

THE RIO NEWS.

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NUMBER 10

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HAND BOOK OF RIO DE JANEIRO

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.

São Paulo:

Through express trains leave the Central station daily at 6 a. m. and 8:30 p. m. (dormitory); returning leaves S. Paulo at 5 a. m. and 5 p. m. (dormitory). Change of cars both ways at Taubaté.

Numerous steamers weekly for Santos, connecting with the São Paulo Railway.

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Through express trains leave Central station daily at 5 a. m. and 7 p. m. Connects with all branches along the main line (Linha do Centro) of that railway. Intermediate trains leave at 7 a. m. and 4 p. m.—the first running through to Barbacena, and the second to Entre Rios.

Bello Horizonte:

Trains leave station of General Carneiro, on main line of Central railway, at 2:21 p. m. and 11:40 a. m.—the latter a mixed train.

Corcovado:

Regular trains, week days, leave St. Rua Cosme Velho, Laranjeiras, at Sand 11 a. m. and 2 and 5:30 p. m., returning leave the summit at 7:30 and 9:30 a. m. and 1, 4:30 and 7 p. m. On Sundays and holidays, the hours are: ascending 6:30, 8, 9:30 and 11 a. m., 12:30, 2, 3:30, 5:15 and 8 p. m.; descending, 8:35, 10:05, 11:35 a. m., 1:05, 2:35, 4:05, 6, 7 and 9 p. m. Each train gives the excursionist half an hour on the summit.

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. PHILIPS, Minister.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 99, Rua 12 de Março, EUGENE BERGER, Consul General.

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Itaboraay (opposite Custom House), WILLIAM G. WAGSTAFF, Consul General.

Church Directory

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—Service is held every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. There is a Celebration of the Holy Communion on the first and third Sundays in the month at 11 a. m. and on the second and fourth Sundays at 8 a. m., also on Saints' Days according to announcements. Baptisms and marriages at times to be arranged with the Chaplain, for whom communications may be sent to Crashley & Co. 36 Rua do Ourivdor.

Irvine Crawshaw, M. A., British Chaplain

74 Rua Mendo de Sá, Itarabay.

IGREJA EVANGELICA FLUMINENSE.—Rua Largo de S. Joaquin, No. 473.—Divine service in Portuguese on Sundays. Prayer meeting at 10 a. m. Worship at 11 a. m. Biblical class to study the Holy Scriptures, at 5 afternoon. Gospel preaching at 6:15 p. m. on Wednesdays. Biblical study and preaching at 7 p. m.

JOAO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Pastor.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Largo do Catete, Engenho das Varas every Sunday at 12 noon. Pastor, H. C. TUCKER—residence Rua da Concordia, 78. Portuguese services every Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Wednesdays at 7:30 p. m. and at Funchos, Carillon, Sundays at 12 p. m. and 1 p. m. Pastors.—M. DICKIE and FRANK WEDDEBECKER.

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 E. DOS REIS, Pastor.

Residence: On the Church premises.

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 352

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

PETROPOLIS METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Avenida Marechal Deodoro, No. 4, Engenho das Varas 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.

EDMUND A. TILLY, Pastor.

Professional Directory

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Dr. Carlos Feldhagen; Offices: No. 29, Rua 12 de Março, 2 to 4 p. m.; residence: No. 57, Rua Marquez de Abranches.

Miscellaneous.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY.—No. 29, 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.

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BRITISH SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.—57, Rua Gonçalves Dias.—Open from noon to 6 p. m.—For terms, apply to Librarian

RIO SEAMEN'S MISSION.—Rest 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, Candelaria.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—No. 59, 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, Hou. Treasurer.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—There were three deaths from bubonic pest in Rosario on the 1st inst.

—In February there were 2,461 births, 1,620 deaths, 443 marriages and 92 stillbirths in the city of Buenos Aires.

—Bishop Ninde of the Methodist Episcopal Church arrived at Montevideo on the 22nd ult., coming from the West Coast.

—The Chilean *medicos* which visited Rosario are convinced that it is genuine bubonic pest which has appeared there, but in a benign form.

—Defalcations have been discovered at Chomabai, Argentina, both in the revenue office and in the postoffice, the former for \$16,000, the latter \$5,000.

—The *Fronsa* of Buenos Aires says that S. Thomé, in the province of Corrientes, has been favored by Brazilian troops, who captured an Argentine citizen and cut his throat.

—A Buenos Aires telegram of the 1st inst., says that the government is negotiating for the sale of the monopoly in alcoholic spirits to an English syndicate for \$18,000,000 per annum.

—On the 11th inst. the subscriptions to the Manini House Fund at Montevideo had reached a total of \$3,469 r. This will yield over £700, which is a very handsome contribution from so small a colony.

—The Argentines expect to turn out 20,000 men in a military review in honor of President Campos Salles. Let us hope that European bondholders of the two countries are taking note of all these costly demonstrations.

—A Buenos Aires telegram of the 2nd inst. says the offer of the Devoto palace for the residence of President Campos Salles, has been accepted. And another dispatch mentions the Devoto palace for the President and the Royal Hotel for his suite. And a medal is to be coined to commemorate the visit. Just how many palaces have been accepted and then discarded for our President we can not state, for we have lost count, but there has been enough to make the whole affair very ridiculous.

—Our *blees noirs* the health authorities are discussing the advisability of reducing to two days the quarantine against Buenos Aires, but it seems doubtful if this will be done, as it is pretended that the Argentine regulations stand in the way. It is not very clear how this can be, for no country is likely to insist on quarantine against itself. However, there is no limit to the absurdities of quarantine in this part of the world, and therefore we would not be surprised to hear of Argentina proclaiming quarantine against Montevideo because Montevideo does not maintain sufficient quarantine against Argentina. It would be no worse than things which have already occurred.— *Montevideo Times*, Feb. 24.

—Private letters received from Viedma announce that Cacique Nannucurá, Indian warrior and chief and colonel in the Argentine army, has again entered double harness although he has already seen 89 summers. His last bride is quite a young girl of 17 or 18 from the Pampa and she may now boast of a whole tribe of stepsons varying between the ages of 59 and 3 years. The ceremony, which was solemnized at Fort Roza, was an imposing one and witnessed by hundreds; the well known cacique wore the full uniform of a colonel for the occasion. The day of the wedding saw the newly married couple on the way to the Cordilleras at the head of the tribe, where the honeymoon will be spent.— *Buenos Aires Herald*.

—A very serious matter has come to light in connection with the Provincial Bank. Judge Agulier, a most worthy member of the judiciary, in the course of his official duties discovered that the judicial deposits of the bank, amounting to several millions of dollars, were represented in the safes by a sum of ready money which did not amount to one million dollars. The judicial deposits of the state banks are constituted for the most part by moneys placed in safe keeping for minors, insane persons, and other wards of our courts. According to Argentine law these deposits are the most sacred trust given to the state banks and are considered as inviolate. The fact that they have been tampered with by the Provincial Bank, even when said bank was supposed to be making every effort to recover its credit, shows the utter hopelessness of our ever seeing the rehabilitation of that institution. The commotion caused by the denunciations of Judge Agulier has brought the president of the bank before the public with an explanation. This functionary, who, be it said in passing, is a most estimable and upright gentleman, is, we are sorry to see, unable to perceive the odium which attaches to the admission made by him of the truth of Dr. Agulier's denunciation. Sr. Ortiz de Rozas, the president of the bank, says that there are available assets to cover three or four times over, all possible drafts which might be made on the judicial deposits. This is begging the question. The violation of the judicial deposits is a violation of the charter of the bank and of our banking laws; and is also the last drop in a cup of dishonor. Fortunately, there is yet time to replace the deposits which have been so illegally and discreditably tampered with, but this is not to the credit of the bank. The credit belongs to Judge Agulier, and justice demands that he should be publicly thanked for his honesty and courage, instead of being censured, especially in official quarters.— *Southern Cross*, Feb. 16.

—The heat wave stayed long enough in Buenos Aires to kill about two hundred people. The exact bills of mortality have not been published and probably will not be known; but approximate figures have been compiled by persons who have had the means of knowing what took place, and their tale certainly a tragic one. It seems there were about 1,200 cases of sun-sickness, that is, cases of heat prostration and sun-stroke. Of these over 200 proved fatal. A committee of doctors, specially named for the purpose, have carried out an inquiry into the nature of the fatal sickness which in the space of a few days prostrated so many hundreds of people. They have unanimously arrived at the conclusion that the trouble is not any plague or mysterious contagion, as so many public-spirited people supposed, but the effect of excessive humid heat. They point out that important factors in the violent development of the sickness are the unhealthy conditions of the city which obtain so generally in this city and to which we called attention last week in these columns. They also point out that one of the causes of debilitation is the excessively bad quality of the alcohol consumed by the poorer classes. Many scientific remedies of a very elaborate and complicated nature have been suggested and advocated on and off by the press with considerable eloquence and not a little vehemence. The weather however has simplified the controversy by a thunderstorm. In this primitive but efficient manner the temperature has been lowered, the atmosphere purified, the city streets washed clean, and the sun-sickness radically cured for the present.— *Southern Cross*, Feb. 16.

—In regard to the vitiated alcohol, the returns that have just been furnished by the administration are very significant and instructive. They show clearly that while the revenue from spirit duties has fallen off, the falsification of alcohol and its fraudulent manufacture in the country have enormously increased. These results were anticipated by those of us who opposed the passing of the alcohol legislation. The opponents of the present despicable system of spirit taxation also pointed out, while the bills were before congress, that one of their effects would be to close the doors of several large factories, because it was foreseen that said factories, under the proposed law, could not compete with the illicit distilleries, on a small scale, the rise of which the law was so admirably calculated to foment. It appears that the sum of \$12,000,000 was the total looked forward to as the result of the taxation of spirits. The public is now informed that the total revenue realized from the spirit tax is only \$700,000. There has, therefore, been a falling off in anticipated revenue. The country has consumed more alcohol, and of a viler class, than ever. The fiscal has been defrauded to the extent of many millions. The public health has been injured. Finally, public morality has been additionally corrupted and the interests of the commonwealth additionally violated. It is highly probable that the next congress will see the resurrection of the monopoly scheme. We are not in favor of government monopoly because we consider it an infringement of commercial rights and a menace to private enterprise; but, as matters stand at present, even a government monopoly would be a welcome change. The present system is one of the rottenest, most complicated, and most useless ever written on a statute book.— *Southern Cross*, Feb. 16.

PAARDEBERG.

The British people will be among the first to recognize the gallant stand which the Boers under General Cronje made at Paardeberg. With only a small force—somewhere between 3,000 and 4,000 men—and four small Krupp guns (9-pounders) and two Maxim guns, they held a hastily fortified camp for ten days against the masses of fire of an army of 10,000 to 15,000 men, well provided with artillery and strong enough to repulse every effort to relieve the place. It was a desperate stand, and that the Boer commander should have made it can only be explained by the assumption that he wished to cover the withdrawal of the bulk of his army and the slow transportation of the heavy artillery which he had at Kimberley and Magersfontein. If this was his object, and it seems probable, then military authorities will hardly classify Paardeberg as a defeat. To have held a vastly superior force in check for nearly two weeks, to cover the withdrawal of his army and artillery and to gain time for the concentration of troops for the defence of Bloemfontein, and at the same time to have deceived the enemy as to his strength and resources, reflect the highest credit upon the strategy and ability of the plain Boer farmer and his officers, and we are confident that Brititshers will be among the first to honor and praise the deed.

—Contrary to the general belief abroad that Canada is enthusiastically loyal and imperialist, it seems that the French province of Quebec is becoming openly hostile to the sending of troops to the British government in South Africa. Several Quebec merchants of the Canadian parliament have openly denounced the action of Sir Wilfred Laurier (himself a French Canadian) in sending contingents to the front. They frankly assert that their ambition is to see Canada an independent state. On the other hand the English province of Ontario is intensely loyal. A bitter struggle between the two races seems near at hand.

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

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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 corresponding branches in Hamburg, London, M. A. von Rothschild & Sohn, Frankfurt a. M.
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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,
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Capital..... £ 1,000,000
Idem paid up..... " 800,000
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AUTHORIZED BY
Decree No. 2,432 of 2nd January, 1897.

CAPITAL: Frs. 10,000,000 (Ten million Francs)

HEAD OFFICE:
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- PARIS AND FRANCE: Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris, and agencies. Société Générale pour favoriser le développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France, and agencies Heine & Co., Paris. Lazard Frères & Co., Paris. Périer Mercet & Co., Paris.
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Realized Capital. . . . Rs. 103,616,400\$000
N. B. This capital to be reduced to Rs. 100,000,000\$ in accordance with the Government's Decree of 8th May 1897.

Reserve Fund Rs. 16,787,304\$006
Profits in suspense . . . Rs. 10,384,820\$735
on 30th June 1899.

OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO
9, Rua da Alfandega.

Agencies at Pará, Maranhão, Ceará, Pernambuco Bahia, Victoria, Santos, S. Paulo, Desterro Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Pelotas.

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From the Daily Mail, Jan. 25.

HOW I ESCAPED.

Mr. Winston Churchill's detailed story of his daring escape from Pretoria and his subsequent adventures fills three columns of yesterday's "Morning Post," and is a vivid piece of writing. On the night of December 12 he had arranged to escape from the Model Station with another officer.

"Tuesday, the 12th" (he writes). Night came again. Again the dinner-bell sounded. Choosing my opportunity, I strolled across the quadrangle and secreted myself in one of the sentries. Through a chink I watched the officers. For half an hour they remained stolid and obstructive. Then, all of a sudden, one turned and walked up to his comrade, and they began to talk. Their backs were turned.

"Now or never. I darted out of my hiding-place and ran to the wall, seized the top with my hands, and drew myself up. Twice I let myself down again in sickly hesitation, and then, with a third resolve, scrambled up. The top was flat. Lying on it, I had one parting glimpse of the sentries, still talking, still with their backs turned; but, I repeat fifteen yards away.

"Then I flowered myself silently down into the adjoining garden and crouched among the shrubs. I was free. The first step had been taken, and it was irrevocable.

"It now remained to wait the arrival of my comrade. The bushes of the garden gave a good deal of cover, and in the moonlight their shadows lay black on the ground. Twenty yards away was the house, and I had not been five minutes in hiding before I perceived that it was full of people; the windows revealed brightly-lighted rooms, and within I could see figures moving about.

"This was a fresh complication. We had always thought the house unoccupied. Presently a man came out of the door and walked across the garden in my direction. Scarcely ten yards away he stopped and stood still, looking steadily towards me. I remained absolutely motionless. For a long time the man and I remained opposite each other, and every instant I expected him to spring forward.

"After a spell another man came out of the house, lighted a cigar, and both he and the other walked off together. No sooner had they turned than a cat pursued by a dog rushed into the bushes and collided with me. The startled animal uttered a "miao" of alarm and darted back again, making a horrible rustling. Both men stopped at once. But it was only a cat, and they passed out of the garden gate into the town.

"I looked at my watch. An hour had passed since I climbed the wall. Where was my comrade? Suddenly I heard a voice from within the quadrangle say, quite loud, 'All up.' I crawled back to the wall. Two officers were walking up and down the other side jabbering Latin words, laughing and talking all manner of nonsense—amid which I caught my name.

"I risked a cough. One of the officers immediately began to chatter alone. The other said, slowly and clearly: '... cannot get out; the sentry suspects. It's all up. Can you get back again?' But now all my fears fell from me at once. To go back was impossible. I could not hope to climb the wall unnoticed. I said to the officers: 'I shall go on alone.'

"The gate which led into the road was only a few yards from another sentry. I strode into the middle of the garden, walked past the windows of the house without any attempt at concealment, and so went through the gate and turned to the left.

"I passed the sentry at less than five yards. Most of them knew me by sight. Whether he looked at me or not I do not know, for I

never turned my head. But after walking a hundred yards I knew that the second obstacle had been surmounted. I was at large in Pretoria!

"I walked on leisurely through the night humming a tune and choosing the middle of the road. The streets were full of burglars, but they paid no attention to me. Gradually I reached the suburbs, and on a little bridge I sat down to reflect and consider.

"I was in the heart of the enemy's country. I had £75 in my pocket and four slabs of chocolate. I formed a plan. I would find the Delagoa Bay railway. Without map or compass I must follow that in spite of the pickets. After walking south for half a mile I struck the railroad."

How Mr. Churchill boarded a passing train and eventually arrived at Delagoa Bay has already been reported.

O QUE SE DIZ DE NOS.

The financial editor of *The Manchester Courier* discusses the situation in Brazil (January 30th) in the following terms, which, it must be confessed, can not easily be contested:

"We have received the following apology for Brazil from a firm trading in Manchester:—To the Editor of the *Manchester Courier*.

Sir,—In your issue of Tuesday last the following appears under the heading of "Notes on 'Change':"—"We always regarded the Belgian as extremely cautious, but at he is going to risk money in Brazilian finance we may be compelled to reconsider our opinion."

This sweeping invective on Brazilian commerce is the outcome of your remarks on the institution of a Belgian bank in the city of Rio de Janeiro—São Paulo—and Minas. Has the writer of the above sneer investigated the results of the several foreign banks in Brazil? Is he aware of the dividends declared and paid by most of the foreign banks? Or of the present price at which their shares, where obtainable, are eagerly bought? The French have not so many years ago founded a bank Rio, São Paulo and Santos. The Germans, the Belgians, have also banks in these cities, and the dividend paid by the German bank in 1898 was over 20 per cent. To come nearer home, the English Bank of Rio de Janeiro—now extinct—the London and Brazilian Bank, the British Bank of South America, have always satisfied the most greedy of their shareholders—and the following remarkable fact is still fresh. Everybody knows the London and River Plate Bank. No one can tax this bank (or its directors) with "raking money" heedlessly. Yet this sound, well managed, and enterprising concern did open a branch (and not so many years back either) in Rio Janeiro. They found Brazilian finance so very shaky, risks so great, profits so questionable, that they have opened branch houses in nearly every city along the coast, and in some in the interior.

May I ask you further—Has the writer of that misleading article given himself the trouble of ascertaining which have been the dividends paid by this very bank? Even compared with those which were paid before their Brazilian ventures? I am not addressing you, sir, in defence of Brazilian finance. As it belongs to government finance, the least said about it the better. What has Mr. Gladstone's short-sighted policy after Majuba to do with English banking? The parallel is to be the same, because the misgovernment of Brazil cannot and does not imperil business nor banking. It may and does minimise its scope, and that is all the risk.—Yours, &c.

LOOKING BEFORE LEAPING.

Our correspondents must be perfectly well aware that in the case of most of the banks referred to the profits are earned, not in Brazil, but in the Argentine and other parts of South America. This is especially the case with the London and River Plate Bank. The English Bank of Rio de Janeiro is not extinct but lives again in the British Bank of South America, as our correspondents would have known if they possessed as wide an acquaintance with South American affairs as the writer whose notes they are so eager to criticise.

The writer needs no information about the London and River Plate Bank, with whose heads he may claim familiar, and, indeed, intimate acquaintance. The policy which may be pursued by an institution which is described not unworthily as the "Colossus of the South American markets" is one thing, and the venture of a small Belgian syndicate is another. What is safe for the first may spell blue ruin for the second. What is the position and what the price of the shares of the one bank in London which does business exclusively with Brazil?

Mr. Gladstone's short-sighted policy after Majuba was not a financial matter. Suppose that the British government determines to repudiate the national debt, and as a preliminary measure decides to suspend for three years the interest on consols. For this purpose negotiations are entered into, and the public, especially the investing public, obtaining an inkling of these affairs, becomes extremely anxious and uneasy. The British government, in its official "Gazette" and by official notices in all the newspapers, announces that no such suspension is contemplated, and that no such negotiations are afoot. A week afterwards another announcement, equally official, states that the negotiations are completed, and that the suspension will take immediate effect. That sort of thing would be something like deliberate falsehood, and of that the Brazilian government was guilty at the inception of

the funding scheme. If our correspondents desire to deny it, we will give chapter and verse.

Contrary to the statements of our correspondents, the misgovernment of Brazil by the amateur statesmen who have brought the exchange from 271 to its present level most unquestionably does imperil business. There is no guarantee that business men will be protected in carrying on their affairs, little security for property, no regard for the sacredness of a contract. The Great Northern Railway of Brazil was formed to construct a line in the north of the country. It had an exclusive concession as an inducement. After the persons concerned had laid out considerable sums of money, the Brazilian government calmly granted another concession over the same area to different persons, and has laughed at all claims for compensation, or even for a fair hearing. In the later case of the San Paulo railway, the Brazilian government connived at an attempt by the Mogiana company to construct a competing line through a zone guaranteed to the San Paulo. Can our correspondents, as merchants, be unaware of the state of things in Brazilian custom-houses? and what have the dividends of 50 per cent and 35 per cent paid by certain companies to do with it? Many such concerns have been formed within the last ten years. Where are the bulk of them now? Do they last?

We have no doubts as to injustice to Brazil, but the methods of its government must be exposed, and shall be exposed, for the benefit of the investing public. We advise the friends of Brazil not to attempt palliation. The writer of these notes knows the inner history of the last ten years of Brazilian finance (and numbers the first finance minister of the republic, Dr. Ruy Barbosa, among his personal friends) as well as most people, and will never hesitate in the service of his readers to put the facts in print if the need arises. Brazil deserves no pity. She has allowed her administration to pass from the hands of honest and reputable men into the control of a gang of rapacious and unscrupulous adventurers, and she must put up with the consequences.

THE PENALTIES OF PROGRESS.

The Buenos Aires Southern Cross of the 9th inst., contains the following very sensible remarks on the present situation in that capital and the causes of the recent excessive mortality there:

And in regard to the precarious condition of the public health in which the abnormal heat has found such fatal scope for its tragic work, it would be as unreasonable to blame the Asistencia Publica for this as for the political evils which might be productive of civil war. In the present instance the people themselves are mostly to blame; for it must be stated that the many fatal cases of heat prostration were due to the insanitary way in which the patients had been living, more than to the extraordinary temperature. In the old days there were heat waves known in Buenos Aires, yet cases of sunstroke and heat prostrations were few and far between. The reasons are obvious enough. In those days the population of the city was not only more really Argentine than at present, and consequently more attuned to climatic conditions, but the lives led were simpler and more natural. The contrast between then and now embodied the etiology of the dreadful malady which has desolated so many homes in Buenos Aires during the past twelve days. To-day we have water-works that do not work; a drainage system that does not drain; a health board that religiously draws its salary. We have a port whose growing trade brings to our shores the viciousness as well as the civilization of more advanced countries; a leisured class whose luxuries entail the sweated toil of others; we have now Portena beauties who vie with the belles of European capitals in the magnificence of their raiment and we have Portena seamstresses who stitch for them by day and even by night, and into many of whose lives come the temptation, the false happiness, the slavery and the hell which have ever been the lot of the camp-followers of fashion.

The merchant's clerk can now live in the suburbs, and Pilate-like the merchant washes his hands of any responsibility for the particular way in which said clerk may choose to go to the devil. We have now harnessed electricity and chemistry to our progress and bound them to our comfort and under the arc-lights we consume frozen poison, while our choice of intoxicating drinks is limitless. The more we pursue the contrast the more we are confronted with the facts that our lives have become more artificial, more unhealthy, and more vicious.

The old *criollos* of Buenos Aires, whether rich or poor, had, in the shaping of their lives, achieved a homely simplicity, which we of later days have had the folly to lay aside. They turned over less money in the year than we do, but their doctors' bills were lower and their hearts lighter. We, from the height to which our progress has elevated us, affect a patronizing toleration for their quaint philosophy of existence; yet in how many ways are we not inferior to them! We can shoot the dog that bites us with a more finished weapon; our reporters are able to tell us the names of all the actresses that carry us away; there are municipal statisticians to compile long columns of figures every month, telling us how many have died from this and how many have died from that. But to what does it all amount? Of what good is all this scientific description of our deaths if we ignore how our lives may most healthfully be lived? We sweat labor; we crowd our artisans into

workshops unfit for pigsties; we drive our poor into filthy tenements where life is scarcely worth living; we allow a butcher ring of Italian masons to supply us with half cartton meat; every wind which blows on the overtaxed city raises countless microbes of every disease from the unswept and unwatered streets. We give ourselves no chance to live healthy lives; we do, on the contrary, everything that it is possible for us to do to undermine our constitution; and then, is it any wonder when the first severe trial comes upon us that we should die like flies?

In physical hygiene, as in the moral, we scientific, ice-eating, mixed-drink consuming, siesta-ignoring, money-grubbing, main chance worshipping people of Buenos Aires must retrace our steps; we must eat less; drink less alcoholic poison; live purer lives; pass less time hunting for the dollar; allow more sleep and rest to those who work for us; and finally, get on to live instead of as now, living to get on.

CARNIVAL IN S. PAULO.

Carnival is over—thank goodness! For the rule of King Folly and his rain are objectionable. Jupiter Pluvius evidently holds carnivals in special abhorrence; it is always wet, and this fact is all the more marked because the succeeding days are beautifully fine. Confetti, dominoes, serpentine, began on Sunday about noon, and again after business on Monday—Tuesday was, of course, the great day. Windows were filled with beautiful forms in gay dress, while in the streets below were crowds of "moccos" who engaged, during the short rainless intervals, in vigorous contest with the serrated lines of fair damsels.

As contrasted with last year there was a great lack of vivacity, possibly because the elements were even more hostile, possibly because money was less plentiful. The clubs, at any rate, were hard put to it. For several days previously they had been collecting money, both by threats and petition, for their processions. At the last moment, however, agents had to be sent out to "raise the wind" necessary to bear the cargo out of the harbor of the contractors' yards. They hurried round with doleful tales of their sad plight—hard-hearted horse-owners who want cash down [wise men!]; 3000 needed. Apparently these efforts were successful, for at 10 p.m. the Galopins and Democraticos appeared in the streets, and an hour later the Fenianos turned up.

The show was pretty much as usual. There were noisy bands, big figures, evil-smelling torches. Perhaps it is well that these processions appear only in the night, which wraps them in a kindly shroud of semi-darkness. Most of the allegorical representations had a "little cherub up aloft": the females who occupied those positions must have had a trying time of it: to begin it, they probably felt it somewhat chilly, and then it must have been most uncomfortable to be banged about over the rough cobbles. One unfortunate "figure" acted as a pendulum, and it really looked as if she would be dashed off her perch. She lurched to and fro like a snail bark in a stormy sea, and her feelings must have been those of a landsman at sea for the first time. One car actually broke down, appropriately enough, it was a pillar surmounted by a globe with the legend, in huge letters across it, "Ordem e Progresso", representing the Republic. Other cars carried Pharoah (a hybrid between a Cossack and an Indian), Cerberus, Peste Bubonica and other monstrosities.

A procession of this kind usually derives some animation from the glitter and glare of bright light reflected on gorgeous costumes, but here not so. In the dark, narrow streets, whatever of brilliance that the procession possessed, passed by unobserved. The torches gave off such volumes of smoke that fog was superadded to darkness.

It was consoling to learn, on the authority of the well informed *Diario Popular*, that the customary carnival in London has been a failure. Poor Londoners! However have they managed to exist without the annual festival which means so much to them! A few masks were seen in the suburbs of the City—Blackfriars or Westminster presumably. "Those who took off Chamberlain and Kruger gained the most applause," but the police, to avoid disorder, soon made them retire. Nearly all the papers call upon the people to abstain from these festivities, now that the nation is engaged in a terrible struggle, and that while the world is taking its pleasure, many English sons upholding the honor of the British flag, are falling under the Boer shot." Which is most to be complimented—the enterprise of the paper in publishing such a telegram, or the ingenuity of its correspondent in thinking that such an interesting fact about the well-known London carnival, should be made known? How very expensive it must have been to telegraph all this. The cost must have been as great as that of the telegram on the following day, giving the speech of Cronje when he surrendered his sword (more likely his rifle) to Lord Roberts.

Made virtute, "Diario!"

—Perhaps the best criticism ever passed on the war office by an authority who could not be gainsaid, was that of the late Mr. W. H. Smith. "If I managed my business," he said to one of London's great publishers, when he had been secretary for war a short time, "on the lines that the war office runs the British army, I should be a bankrupt in six months." —Morning Leader.

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TELEGRAMS OF THE WEEK

OUR OWN SPECIAL SERVICE

LONDON, 27TH FEBRUARY, 5.50 A.M.
General Cronje has 4,000 men with him at Paardeberg where he is still besieged by Field Marshal Lord Roberts.

General Sir Redvers Buller is prosecuting a hard fight at Colenso where he suffered heavy casualties during the past week. His losses included 41 officers in three days' fighting.

The garrison at Ladysmith is cooperating with General Buller, but no particulars have been made public.

LONDON, 27TH FEBRUARY, 11.15 A.M.
(Received 11 a.m.)

The war office has been officially advised that General Cronje and his whole command capitulated unconditionally at daybreak this morning.

General Cronje is now a prisoner in the camp of Lord Roberts.

LONDON, 27TH FEBRUARY, 8.10 P.M.

General Cronje's force which surrendered this morning to Lord Roberts at Paardeberg comprised 4,000 men.

Among the officers were Commanders Kok (Koch?) and Woolverans, the German Major Albrecht, several other Germans and one Scandinavian.

The guns captured comprised four Krupp nine-pounders and two Maxim's.

All the prisoners have been sent to Capetown.

The final attack which compelled General Cronje to surrender, commenced at three o'clock in the morning and was signalized by a brilliant and gallant rush on the enemy's lines by the Gordons, Canadians and Shropshires.

LONDON, 28TH FEBRUARY, 4.05 P.M.

Advices have been received that General Sir Redvers Buller stormed and carried yesterday the main positions of the Boers at Pieters, after an unsuccessful attempt on Thursday last, driving the enemy in all directions, and capturing sixty prisoners.

The Boers have now retired to Bulwana—(which we assume to be the "Isimbawana," or "Umbulwana" marked on the maps).

Pieters is a railway station one-third of the distance between Colenso and Ladysmith.

LONDON, 1ST MARCH, 7.55 A.M.

General Kitchener (*sic*) reports that the Arundel Boers are retreating to Norvalds-pont.

The town of Rensburg has been reoccupied. (This telegram is a little mystifying, as we have not before been advised that General Kitchener had gone south. The word "Kitchener" may possibly be a mistake. —*Ed. News*.)

LONDON, 1ST MARCH, 11.15 A.M.

The war office announces that news is received that Ladysmith was relieved last night.

LONDON, 2ND MARCH, 6.45 A.M.

General Sir Redvers Buller himself has entered Ladysmith.

He reports that the Boers have retired in hot haste northwards.

He also reports that he found the British garrison of Ladysmith on short rations, eating cornmeal, horses and mules. The men will need careful nursing.

Advices have been received that General Clements has occupied Colesberg and Colesberg Junction unopposed.

A fierce assault on Mafeking last Saturday by the Boers was repulsed with heavy loss.

LONDON, 3RD MARCH, 8.55 A.M.

General Sir Redvers Buller reports to the war office that the defeat of the Boers between Colenso and Ladysmith was more complete than he had dared hope for.

The whole district is clear of the enemy, only two guns remaining, but immense supplies of ammunition and food have been captured.

Ladysmith has already been re-provisioned. It is stated that 6,000 Boers are facing Field Marshal Lord Roberts' army at a distance of four miles east of his camp. It is considered that a fight is imminent.

The Colesberg Boers are recrossing the Orange river into Free State territory, and the British have occupied Achatertang (a railway station half way between Colesberg Junction and Norvalds-pont.)

LONDON, 5TH MARCH, 5.20 A.M.

It is reported that General Buller has defeated the Boers north of Dordrecht.

In the Colesberg district there are no organized bodies of the enemy except at Norvalds-pont, on the Orange river.

In Natal the Boers have retreated north of the Biggarsberg range of mountains. (The Dundee district lies north of this range.)

The British forces are pursuing the enemy.

LONDON, 6TH MARCH, 6.50 A.M.

A strong force of British troops has left Kimberley for the north, apparently for the relief of Mafeking.

Fighting is expected at Fourteen Streams (about 50 miles north of Kimberley, where a railway bridge crosses the Vaal river.)

Mafeking was reported safe on February 19th, but the garrison was eating dogs.

General J. D. P. French is skirmishing with the enemy near Osfontein.

The budget presented to the House of Commons by the chancellor of the exchequer provides for a war expenditure of sixty millions sterling, to be raised by taxation, a loan and treasury bonds.

SUMMARY FROM DAILY PRESS, Great Britain.

FEB. 26.—The British are prosecuting the bombardment of the Boer encampment at Paardeberg, while Gen. French is operating on the enemy's flanks to impede his receiving reinforcements. The latter dispersed one small force, capturing 60 prisoners, which raises the total to 540 now in the British camp. —The engineers are opening trenches in the direction of the Boer position. —In the battle of the 19th at Paardeberg, the British losses numbered 100, including 5 officers killed and 31 wounded. —Gen. Macdonald is recovering from his wound in the thigh. —It is reported that Gen. Cronje made an unsuccessful attempt to break through the British lines on Saturday. —The war office is advised that the British have occupied the positions abandoned by General Delarey near Arundel. —A reconnaissance of the enemy's lines near Stormberg was repulsed, Capt. Montmorency being killed. —In a fight on the 20th Gen. Buller lost 12 men killed, 100 wounded and 2 prisoners, including Lieut. Davidson killed, and Capt. Upperton and Paekman and Lieuts. Wyndham, Henton, MacLachlan and Mochra wounded. —On the 21st, says the *Times*, the first brigade reconquered Gribbles Kloof, and killed 600 men under the enemy's fire. —Gen. Buller has ordered a general advance. On Friday he reports having had 7 officers killed, 33 wounded and 1 missing. —In the house of commons Mr. Goschen asked for thirty millions for the navy. —The *Daily News* accuses Dr. Leyds with deceiving the British government in regard to the cargoes of certain German steamers in order to promote difficulties between the two countries.

FEB. 27.—Gen. Cronje with all his command, numbering 4,000 men, with 4 Krupp guns and 2 Maxim's, surrendered to Lord Roberts this morning. —In advising the government Lord Roberts expressed the hope that the event would be duly appreciated, as it occurred on the anniversary of Majuba Hill. —Later in the day Gen. Cronje was sent to Capetown, escorted by Gen. Pretymann, and accompanied by his wife and a grandson. About a thousand prisoners were also sent to Capetown. There were indescribable rejoicings in London over the victory. An incomplete official list gives the losses of Lord Roberts on the 18th as 721 men, killed and wounded, and a supplementary list names six officers more. (This must refer to engagements at other places than Paardeberg.) —The Boers are said to be concentrating 40 miles from Bloemfontein. —In an engagement to-day the Canadians under Lord Roberts lost 8 killed and 29 wounded. —It is reported that Gen. Joubert is retiring from his positions between Ladysmith and Colenso. —Troops have left for Walvisch bay to prevent disorders in Gaborone.

FEB. 28.—A declaration of the secretary of the war department in parliament to-day gives the following losses of the British army in South Africa up to February 23—officers killed 161, wounded 491, prisoners 93; soldiers killed 1,490, wounded 5,795, prisoners 2,650; missing 51; total 10,783. (Another telegram modifies this by giving the officers now prisoners as 103 and the soldiers killed as 1,300 (the total remaining unchanged.) Another telegram says the total losses to date are 12,834. —The *Daily News* says that in the assault at Koodoosrand which compelled the surrender of Gen. Cronje, the British lost 50 officers and 721 soldiers, and that from the resistance of an exhausted enemy whose effective strength was only one-tenth that of the victors. —From the *Daily News* concludes that great sacrifices must still be anticipated. —The captured Boers are marching to Molder river, where they will be sent by rail to Capetown. —Gen. Buller telegraphs that yesterday the Boers were dislodged from Pieter's Hill by Gen. Barton's brigade. The Boers lost 60 prisoners and were dispersed in all directions. They are said to be concentrating at Bulwana. Gen. Buller reported his losses as insignificant, but another telegram gives them as 2 officers killed and 8 wounded; 40 soldiers killed and 15 wounded. —In the Friday and Sunday engagements Lt. Col. Thackeray, Stimwell and Thorold, Major Sanders, Capt. Mitland and Lieuts. Stuart and Stadding were killed, and 23 officers were wounded. —The British have reoccupied Rensburg, evacuated by the

Boers. —From Sterkstroom it is announced that Gen. Brabant had occupied Jamestown and that the Boers had abandoned the Hardschel district. —In a subsequent telegram Lord Roberts advises the departure of Gen. Cronje for Capetown, with 4,000 men, and 3,000 Boer prisoners for the same destination. —A Capetown telegram says the British deserters found in Gen. Cronje's camp have been shot. (This is probably a canard.)

MARCH 1.—The war office received a dispatch this morning stating that Col. Dundonald, at the head of two regiments, entered Ladysmith Wednesday night. The Boers have abandoned all their positions in front of that town. —Great enthusiasm prevails in London over the news. —Gen. Clements has occupied Colesberg and Colesberg Junction, after their having been abandoned by the Boers. —Gen. Kitchener arrived at Arundel on Tuesday last. —An attack on Mafeking on Saturday last was repelled, the Boers losing 40 men. —Lord Roberts telegraphs further details of the surrender at Paardeberg. He found many Boers greatly irritated against Gen. Cronje for not accepting Lord Roberts' offer of assistance to the wounded Boers, about 170 of whom were thus left exposed without treatment in his camp. The prisoners were very dirty and miserable, owing to their privations and the inhospitable character of the country where their defence was made. Their camp at Koodoosrand he considered absolutely impregnable. The number of prisoners captured reaches 3,700. —The press correspondents at Paardeberg affirm that 6,000 men and 25 guns of Gen. Cronje's army proceeded to Bloemfontein, while he with 4,000 men undertook to protect them by holding the British army in check. —Dr. Leyds says that Bloemfontein is defended by 2,000 men and 100 cannons. —Lord Roberts telegraphs that numerous columns of Boers are gathering southwest of him and he is preparing to move against them.

MARCH 2.—Rejoicings over the liberation of Ladysmith are continuing throughout England. —Gen. Cronje has arrived at Capetown and has been sent on to Simonstown where the Boer prisoners are kept. —At Kimberley Cecil Rhodes has given a grand banquet to General Roberts and Kitchener. —Gen. Buller announces the entry of 73 wagon loads of provisions for Ladysmith. —In the assault on Pieter's Hill, the British lost 6 killed and 25 wounded, the latter including Gen. Burton. —A telegram from Colenso says the Boers had withdrawn all their artillery. —During the siege the garrison of Ladysmith lost 280 killed or dying from wounds, 350 dying from disease, and had 590 men wounded. Out of the 12,000 men in garrison, 8,000 were under treatment in hospital during the siege. The *New York Herald* estimates that the siege and relief of Ladysmith cost the British 6,912 men. —From Paardeberg it is reported that 10,000 Boers are ten miles to the west of Gen. Roberts' camp. —In the assault on Mafeking on Sunday last, the Boers lost four men, and the British had two killed and three wounded. —The Boers are said to be bombarding Barkly West. —In the fight at Jamestown the Boers are reported to have lost 500 men. —Telegrams from Rensburg report the Boers to be moving north. At Colesberg the Afrikaner residents are being arrested as rebels by the British commanders. —In parliament Sir Charles Dilke says that Great Britain will not consider any terms of peace until the Boers are wholly expelled from Natal. —In Montreal, Canada, English students attacked a French journal for publishing news favorable to the Boers. This was followed by a fight between French and English students, in which various students and policemen were wounded.

MARCH 3.—Gen. Cronje has been placed on board the "Doris" at Simonstown. —The British officers, Haldane, Brookie and Le Mesurier, have escaped from Pretoria. —To impede the threatened movements of the Boers near Paardeberg, Lord Roberts left Kimberley to-day for the front. —A Ladysmith telegram of the 25th says that hundreds of Boer wagons are moving toward Van Reenes pass, and Elands-Langte. Gen. Buller reports that they have left a great quantity of provisions and some worthless shells behind, and that they have removed all their cannon except two. —Advices are received that the Boers are pushing their approaches to Mafeking and their trenches are now within 250 yards of the British lines. —At Pieter's Hill, the British lost Lt. Col. O'Leary, Major Lecois and Capt. Sykes killed. Col. Carr is among the wounded. —A Lourenço Marques telegram of yesterday says that President Kruger's interview with President Steyn is in regard to peace proposals. —In England the cause of peace is receiving new proselytes every day. —At Montreal the conflicts continue between the French and English. —A report is current in parliamentary circles that the chancellor of the exchequer will propose an increase in the impost on tobacco.

MARCH 4.—According to the Capetown correspondent of the *Havas* Agency Lord Cecil Rhodes has arrived there. —A Dordrecht telegram says that Gen. Brabant yesterday attacked the Boers at Ladyschagies. —The Central News says the Boers have failed to move the big cannon "Long Tom" from Bulwana hill, and that they have reoccupied that position. —At Burketon, Canada, an express train was off the track, injuring 40 passengers, five of whom were members of parliament. —In Montreal the French residents have promoted violent demonstrations against the English, tearing up British flags in the public squares and destroying the printing offices of the papers which have warmly defended the Anglo-Transvaal war.

MARCH 5.—Renewed censure on telegrams has suspended news regarding Lord Roberts' movements. —The Boers are fortifying a mountain chain ten miles west of Osfontein. —The *Standard* says that Gen. Buller has concentrated his forces at Abrahamskroon, 30 miles east of Paardeberg. —From Brussels it is reported that Gen. French had assaulted the Boers at Osfontein and had been repulsed. —From Ladysmith it is reported that the Boers succeeded in removing "Long Tom" from Bulwana hill on Wednesday night. —The force sent in pursuit of the enemy had returned to Ladysmith, having had a skirmish with them in which Col. Pickford was wounded. —The war office has begun publishing lists of casualties in Gen. Buller's column between 14th and 27th February. The first list gives 132 killed and 912 wounded. —A second list gives 502 killed and wounded. —From Dordrecht continued fighting is reported, the advantage resting with the British. —The Afrikaners of Colesberg are asking for amnesty, but are told they must surrender unconditionally. —Reports are current that Pres. Kruger wishes to negotiate peace.

FRANCE.
FEB. 26.—From 1st March, says a *Journal de Commerce* telegram, the duties on Brazilian coffee will be increased to 300 francs. (This is evidently a mistake.) —The *Havas Agency* says the minimum duty on coffee will be continued until 31st August next. —The *Gaulois* says that a corps of 2,000 men, all trained soldiers, has been organized to go to the Transvaal to assist the Boers.

SPAIN.
FEB. 28.—A Paris dispatch says the European press is alarmed over the increase in the British navy. —Rochefort has opened a subscription for presenting a sword of honor to Gen. Cronje. —The continental press says the time has arrived to initiate peace negotiations. —The Philippine delegate Agoncillo says it is untrue that the war in his country is over.

MARCH 1.—The *Figaro* expects that Brazil will eventually accept the offer to reduce the French import duty on coffee (150 francs per 100 kilos) by 10 per cent.

MARCH 2.—The Brazilian government having postponed the application of the new tariff against French products, the French government has likewise suspended retaliatory action. (Bluff.)

MARCH 3.—The tobacco factory operatives at Lille have resolved to strike. —A Lourenço Marques telegram says that President Kruger has gone to visit President Steyn. —The *Times* of day calls attention to the instability of the tariff relations between France and Brazil.

MARCH 4.—The *Matin* says that British imperialists are premeditating war on France. —In naval circles a war between France and Great Britain is considered inevitable, which will begin in the autumn. —Popular animosity against Great Britain is increasing day by day. —In Paris and Saint Mulo assaults on British subjects are reported.

UNITED STATES.
FEB. 26.—An extradition treaty between the United States and Chili is under negotiation. —Hiland has agreed to the sale of her possessions in the West Indies to the United States. (The Dutch Antilles comprise the island of Curacao and five smaller islands, with an area of 139 square miles and a population of 51,084.) —The *Herald* says there is no opposition in regard to the Hay-Punafote treaty for the opening of the Nicaragua canal.

MARCH 1.—Thirty members of congress are said to have telegraphed their congratulations to Gen. Cronje for his heroic resistance for so many days against the superior force of the enemy.

MARCH 2.—A Washington telegram says the government has given permission to the Turkish minister to bring his forces there, which consists of 118 women. (Will the godly people who made a crusade against the polygamist Roberts again assert themselves?)

MARCH 3.—The transatlantic steamers "Normandie" and "Pennsylvania" have gone aground near New York.

MARCH 4.—The *Pr. str.* "Normandie" has been saved. —The *Herald* estimates that Gen. Buller's losses in attempting to rescue Ladysmith aggregated 10,000 men. —At a banquet in New York President McKinley said that the United States will maintain the policy expressed in the treaty with Spain. —He declared that the country is opposed to imperialism, and that American liberators can never be transformed into oppressors.

MARCH 5.—Commenting on Pres. McKinley's speech of yesterday, the *New York Herald* believes that he is disposed to offer his good offices to terminate the South African war.

GERMANY.
FEB. 28.—The Emperor William telegraphed to Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales congratulating them on Lord Roberts' triumph. —The reichstag has passed the bill in second reading which conceals direct suffrage to Alsace and Lorraine.

MARCH 1.—The German semi-official press says that Germany will not mix up in South African affairs.

ITALY.
FEB. 26.—Active preparations are in progress at Bordighera for the reception of Queen Victoria, who is shortly expected there.

MARCH 2.—The Pope received the dignitaries of the church to-day, who offered their congratulations on his 90th anniversary. —He asked all churchmen to pray to God for the termination of the Transvaal war.

MARCH 3.—In reply to an interpellation the Italian minister of foreign affairs says that an intervention in the Anglo-Transvaal war will be possible only at an opportune moment, which has not yet arrived.

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.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, MARCH 6th, 1900.

PROBABLY no country in the world has sinned more in the imposition of onerous and vexatious customs taxes and regulations than the United States. Although a free people the citizens of that country have not only submitted to the harshest tyranny from officials representing specially protected interests, but they even have gone so far as to impose vexatious and irritating restrictions upon foreign merchants who were engaged in trade with the United States. The regulations requiring consular invoices, sworn statements, and all that, have been enforced by the United States for many years, in spite of every protest. And now, when Brazil follows the same irritating policy, the Americans are among the first to cry out against it. They forget the pernicious example which they have set, they forget the humiliating conditions they have imposed upon European merchants, they forget that they have refused to accept ordinary invoices and valuations, and they forget that they have treated their foreign import trade more as contraband than as honest commercial transactions. It has been to our lasting shame—and we speak as an American—that we have placed more restrictions and greater vexations upon the trade and travel entering our territories, than are imposed by many of the monarchical governments of Europe. And we have even gone to the extreme of restricting the wearing apparel which our own citizens may bring home with them from abroad! Nothing has been too petty for legislative discussion, nothing too burdensome and vexatious for our tariff exactions. And now, when Brazil adopts the same mischievous and mistaken policy, our merchants and manufacturers protest! We do not excuse or defend the new regulations; in fact, they deserve the sharpest condemnation. They are vicious and obstructive in every particular, and they will do infinite harm to Brazilian trade, without affording any compensating relief to the treasury. But it is not for the American protectionist to condemn his own invention. He now knows what it is to be treated with suspicion and to be subjected to vexatious formalities and charges. The medicine is bitter, but it will do him good.

WE should like to see the *Journal do Commercio* attempt to prove, even with the untrustworthy figures of the *Nôvicia*, the correctness of its assertion that the financial restoration of the country will be accomplished much sooner than optimists have anticipated. Is the *Journal* aware that the *Nôvicia's* problematic balance for 1899 is considerably less than that estimated in the budget? Is the *Journal* aware that returns of customs receipts of the first two months of the present year show a decrease of at least 50% in comparison with those for the corresponding period of 1899? Has the *Journal* ever made a calculation of the sum that will be annually required in order to pay interest to foreign creditors in cash after the expiration of the period of respite granted by the funding scheme?

THE minister of finance has overlooked one very important item in the financial exposition published in the *Noticia* of Saturday last—unpaid accounts, which have been passed but not paid for sundry reasons. These amount to thousands of contos and constitute a shameful scandal. If he can figure out a surplus for 1899, then why are these accounts unpaid? The facts are, he ran short of money, was unable to pay up, and I was even unable to take up some five thousand contos of treasury bills which should have been redeemed by the end of the year. The minister evidently takes us for fools when he issues statements like this.

AFTER maintaining a mysterious silence for a week the *Piz* of yesterday tells us that the arrests which have aroused so much speculation were made on account of the insubordination in the police brigade caused by the arrest of a major of that corps some time ago. All this is very well, but how does it explain the arrest of naval officers and civilians? Some prominent Jacobins were among those arrested, and then, to confuse matters, some strong anti-Jacobins were also locked up. It looks at one time as though the government was becoming panic-stricken. There is very little sense in making a mystery of such things, as the public is sure to imagine the affair more serious than the facts bear out.

THE citizens of the United States will do well to investigate carefully the conditions of trade, industry and climate in the Amazon valley before following the advice of Consul Kennedy, of Pará, in regard to investments there. Under present conditions nothing but disaster can result from most of the investments suggested. The Madeira and Mamoré railway scheme came to grief many years ago, and with serious loss to many. So far as we can see the conditions are no better to-day, and the revival of that unfortunate undertaking promises nothing but disaster. Here and there a small enterprise may yield good results, but even with these the risks are exceptionally great because of political complications. Even Brazilians are beginning to express alarm over the intrigue and corruption existing at Mamós, and before long we may find that Pará also is reversing the same perilous road. Before foreign capital can be safely invested in enterprises dependent upon the needs of a highly civilized state of society, there must be political order and judicial independence, two conditions which are as yet just a little uncertain in the districts where Consul Kennedy wants his countrymen to invest their money.

THE *Noticia* in its issue of last Saturday attempts to give its readers some information in regard to public revenue and expenditure for the year 1899. The result at which it arrives is as follows:

Revenue:	
In currency.....	294,932,335\$000
In gold.....	19,335,149\$500
Expenditure:	
In currency:	
Budget appropriations.....	221,103,002\$689
Special and deficiency.....	33,433,785\$190
Appropriations.....	44,714,695\$000
Currency destroyed.....	44,714,695\$000
In gold.....	299,251,392\$879
	14,504,825\$279

From the foregoing it will be seen that, in the *Noticia's* opinion, the year closed with a currency deficit of 4,318,957\$879 and a gold balance of 4,830,325\$721. This, says the *Noticia*, is equivalent to a net currency balance of 12,050,292\$121. As some of the figures on which this result is based are purely conjectural, the *Noticia* predicts that definite information will show a result still more favorable. We place the *Noticia's* statement on record for the purpose of comparing it hereafter with the actual result. The public will then see what importance it can attach to that journal's figures, which are evidently officially inspired.

WITH regard to the profits earned by the foreign banks established in this country, to which reference is made by a correspondent of the *Manchester Courier*, which we reproduce in another column, it should be said that these profits are not all made out of regular commercial and banking transactions, but are the proceeds of speculative operations. The depreciation of a currency and the existence of financial embarrassments tend to foster speculation in every country, and the banks seek to profit by this here as well as elsewhere. Were the proceeds of banking transactions based on legitimate business separated from those based on purely speculative business, the result would be very different from what it now is. Buying and selling exchange for margins, or buying and selling the shares of broken-down companies, do not indicate that a state of prosperity exists, but an immense amount of such transactions pass through the banks and leave a handsome percentage behind. And, we regret to say, the brokers who speculate in such transactions, is generally able to get more credit at the bank than the merchant who is engaged in buying and selling merchandise. An example of this was afforded in São Paulo only a few days ago where a young man who went into the brokerage business practically without capital and then absconded a few days ago, after a giddy career of less than two years, with liabilities estimated at £ 300,000. Some of the banks lost heavily through him, and many a merchant, who has found how difficult it is to get the slightest advance even against merchandise in hand,

will say: served them right! We do not propose to discuss the matter, and I refer to it only to illustrate our statement that the transactions on which bank profits are made just at this time, are speculative rather than ordinary commercial and banking business. Nor do we encourage the banks for engaging in such business. They are here to make money, and as our currency is decaying and the risks attending commercial transactions are increasing, they are compelled to take what offers.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—A Bahia telegram says that copious rains have fallen through the interior of that state. —There was a death from yellow fever in Itapetinga, S. Paulo, on the 27th ult. The patient came from Sorocba.

—At Ribeirão Preto the price of fresh beef is 600 reis up to midday, after which the butcher sells for what he can get. —In Minas a subscription has been opened to buy the Acre territory from Bolivia. Toward this object 25,700\$ were subscribed at once.

—The seizures of counterfeit money in Rio Grande do Sul are said to aggregate 60,000\$, and it is estimated that 3,000,000\$ are in circulation.

—Cases of yellow fever have appeared in the town of Tiété, in southern S. Paulo. There were six cases under treatment on the 27th ult.

—The sanitary delegate at S. Carlos do Pinal, Dr. Antonio Gomes, and the veterinary surgeon of the slaughter-house, Leopoldo Correa da Silva, have been suspended for 15 days.

—The rats at Feira de Sant'Anna, Bahia, are said to be dying by hundreds. Perhaps they see no hope in the future and are therefore resorting to their old trick of deserting the doomed ship.

—At a commercial reunion in Porto Alegre on the 3rd inst. Sr. Antonio Mostardeiro, one of the most influential merchants of the place, advocated a point blank refusal to pay the new taxes, and said their motto should be: —revogação ou revolução.

—The police *delegado* at S. Carlos do Pinal has imposed a fine of 90\$ on the sanitary *delegado* for refusing to comply with a request to verify a dead body. The medical official refused to pay the fine, and the police official has sent it to the courts for collection.

—In São Paulo the prefect has declared that he would renew the monopoly enjoyed by the Misericórdia for the burial of the dead. We only lack such a monopoly to introduce us into this poor, sinful world, and then our ideals of liberty would be perfect.

—We see that Dr. O. A. Derby, chief of the S. Paulo geographical and geological commission, has been authorized to procure fruit trees of the United States suitable to the climate of that state, for experimental cultivation. The idea is an excellent one and should produce good results.

—A Pará telegram of the 5th says the Rio Acre expedition, commanded by Capt. Ramos Fonseca, left Mamós on the 27th ult. on the steamer "Labrea", freighted for 5,000\$ a day. The dispatch boats, carrying 100 police soldiers with medicines and ambulances, had also taken their departure.

—On the 26th ult. there were 91 cases of yellow fever in the isolated hospital at Sorocba and 41 new cases were reported in private houses. During the day there were 2 deaths in the hospital and 19 outside. On the 28th there were still 94 cases in hospital and 3 deaths occurred during the day and 5 patients were admitted. Outside in private houses 22 new cases were reported and 12 deaths occurred.

—The *Provincia do Pará* is again trying to stir up mischief. It has now proclaimed that Messrs. McTurck and Melville, of British Guyana, have invaded Brazilian territory on the Rio Branco, have established schools there, and are declaring themselves protectors of the Indians. The *Provincia* should try to keep cool. If the said gentlemen have entered Brazilian territory it is on purely missionary work, but as no one knows where the boundary line is it would be wiser not to talk of invasion.

—The correspondent of one of our local morning papers, who has been up to the Acre district, telegraphs from Pará that Puerto Alonso is a miserable little village, but has an excellent site and is garrisoned by a considerable number of armed men. Gilvez says he is president of the republic by the will of the people, who obey his orders implicitly. The Brazilian consul had declared null the apprehension of various steamers with cargoes of heroin valued at 2,000,000\$, on which Gilvez had levied taxes of 200,000\$, and the commandant of the Jathay called upon Gilvez to obey the consul's orders, but the president of this backwood's republic declined, declaring himself independent and disposed to resist any trespass upon his rights. He expressed a wish to avoid a conflict with Brazil. The commandant then resolved to remove the Brazilian consulate and to telegraph to Rio for orders.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The net receipts of the Sobral railway for last year are said to amount to 99,000\$000. —The tramway from S. Paulo to Santo Amaro will be sold at auction on the 15th inst.

—The tribunal of accounts has registered the payment of 50,100\$ on account of guaranteed interest for the second half of the year 1899 to the Companhia Estrada de Ferro de Muzambinho.

—Mr. Follet Holt, general manager and engineer of the Great Western Railway of Brazil, has been appointed general manager and engineer of the Central Entreriano Railway. —Review, Buenos Aires.

—The following is a statement of the receipts and expenses of the S. Paulo and Paulista Railways for 1899:

S. Paulo Railway Paulista Railway.

Gross receipts.....	19,920,055\$800	21,165,370\$493
Expenses.....	10,412,752\$910	9,152,592\$341
Net receipts.....	9,507,302\$870	12,012,778\$062

—The estimated traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway for the week ending February 24th were 3,167,635\$ in currency, against 3,177,708\$ in the corresponding week of last year, showing an increase of 28,585\$. There was also an increase of nearly a penny (31/32d.) in exchange, the equivalent of the currency receipts being £11,508 this year, against £9,267 last, showing an increase of £2,241 for the week. The aggregate receipts since January 1st amount to £85,873, against £75,052 last year, showing an increase of £10,821.

—The President of Uruguay in his message to the legislature gave the following data concerning the railways of that country: Lines actually working, 1,601.8 kilometres. In construction and projected 1,999.1 kilometres. The capital of the lines working is \$16,817,972 gold, an average of \$29,173 per kilometre. The government pays a guarantee on 1149 kilometres of line. The revenue for 1895-99 amounted to \$2,401,823 and 992,213 passengers were carried and 580,234 tons of freight transported. The working expenses amounted to \$1,136,605, and the profits to \$916,199. The government has to pay a yearly guarantee of \$916,199,92, but this year on account of the returns of the lines it has only had to disburse \$17,397. —Review, Buenos Aires.

COMPANHIA CARRIS URBANOS.

The terms of this company carried last year were 23,930,340 passengers, 1,567,232 bags of coffee and 98,519 packages of other merchandise. This includes 3,463,355 non-paying passengers and 55,201 packages of merchandise carried gratuitously.

The gross traffic receipts were as follows:

Passengers.....	2,616,698\$500
Merchandise.....	609,995\$220
Baggage.....	71,779\$700
Total.....	3,298,473\$420

In 1898 the gross traffic receipts were 3,275,027\$340, there being for 1899 an increase of 186,843\$600 in the passenger traffic and 5,695\$500 in the baggage traffic and a decrease of 147,000\$220 in the merchandise traffic.

The total gross receipts from all sources amounted in 1899 to 3,466,050\$160, against 3,414,302\$120 in 1898, and the expenses to 3,316,826\$145 in 1899, against 3,379,976\$700 in 1898.

At the end of 1898 the company had 2,003 mules. During 1898 it bought 150, sold 75 and lost by death 93.

The cost of the keep of the mules was 751,891\$310 in 1899, or an average of 18\$32 a head per diem. The 1895 mules belonging to the company at the end of last year were valued at 378,749\$820. The rolling stock was valued at 469,908\$. The company spent last year 199,409\$450 on repairs on the rolling stock and 217,766\$950 on repairs on the line. The interest on its funded debt amounted to 403,918\$000. The capital of the company is 6,000,000\$000.

ALAGOAS RAILWAY.

The balance sheet of the Alagoas railway (150 kilometres) for the past year shows well for the excellent administration of the line. A short crop, due to drought, reduced the receipts by nearly 100 contos, but by the exercise of rigid economy the manager was able to reduce the expenditures by even a larger sum, and by this means the surplus was larger than in 1898—216 contos against 212 contos after deducting ordinary working expenses, or 118 contos against 90 contos, including some extraordinary charges. Mr. Haynes is to be heartily congratulated on the result. The main items in the balance-sheet are:

Receipts:	
Passengers, (128,095).....	166,020\$620
Baggage and parcels.....	26,355\$120
Special trains.....	2,052\$060
Merchandise, exports (40,993m. tons).....	472,081\$180
Merchandise, imports (10,931m. tons).....	100,730\$980
Jaraguá bridge.....	30,915\$380
Animals carried (16,409).....	9,204\$860
Stores.....	295\$000
Telegrams (5,838).....	7,812\$500
Government (carriage and telegrams).....	8\$200
Fines.....	184\$900
Sundry receipts.....	6,121\$300
Total.....	Rs. 822,116\$400
Expenditures:	
Conservation (wages, materials, etc.).....	137,472\$000
Locomotion idem.....	185,195\$168
Repairs to rolling stock idem.....	36,594\$394
Traffic idem.....	173,208\$881
Telephone idem.....	16,106\$354
Administration idem.....	44,807\$118
Import duties.....	15,143\$120
Differences in exchange.....	94,879\$550
Total.....	Rs. 703,506\$399
Balance.....	118,610\$000
Total.....	Rs. 822,116\$400

SHIPPING NOTES

The R. M. S. S. Danube, which is expected to arrive from the River Plate and will sail to-morrow, will not communicate with the shore, all receiving and discharging being effected in quarantine.

The S.S. Tugus, a new West Indian liner added to the fleet of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, is built to meet admiralty requirements as an armed cruiser. She is 410ft. in length, 50ft. in breadth, and is of 5,500 gross tonnage.

The Lamport & Holt liner 'Hecelus' which arrived in Rio on the 24th ult., brought the following passengers from New York, Pernambuco and Bahia: Mrs. Eponina Magalhães, Mr. J. R. de Almeida, Mr. Carlos S. Santos and 9 third class.

The P. S. N. Co's steamer 'Iberia' left Rio on the 27th ult. for Europe, with the following passengers: Mr. and Mrs. A. E. d'Almeida and 5 daughters, Dr. and Mrs. Gornhilo, child and maid, Mr. T. Crawford, Mr. Nelson F. Humphrey and 8 third class.

The passengers who left Rio on the 4th inst. by the 'Hecelus' for Bahia, Pernambuco and New York, were the following: Mr. and Mrs. E. Camargo, Messrs. Kinsman Benjamin, Antonio Lima, D. S. Marques, Robert Mathier, O. Nascimento, Gabriel Kratz and 16 other.

A return compiled by Lloyd's and just issued shows that there are fifty warships under construction, thirty-six at private yards, and the remainder in the royal dock-yards. Thirteen of these are first-class battleships, ten first class armoured cruisers, and seventeen torpedo-boat destroyers. The whole ship-building output of 1899 in the United Kingdom broke all previous records; 761 vessels of 1,585,351 tons were launched. Of these thirty-five were warships of 165,590 tons displacement and twelve only were sailing ships.

LOCAL NOTES

Telegrams of the 26th report that bubonic pest in Rosario is increasing, various new cases having appeared.

The thermometer yesterday reached 90° Fahr. in many city offices, and will probably exceed that figure to-day.

Dr. Prudente de Moraes Jr., son of the ex-president, has been appointed assistant federal solicitor of this district.

The 26th battalion of infantry is to be transferred from Sergipe to Bahia and the 27th from Paralyha to Pernambuco.

The Pope celebrated his 90th birthday anniversary on the 2nd inst. Congratulations were sent him from all parts of the world.

The government has decided that the Rio Grande military school may be attended this year by 100 officers and 150 privates.

Two or three copies of the Journal do Commercio of February 7th are wanted at this office, for which double price will be paid.

Col. Pantaleão Telles, who is in Rio Grande do Sul, has been ordered to report at the headquarters of the army in this city.

Col. Pinto Paeca, who had been held in custody at the fort of S. Joa, was removed on Thursday to the headquarters of the 7th battalion of infantry.

The Journal do Brazil in its issue of last Friday contains some very appropriate strictures on the illegal arrest of civilians in connection with the investigation at the police brigade.

On Thursday the Gazeta de Noticias stated that the police brigade had been held in readiness with loaded arms on the previous day. On Friday the Journal do Commercio contradicted the statement.

It was reported last week that the commander of the fort of Santa Cruz would be removed. This commander, if we remember aright, was appointed by Presidente Prudente de Moraes on a very critical occasion.

The reports of plots that have recently been circulated are a very unfavorable symptom. They show that the public mind is becoming more and more imbued with the belief that political questions can be settled only by extra-legal methods.

We understand that the Leopoldina railway management is spending 6,000\$ on a tennis court at the new Jurujuba chacara. It seems like a pretty large sum to spend, when the Icarahy cricket ground near by offers ample facilities for tennis.

Opposition is appearing to the visit of the President to Buenos Aires in May next. Trouble is anticipated when congress meets in May and it is urged that the President should be here to protect his political friends. Perhaps he may wish to get away from them.

According to some of our native contemporaries Her Majesty's diplomatic representative at this capital, Mr. E. C. H. Phipps, left 30 unsettled reclamations in the hands of the Brazilian government, having been unable to obtain a definite settlement of any of them.

It is a curious circumstance that no matter how poor the lower classes may be, even to the extreme of lacking food, clothing and shelter, they always find means for the purchase of party tickets and of masks and confetti for carnival. How they do it is a mystery.

It is to be noted that there has been a small increase in yellow fever in this city during the past week, the deaths now numbering two to three a day. We are too near the end of the summer and the season has been too favorable, to anticipate any great increase in fever this year.

It must be conceded that the Daily Mail has fully met every expectation in sending us the important news of General Cronje's surrender. It was unfortunate that carnival had closed up business and sent so many of our subscribers out of the city so that the telegrams could not be delivered.

The Journal do Commercio of yesterday reproduced the Noticia's officially-inspired financial exposition and called favorable attention to it in what serves for the Journal as an editorial comment. There was a time when the Journal was edited on a higher and more independent plane than this.

On the 24th ult. a major, a captain and four sergeants of the police brigade were arrested. In consequence of the investigation that followed the arrests a major and a lieutenant were arrested last Tuesday. Orders were issued for preventing the prisoners from communicating with their friends.

As we anticipated, the rain lasted all day carnival Tuesday until midnight, when it cleared off. The streets were covered with mud, however, and it needed an effort to be really merry. There were crowds of people out in the evening, however, for it is a religious duty to play the fool on such an occasion.

In connection with the investigation at the police brigade more arrests were made on Wednesday. On Thursday the wife of Engineer Francisco de Góes, one of the prisoners, applied for a writ of habeas corpus in his favor. Judge Celso Guimarães refused to grant the writ and an appeal has been made.

We should like once more to ask if one single commemorative stamp has passed through the mails during the past two months. The period announced during which they were to be valid for postal purposes, has now expired, but as no one was able to purchase uncanceled stamps, the concession was not only valueless but deceptive.

The investigations at the police brigade seem to have been very badly conducted. Although the reports in circulation indicated that the plot, if any existed, was of Jacobin origin, such anti-jacobins as Costa Mendes, Reis Junior and Vinhaes were among the persons arrested. Four persons arrested, including Vinhaes, were released on Saturday.

The indications now are that we shall have to put President Campos Salles and his suite into quarantine on their return from Buenos Aires in May next. The pest is not likely to disappear down there before that time; in fact it is now increasing and spreading. Twenty days at Ilha Grande will be a splendid object lesson—or would be, providing the President were treated like the ordinary first-class passenger.

We should like to suggest to the minister of finance that it would give us all great satisfaction were he to burn a little of the dirty, ragged money now current. It seems to be getting worse day by day, and every man possesses it on his neighbor just as quickly as he can. We do it ourselves when we have any. If now the minister would burn this rubbish, instead of clean, good bills, we should feel deeply grateful.

BIRTH.

At No. 16 Rua Mundo Novo, on the 2nd inst. the wife of Frederick William Davis, of a son.

MEETING.

Mr. W. G. Wagstaff, H. B. M. Consul, returns to England at the end of this month, retiring from the service.

Mr. W. G. Wagstaff's good offices to the British colony, his uniform kindness and courtesy to all with whom he has been brought in contact, are generally recognized and in order to discuss the manner in which appreciation of same may best be conveyed to him, a meeting will be held at the City Club, on a meeting for the occasion, Thursday next, 8th inst., at 2.30 p.m. to which all British subjects are invited.

CLUB INTERNACIONAL.

NIGHTING

It was a happy thought of Mr. O. W. Rolls, the energetic treasurer of the above Club, to celebrate the great news of General Cronje's capitulation to the British forces by an impromptu dance on 27th ult. The British community on the other side turned up in great force, and in spite of there having been only a few hours notice, there were about twenty couples merrily footing it, and the dance was pronounced a great success.

A smoking concert was held here last Saturday evening, the President, Mr. William Saunders, being in the chair. Nearly a hundred members and their friends were present, and there were some excellent turns, among the most popular being the songs of Mr. H. P. Smith who came from Santos to visit some of his old friends. The choruses went with a grand swing, especially one or two patriotic airs led by Mr. G. H. Lomas towards the end of the programme. Messrs. Hardwick, Roberts and Martini played most of the accompaniments. We will print the programme next week.

PAYSANDU CRICKET CLUB.

FIXTURES—1900

Table with columns for Date, Match, and Venue. Includes fixtures for April, May, June, July, August, September, and October.

Lawn Tennis.

Table with columns for Date, Match, and Venue. Includes fixtures for May, June, July, August, and September.

RIO CRICKET AND ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

Table with columns for Date, Match, and Venue. Includes fixtures for May, June, July, August, and September.

The Annual Sports will take place at Icarahy on Wednesday 15th August.

BUSINESS NOTES

We are in receipt of a courteous invitation from the Brazilian Contracts Corporation Ltd. to be present at the inauguration on the 8th inst. of the new hydraulic elevators which have been installed at the Gamba maritime station of the Central railway.

A telegram of the 3rd inst. reports an intense commercial crisis at Pará on account of stringency in the money market. Although there is a stock of 2,000,000 kilos of rubber, valued at 20,000,000\$, merchants are unable to obtain money for meeting their obligations.

One of the best table water in the market at the present time is Agua Mattoni, which comes from the Sauerbrunn district near Carlsbad. Our readers will do well to give it a trial. It is an alkaline water, like Apollinaris, to which it is superior in many respects.

At Jahu, São Paulo, the municipal council has resolved to take 25,000\$ worth of shares in the new electric light company, and four individuals have engaged to take 25,000\$ each. This secures a quarter of the capital of the enterprise, the balance of which is to be raised by public subscription.

Up to Saturday last the postoffice clerks were still distributing American and English mails received from four to seven days previously. On Friday morning (March 2) we received advice of a short-paid letter which bears the postoffice receiving stamp of February 26. Surely Rip van Winkle must be in charge at the postoffice!

The principal creditors of the Companhia Lloyd Brasileira hold the following number of its debentures:—sundry creditors represented by Dr. Eplidio de Mesquita, 27,997; Banco da Republica, 25,135; National treasury, 21,276; Banco Rural, 10,076; Banco Commercial, 5,000. As the total number of debentures issued is 130,000, there are 40,516 in the hands of other creditors.

According to a Brussels correspondent there are now at Antwerp about 2,500 diamond workers without work. The Diamant-Bewerkerbond has organized a special committee, which has decided to pay the rents of the non-employed, besides supplying them with coal. Nevertheless, the situation becomes more and more threatening. It is hoped here that the Brazilian diamond mines will supply sufficient raw material to enable the Antwerp diamond mills to resume work, at least to a certain extent.—Financial News, Feb. 7.

The Brazilian consul in New York denies that delays have occurred in the dispatch of steamers for Brazil on account of the new regulations. Much discontent has been created in commercial circles because of the new requirements and some very sharp criticisms have appeared in the press in regard to them. Without doubt the complaints are well founded, but the Americans are the last ones in the world to complain, for the new consular regulations are nothing more than a copy of American precedents. The protectionists are now learning how their own medicine tastes.

The custom-house has published the following statement of the official value of imports at Rio de Janeiro during the year 1899:

Table listing import values from various countries: Germany, France, Argentina, United States, Uruguay, Portugal, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Chili, Austria, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland, Japan, and Other countries.

The outlook of the Hamburg export trade to Brazil at the turn of the year is, according to the Hamburger Boersenhalle of 2nd February, not very bright; from 111 million marks in 1895, the exports have gone down to 83 millions in 1896, 70 millions in 1897 and 63 millions in 1898, and it is to be assumed that statistics will show a further decline in 1899. This, in the opinion of the writer, is due to the incapability of the Brazilian government to permit the free development of a large and only partly explored country of great natural resources, the mania of the government for issuing decrees, and the political blinding of its population. He thinks that the budgets are already indicating that the payment of interest at the expiration of the moratorium will not be resumed, although some expenditures of the government seem to indicate that there is no lack of money for certain purposes. The government does not realize the defectiveness of its system and lacks a staff capable of honest and energetic management. It needs to get rid of the army of parasites and incapable officials which it maintains. A great disadvantage from a financial point of view consists also in Brazil having no income taxes, because there are no proper and trained officials for its execution; and for this reason also there remain thousands of square miles of fertile lands unproductive. The government furthermore imposes vexatious regulations on commerce, and the new consular formalities will only lead to an increase in expenses and produce discontent, without increasing its revenues.

The merchants' exchange (praça do commercio) of Porto Alegre has asked the government to suspend the collection of the consumption tax on existing stocks of merchandise until the meeting of congress, when it is hoped, that tax, justly described as iniquitous, will be abolished. The president of the exchange predicts calamitous consequences if the government persists in collecting the tax. Already, he says, there is great stringency in the money market, the rate of interest has been raised by the banks, trade is stagnant, country produce is depreciated and cattle-breeders are withholding their stock from the market. At Estrela there have been serious disturbances and others are expected. The tax, he argues, is peculiarly burdensome to honest merchants, whom it handicaps in competition with those who are less scrupulous. On last Saturday at a largely attended meeting of business men at Porto Alegre it was resolved to endorse the action of the merchants' exchange. Some of the speakers at this meeting even proposed that there should be sent to the minister of finance a telegram saying that the merchants would not pay the tax and would drive away supervisors that attempted to enter their establishments. The action of the Porto Alegre exchange has also been endorsed by the associação commercial de Pelotas. We trust that the government will abandon its policy of exorbitant taxation and comply with the just demand of the business men of the state of Rio Grande do Sul. Those who encourage it to persist in that disastrous policy are not its real friends.

In spite of our complaints and the promises of the administrator of the postoffice, our newspaper mail is still thrown on the floor to be walked on by careless employees. Is there no possible remedy for so disgraceful a state of affairs?

A Renter telegram from Paris dated February 1st, states:—The following despatch has been received here from Rio de Janeiro:—The United States is attempting to negotiate a treaty of commerce with Brazil, to take effect after March 30. The President of the republic reserves his liberty of action as regards the application of the minimum tariff. With reference to the duties on coffee, the minister of foreign affairs has informed the Italian minister here that the Brazilian government is firmly resolved to adhere to its demand for a minimum reduction of 30 per cent. in the Italian import duty.

CONSULAR INVOICES FOR BRAZIL.

The secretary of the London chamber of commerce has received the following letter from the foreign office in regard to the above:

Foreign Office, January 26, 1900.

Sir,—In connection with my letter of the 23rd inst., I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that a further telegram has been received from Her Majesty's minister at Rio to the effect that the minister of finance revoking the previous decision has stated that the legalisation of invoices must be done by the consul at the seaport exclusively, satisfactory proofs being given as to the origin of the goods shipped. Mr. Phipps adds that this must be considered finally settled, as was desired.—I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) MARTIN GOEBELIN.

The Secretary London Chamber of Commerce.

FINANCIAL NOTES

Perhaps the government will learn in the course of time that an increase in taxation does not always produce an increase in revenue.

They say that Murtinho has given the Banco da Republica 150,000,000 for 50,000,000.—Yes, he's fond of burning money, you know.

The consumption tax registration fees, which have to be paid this month, while depriving merchants of capital invested in business, will not, we think, compensate the national treasury for the shrinkage in many sources of revenue.

Is the Banco da Republica going to pay the 50,000,000 to the government in money, or in assets?—In money, I suppose; but, in view of the unexpected events that occur nowadays, an explicit statement on this point would not be amiss.

In Bahia last month the federal customs receipts were 861,273\$211, or 97.1,028\$907 less than in the same month of last year. At the same time the receipts of the state reconditoria (composed largely of export duties) were 1,438,041\$65, or 643,875\$909 more than in February of last year.

The report of the prefect, issued on the 1st inst., shows that the municipal revenue of the Federal District for 1899, which had been estimated at 19,229,400\$000, actually amounted to only 17,709,074\$46, and that the expenditure, estimated at 14,741,203\$33, amounted in fact to 23,418,585\$199. There is blue ruin in that kind of finance.

Probably the true explanation of the government's recent transaction with the Banco da Republica is that revenue is coming in slowly, there are pressing obligations to be met and the government must have ready money at any price. But to get it at a cost of 186 for 50 seems rather too high. It beats Osborne, the champion London usurer.

Last month the mint turned out 440,000 nickel coins of 100 reis and 267,000 of 200 reis, of a total value of 97,400\$. We have asked the question before, but if a new issue of smaller coins is to be made (which means the withdrawal of the present coinage, we presume) why continue issuing the larger ones. The government might adopt its designs for the new coins and let the mint be turning them out.

The Notice of the 5th inst. contained the official reply to the severe criticism of the Economist on the financial policy of the present minister of finance, and on the following days all the leading daily papers of the city, with significant unanimity, took the liberty of reproducing it. It is needless to say that the figures given and the conclusions placed before the public can not be accepted. Juggling with figures is not finance, it will not pay debts, and it will not save the country from bankruptcy.

Last month the customs receipts at the port of Rio de Janeiro were a little larger than in January, but the returns in comparison with those for February, 1899, show a decrease of 4,250,167\$488, or over 45%. The following is a comparative statement of the receipts for the first two months of the two years:

Table comparing receipts for Jan and Feb 1899 and 1900 across various categories like gold, silver, and total value.

Total... 15,467,640\$302 16,959,216\$160 The decrease was 9,298,424\$371, or over 60%.

At the Rio de Janeiro custom-houses consumption taxes produced last month 118,960\$327, against 312,764\$770 in January. Nearly one half of the amount for February was derived from the tax on dry goods. Does the minister require still more proof of the futility of his irresponsible taxation schemes?

Sunday's Journal do Commercio contains an enigmatical item in indicating the government's intention of altering its present practice of wanting currency. While awaiting an intelligible statement on the subject, we avail ourselves of the opportunity to remind our readers that the government has never observed the formality, prescribed in the funding agreement, of depositing in certain banks the currency withdrawn from circulation in conformity with the terms of that agreement.

Last year, when 10 per cent of the import duties were collected in gold, the gold receipts of the three custom-houses of Rio de Janeiro, Bahia and Pernambuco amounted in the months of January and February to 1,517,578\$425. Congress then not only increased the duties, but also passed a law for collecting 15% instead of 10% in gold. The consequence is that in the first two months of the present year the gold receipts of those three custom-houses amounted to only 1,238,073\$387. Perhaps the government will learn in the course of time that an increase in taxation does not always produce an increase in revenue.

The following returns of customs receipts for the month of February have been made public:

Table with columns for 1900 and 1899, listing receipts for Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Bahia, Pernambuco, Maranhão, Ceará, Jaraguá, Paralyba, Pernambuco, Natal, and Penedo.

The following is a statement of the receipts of the five custom-houses of Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Bahia, Pernambuco and Ceará for the first two months of each of the last three years:

Table with columns for Receipts and Decrease, listing values for 1898, 1899, and 1900.

Total decrease... 13,563,475\$580 Perhaps the government will learn in the course of time that an increase in taxation does not always produce an increase in revenue.

The following is a statement of gold receipts for the month of February at the custom-houses reported up to this date:

Table with columns for 1900 and 1899, listing percentages of import duties collected in gold for various locations.

Executive decree No. 3,606 of the 26th ult. authorizes the minister of finance to transfer to the Banco da Republica the debt of the Banco Hypothecario do Brazil to the national treasury and to receive in payment therefor and for the settlement of the former bank's obligations resulting from the agreement of May 18, 1897, the sum of 25,000,000\$ in cash and the same sum in four equal half-yearly instalments. The nominal value of the assets of which the government thus disposes is not stated in the decree, but according to articles in the press it is as follows:

Table listing assets of the Banco da Republica: Bonds debt, Debt of the Banco Hypothecario, and Total.

According to the balance-sheet of the Banco da Republica the first of the foregoing items amounted on Jan. 31 to 68,900,036\$325.

COMMERCIAL

Table of exchange rates for Rio de Janeiro, Mar. 6th, 1900, listing rates for gold, silver, and various currencies.

EXCHANGE: Table listing market conditions and exchange rates for various locations like London, Bahia, and Pernambuco.

BRASILIANISCHE BANK FÜR DEUTSCHLAND: BALANCE SHEET, 28th JANUARY, 1900. Assets and Liabilities table.

LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED: BALANCE SHEET, 28th FEBRUARY, 1900. Assets and Liabilities table.

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LIMITED: BALANCE SHEET, 28th FEBRUARY, 1900. Assets and Liabilities table.

MARKET REPORT. Rio de Janeiro, 6th March 1900. Exports.

Coffee.—There was a little more activity in the market last week, owing to the decline in prices, but still the aggregate of sales was small, only 25,000 bags being sold, against 46,000 in the preceding week. Foreign orders were unfavorable to the maintenance of the prices ruling the week before, and local holders were therefore compelled to give way 800 reis per arroba during the week. The receipts were 92,388 bags for the week, and the shipments 33,236 bags. Yesterday the market was a little firmer.

From abroad the sales were reported to have been 225,000 at New York, 11,000 at Havre, 79,000 at Hamburg and 3,500 at London—total of 497,000 bags, against 322,000 in the corresponding week of last year, and 328,710 in the preceding week.

Table with columns for Rio n/a, Reported, Santos, Good, per arroba, Sales, per 100 kilos. Lists prices for Feb 26, Mar 1, Mar 2, Mar 3.

The shipments since our last report have been: 25,000 bags for the United States, 3,639 for Rio, 50 for Cape of Good Hope, 3,559 for River Plate, etc. Coasting.

Table with columns for United States, No. 6, March 3, Feb 23, No. 7, March 3, Feb 23, No. 8, March 3, Feb 23. Lists ship arrivals and departures.

The stock in all hands was estimated this morning at 244,554 bags, against 182,910 bags a week ago. The Santos stock is reported at 201,350 bags.

Table with columns for United States, New York, New Orleans, Baltimore, Europe, Marseilles, Hamburg, Genoa, Trieste, Bordeaux, London, Antwerp, Havre. Lists ship arrivals and departures.

And shipped by the following exporters: J. W. Donne & Co., Hard, Rand & Co., Arnelke Brothers, Levering & Co., E. Johnston & Co., W. P. McLaughlin & Co., Orstein & Co., Karl Kriche, Nammann, Gepp & Co., Pierre Trudez & Co., Karl Valais & Co., Rich. Riener & Co., Gustavus Gudegott & Co., Roberto do Conto & Co., Gustav Trunks & Co., Sequeira & Co., Roberto do Conto & Co., Daboulo & Wilberg, P. S. Nicolson & Co., Jorge Dias & Irmao, Edward Ashworth & Co., C. Castello Branco, Empreza Industrial Brasileira, Pecher & Co., Mariani, Prada & Co., Villa Fonseca & Co., John Moore & Co., W. Gross & Co., Souza Filho & Co., Sundry.

Table with columns for Total, 1897-98, 1898-99, 1899-1900. Lists coffee market statistics.

Table with columns for United States, Europe, Cape of Good Hope, River Plate, etc., Coasting. Lists coffee market statistics.

Daily receipts and shipments of coffee at Rio de Janeiro

Table with columns for Receipts, Shipments, and various coffee grades (e.g., No. 1, No. 2, No. 3) with prices in dollars and cents.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

FEBRUARY 27. PHILADELPHIA.—Br. sp. Harvest Queen; 1943 tons; Forsyth; ore.

MARCH 1. GENOA.—It. bk. Ines D.; 550 tons; Denegrl; scrap iron.

FREIGHTS.

NEW YORK.—50 cents and 5% primage per bag NEW ORLEANS. —35 shillings and 5% primage per ton of 1,000 kilos.

ENGAGEMENTS.

NEW YORK.—Fr. str. Bellardien ... 15,000 bags of coffee. HAMBURG.—Ger. str. Antimnia ... 2,500 do do

Vessels Affoot & Chartered for Rio

Table listing vessel names (Any, Bayard, D. Pedro II., Davis, Homegood, Kambira, Marie Jensen, Prince Victor, Ruby, Scavdale, White Wings) and their destinations.

Arrivals of foreign steamers.

Table with columns: DATE, NAME, FROM, CONSIGNED TO. Lists arrivals for Feb. and Mar.

Departures of foreign steamers.

Table with columns: DATE, NAME, FOR, CARGO. Lists departures for Feb. and Mar.

* Calling at intermediate ports.

Foreign sailing vessels in the port of Rio de Janeiro, March 4th, 1900.

Table with columns: NAME, TONS, ARRIVED, FROM, CONSIGNEES. Lists foreign vessels in port.

STOCKS AND SHARES

Sales of Stocks and Shares.

Table listing stock sales for Feb. 25, including Apolices, Constructor, and Republica.

Feb. 25.

Table listing stock sales for Feb. 25, including Apolices, Constructor, and Republica.

MARCH 1.

Table listing stock sales for March 1, including Apolices, Constructor, and Republica.

MAR. 2.

Table listing stock sales for March 2, including Apolices, Constructor, and Republica.

MAR. 3.

Table listing stock sales for March 3, including Apolices, Constructor, and Republica.

SATURDAY'S QUOTATIONS—S. PAULO.

Table listing Saturday's quotations for various stocks and shares in Sao Paulo.

Table listing various stocks and shares with prices, including Antares, Argos Paulista, and others.

Hotels.

CARSON'S HOTEL 188, Rua do Cattede, RIO DE JANEIRO.

This well mounted establishment is situated in the best and most healthy part of the capital, with beautiful garden and grounds, and electric tramways passing the door continually.

Carlos Ribolzi, PROPRIETOR.

Hotel dos Estrangeiros PRAÇA FERREIRA VIANNA (Cattede)

Telephone No. 5,008

This hotel, which has been completely restored, is situated in the best part of the city, receiving air and light from all four sides, close to the cleanest beach of the city, surrounded by a large garden; has large, comfortable rooms newly and well furnished.

THERESOPOLIS GRANDE HOTEL THERESOPOLIS

SITUATED AT THE ALTO DO THERESOPOLIS CLIMATE VERY HEALTHY

GEORGES SCHNEIDER has the honor of advising his friends and patrons that he has taken charge of the management of the Hotel Theresopolis, where he expects to merit the continuation of the kind patronage heretofore extended to him.

Grande Hotel Metropole 181, RUA DAS LARANJEIRAS, 181

This popular Hotel has been completely and fully restored and has been provided with sanitary improvements of every description, including a hygienic system of sewerage, flushing tanks, and ventilating pipes.

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.

FREITAS HOTEL 120, Rua do Riachuelo

Mr. J. F. FREITAS, proprietor of the old and well known Freitas Hotel, desires to advise his friends and former customers that he has reopened that hotel at No. 120 RUA DO RIACHUELO in a large and most attractive edifice acquired for this special purpose.

The Hotel is specially adapted for families, for whose comfort and convenience nothing will be found lacking. It contains a large drawing-room, and its dining-room opens on verandahs overlooking the garden.

Restaurant & Lunchroom ZUM MÜNGNER KIND'L

10, Rua General Camara, 10

1st class German cooking, and excellent service.

MODERATE PRICES

Herman Moronoff, PROPRIETOR.

Stocks and Bonds and Joint Stock Companies --- March 5th.

CERVEJARIA BRAHMA

FRANCISKANER BRÄU

RUA VISCONDE DE SAPUCAHY 140, 142 & 144

Caixa do Correio 1205 Telephone 111

Franziskaner Brän (dark)
Cerveja Pilsener (clear)

Beer in barrels (shops),
automats and bottled.

Makes a speciality of packing in cases con-
taining 4 dozen bottles, ready for shipment to
the interior.

GEORG MASCHKE & Co.

PROMOTORS

TEUTONIA BEER, MENDES

Agency: --- RUA DA QUITANDA, No. 39

PRICES:

In bottles from 1 to 3 doz... 10\$000
" " " " 4 " " " " " " 9\$500
" " " " 10 " " " " " " 9\$000
" " " " 20 upwards... 8\$400

T Trepon is pure Albumen; it offers this most
important constituent of our daily food in highly
concentrated form. The nutritive value of one
pound of Trepon equals that of 3 pounds of
prime beef or 80-90 eggs.

T Trepon is almost entirely assimilated by
the system and transformed into blood and
muscles, a fact which is of highest importance
in those cases where the digestive canal has to
be cared for in mechanical respects (dysentery,
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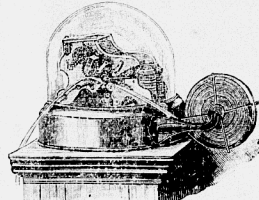
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