tugela River to his former positions, but was not repulsed by the enemy.

Military operations are still proceeding in Natal notwithstanding the want of success thus far experienced.

Advices from Modder River state that a large force of Boers attacked General Hector Macdonald's forces at Koodoos-drift, near the Modder River encampment, on Thursday, but were completely repulsed and have since disappeared from that vicinity.

LONDON, 12th FEBRUARY, 6.10 a.m.

The Boers are everywhere showing exceptional activity and appear inclined to take the offensive.

A small force has crossed the Tugela river and has appeared near Chieveley. It is believed that the intention is to co-operate with the force advancing from Zululand with the object of cutting General Sir Redvers Buller's communications.

No news has been received from Gen. Buller except that his troops are now resting.

It is stated that Kimberley is very hard pressed, the beleaguered residents and garrison being forced to eat horse flesh. The Boers are using larger guns and are pushing their trenches nearer the town every day.

Field Marshal Lord Roberts is visiting General Lord Methuen at Modder River.

LONDON, 13th FEBRUARY, 6.15 a.m.

It is officially announced that Field Marshal Lord Roberts has assumed command at Modder River.

Otherwise the situation is unchanged at all points where field operations are in progress. The invasion of Zululand by the Boers is confirmed. A strong force of the enemy with nine guns is moving southwards through the country.

SUMMARY FROM DAILY PRESS.

Great Britain.

FEB. 6.—There were no official telegrams to-day.—Private telegrams reported an encounter between Slingersfontein and Colenso, in which the Boers were compelled to abandon their position, and that the bombardment of Kimberley has been continued.—A Pretoria telegram states that some guns designed for the defense of that city have been sent to the front.—The German Sir. Hans Wagner has been released. (It is stated that the real object of the seizure of these German steamers was to arrest Col. von Reitzenstein, an able and skillful staff officer, who had left Germany to take service under the Transvaal government. He was not found, however, and it is said that he reached Pretoria some time ago.)—The war office announces that Gen. Woodgate, who was reported as having died of his wounds, is to-day in a desperate state, no hopes being entertained of saving him.

In the commons yesterday Mr. John Dillon delivered a stirring speech against the war and said that Ireland would not approve the iniquitous war which Great Britain is waging against the Transvaal.—In the discussion to-day Mr. H. H. Asquith said that in his opinion a little good faith on both sides would have made the war avoidable. He declared that Great Britain is not an instrument for financial schemes, but it is now necessary to prosecute the war to the end. In the vote which followed, the Fitzmaurice amendment was rejected by a vote of 392 to 139—a sweeping government victory.

FEB. 7.—Official telegrams to-day received state that Gen. Buller crossed the Tugela on the morning of the 5th, engaging the enemy at once.—A Capetown telegram of yesterday's date announces the departure of Lord Roberts and Gen. Kitchener, but date and destination are "censored."—Telegrams received to-day state that the Boers have attacked the British position at Sterkstroom, but the results are unknown.—In the commons an amendment proposed by Mr. Redmond asking for the termination of the war and the recognition of the independence of the Transvaal republics was rejected by a vote of 368 to 65.—The epidemic of bubonic pest is increasing in Bombay, the deaths yesterday numbering 408.—A peace meeting at Northampton was broken up by roughs.

FEB. 8.—The war office has received information that on Tuesday's fight at Potgieters-drift the British losses were: officers, killed 2, wounded 15; soldiers, killed and wounded 244. (Another dispatch gives the total as 233 and another 250.)—The Central News Agency reports from Spearmanfarm that the British succeeded in capturing Vaalkraantz hill, on the enemy's left, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. The British losses were slight. The engineers had also succeeded in throwing two pontoon bridges across the Tugela. The war office is also advised that the infantry is advancing to-day against the enemy.—From Boer sources it is reported that the British were repulsed at Pontdrift, but succeeded in taking a small hill (Blackfontein) at the Modder-drift crossing.—The attack on Gen. Gatacre's column was easily repulsed.—Gen. Macdonald is entrenched at Koodoosberg.

Mr. Labouchere denies that he was injured in the assault on a peace meeting in Northampton yesterday.—Mr. Wyndham has informed the commons that the government has resolved to increase the colonial army (2 South Africa) to 191,000 men.—In the commons Mr. Broderick declared that a supplementary treaty with the United States maintains all the advantages of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty for Great Britain.

FEB. 9.—After occupying the Vaalkraantz on Wednesday, Gen. Buller has made no further advance.—Press telegrams state that after taking Vaalkraantz Gen. Buller suffered a severe defeat, and that he saved himself from being surrounded in a flank movement by promptly striking.—A Durban telegram, however, says the Boers vainly tried to recapture their lost positions but were repulsed, with the loss of prisoners.—The government has no official news of the affair.—A Freire telegram of the 8th says: "The Boers, posted on both of our flanks, have rendered our position extremely difficult to maintain." This is said to refer to the position on Tuesday.—Another intelligible telegram says that an armored train leaving Chieveley for the succor of the British general had been repulsed by the Boers.—A Modder River telegram of yesterday says Gen. Macdonald had repulsed several attacks on his position at Koodoosberg, with a loss of about 50 men.—A Pretoria telegram says that 2,000 British having advanced upon Colenso with an armored train, were repulsed.—At the Boer headquarters news had been received that a bombardment of Mollen kopje had compelled the British to evacuate the position and recross the Tugela.

In the commons the Queen's speech was passed by a vote of 229 to 39.

FEB. 10.—The failure of General Buller's third attempt to force the enemy's lines is confirmed. He recrossed to the south bank of the Tugela on Wednesday (7th). After the capture of Vaalkraantz a balloon reconnaissance discovered that the Boers were too heavily entrenched behind that position, and that on Dornkloof they had a large number of heavy guns. He saw 12 heavy guns, some with disappearing carriages.—Gen. Buller at first persisted in advancing, but finally found it impossible. It is said the British losses were slight. It is believed that Gen. Buller will adopt new plans for forcing the Boer lines.—The Daily Mail is advised that Gen. Clery has returned to Pietermaritzburg.—A telegram from Rensburg says the Boers there are not surrounded, their line of communication with the Free State being open and strongly protected.—After repelling the attacks of the Boers for two days at Koodoosberg, Gen. Macdonald has returned to Modder River. The Times says the withdrawal was made by order of Gen. Methuen.—A Lourenço Marques telegram says that a consignment of war material had been seized by customs officials at Inhambane.—A Pretoria telegram of the 9th says the Ladysmith garrison attempted a sortie at midnight, but gave no details.

FEB. 11.—A Capetown dispatch says Gen. Buller's withdrawal across the Tugela caused great enthusiasm among the Boers, who at once occupied the abandoned position.—Telegrams to-day confirm yesterday's dispatches regarding the reasons for Gen. Buller's withdrawal.—Capetown telegrams state that the Boers assaulted the British right wing at Rensburg on Friday, but were repulsed. Another telegram says they occupied Bastardhoek.—At Kimberley the Boers are receiving reinforcements and have begun constructing entrenchments 400 yards east of the town.—From Mafeking it is reported that part of the investing force had left that vicinity, taking some 6-inch guns with them.—Lord Roberts is reported to have arrived at Modder River.—Gen. Methuen bombarded the Boer positions, but without eliciting a reply.—From Pretoria it is announced that the Boers have occupied Inkandla (Nkandla?) in Zululand.

Reports are again current of an agreement in regard to Lourenço Marques.—The Telegraph says an English officer was killed in the revolt of Sudanese soldiers in Egypt. The situation is thought to be serious.

FEB. 12.—Official dispatches received at the war office confirm the failure of Gen. Buller's plans to break the enemy's lines. Gen. Buller telegraphs: "After the forces under my command had taken the Vaal Kraantz hill, I considered it indispensable to entrench the position to make it a base for future operations. Meanwhile 48 hours were spent in useless attempts to realize this plan, and then I concluded that because of the nature of the ground the plan was impracticable, as the troops were exposed to the fire of large cannons of the enemy, mounted in positions which completely dominated our artillery. Lord Roberts has assumed command at Modder River.—Fears of a bad character have appeared in camp at Sterkstroom.—Skirmishes are reported from Rensburg.—Telegrams from Pietermaritzburg state that Gen. Buller has hastily abandoned his position south of the Tugela and has returned to Estcourt. A Paris telegram says that Gen. Joubert, with 6,000 men and artillery, had executed a movement flanking Gen. Buller's position.—The commons yesterday passed a bill creating additional 13 battalions infantry, 43 batteries and 3 brigades cavalry for the regular army and raising the volunteers to 130,000 effectives.

France.

FEB. 6.—The Matin says that the powers of Europe are much occupied with the solution of the Egyptian question.—The Italian agent at Hamiler Cipriani, who is now in France, has offered to raise 1000 Italians to go to the Transvaal to fight against Great Britain. Dr. Leyds, however, has declined to accept the offer. (Dr. Leyds is to be congratulated.) The worst misfortune that could happen to the Transvaal would be to have Hamiler Cipriani around.—The authorities at Vintimiglia, Italy, have refused to permit 370 Marsellais pilgrims to enter Italian territory, because of the epidemic of small-pox in Marsailles.

FEB. 7.—A lighted bomb was this morning found in the window of Paul de Cassagnac's residence.

FEB. 9.—The minister of commerce, M. Millerand, to-day explained to the customs commission the government project for establishing maximum tariffs for countries which do not concede satisfactory favors to France. The minister's declarations are not made public, in order not to prejudice negotiations with Brazil. It is said that M. Millerand informed the commission that Brazil had rejected the 10 per cent concession offered, and that negotiations for the moment had been suspended.—The Archbishop of Aix, M. Soulat, having published an article in La Croix considered insulting to the premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, proceedings are to be taken to punish the offenders.

FEB. 10.—The Sève is again protesting against an increase in the duties on coffee.

FEB. 11.—Abundant snow has fallen in Paris.—The factory operatives strike at Saint-Etienne has come to an end.

FEB. 12.—A telegram from Berne says the President has received the last protocols from Brazil and France on the Amapi question. France claims to the north bank of the Amazon from the sea to within 8 leagues of Manaos.

Spain.

FEB. 6.—The reported insurrection at Fernando Po is denied.—In the senate to-day Count Almenas again denounced the generals who had lost Spain's colonies and demanded their prosecution. His speech provoked a great tumult.

FEB. 7.—Yesterday Count Almenas accused the generals in Cuba of being traitors, and in secret session the senate passed a vote of censure on him. Gen. Jimenez Castellan was also the object of a cabinet inquiry for supporting the view of Count Almenas. (The Spaniards seem to be as sensitive about military criticism as are Frenchmen.)

FEB. 9.—Premier Silveira declares that it is within the province of the courts to declare whether the propaganda in favor of autonomy is a punishable offense.

FEB. 10.—In the deputies to-day a vote on the surtax on consumption taxes resulted in a tie of 88. A great tumult followed and special police were called in to maintain order. The government had a second vote taken, making it a question of confidence, which resulted in favor of the government by a vote of 135 to 103.

Italy

FEB. 9.—Minister Bacelli believes that the bubonic pest will extend through Europe and America during the winter. He therefore wants a congress of bacteriologists. (Wouldn't a congress of lanatics do as well?)—The University of Naples has been closed because of the riotous conduct of the students.

United States.

FEB. 8.—A reciprocity treaty between the United States and Italy was signed to-day.

FEB. 11.—The reciprocity treaty with Argentina has fallen through owing to the delay of the senate to confirm it within a stipulated period. It is believed that the same result will happen to other treaties. (The United States senate apparently does not want any reciprocity unless it can get every thing and yield nothing. It is better not to negotiate than to make such an exhibition of itself.)

Germany.

FEB. 8.—The first discussion of the bill for increasing the fleet, took place in the reichstag to-day. The national conservatives and liberals accept the proposal, while the centre and the socialists oppose it.

FEB. 9.—In the reichstag to-day Deputy Richter opposed the project for increasing the fleet.

FEB. 10.—The reichstag has resolved to send the bill for increasing the navy to the budget committee.

FEB. 11.—In the reichstag Deputy Bebel declared that England is Germany's natural ally, while France and Russia are seeking the dismemberment of the country. This statement was received with almost unanimous protests.—It is reported that the German fleet will go to Havre at the opening of the Paris exposition.

Austria.

FEB. 11.—The Austro-Hungarian government, it is said, will prohibit the embarkation of 5,000 horses recently purchased for the British army in South Africa.—Fifteen thousand miners at Ostrau, Moravia, have struck, but no disorders have occurred.

THE INFLUENCE OF EXAMPLE.

The news from the Transvaal has hardly been cheering for the British, and the reverses suffered by the British arms are being discussed in every possible light. Many strange theories have been advanced for the reverses and defeat which has pursued the attacking force, but among the strangest was one advanced by an Anglo-Argentine of our acquaintance. It was just after Buller's second reverse and the conversation was naturally concerning the war, while possible solutions were being found for the cause of the disasters, etc. "quien sabe," if Buller or some of his leading men have not been bought by the enemy. The suggestion startled us for a moment and we presumed he was joking, but not a bit of it, he was quite serious, and continued: "Every man has his price, and the Transvaal government is at present extremely rich." We could only reply that although personally we had not the pleasure of Sir Redvers Buller's acquaintance, yet we would be willing to wager our very existence that nothing on earth would induce him to sell his honor and his country in such a dastardly manner. "Well, it doesn't do to be too confident," said our friend, "and I should not be surprised if this were to turn out to be true."—Review, Buenos Aires.

(It is probably quite as incomprehensible to certain classes and conditions of men that a man should not have his price, as it is to others that a man should betray his country and gain eternal dishonor for a stipulated price. In many countries it is a common expression that every man has his price, and familiarity with it leads men not only to accept the statement as true, but to think very lightly of it. We can very easily understand how it is difficult in Argentina to think otherwise.—Ed. News.)

—This is Max O'Rell's recipe for making a Boer:—Take all that is dirtiest, bravest, most old-fashioned, and most obstinate in a Breton; all that is most suspicious, sly and mean in a Norman; all that is shrewdest, most hospitable, most puritan, and most bigoted in a Scot;—mix well, stir and serve, and you have a Boer.

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor

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

(Cash invariably in advance)

Subscription: 40,000 per annum for Brazil; 25,000 per six months; \$10.00 or £2.00 and the equivalent in currency. All subscriptions should run with the calendar year or terminate on June 30th and December 31st. Subscriptions and advertisements will be received by Eugene Frayer, Esq.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 13th, 1900.

The conclusion to be drawn from the telegrams recently received from Paris is that the French government intends to force the acceptance of its original proposal, in regard to coffee, if it can. A project has been prepared authorizing the government to levy maximum and minimum tariffs, and to double the import duty on coffee from countries which do not give French products the rates of the most favored nation. There is not a little of pure bluff in this, and it is so unreasonable that it is very doubtful whether it can be successfully enforced. The French import duties on coffee are already excessively high; to double them would be to suspend importation and to deprive the French people of a beverage which is highly popular in that country. Prejudicial as such a step will be to Brazil, it will be equally prejudicial to France and will create so much popular discontent that the government will never be able to maintain it. Retaliation is a good thing as long as the enemy suffers alone, but when we suffer equally as much it loses its piquancy. Much as we deprecate a policy which brings this country into hostility with other countries in commercial relations, we must say that in this controversy Brazil is right. France levies an excessive tax on Brazilian coffee, and were it sufficiently reduced Brazil would undoubtedly largely increase her sales. The duty imposed is therefore prejudicial to Brazilian interests. The reduction of ten per cent. will make little or no difference in sales, and Brazil is justified in asking a better concession. And to offer this beggarly ten per cent. for a "most favored nation" clause is absurd in the highest degree. Surely the French government should be willing to offer a fair equivalent for what they ask, and ten per cent. off an excessive duty is clearly no equivalent at all. We shall be sorry to see a tariff war between the two countries, but we can not advise the Brazilian government to give way.

The first consumption tax collected in Brazil was that on tobacco in 1892, producing that year only 264,367\$. Since then this species of taxation has been gradually extended until it now embraces nearly every important class of merchandise and is extremely burdensome. Last month at the Rio de Janeiro custom-house the revenue from this source amounted to 312,764,770, being equivalent to nearly 11 per cent of the whole amount of the receipts of that custom-house. At Bahia these taxes produced 131,370,585, or about 17 per cent of the total amount of customs receipts at that port. In the first week of the present month over half of the receipts of the Rio de Janeiro general revenue office were derived from consumption taxes, which are evidently damaging trade and causing a considerable shrinkage in other sources of public revenue. In consequence of this shrinkage the government's estimates will probably prove fallacious, and unless the present agitation against the new consumption tax regulations induces it to change its policy and to rely rather on retrenchment than on exorbitant taxation, it will, at the next meeting of congress, undoubtedly ask for a still further increase in the burdens of taxpayers.

We do not share the uneasiness displayed by the *Journal do Commercio*, in its issue of last Thursday, in regard to the agitation against the new consumption tax regulations. On the contrary we are thoroughly convinced of the necessity of resorting to peaceful agitation as a means of obtaining redress for grievances and in fact we are now of no other legitimate and efficacious method of obtaining such redress. The necessity is recognized in all free constitutions, which invariably contain provisions reserving the government from preventing the exercise of the people's right to agitate in defence of their interests. It is much to be regretted that any organ of the press should depreciate the efforts made by business men to obtain relief from their burdens.

IN VIEW of the treaty celebrated between the United States and Nicaragua in regard to the interoceanic canal, the government of Chili has apparently taken fright because it considers the sovereignty of other American nations to be threatened. And this alarm, of course, serves a very useful purpose, for it furnishes an excuse for buying more war material in Europe. What these debilitated, distracted and bankrupt nations have to fear from the opening of the Nicaragua canal, we can not imagine. If there were any occasion for an attack on any one of them, it would be carried out just as successfully without the canal, as with it. The canal will not make the slightest difference in the situation. But the United States has no such design, never did have, and we trust never will have. It will be a bad lookout for the United States when she undertakes to govern at a distance countries which are unable to govern themselves. The Chilians may rest in peace and save their money. They may even disband their armies, so far as the United States is concerned. The American will be glad to trade with them, and it might please his vanity to be permitted to play the part of the "big brother," but beyond that he will not go. He's got trouble enough at home.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

TO ALL LOYAL BRITISHERS.

The long continuance of the war in South Africa has unavoidably increased the necessities among the families of the British soldiers ordered to the front, and thus an unforeseen demand is made upon the generosity of all who can help.

On the 13th February a public meeting was held at the City Club for the purpose of bringing before British residents some scheme by which the "Kipling War Funds" could be increased. The idea of sending a monthly donation so long as the war continues, or the necessity exists, met with unanimous approval, and a committee was formed to make arrangements for collecting subscriptions.

The Committee therefore addresses all Britishers here on behalf of the families and dependents of the men who are risking their lives in the service of their country.

Practically the whole cost of the war is being sustained by the people at home, who are also contributing in an unprecedented manner to the various funds inaugurated for the relief of those dependent on our soldiers at the front. This relief work opens a wide field for the exercise of private benevolence, and constitutes a special *duty* on all Britishers abroad, to many of whom it is the only way of helping, and thus demonstrating in a practical manner their patriotism.

This claim is both urgent and continuous. A monthly subscription is therefore suggested, which may be paid to any member of the Committee.

Donations to the Fund will also be received. A statement of accounts will be published periodically in *The Rio News*.

THE COMMITTEE.

Revd. Irvine Crawshaw (Chairman), 36 Ouvidor.

Mr. F. S. Nouble, Treasurer, London and River Plate Bank.

John A. Finlay, Secretary, 75 Thea Ottoni.

F. W. Barrow, Leopoldina Railway Co.

Harold J. Hampshire, 80 Thea Ottoni.

R. Whicello, 33 General Camara.

E. Haynes, 2 São Pedro.

W. R. Bardsley, 1 Gen. Camara, Salas 26-27.

W. H. Whicello, 33 Gen. Camara.

O. W. Rolls, c/o London and Brazilian Bank, Ltd.

C. E. Skey, c/o The Western Telegraph Co.

Thompson, c/o The City Improvements Co.

BRITISH CHURCH AFFAIRS.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the British Church subscribers was held in this city on the 8th inst. There were present: Messrs. Maude (in the chair), Miller, Maury, Tatum (E. Johnston & Co.), Lloyd (London and River Plate Bank), Thompson (John Moore & Co.), Jessop, Pryor (London and Brazilian Bank), Quayle and Bunn (E. Ashworth & Co.).

The accounts of the past year were presented and passed, after which the retiring Committee (Messrs. DeLisle and Hargreaves as trustees and Mr. Pryor as treasurer) was re-elected for another year. The treasurer then reported that the Committee has succeeded in securing the services of Rev. John D'Arcy, now at Belize, British

Honduras, to take the place of the present chaplain, Rev. Irvine Crawshaw, whose contract expires on May 14th next. The Committee's action was unanimously approved.

After voting that an alms-box should be put in the porch of the church, the meeting adjourned.

The following is a statement of the General Fund for the past year:

STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DEC. 1900.

Expenditure:	
Deficit from 1898.....	1125\$420
Rev. Crawshaw's stipend, £400.....	13,054\$280
Mr. Siville's salary as organist.....	1,500\$000
Mr. Strube's salary as sexton.....	14,400\$000
Gratuity to Mr. Strube.....	100\$000
Gardener's wages, flowers, etc.....	317\$000
Taxes.....	64\$500
Fire insurance.....	337\$500
Advertisements, printing and stationery.....	238\$000
Petty expenses.....	244\$240
	Rs. 18,420\$940

Income:	
Subscriptions.....	14,050\$000
General offertories.....	3,223\$240
Easter Sunday offertories.....	178\$300
Christmas day offertories.....	357\$220
Children's services of offertories.....	19\$000
Balance Petropolis of offertories.....	49\$000
	Rs. 3,831\$760
Interest allowed by Bank.....	167\$750
Deficit.....	371\$430
	Rs. 18,420\$940

Particulars of Balance:

Balance at credit of Building a/c.....	3,664\$910
Less deficit of General a/c.....	371\$430
	Rs. 3,293\$480

Cash balance as per Bank book.....	4,161\$800
Cash in hand.....	206\$550
	4,821\$630

Less cheques of 30th Dec. outstanding.....	1,528\$150
	Rs. 3,293\$480

The receipts under Building Fund a/c amount to Rs. 112,812,530 and expenditures to Rs. 109,148,020. The restoration of the organ has however been contracted for at a cost of Rs. 5,000,000, leaving a sum of Rs. 1,335,090 still to be found.

Rio de Janeiro, 31 Dec. 1899.

F. S. PRYOR,

Treasurer.

Audited and found correct.

C. H. LOYD.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOW TO WRITE IT IN ROMAN CHARACTERS.

February 9, 1900.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your correspondent, I beg to state that the correct way of writing 1900 in Roman numerals is MCM—M for 1000 and CM for 900. I have seen elsewhere that it can be written MDCCCC, but I very much doubt the correctness of this longer form, which is foreign to the Roman method of calculating.

Yours truly,

LONDON GRADUATE.

IT WAS OUR MISTAKE.

Rio de Janeiro, 10th Feb'y, 1900.

To the Editor of *The Rio News*.

Dear Sir,—In the cash statement of the Rio Cricket and Athletic Association's accounts, published in your last issue (6th Feb'y, 1900), I note a difference of 100\$000 in the addition between the Dr. and Cr. side of the balance. As the accounts were audited and considered correct by two able accountants, I presume the error arises in the printers' department.

Apologising for encroaching on your valuable space and enclosing my card,

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

XX.

[We are sorry to say that the mistake referred to is chargeable to our own office. By reference to the original balance sheet, which is still in our possession, we find that the error is in the Credit account, item "Balance from Sports, 1898," which should read 478\$500, and not "478\$300" as printed.—*Eds. News.*]

—We see by the *Financial News* of January 5th that a London stock speculator has been stricken with remorse and from his bed of sickness, and with the fear of death before his eyes, has offered to give one-tenth of his profits from stock speculations during the current year to the aid of dependents of killed and wounded soldiers. "When the devil was sick, the devil a monk would be."

COFFEE NOTES

—The upward movement in the coffee market has not yet spent its force, the demand having continued quite free, notwithstanding that January is usually a dull month in the coffee trade. In consequence of the advance of prices of green Rios and Santos, the leading roasters have again marked up the cost of their brands.—*Merchants' Review*, New York, Jan. 19.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The municipality of Piracicaba, São Paulo, has farmed out the service of catching vagrant dogs in the streets.

—In consequence of the yellow fever epidemic there are said to be 3,000 destitute persons at Sorocaba.

—A telegram from Pelotas says that the police authorities of that city have discovered and seized 800,000\$ in counterfeit money.

—After a day of intense heat, the town of Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, had the good fortune to experience several showers of rain on the 9th inst.

—There seems to be much bad feeling between the centhista police and the 18th battalion of infantry at Uruguaiana in the state of Rio Grande do Sul.

—A Porto Alegre telegram of the 7th says the heat there had been most intense during the preceding three or four days, and that cases of sunstroke had occurred.

—The *Journal do Commercio* publishes an extract from a Mandoe letter which states that 18 steamers, with 50,000 kilos of rubber each, and representing an aggregate value of nine thousand contos, had been seized on the Rio Acre.

—The São Paulo state government has placed 100,000\$ at the disposal of Monsenhor João Soares do Amaral for the relief of the suffering poor in Sorocaba. The Sorocabana railway is carrying free all articles sent to Sorocaba for the poor.

—At Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, the intense heat continued up to the 9th inst., and a considerable number of sunstrokes were recorded. The governor of the state issued orders that public departments should be opened from 7.30 a. m. to midday, when work should be suspended. The sessions of the public schools were also suspended.

—It is reported in Bahia that the governor of Minas Graes has written a letter to one of the ministers stating that he never has been nor intends to be a concentrationist and that he considers it a patriotic duty to support the policy adopted by ex-President Prudente de Moraes and Gov. Luiz Vianna. The report is said to have excited much comment in Bahia.

—On the 1st ult. some rowdies near Juiz de Fora induced a drunken black named Benedicto to take a bath in the Parahyba, then in flood. The foolish fellow was immediately swept off his feet, and in reply to his cries for help the blackguards laughed and clapped their hands, as though they thoroughly enjoyed the scene. The poor fool was drowned, and his tormentors are still at liberty.

—The S. Paulo *Diário Popular* of the 8th inst. says that the Italian vice-consul at Ribeirão Preto was grossly insulted by a police soldier on the 6th while conversing with a merchant of the place in the street. The soldier ordered him to move on, and when advised of the consul's identity repeated his insults. On the following day the consul complained to the police delegate, who declared he could do nothing with these soldiers as he had no moral control over them. There is not much encouragement in such a confession.

—The minister of finance's youngest protégé, *Le Brésil* of Paris, is trying very hard to earn his money. In his issue of 14th January he tries to support his argument that we are mistaking the customs revenue, by telling us that a conto gold is equal to £ 112 10s., and a conto currency to about £ 50. What that has to do with the question he fails to make clear. He fails also to tell us why we should not copy the customs returns as published in the *Diário Oficial* and as they come from the customs-houses. Because we do not conceal the truth as all the subsidized organs are doing we are, forsooth, enemies of Brazil! As for our being a schoolmaster—there is need enough of several, God knows! But we have no ambition to teach where the rod is forbidden, and where the pupil rather than the master draws the salary. And besides that, we object to having the pupil decide what the master shall teach!

RAILROAD NOTES

—The report of the lease of the Central Railway continues to circulate, but the government neither affirms nor denies it.

—Some days ago in a landslip on the Sapucahy railway between Itajubá and Piranguinho Engineer Gaudencio Roquia and 18 laborers were killed.

—A São Paulo exchange says that Dr. José Augusto Quirino dos Santos, a lawyer residing in Ribeirão Preto, has invented an electrical appliance designed to prevent railway collisions. He claims that when two trains are approaching each other on the same track, it will cause both of them to stop, that when

one train is overtaking another on the same track it will cause the rear train alone to stop. The stoppage is effected automatically and gradually, and it acts even when a train approaches a single car stopped on the track. It is said to be simple and inexpensive. If the claim can be satisfactorily established, the inventor ought not only to be rewarded with a fortune, but every government in the world should award him a life saving medal.

—Says the *Gazeta de Noticias* of the 7th inst. —It appears that within a few days the lease of the Central of Brazil railway will be definitely settled.

—On last Wednesday there was a general meeting of shareholders of the S. Christovão tramway company. The discussion of the recent embezzlement was very stormy. A member of the committee appointed to investigate the matter says that the loss, as far as has been ascertained, is 560,232\$816. The shareholders elected a board of directors and a board of auditors.

—Among the proposals made to the government for the lease of the Central railway there is said to be one from a Brazilian syndicate, which offers to pay 6,000,000\$ in the first year and increase the annual payment 500,000\$ every year until it reaches 10,000,000\$, which will thereafter be the amount paid per annum during the period of the lease. The period proposed is said to be that of 30 years.

—We are informed that the national syndicate treating for the lease of the Central railway is composed of Srs. João Teixeira Soares, Alencar Lima, José Carlos Rodrigues, Casemiro and João Murthcio. Another informant says that the Brazilian syndicate will not undertake to operate the road, but will transfer it to a foreign company. Why the government does not treat direct with the foreign company will puzzle many.

—The *Gazeta de Noticias* of the 7th says that at a meeting on the preceding day between the minister of finance and the president of the Sorocabana railway, it was arranged that an extraordinary general assembly should be called to authorize the sale of that line by a certain person who will leave for Europe as soon as the authorization is granted. The aforesaid person, to whom the government is under heavy obligations for support in trying times, was at the steamship office some weeks ago to select his cabin.

—The estimated traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway for the week ending February 3rd were 327,303\$, which at 7 1/2 d. exchange yielded £10,399. For the corresponding week of last year the currency receipts were 310,087\$, exchange 7 1/2 d. and the sterling equivalent £10,362, showing for this year a decrease of 12,784\$ in currency, but an increase of £7 owing to the more favorable rate of exchange. The aggregate receipts since 1st January have been £39,400, against £46,572 last year, showing an increase of £2,828.

SHIPPING NOTES

—The new ironclad «Marechal Deodoro» arrived at Pernambuco on the 10th inst.

—The French packet «Bearn» grounded on the English bank at the entrance to the River Plate, on the 8th inst.

—The British str. «Nanette» bound for Pará, arrived at Ilha Grande on the 10th, having called at Leixoes, Portugal.

—The Argentine government has declared clean the port of Rio de Janeiro and all the Portuguese ports except Oporto.

—A decree of the 10th inst. at Buenos Aires declares «suspected» the port of Rio de Janeiro. The Argentine sanitary speculator is not inclined to yield all at once.

—The Royal Mail steamer «Thames» left Rio on the 7th for Europe, with the following passengers: Mrs. Laura Grassy and daughter, Mrs. Carolina M. Coelho, Messrs. José A. Couto and wife, M. Gomes da Silva, wife and child, Alfredo Lage, J. A. P. Pires, M. Ignacio de Brito and wife, Joaquim D. Ramalho, J. P. Corra and Alberto Gatta.

—The German barque «Magdalen» which arrived in the roads yesterday from Santos reports having five cases of sickness on board the symptoms of whom indicate yellow fever. One death has also occurred during the trip from Santos. The body of the deceased will be taken to Martin Garcia to-day where it will be examined and cremated. —*Buenos Aires Herald*, Feb. 3.

—The Lamport & Holt liner «Coleridge» which arrived in Rio on the 10th inst. brought the following passengers from New York, Pernambuco and Bahia: Mrs. W. B. Lee and children, Miss Julietta Andrade, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Feun, Mrs. Emily M. Armstrong and child, Messrs. J. B. Brown, A. McLean, F. A. Hanssen, P. Commins, E. Conceição, Antonio de Mello, Gaspar V. Mello, 3 third class and 2 passengers in transit.

—The passengers who arrived in Rio on the 5th inst. by the Royal Mail steamer «Clyde» from Europe, Madeira, Pernambuco and Bahia, were the following: Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. White, Mrs. Braga de Araújo, Dr. H. Belfort Sabino, wife, 2 children and nurse, Messrs. Hugh McDonnell, A. von Bullow, R. D. Deacon,

W. S. King, F. Munn, Joseph Williamson, J. H. Verran, A. Costa, J. A. C. Costa, A. Measado, J. A. Ferrari, M. S. C. Meaton, B. Rogner and wife, Harry Huguen, 2 third-class and 21 passengers in transit to the River Plate.

—A Buenos Aires telegram of the 11th says the barqs «Irene» and «Gustav Adolph» recently arrived there from Santos, had passengers ill on board, with symptoms of yellow fever.

—It is worthy of note that at a conference on the 6th between the chief of staff of the navy and the commanders of the «Richuelo», «Almirante Barroso» and «Tamoyo», which are to accompany President Campos Salles to Buenos Aires, those vessels will be painted white for the occasion, and the «Richuelo» will be supplied with new furniture and accessories. The «Almirante Barroso» is undergoing a scraping and painting now.

—The *Journal do Commercio* of Sunday bears that the autocratic director-general of public health has prohibited the admission into any Brazilian port of any ship commanded by the present captain of the «Rei de Portugal», now at Ilha Grande. If this report is true, steps should be taken at once to determine whether a mere health inspector enjoys sovereign powers of this character. We very much doubt it. His authority covers sanitary matters, and he has no more right to shut Brazilian ports to a shipmaster than he has to close the South Atlantic to a gale of wind.

NAVAL COURT.

A naval court presided over by William George Wagstaff, Esq., C. M. G., H. B. M. Consul General, was held at the British Consulate-General on the 3rd instant, to investigate the circumstances attending an assault committed on board the British s.s. «Orinley» by the donkeyman on the 2nd officer of the vessel.

The court, after hearing the evidence, found the donkeyman guilty of the charge brought against him and sentenced him to 7 days imprisonment in the public gaol of this city, regard being had to the fact that he had already been in custody for a period of 6 days, pending the sitting of the court.

The origin of the trouble was, as is usual in such cases, the too free indulgence in the powerful alcoholic drink of the country.

LOCAL NOTES

—A defalcation in the *pagadoria* of the Treasury is now under investigation.

—According to the *Journal do Commercio* President Campos Salles is venerable.

—The worst plague we have, wrote a friend a few days ago, is the fool doctor with a microscope.

—We see that the government has remitted to London the imaginary sum of «1 real». How was it done?

—The *Paiz* of this morning locates the *Kobrische Zeitung* in Berlin. Where does the *Paiz* propose to put the Köln cathedral?

—Strangely enough complaints are already heard of a scarcity of water. Why is it not possible to correct these abuses and deficiencies in distribution?

—A decree issued by the Portuguese government on the 7th inst. declares the bubonic pest extinct at Oporto, all exceptional sanitary measures being abolished.

—It is announced that his excellency Count Arco Valley, the German minister at this capital, has just received from his emperor the highly prized decoration of the Red Eagle.

—We are indebted to the commission for a courteous invitation to attend a 15 kilometre bicycle race at the Jardim Zoologico on Sunday last. It makes us hot to think of it.

—On Wednesday the soap and candle factory of the Companhia Luz Stearica at No. 5 Praa das Palmeiras took fire, and, although the flames were promptly extinguished, damage estimated at 10,000\$ was caused.

—On the 9th inst. United States Minister Charles Page Bryan gave a ball at the legation in Petropolis in honor of Secretary of Legation Thomas Cleland Dawson, who is about to leave for the United States on leave of absence.

—The minister of finance has asked his colleague of industry, etc., to instruct the post office to receive and remit all correspondence of the director of his new bureau of special statistics for account of his department.

—On Friday a block of ten small houses collapsed on Rua Fagundes Varella at the station of Piedade. Although four of these houses had tenants, no one was killed or wounded. The loss is estimated at 20,000\$.

—A man supposed to be one of the burglars who have recently twice attempted to rob the house of the minister of finance, was arrested on Wednesday. Perhaps they were taxpayers who wanted to get back a part of their contributions to the government.

—We are requested to state that the organ recital at the British Church, which had been announced for Saturday evening next (17th inst.) is unavoidably postponed because the organ will not be ready on that date. No date will now be fixed for the recital until the organ is finished.

—Among the arrivals here on the «Clyde» last Monday was Mr. W. S. King, senior partner in the well-known firm of King, Ferreira & Co., of this city and São Paulo. Mr. King had been home on a short vacation.

—It is worthy of record that, according to *Don Invalide*, we are suffering not from the *peste bubonica* but from a *peste neuromica*. And Angelo rarely makes a mistake in such matters. He has a keener scent for humbugs than Dr. Nuno has for microbes.

—We beg to tender congratulations to our esteemed friend and contemporary of *L'Étoile du Sul*, M. Cti. Morel, whose son was recently in the Rio Acre district where it was feared he had fallen into the hands of the adventurer Galvez. A telegram received yesterday announces his safe return to Pará.

—The preparations for carnival are not showing any great animation this year, and it is anticipated that the display will be a poor one. Business men are feeling too poor to spend money, and the people have but very little at their disposal. It would be better if they remained at home and kept their money by them.

—It is stated that the Leopoldina company proposes as an experiment, to run an additional train to Petropolis on Saturdays, the *barca* leaving the Prainha at 3 p. m. The regular *barca* will be put off to 4.30 on those days, giving business men another half hour in the city. The new service began on Saturday.

—We have been favored with the information that the trustees of the British Church have succeeded in finding a successor to Rev. Irvine Crawshaw, whose contract expires on 14th May next. The new incumbent will be Rev. John D. Arcey, who is at present at Belize, British Honduras. The date of his arrival here is not yet known.

—In all probability the President will travel in state hereafter in coming down from Petropolis on Fridays. The old imperial yacht has been refitted and will now carry him up and down the bay. If he would only be democratic and associate with his fellow citizens a little more, perhaps he might hear some opinions which would be useful to him.

—The inspector of vehicles and his two assistants have been dismissed for extorting money from drivers. For the same cause the clerk of one of the police delegates has been suspended for 30 days. Then the complaints of the *cacheiros* was well-founded after all! One might have inferred from the statement of the minister of justice that no such extortion had been practiced.

—Among the departures for home this week we note that of Mr. Thomas Cleland Dawson, secretary of the United States legation in this capital, who is leaving on a four months leave of absence. Mr. Dawson is embarking to-day on the Italian steamer «Washington» for Europe, and will proceed to the United States. His many friends here will wish him a pleasant voyage and speedy return.

—The director of our sanitary troubles has received advice from Buenos Aires that all the cases of sunstroke examined (and one tested a few days since stated that all fatal cases were submitted to autopsy) showed that no epidemic disease was involved, but that death resulted from excessive heat, low barometric pressure and excess of humidity. And Smalwyk says unfeelingly, that he might have added «from want of breath».

—The reply of the *Journal do Commercio*, which bears no signature, to Dr. Ruy Barbosa appeared Sunday morning. The accusation appears to be based on various rumors and upon the assumption that a large sum (187,165\$000) paid for obtaining the addition to the S. Christovão company's contract proves that excessive fees were paid to the attorneys. It is rather a reckless assumption, but the director of the *Journal* never stops at that when he has a private grudge to satisfy.

—The *Journal do Commercio* of the 7th recalls attention to the need of shade trees in the streets, now that the heat is causing so much discomfort. But what is the use of planting shade-trees, if anyone can cut them down at pleasure. Not long ago the *Journal* stated that two specimens of jacarab trees in the Largo de Gloria, planted many years ago and growing finely, had been ruthlessly cut down for some purpose. As long as there is no protection for shade trees in the streets, there is very little use in planting them.

—Col. Saldago has solicited from the war department permission to prefer charges against Gen. Savaget, commander of the 6th military district. It appears that, Savaget having thwarted certain disciplinary measures adopted by Saldago, the latter addressed a communication directly to the war department on the subject of an insubordinate captain. For this he was officially censured by Savaget, against whom he now wishes to prefer charges so that the question may be investigated and the censure cancelled.

—As we anticipated, someone wants protection against Buenos Aires sunstroke! In fact, we all do! The *Journal do Commercio* of the 8th calls the attention of Dr. Nuno de Andrade to the serious state of things in Buenos Aires, and the next thing, we presume, will be a sanitary pronouncement against the solar rays and Argentine sunstroke. If the *Journal* really wants protection, let it reclaim a renewal of the abandoned service of watering the streets. We shall have sunstroke, or *acesso pernicioso*, as sure as fate if something is not done to artificially reduce the temperature.

—«What grinds me most,» remarked Smalwyk, during a talk about burdensome taxes, «is the fact that I am helping to support an army of parasites. Why should a man publish a book or newspaper at his expense. If it is worth anything, he ought to find sales enough surely to pay the cost. And why should I pay for the losses caused by dishonest officials, or pay the wages of lazy officials who never do an hour's work. And when I contribute to the support of a public department, like the postoffice, why should its services be rendered me as though they were favors?»

—As we have remarked before the editor-in-chief of the *Journal do Commercio* sometimes goes out gunning, and gets «bagged» himself. He tried it on a few days ago with Dr. Ruy Barbosa. He found that the latter had received a fee for legal advice to the São Christovão tramway company, and without investigating the matter he assumed that something mysterious and crooked was involved, and at once put his assumptions in print in the shape of insinuations which reflected severely on his chosen victim. But the effort failed ingloriously, just as it did when he attacked the editor of this paper. He had no facts to support his insinuations. In his reply in the *Imprensa* of the 6th inst. Dr. Ruy Barbosa produces the documents to show the character and scope of his dealings with the S. Christovão company, from which no sane person can possibly draw a conclusion unfavorable to his private and professional character. And he reminds his assailant of the good old adage that people who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

BUSINESS NOTES

—Last year there were shipped from the United Kingdom to Brazil 967,778 tons of coal valued at £619,912, against 1,010,912 tons valued at £633,125 in 1898.

—On last Tuesday a committee of business men conferred with the minister of finance on the subject of the new consumption tax regulations. The minister asked them to state in writing the alterations that they propose.

—Although the government has not yet acceded to the demands of business men, it seems to be treating them now with the courtesy which it failed to display towards them when they commenced their agitation a year ago. If they will persevere, they will finally succeed in obtaining redress for their grievances.

—The *Commercio de São Paulo* of the 9th inst. says it is possible that during the succeeding week the sale would be completed at Ribeirão Preto of one of the most important agricultural properties in that municipality. The seller asks 2,800,000\$ for the property, which is 200,000\$ more than the buyer offers.

—During the past week the minister of finance has conferred several times with commissions of merchants in regard to the stamping of fabrics in stock. Nothing definite has as yet been settled. It is a singular thing that the government should invariably adopt methods and taxes which give the most trouble and prove the most vexatious.

—On Saturday a committee of business men had a conference with the minister of finance and handed him a written statement of the changes which they propose in the new consumption tax regulations. The minister did not concur with all their suggestions, but promised to lay their statement before President Campos Salles and decided to extend to the 19th prox. the time fixed for stamping the present stocks of merchandise.

—Last year there were shipped from the United Kingdom to Brazil 132,577,500 yards of cotton piece goods, valued at £1,538,852, against 208,450,700 yards valued at £1,957,767 in 1898. The decrease was consequently 75,873,200 yards, or over 36 per cent. in quantity and £408,615, or over 30 per cent. in value. And yet the period of depression indicated by these figures is considered by the government a suitable occasion for increasing the burdens of the dry goods trade!

—A great responsibility rests upon those who are directing the praiseworthy movement against the new consumption tax regulations. If they fail to display the requisite firmness, moderation, activity and tenacity, they will lose the confidence of business men and consequently be unable to promote the harmonious and vigorous action that is essential to success. We sincerely trust that this movement will not result in strengthening the belief, already far too prevalent, that it is impossible to obtain redress for grievances without resorting to violence.

—Not only are the consumption taxes very burdensome to the people, but they are also exceedingly objectionable for many other reasons. They require a large increase in the army of office-holders and they promote blackmailing, counterfeiting and other immoral and criminal acts. Not long ago a large quantity of counterfeit stamps for these taxes was discovered in S. Paulo and now the Rio de Janeiro papers are publishing the details of illicit traffic in stamps that are either counterfeit or have been obtained by unlawful means. It is asserted that stamps valued at about 2,000,000\$ have disappeared from the mint.

-At Campos on the 9th inst. at a meeting attended by 120 merchants it was decided to unite with the Associação Commercial and Centro Commercial of Rio de Janeiro in defending the business interests of the country.

-Recent telegrams show that the business men of S. Paulo, Rio Grande do Sul, Bahia, Juiz de Fora and Victoria are in perfect harmony with those of Rio de Janeiro in opposing the objectionable features of the new consumption tax regulations. We presume that throughout the whole country those regulations have very few supporters among business men. Let them be firmly resisted, then, and let the government understand that it has gone beyond the safe limit of excessive taxation. There is no defence of any attempt to extort taxes which cripple industry and trade, and which force privation and loss upon the people.

-In S. Paulo, on the 6th inst., there was an important meeting of business men. Some very decided speeches were made, and by more than one of the speakers it was proposed that merchants should close their doors. A prominent merchant declared that business men themselves are to blame if their rights are treated with contempt, since they have not taken the requisite steps to be properly represented in congress. Proposals were made for asking the government to suspend the execution of the new consumption tax regulations. It was also proposed to test the constitutionality of the tax. It was finally decided to declare that S. Paulo merchants would not stamp their present stocks of merchandise and to authorize the Centro Commercial and Associação Commercial of Rio de Janeiro to represent them in protesting against the objectionable features of the new regulations.

FINANCIAL NOTES

-Counterfeit revenue stamps are now on the market. In fact, we can not see how they are to be avoided.

-The journals of the 6th note that the government has remitted 1,450,546\$22 to the treasury agency in London to the fund established to guarantee national debts. The sterling equivalent was £163,166 18s. 1d.

-The Journal do Commercio of the 7th inst. was authorized to say that the minister of finance is disposed to extend the time for stamping stocks of dry goods. Then, why didn't the minister say so to the merchants themselves?

-There is said to be no money at the collector's office at Parahyba do Sul for paying the salaries of public employes, or depositors withdrawals from the government savings bank. This, says a telegram, causes a very bad impression.

-Customs receipts continue to be light. At the port of Rio de Janeiro they amounted for the first 10 days of the present month to only 1,004,150\$103, against 2,120,919\$500 for the corresponding period of 1899. The decrease was 1,122,768\$752, or over 54 %.

-The import duties, including storage and labor, collected last month at the 12 custom-houses of Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Pernambuco, Para, Bahia, Ceara, Maranhão, Santa Catharina, Parahyba, Alagoas, Feneado and Victoria, amounted to only 9,473,418\$348.

-Instead of printing a special revenue stamp for each class of goods, why not save the great part of the cost of printing by printing one common series of stamps, applicable to all classes of taxable merchandise? It would greatly simplify matters and very largely reduce the cost.

-The revenue derived last month from the new consumption tax on dry goods at the Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Pará, Pernambuco, Maranhão and Santa Catharina custom-houses amounted to 107,894\$870. At the Rio de Janeiro general revenue office for the first week of this month it amounted to 82,269\$800.

-Last month the national treasury's balance on account current at the Banco da Republica decreased from 22,280,185\$682 to 15,169,651\$942 and at the same time its indebtedness to the bank for sundry accounts increased from 18,820,239\$053 to 19,050,121\$164. In other words the net balance of 4,459,946\$029 in favor of the national treasury was changed into a net balance of 3,680,769\$222 against it. The position of the national treasury was consequently 8,140,715\$251 worse than it was at the end of last year. It was, moreover, 2,058,669\$523 worse at the end of last month than it was a year ago, when the balance against the national treasury was only 1,622,099\$699. And yet the minister finds 2,000,000\$ a week to burn!

-The customs receipts at Santos amounted last month to 1,340,370\$968, against 2,741,407\$477 in January, 1899. Adding these figures to the returns, published in our last issue, of the receipts at Rio de Janeiro, Pernambuco, Pará and Bahia, we have the following result for the five principal custom-houses in Brazil:

Table with 2 columns: Month/Year and Amount. Rows for January 1899, January 1900, and Decrease.

The aggregate receipts of the five principal custom-houses in Brazil in January, 1900, were 822,431\$556 less than those of the Rio de Janeiro custom-house alone in January, 1899.

-The state of Minas Geraes has been divided into 36 consumption tax districts. This of course means a considerable increase in the army of office-holders.

-The minister of finance apparently does not understand that regulations detrimental to the interests of business men are also detrimental to the permanent and real interests of the national treasury. If he can be taught to understand this, he will probably frame regulations that will not excite so much opposition.

-The following is a statement of the customs receipts at Rio de Janeiro for the last five years:

Table of customs receipts for years 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1899. Columns include Import duties, Labor and storage, Consumption taxes, and Other receipts, with a Total for each year.

The only species of revenue that has increased since 1896 is that derived from consumption taxes, which, together with higher duties, the collection of part of the latter in gold and other burdens, have contributed to aggravate commercial and financial depression and to cause a consequent shrinkage in sources of revenue. Since 1896, as the foregoing statement shows, revenue from import duties has decreased 56 1/5 %, that from labor and storage 45 % and that from sundry sources 46 %.

-It is hardly on purely ethical grounds that the British war against the Boers has been so energetically condemned on the continent of Europe. The great continental powers are accustomed to have a moral standard in their dealings with other races somewhat different from that which they insist shall be applied by Great Britain and the United States. They were as much scandalized over our intervention in Cuba as they were over the British resolution to end, once and for all, the oppression of the Boer oligarchy. But the Russian method of dealing with Finland or Central Asia excites no such chorus of blame, any more than did the French treatment of the Hovas in Madagascar or of the natives of Tongking. It may fairly be assumed that this attitude is due less to a disapproval of the methods which are used to advance the supremacy of the English-speaking nations, than to fear of the results. There can be as little question that there is a common sentiment among the governments of continental Europe that England's further expansion must be stopped, as that there is a similar sentiment of jealousy in regard to the growing power of the United States. There is an influence in the world, loosely described as Anglo-Saxon supremacy, which may be exercised by these two powers in combination, but which does not at all suit the plans of any of the great nations of continental Europe. That this influence would be one tending on the whole to the maintenance of peace, and uniformly exerted on the side of liberty and human progress does not at all affect the dread with which it inspires other nations. Most of them have ideals very different from those cherished by English-speaking people in regard to how much liberty may be good for men, and they have a natural reluctance to accept as desirable a kind of progress which brings no special profit to them. -New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 22.

COMMERCIAL.

Table of commercial data for Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 13th, 1900. Includes par value of Brazilian milreis, bank rate of exchange, and present value of Brazilian milreis in gold and paper.

EXCHANGE.

Feb. 5.-Today's market continued with the same tendency of the past days. Business transacted was important.

Official quotations on London were:

Table of exchange rates for London: Bank bills, Private bills, opening and closing rates.

Official value of the milreis 287-292 reis gold.

Feb. 6.-The market today was not quite as firm as yesterday's but rates were well sustained; business was limited.

Official quotations on London were:

Table of exchange rates for London: Bank bills, Private bills, opening and closing rates.

Official value of the milreis was 283-292 reis gold.

Feb. 7.-Rates were improving during the day and the market was firm. There was a fair amount of business transacted.

Official quotations on London were as follows:

Table of exchange rates for London: Bank bills, Private bills, opening and closing rates.

Official value of the milreis 292-294 reis gold.

Feb. 8.-Today's market was uneasy, quotations changing frequently; movement was fair.

The official quotations on London were:

Table of exchange rates for London: Bank bills, Private bills, opening and closing rates.

Official value of the milreis 289-292 reis gold.

Feb. 9.-There was no change in the tone of the market, with the uncertainty of the preceding day. A large amount of transactions were reported.

Official quotations on London were:

Table of exchange rates for London: Bank bills, Private bills, opening and closing rates.

Official value of the milreis 289-292 reis gold.

Feb. 10.-Today's market showed still some uneasiness and rates were changed several times. There was not much business reported.

Official quotations on London were as follows:

Table of exchange rates for London: Bank bills, Private bills, opening and closing rates.

Official value of the milreis 287-289 reis gold.

BANQUE FRANÇAISE DU BRÉSIL.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST JANUARY, 1900.

Table of assets for Banque Française du Brésil: Share holders, Cash, Branches and agencies, Bills discounted, Bills receivable, etc.

Liabilities:

Table of liabilities for Banque Française du Brésil: Capital, Accounts current, Interest, etc.

E. & O. E. Rio de Janeiro, 6th February, 1900.

For the Banque Française du Brésil, C. Blum, Director, V. Marsol, Accountant.

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LIMITED.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST JANUARY, 1900.

Table of assets for British Bank of South America: Capital, do paid up, Reserve Fund.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST JANUARY, 1900.

Table of assets and liabilities for British Bank of South America: Capital, Bills discounted, Loans, etc.

Liabilities:

Table of liabilities for British Bank of South America: Deposits in account current, do fixed maturity, etc.

E. & O. E. Rio de Janeiro, 5th February, 1900.

For the British Bank of South America, Limited, E. P. de Saave, Actg. Manager, Frank Dodd, Accountant.

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED

Established in 1862.

Table of capital and reserves for London and River Plate Bank: Capital, Idem realized, Reserve fund.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE RIO BRANCH, 31ST JANUARY 1900.

Assets:

Table of assets for Rio Branch: Bills discounted, Bills receivable, Loans, Head office, agencies and branches, etc.

Liabilities:

Table of liabilities for Rio Branch: Declared capital, Deposits, fixed maturity and with notice, do without interest, etc.

E. & O. E.

Rio de Janeiro, 6th February, 1900.

For the London and River Plate Bank, Limited,

F. S. Yule, Actg. Manager.

C. H. Lord, Actg. Accountant.

MARKET REPORT.

Rio de Janeiro, 13th February 1900.

Exports.

Coffee.-There was much more activity in the market last week and the sales are reported to have aggregated 114,000 bags, against 59,000 bags in the preceding week. Prices were advanced with the demand, but when exporters abstained from buying freely on Wednesday they were reduced. With the subsequent increase in demand, however, prices were again advanced, and at the close of the week showed a substantial gain of 40 reis per arroba. The receipts were 68,533 bags for the week and the shipments 60,174 bags. Yesterday prices were again advanced, but receded to the closing figures of Saturday.

The reports from abroad show that sales still continue on a large scale, New York reporting 211,000 bags, Havre 250,000, Hamburg 52,000, and London 149,000-total 682,000 bags, against 214,000 in the corresponding week of last year, and 557,000 in the preceding week.

The detailed movements of the market during the week were as follows:

Table of ruling prices for Santos, Rio N. Y. Type No. 7 at Rio, and Good Average at Santos, with daily reported sales at the former market.

Table of shipments since our last report have been: 50,579 bags for the United States, 13,210 for Europe, 3,865 for Cape of Good Hope, 1,767 for River Plate, etc.

Table of the following ships sailed with coffee last week: United States, Santos, Rio N. Y. Type, etc.

Table of brokers' quotations, according to New-York types were the following: Feb. 10, Feb. 5, No. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

Table of the stock in all hands was estimated this morning at 154,128 bags, against 155,029 bags a week ago. The Santos stock is reported at 439,120 bags.

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RESEMBLES MOTHER'S MILK IN COMPOSITION AND PROPERTIES, IT MAY BE GIVEN FROM BIRTH.

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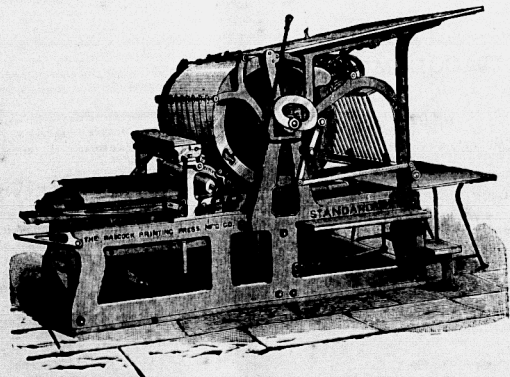
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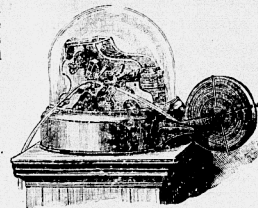
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