

THE RIO NEWS.

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M. DICKIE, Pastor.

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.

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RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—A commercial treaty between Argentina and Spain is under negotiation.

—It is announced that President Roeca will go to Montevideo to be present at the laying of the cornerstone of the new port works.

—Telegrams from the River Plate are to the effect that precautions are still necessary to prevent revolutionary parties from crossing into Uruguay from Argentine territory.

—The Argentine and Uruguayan health authorities have raised their quarantines on Rio arrivals on account of bubonic pest, but are imposing 24 to 48 hours «observation» on account of yellow fever.

—Colonel Chireh has just given a lecture upon the progress of the two Americas at the Royal Geographical Society. Among other things he said that South America has not made such progress as North America simply because it has had great natural difficulties to oppose. North America has not had to struggle with nature but has had plain sailing in an easy country whereas South America has had to carry out Herculean tasks in a very difficult country. He also mentioned Bahia Blanca and said that it had a great future. So we heard a decade ago when we were told that it was to be the second city of the republic when the first sun of the present century rose. B. A. Herald, Feb. 27.

—The amount of taxation paid by the people of this country is not excessive when compared with what is paid by the people of other countries, but the adjustment of the burden is such as to bear heavily on a part of the population. The burden imposed on activity or enterprise is very heavy. The policy seems to be to make every movement of labor or capital pay tribute to the tax-gatherer instead of assessing property according to its value without reference to its class. It is no part of the business of the government to take notice of what investment a man may make, but to find and equitably tax property for the support of government which protects all classes of property alike.—B. A. Herald.

—The question of exportation of Argentine flour to Brazil has given our adopted countrymen the opportunity of discussing protection from the opposite side of the fence to that which they usually occupied. As long as protection means taxing the foreigner, well and good, we cannot have too much of it, but when other nations begin to use it against us, then we find that their conduct is opposed to all that makes for international freedom and good fellowship, and we begin seriously to doubt the right which they may have to treat us as we treat them. For surely in no country on the face of the earth is protection so ridden to death as it is in Argentina. Not only do we tax imports to such an extent that as a result, Buenos Aires is today the city par excellence of adulterated and falsified products, but we protect our professions so that it is now practically impossible for a foreign professional man to follow his profession in Argentina, and, although constitution and treaties expressly forbid it we impose discriminatory taxation upon foreign capital and foreign enterprise to an almost unbearable extent, and then pride in our newspapers of the generous welcome afforded by our laws to all these things. And it is perhaps quite natural that when the national government does these things, the provincial and municipal governments should step in and claim their share of what we may with all propriety call the spoils, for the taxation upon some branches of industrial energy follow no law or rule but that of getting as near as possible to the breaking point.—Revista, Buenos Aires, Feb. 23.

—Acting President Quirno Costa and Governor Irigoyen have been carrying on a controversy over the suppression of the «equino» tax. Dr. Quirno Costa points out that Irigoyen is inconsistent in advocating the laying of the tax by the provincial government, since once upon a time Don Bernardo himself declared in his capacity as a magistrate that the tax was unconstitutional. Dr. Irigoyen, thus disadvantageously placed on the defensive, makes a very good reply by explaining at length that there was no question raised on that occasion regarding the legality or illegality of the tax in the abstract. It was a side issue. No doubt it was. The controversy of their excellencies is also a side issue. The real issue is the abolition of the tax. We mean that not only should the tax be totally abolished, but that no countenance should be given to any attempt made to substitute it by another tax. Already we see there is a move being made to tax stock. This is worse than the equino tax itself. If passed into law, be far more annoying and arbitrary. What tax, Dr. Quirno Costa points out, should be done is to send at least 50 per cent. of the salaries employed of the provincial government and of the municipalities adrift. It is not an uncommon thing to see ten or twelve men drawing salaries from camp municipalities when three or four average men could easily do all the work. The same may be said of the provincial government. It is too often the habit of refuge for political looters. With half its employees working a fair day's work each and earning each a decent salary, and were the other half to be dismissed at least \$3,000,000 yearly could be economized on the budget of the province. As it is, taxation is inflated to bursting point. To give one instance alone, since 1880 commercial «patentes» have been increased about one thousand per cent., i.e., a shop-keeper who paid a «patente» of \$40 in 1880 now pays \$400!—Southern Cross, Buenos Aires, Feb. 22.

—We regret to see that one of the cases of yellow fever which occurred on board the «Falshaw» coming from a Brazilian port, has terminated fatally, the engineer, Daniel Sullivan, having died on board the floating hospital. The other two cases are progressing favorably and one of them is already convalescent. The vessel remains in quarantine observation for a time longer. It is comforting to note the quiet business-like way in which these matters are now conducted by the health authorities. Whilst all proper precautions are adopted, there is nothing like the alarm and fuss created, which used to be the invariable accompaniment of an outbreak of the disease. We hope and believe that a new order of things is established and that it will give the best results.—Revista, Buenos Aires, March 9.

—There is an office for the analysis of anything offered for sale which is designed for human consumption. This scheme, like most which are adopted, is for the purpose of making business men pay money to help run the city government. It has been discovered by this remarkable technical department that American catnip is unfit for consumption, and it has been tabooed, as well as many other preparations from the same country, and a fine of a hundred dollars has been decreed on all sales of said articles. We have a specimen of one of these interdicted articles, and it is not only fit for consumption, but it is an excellent article put up by one of the best known packing establishments in the United States. Already specimens have been sent to London to the official office of analysis, and a disinterested report will in due time be received, and if it shall turn out that the condemnation has been laid on false grounds, as we have no doubt whatever is the case, there will be a serious matter for this office to explain.—Buenos Aires Herald, March 7.

RECIEPE AND SAN FRANCISCO RAILWAY.

The directors of the Recife and San Francisco Pernambuco Railway Company, Limited, have addressed the following circular to the proprietors:—Under the terms of the concession, the Brazilian government has the power of purchasing the company's railway for an amount in bonds producing a revenue equal to the average net revenue of the five most lucrative years of the last seven. Under the terms of the guarantee of interest in the United States, the company are applied in relief of the guarantee. The company was, up to 1900, entitled to an aggregate annual guarantee of interest amounting to £50,283, but of this £24,283 expired in 1900, the balance of £56,000 expiring in 1904. With the assistance of the guaranteed interest (which has, however, for the past three years been paid in funding bonds, only realizable at a discount), the net revenue has, for the best five out of the last seven years, averaged about £7,377 per annum; but in future, owing to lapses of guarantee, there must be a considerable reduction in the revenue, unless the traffic improves to a much greater extent than the results of past years would lead us to expect. The result is that the government from 1900 is entitled to purchase our railway on terms very by year less favorable to the company. The Brazilian government during 1900 approached the board with a view to purchase, by agreement, on terms of which the following are the leading heads:—(1) The government to pay to the company on taking over the railway as from June 30 next £1,500,000 in four per cent. sterling bonds, with ½ per cent. amortisation, to be used for the redemption of the bonds, either by annual drawings or purchase in the market. (2) The government to take over and pay for in cash at their full value, according to the company's books, all such stores of the company in Brazil as are in serviceable condition and of practical value. (3) To enable the company to provide for its debt, the government also to pay to the company such an amount of like four per cent. bonds as shall, at the market price, on June 30 next, be equivalent to the sum of £81,500. (4) The government to take over for one year from June 30, 1901, on the terms of their existing engagements, all employees in the service willing to enter into the employ of the government. (5) The guaranteed interest to be paid up to the expiration of the half-year ended June 30, 1901. (6) Apart from the purchase price the government has offered to provide bonds equivalent to market value to the sum of £10,000, to be divided amongst the directors and the members of the London staff, as some compensation for loss of office. In the event of the acceptance of the terms offered by the government, the board feel that some compensation should be voted to Mr. Hood, the superintendent in Brazil, who for twenty-three years has served the company well and faithfully, as also to the other English members of the Brazilian staff. These terms, after providing for the discharge of liabilities, would, in the opinion of the directors, permit of a distribution of £125 in bonds for each £100 stock, and after payment of dividend for the half-year ending June 30, 1901, and expenses of liquidation a small cash payment in addition on final settlement of accounts. Having regard to future prospects, as well as present conditions, the board recommend the proprietors to accept the proposal.—Financial News, Feb. 11.

The British government has refused to accept the amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty imposed by the United States senate, on the ground that the senate has no power to negotiate treaties. In our opinion, the British government is fully justified in rejecting the amendment.

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Branch-offices in São Paulo and Santos (Caixa 530.) (Caixa 185.)

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

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Idem paid up..... " 500,000
Reserve fund..... " 340,000

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AUTHORIZED BY

Decree No. 2,452 of 2nd January, 1897.

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

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Realized Capital. Rs. 101,246,400\$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. 17,480,078\$736

Profits in suspense Rs. 11,156,739\$835 on 31st May 1900.

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9, Rua da Alfandega.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

FAREWELL TO BRAZIL.

By.....
Pernambuco..... 1901.
Editor "Rio News".

Dear Sir.—I am not accustomed to write to the newspapers about myself, but under the circumstances I feel that I must. In a few hours more I shall have my last view of the green slopes of Olinda, and I am thanking God every moment for the prospect. It is a quarter of a century since I first came to this blessed country; I have worked hard, grown old and accumulated a little money in business, and now I am sacrificing almost everything in order to get away with a bare tenth of it. And I'm thankful to get away with even that! My health is broken, my life wasted and I must begin the struggle all over again somewhere else—but against the alternative of remaining in this bankrupt, politician-ridden country, I accept it all cheerfully. To remain in Brazil is to endure daily-increasing vexations and burdens, to lose everything I have, and to suffer interferences and annoyances which make life a veritable martyrdom.

I am not a politician, and I have no interest whatever in government contracts. I do not care a straw whether the government is a monarchy, or a republic. But my experience goes to show that, although the country could not boast of staidly prosperity during the days of the monarchy, there was a certain amount of seriousness and good faith which enabled us business men to enter into commercial undertakings without fear of an official raid upon us every year. The advent of the republic has changed all this, and now no one knows what to-morrow will bring forth.

During these last ten years our taxes have been enormously increased, and our customers have been growing poorer and poorer every year. No one could help seeing this, if he cared to look about him. But the politicians have refused to take any note of this, and have gone on burdening us with new taxes and vexing us with new restrictions until I, for one, can not stand it any longer. And I know of hundreds who are of the same opinion, and who will clear out of business and out of the country just as soon as they can! We are not law-breakers, and we have no wish to avoid our duties and responsibilities, but we prefer to pay our taxes to a government which can be considered honest, intelligent and just. And that's why I and others are clearing out of Brazil.

Of course, there are many who will tell you a different story, but there is not a foreign merchant in Brazil who can say that I am not telling the truth. There are contractors, however, whose interests will not permit them to speak out, and there are others dependent upon government supervision and favor who dare not speak the truth. And there are others—heaven help them!—who do their growing in private and then curse *The News* for echoing their own thoughts in public. Then there are the parasites who publish newspapers, or write letters to them, and who say flattering things of the government because they are paid to do so. May the Lord forgive them for the wrongs they have committed! If I had no opinions of my own, I'd let editorials and letters alone! And if I had no manliness, no honor and no integrity, then I'd probably sell myself to a corrupt government just as these parasites have done.

But it is all over now and I am out of it, thank God! No more haggling, begging and bribing in the custom-house for me! I refer plants to *batatas*. In future my lines will be cast in pleasanter places, and no homeopathic doctor turned financier will have an opportunity to plague me with his exactions. They can run the country just as they please and the people may submit to it if they like! My sympathies are completely worn

out and I have n't a particle of interest in the outcome. That's the result of my quarter of a century's residence in a country where a foreign merchant is looked upon as fair game for the official pot-hunter.

As for yourself, Mr. Editor, you have my profound sympathy. You are wasting your time, you'll earn no money, you'll get no glory, and even those who should support you will turn their backs on you. No one will remember the services you have rendered, and no one will be grateful to you for saying openly what they say privately. You'll accomplish no miracle, nor will you influence any changes. It's too late! With good wishes,

Yours, etc.

"One who came for wool and is going away shorn".

RAILROAD NOTES

—Last year there were shipped on the Central Railway from Rio de Janeiro to S. Paulo 35,062,488 kilos of merchandise paying freight to the amount of 1,449,456\$200, and from São Paulo to Rio de Janeiro 10,295,978 kilos of merchandise paying freight to the amount of 313,019\$480.

—A telegram from Curitiba, Paraná, states that the receipts of the Paranaguá to Curitiba line last year amounted to 1,674,830\$908, and the expenses to 833,578\$023. For the extensions and branches of the same line, which belongs to a French company, the receipts were 1,437,637\$342, and the expenses 855,978\$501.

—The government is calling for tenders for furnishing 70,000 tons of coal to the Central Railway. Part of the coal furnished may be American, provided a sample of two tons is deposited in April. The call is dated March 12 and tenders will be received up to May 6. If the government really wishes to obtain the most favorable terms, why does it not give sufficient time for prospective bidders to make the necessary arrangements?

—At meeting of the directors of the Paulista railway on the 10th inst. it was resolved to reduce the tariff rates on merchandise carried long distances. The reduction will be 25 per cent for distances greater than existing lines, and 50 per cent for some of the new lines. Coffee will benefit greatly by this reduction. A maximum of 500 reis per bag of 60 kilos on foodstuffs from any interior station to S. Paulo or Santos. The execution of this resolution, of course, depends largely upon the concurrence of the S. Paulo railway, over whose line the produce must pass on its way to market.

S. CHRISTOVÃO TRAM LINES.

From the last report of the board of directors of the S. Christovão tramway company we extract the following data:

Paying passengers in 1899..... 18,579,154
" " " 1900..... 16,462,024
Decrease..... 2,117,130

The board attributes this decrease to the general state of commercial and financial depression.

Non-paying passengers in 1900..... 3,866,219
Receipts in 1900..... 2,914,165\$820
Expenses in "..... 2,657,289\$308

Among the expenses were the following:

Wages..... 899,220\$800
Salaries of members of boards of directors and auditors..... 37,860\$500
Other salaries..... 89,916\$150
Repairs on trams..... 100,916\$250
" " " track..... 42,230\$824
" " stations..... 25,938\$120
" " harness..... 24,398\$250
Taxes, including annual contribution of 180,000\$ to the municipal government..... 188,993\$080
Forge..... 879,675\$622
Loss by death and sale of mules..... 82,942\$900

The cost of the keep of mules averaged 1\$359 a head per diem, the cost when the mule was in service, being 1\$406 and the cost of pasturage being 88 reis.

No. of mules on Jan. 1, 1900..... 2,229
" " " Dec. 31 "..... 2,224
Deaths..... 371
Sales..... 49
Purchases..... 415

The value of the charter, line, rolling-stock, mules, stations and appurtenances was estimated at the end of last year at 12,319,760\$. The rolling-stock includes 143 passenger and baggage cars and 20 other vehicles of various classes. The capital of the company is 12,000,000\$, divided into shares of 200\$ each. Recently there have been sales of shares at from 95\$ to 100\$. Last year the board of directors rejected an offer to purchase two-thirds the shares at 157 francs each. The amount of the embezzlement discovered in 1899 is 323,663\$862. The proceedings against the alleged criminals have not yet been concluded.

—The committee appointed to report on the debt of the state of Amazonas says that the respective accounts are deficient and confusing. The debt, as far as ascertained, amounts to 33,088,524\$524 not including 150,769 francs, 34 centimes, which the committee do not regard as Brazilian currency on account of its doubts in regard to the rate of exchange that should be adopted.

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 19th 1901.

SOME months ago our esteemed London contemporary, the *South American Journal*, was good enough to criticise our use of the word "money" when speaking of paper currency, and concluded, very mistakenly, that we are in favor of further issues. If we now try to return the compliment, there will surely be no cause for complaint. In the *Journal's* issue of February 23 the editor says in his financial article ("Capel Court Gossip"): "I notice that several of your contemporaries, who hitherto have been systematically assailing Brazil, have at last come to recognize that specie payments will become effective at the end of the funding period, but they characterize this admission by expressing some incredulity as to Brazil being capable of maintaining gold payments." In another place the *Journal* speaks in the same sense of "cash payments," and this leads us to conclude that our contemporary means a resumption of cash payments on the foreign debt, and not a general resumption of specie payments, as the above quotation implies. As the recognized organ of the Brazilian government in London, our contemporary should be careful of his language, in order to avoid making impossible engagements. There is no prospect whatever for a resumption of specie payments, just as there is no certainty of maintaining the higher exchange rates brought about by the manipulations of the German manager of the Banco da Republica and Brasilianische Bank. There must be a sound basis for operations of that character if permanent results are to be secured; otherwise they are purely speculative in character. The accumulation of gold by the treasury at so great a cost to our commercial and industrial classes may enable the government to resume cash interest payments on the foreign debt, but nothing is more certain than that these payments will have to be again suspended at no distant day unless there is a commercial and industrial revival in the country. Interest payments can be maintained only with a large revenue, but where is that revenue to come from? The country has been exhausted with excessive taxation during the last three or four years, and without some improvement in trade and production the logical tendency will be for the revenue to decrease. We have seen this tendency become reality during the last three years, and that too in spite of increased taxation. The resumption of "specie payments" which our contemporary talks about, therefore, is not only visionary, but the maintenance of cash interest payments abroad is very uncertain.

THE CONSUMPTION TAXES.

In 1898 consumption taxes were collected on matches, tobacco, salt and beverages, producing a revenue of 14,548,175\$. The rate of taxation was increased and, steps having been taken for additional rigor in the collection of the taxes, it was estimated by the framers of the budget that they would produce 18,500,000\$ in 1899 and 20,500,000\$ in 1900. The result has exceeded the estimate, the receipts amounting to 21,216,280\$ in the former year and 21,816,497\$ in the latter.

Consumption taxes were collected in 1899 for the first time on canned goods and some other preserved foodstuffs, candles, vinegar, pharmaceutical specialties, perfumery, playing cards, boots and shoes. The revenue derived that year from the taxes on these classes of merchandise amounted to 3,572,460\$ and was estimated in the budget that it would amount last year to 7,270,000\$, or over twice the amount collected in 1899. This expectation, however, has been disappointed, for returns received show that the sum actually collected last year was only 3,831,296\$. It is possible that definite returns may be somewhat more favorable.

Last year the collection of consumption taxes was extended to walking-sticks, hats and textile fabrics. The result was as follows:

Tax on walking-sticks.....	20,579\$
" " hats.....	921,845\$
" " textile fabrics.....	8,226,412\$
Total.....	9,168,836\$

The consumption tax on textile fabrics has, together with other burdens on this class of merchandise, contributed to produce a large decrease in the respective trade. Last year the United Kingdom exported to Brazil only 104,937,600 yards of cotton piece goods, valued at 21,196,298, against 132,561,600 yards, valued at 21,359,838 in 1899. In eleven months of each of the two years the value of the cotton cloths exported from the United States to Brazil was as follows:

1899.....	\$422,275
1900.....	\$284,047
Decrease.....	\$138,228

The weight of woolen fabrics exported from France to Brazil decreased from 546,950 kilos in 1899 to 243,000 in 1900. At Rio de Janeiro the receipts of foreign textile fabrics during the two years was as follows:

	Cotton	Woolen	Linen	Silk
1899, pkgs.....	23,462	3,764	767	197
1900, ".....	21,474	3,220	632	99
Decrease..	6,988	544	135	98

As for the effect of the consumption tax on the spinning and weaving industry of Brazil, there is no doubt, we think, that it is seriously checking progress and perhaps even causing an actual decrease in production. Several factories have closed and recently the Carioca factory, one of the most important establishments at Rio de Janeiro, was obliged to reduce wages, thereby causing a strike which led to disturbances and to the temporary closing of the factory.

In the receipts of cotton at Rio de Janeiro for the various factories that obtain their raw material at this port there had been in 1898 an increase of 27,656 bales and in 1899 an increase of 17,091 bales, but in 1900 the increase was reduced to 736 bales, the figures being as follows:

	Receipts	Increase
1897, bales.....	114,282	
1898 ".....	141,938	27,656
1899 ".....	159,029	17,091
1900 ".....	159,795	736

It is evident, we think, that the new tax, which produced last year only about 8,000,000\$ for the national treasury, is causing immense injury to the textile trade, to the spinning and weaving industry and to cotton culture in Brazil.

The Peruvian government, being informed of the indefinite postponement of negotiations by Chili in regard to the redemption of Tacna and Arica, has closed its legation at Santiago and suspended diplomatic relations with Chili. This is right, and it is the dignified thing to do. Peru is not strong enough to enforce her claims by military force, and she will therefore gain by this dignified proceeding. Chili has behaved very badly, just as other stronger nations have done before in dealing with the weak. Chili wants the territory in dispute, and she proposes to keep it. It was agreed that the question of ownership should be submitted to the people of those territories, but Chili will not now consent to this. Possibly, some years hence, when populous Chilean colonies are established throughout the two provinces, Chili may consent to a vote, but not until the result is assured.

We think it will not be contested now, that very little is being done to assist the business men of this city through their difficulties. The government promise to advance twenty-five thousand contos to the Banco da Republica for discounts was all talk, and nothing else. The bank management says it is refusing to make no advances where the security is satisfactory, and yet it is doing very little—which implies that it finds the security offered very unsatisfactory. If the government were serious in its offer, and if business firms can not really offer the security demanded by the bank, then some other means should be found to help them through the crisis. Instead of this, they are harassed and fined in the customhouse, and worried to the verge of madness by other taxes, inspections, restrictions, etc., in their daily affairs. It may be that a badly embarrassed business should be liquidated, but when we consider that this covers the great majority, it becomes a serious matter. If then the government can not keep its promise to help us, through the bank, it certainly can do something by removing or postponing the burdens heaped upon us.

It would seem from a telegram of the 13th inst. that all efforts to adjust the dispute between Venezuela and the United States have failed, and that diplomatic relations have been suspended, President Castro sending Minister Loomis his credentials. Should this prove to be true—and we are never sure of the press news sent about the world just now—the United States will be placed in a very difficult position. The excitement aroused some years ago when the United States interfered to force a settlement between Great Britain and Venezuela, will now be more than counterbalanced by the excitement over Venezuela's ingratitude. Had the United States government been better acquainted with its adopted protégés it would never have placed itself in so difficult a position. The protégé has now become offensive and belligerent, but the United States can not easily resent it without appearing to be insincere and aggressive. It was a mistake to assume responsibility for a turbulent and capricious ruler, and we trust the mistake will never again be made. Let each country take its own risks, and take a thrashing when necessary.

WE ARE glad to note that the bank shareholders of Bahia are made of better stuff than their Rio brethren. At meetings there on the 15th and 16th inst. of shareholders of the Banco Commercial da Bahia they voted not to approve the report and accounts of the directors and to demand their resignation and accountability to the bank's creditors. They resolved to elect new directors and auditors to investigate the affairs of the dismissed board and to prosecute them in case it is found that they are responsible for any illegal act, and to convolve a new meeting of shareholders within a period of three months. This is as it should be. The bank has been mismanaged and its resources dissipated; for this the directors are directly responsible, and the shareholders propose to hold them to account for it. Here, political influences supervened, and all investigation was suppressed. The banks had been terribly mismanaged just as they have been in Bahia, but the government and many politicians were involved and it was inconvenient to have an investigation. So the inquiring shareholder was set upon in a packed meeting, and the proposals of directors to demand their resignation and accountability were accepted without question. And the rehabilitated wrecks of these scuttled banks are made to float upon troubled financial waters, and the risk is still as great as ever.

TELEGRAMS from China report a conflict between the British and Russian military authorities over concessions at Tientsin. The Russians have driven the British away from a place where they were constructing, or repairing a railway, and are holding the ground by military force. At last accounts the British commander was awaiting instructions, and a St. Petersburg dispatch states that the czar and his ministers of war and foreign affairs have resolved to maintain their position at all risks. If this is true, then Great Britain must back down, or fight. Another telegram states that military preparations are being made in Japan with feverish haste, which implies that Japan will take a hand in the fray, providing the British government does not weaken. The policy pursued by Russia since the war between China and Japan has thoroughly aroused Japan, and she must result sooner or later. Russia was instrumental in preventing Japan from acquiring territory on the continent, and then proceeded to secure a dominating port in the same territory

for herself. She has since obtained a dominating influence over Manchuria, and is now threatening Corea. Japan is well prepared for war and knows that the sooner the struggle comes the better will be her chances of success. But will the British government accept the challenge and risk a war? The people are not so eager for war as they were on the outbreak of the South African conflict, and they may hesitate to join issues with a great nation. It may be that political elements will favor war, simply because they can not avoid it without unpleasant criticism, but there are as yet no indications that it would be popular. The cable is silent on this point.

OLIVER C. JAMES.

We deeply regret to announce the death at Carcarañá, Argentina, on the morning of the 9th inst., of Major Oliver C. James, formerly a resident of this city and well-known to many of our older residents. Mr. James had met with a slight accident while on a visit to Cordoba, from which blood-poisoning resulted, against which the best medical advice proved fruitless.

Major James was a native of Reading, Pa. He served as a civilian officer in the United States army when a young man, and afterwards served with distinction as a volunteer officer during the civil war. He came to Brazil in the employ of one of the contractors for constructing the Dom Pedro (now Central) railway, and was engaged in that work for some time. He then came out, a second time, as agent for *O Novo Mundo*, a monthly periodical published in New York by Dr. José Carlos Rodrigues, and settled in this city as a commission merchant and agent for various American manufacturers. During this period he was associated with others in founding *The Rio News*, of which he was proprietor for a time.

He removed to Uruguay in 1882, and thence to Carcarañá, Argentina, about a year later, where he became interested in establishing a creamery, which afterwards became the pioneer cheese factory of Argentina.

He was a man of exceptional attainments, a charming conversationalist, a profound thinker, an omnivorous reader, a well-informed scientist and economist. He was considered to be the best informed man in Argentina on locusts, and his knowledge of stock-raising and veterinary practice was scarcely less comprehensive. His home, here as well as in Argentina, was always a center for naturalists and other scientific men, and no traveler seeking information ever failed to put his ready store of facts under tribute.

In his private life, he was one of the most charming of men. He was generous to a fault, witty, genial and considerate—a man whom everyone wished to know and meet again. Those who knew him most intimately will mourn his death as that of a best friend, and his memory will be treasured by them while life lasts. Many old friends here in Brazil will join us in tendering heartfelt condolences to his widow and family.

COFFEE NOTES

—At a meeting of coffee merchants in S. Paulo on the 17th inst. there was chosen a committee to report on a proposal for obtaining fuller information from the coffee markets of the world and for shipping inferior grades of coffee to Rio de Janeiro for the purpose of being transhipped to the Cape and to the northern parts of Brazil.

—In a recent discourse on the labor crisis in this country, Sr. José Carlos de Carvalho affirms that the coffee sold abroad as Brazilian is of the worst description, while the genuine Brazilian coffee is sold as Java, Porto Rico and Bourbon. There may be some grounds for the statement, for the better grades of Brazilian coffee are undoubtedly sold under other names, but the fact remains that an immense amount of low grade coffee is exported from Brazil, and this coffee gives the whole product a bad name. The fault lies with Brazilian planters themselves, because they refused or neglected to take pains with curing their coffee.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Copious rains continue to be reported from Ceará and other drouth-stricken states of the north.

—No satisfactory trace as yet has been found of the thief who robbed the Conde do Pinahal recently at Taubaté of 297,000\$.

—Last year in the city of Pernambuco there were 6,206 deaths registered, of which 2,263 were caused by small-pox, 1,070 by tuberculosis and 486 by malaria.

—A telegram from Cuyabá says that the judges that were undergoing trial before the state legislature have been convicted and sentenced to lose their places.

—Two police commissaries are to be suppressed at Bahia for reasons of economy. The taxpayer will be thankful for small favors, but he will surely ask for more.

—Rumors were current here at the beginning of last week that a revolution had broken out in the State of Santa Catharina for the purpose of deposing the governor. Fortunately the rumors turned out to be false.

—Our São Paulo exchanges of the 12th announce the death of Conde do Pinal, a wealthy planter and capitalist of that state. He was a man of great energy and enterprise and exercised much influence in the industrial development of that state.

SHIPPING NOTES

—The new Brazilian ironclad "Floriano" is at Spezia, Italy, where she was sent on a visit of courtesy.

—No new developments have appeared lately in regard to the sale of the Lloyd Brasileiro property to a German company, but it is understood that Manager Petersen of the Banco da Republica is doing all he can in that direction.

—A Mandos telegram of the 15th inst. says that Messrs. Booth & Co. have purchased all the floating material of the Red Cross line, for one million sterling. The steamers will be delivered to their new owners in June next.

—The Lamport & Holt steamer Coleridge arrived in Rio on the 12th inst., with the following passengers from New York, Pernambuco and Bahia: Mr. and Mrs. William Makler, son and 3 daughters, Messrs. W. J. Pfeimer, C. S. Axtell, F. L. do Rego Barros and 7 third-class.

—The passengers who left Rio on the 12th inst. for Bahia, Pernambuco and New York, by the Lamport & Holt steamer Coleridge, were the following: Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Tarnoux and 5 children, Mrs. Anna P. Pinto, Miss H. R. Shiders and 2 sisters, Mr. and Mrs. P. Pinto, Misses Rosa and Esther Shmidt, Dr. John C. Cutlers, Dr. N. J. Coelho Netto Jr., Dr. A. F. de Simas, Messrs. W. S. Lowrie, J. Pompeia, J. C. Alves de Lima P. Bassa, A. Barbosa dos Santos, J. Guefreire, O. Seiffert, S. Seiffert and 48 third-class.

LOCAL NOTES

—It is stated that Mr. Frank Carpenter, the well-known newspaper correspondent, is writing a book on South America.

—Among the homeward-bound passengers by the "Coleridge" on Saturday last was Mr. W. L. Lowrie, U. S. vice-consul general, who is away on a short vacation.

—Last week there was a belated conspiracy trial. Two of the prisoners arrested over a year ago, who for some reason had not been previously brought to trial, were tried and acquitted last Saturday.

—The Brazil tele says that Dr. Olyntho Magalhães is minister of public works. This is a very strange mistake for Martinho's organ to make. Has he decided to turn Dr. Alfredo Maia out of the cabinet?

—It is stated that the police of this city are recruiting well-known vagabonds and disorderly characters. We are glad to see them go, but they will hardly confer a good name upon the service to which they are attached.

—Every year since Campos Salles has been president there have circulated from January to March, inclusive, reports of plots and impending revolutions. Such reports are now in circulation. It reminds one of the influence of odog days.

—The Jornal do Brazil calls attention to the "economy" effected in the police department, where the private offices of the chief of police have been furnished and embellished in a most extravagant manner. The wall paper, for instance, is said to have cost 405 a roll!

—A violent storm was reported at Mendoza, Argentina, on Friday and Saturday last. Some years ago we noted that at this season many of these severe storms took a northeasterly course across the continent, being reported from Tucuman, and Asuncion, and eventually reaching the coast at Rio de Janeiro.

—It is now announced that the government has decided not to send Sr. José Calmon Nogueira da Gama, recently Brazilian consul at Operto, to Trieste because of the religious agitation in Austria, and has called him home. It is to be presumed that the Austrian government has declined to have him located at Trieste. It is rumored that he will be sent to Iquitos.

—A Bahia telegram of the 16th inst. states that Mr. George Frederick Colman, director of the Minas Geraes Mining Co., had died on board the "Danubius" and had been buried in the British cemetery of that city. Mr. Colman was the first manager of the Leopoldina railway under its present control, and is well known here and in Petropolis, where he had made many friends.

—On Saturday there was a demonstration in honor of Councillor Andrade Figueira, to whom was presented a richly bound album containing an address, signed by over 1,000 persons, expressing admiration and gratitude for the civic courage with which in defending his own rights from the encroachments of the police authorities, he has ipso facto defended those of all his fellow-citizens. The persons who took part in the demonstration were prevented by the police from using monarchist flags.

—It is reported that Vice-President Rosa e Silva intends establishing a journal in this city when he returns from Pernambuco.

—The new British minister to this capital, Sir Henry Nevill Dering, Bt., will be formally presented to President Campos Salles to-day, and will present his credentials.

—If the states are not soon well known, it will not be because they have been neglected by the diplomatic corps. The American minister has recently visited Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catharina and Paraná, the Austrian minister has visited Paraná, the Portuguese minister has made an excursion to the capital of Minas Geraes, and the German minister, on his way to embark for New York at Santos, has visited São Paulo for the fifth time. It may be that such visits do not afford the best opportunities for seeing and studying a country, but they afford means for meeting and knowing public men which are of course of the greatest value.

—Last week Afonso de Mello, who was shot by his father-in-law Benedicto Carmo, had his left eye removed. In his deposition, he contradicts the deposition of Carmo in almost every particular, and affirms that his wife denies, and says she applied for divorce not only because he failed to support her and her children, but also because he was cruel to her and on one occasion tried to kill her. She also says that during their married life, Mello lived upon her father. The appearances are very much against Mello, who has apparently behaved in a very questionable manner toward his wife and her family.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Estudio e Infame sobre el Cafe de Costa Rica. Typ. Nacional, 1900. A compilation of various reports upon the comparative value and consumption of Costa Rican coffee.

Catalogo Descriptivo, Sarafani & Co., seedsmen, dealers in ornamental, flowering and fruit-bearing shrubs and trees, agricultural instruments, etc., of S. Paulo. An illustrated and comprehensive catalogue.

Coffee Statistics running from 1887 to 1905; compiled by J. H. F. Schmiedling & Z. uen, coffee brokers, Amsterdam. Printed and published by J. H. de Bussy, Amsterdam. The statistics are brought up to December 31 last, blank spaces being left in the tables for further returns up to the close of 1905. A very useful compilation.

BUSINESS NOTES

—It is stated that old accounts of the Lloyd Brasileiro amounting to nearly 500,000\$ will be paid this month by the government.

—At the Junta Commercial in S. Paulo there were registered last month 35 partnership contracts. The capital of the respective firms aggregated 3,195,729\$762.

—A telegram of the 10th inst. says that in the state of Parahyba a fine of 100,000\$ has been imposed on some of the factories. The cause of this heavy fine is not stated.

—The wages account of the national printing office amounted last month to 66,209\$069. It would doubtless have been considerably less, if the national printing office did less dead-end work for government parasites.

—We regret to note the death, on 15th February, of Mr. John Lilly, Manchester, Brazilian vice-consul in that city, who had for many years been intimately connected with Brazilian trade. He was chief of the house of John Lilly & Sons, of Manchester, and was in his 73rd year.

—The strike at the Carioca mills has continued. Some disturbances have occurred and several strikers and policemen have been wounded. There is much complaint against the arbitrary and brutal methods employed by the police in searching the houses of operatives for dynamite bombs.

—The Centro Commercial of Rio de Janeiro and the Associação Commercial of Bahia are endeavoring to induce the minister of finance to take steps for relieving business men from the annoyances and losses to which they are at present subjected in the execution of the consular invoice regulations.

—We are advised that a telegram from the London office states that at the general meeting of shareholders of the British Bank of South America on the 28th inst. the directors will propose the distribution of a dividend of 6/- a share, making, with the interim dividend of 6/- paid in September last, a total of 8 per cent for the whole year. The sum of £ 14,000 will also be carried forward to new profit and loss account. The payment of the proposed dividend will commence on the 29th inst.

—At a meeting of shareholders of the Banco Commercial da Bahia on the 15th inst., a stormy time occurred and the shareholders voted not to pass the report and accounts, to demand the resignation of the directors and auditors, and to prosecute them in case they are found to be responsible for the recent suspension of payments. On the following day an adjourned meeting not only confirmed this action, but elected new directors and auditors. The people of Bahia seem to be of different stuff than their Rio brethren, who not only submit to everything, but even continue their old boards in office.

—Remember that you must collect this month your account against the government, if you do not wish it to fall into arrears.

—Our friends of the South American Journal are practical printers and they will know how to interpret these facts. Lately, one of the oldest and largest printing-offices in this capital, which has been in business with various government offices, has reduced its operations to four days a week, after having dismissed a considerable number of men. Across the street from us, another printing-office, which has the protection of the state government of Rio de Janeiro, has been running only four days a week. Several printing and lithographing establishments, operating with small capital, have been obliged to close altogether within the last few months. Two of them are now advertised to be sold at auction. Other printing and stationery offices are greatly restricting their business, and sell only for cash across the counter. We ask our contemporary if this indicates returning prosperity.

—I had the startling good fortune the other day," remarked Smalwy, as he pulled himself up on our exchange table, "of receiving a bank cheque by registered letter. It was in a long official-looking envelope, with sealing wax at both ends, so that it could not easily be opened. Of course this excited the curiosity and enmity of the 'searchers' at the post-office—the half dozen fellows who spend all their time opening and peeping into letters and packages—and I was accordingly summoned to appear before that high tribunal and open the letter in their august presence between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Well, I went around to render my humble submission. I wanted the money, of course, as my outlook was becoming just a little overcast. But I felt sure the remittance was all right, so I was not much disturbed. On entering the sacred precinct, I waited some ten minutes, and amused myself watching the 'searchers.' If people who register letters could see how suspiciously they are treated, they would never register one again, for the precaution only serves to subject them to all kinds of annoyance. Well, in time the clerk came who who wanted my sealp. He invited me to first pass a receipt for the letter, and then he invited me to open the suspected missive. I did so, removed the documents, opened them and showed him a cheque filled out in my name. Three of the four 'searchers' had gathered around to see the money drop out, for they are interested in a percentage of the 25 per cent fine. 'Vommalina,' said I, smiling upon the discomfited official. 'Eddi dirado,' replied he, turning away, while the 'searchers' looked as though they had again lost the *sote gande*. I put the cheque in my pocket and came away, wondering how a people with any spirit at all could submit to such treatment."

THE NEW GAS COMPANY.

The Brussels correspondent of the Financial News (Feb. 16) writes under date of February 14 as follows:

A scheme has been set on foot to reconstruct the Rio de Janeiro Gas Company—or, rather, to supply to that concern the necessary funds to enable it to complete its gas installation, to which a new electric plant is to be added. Altogether, a fresh capital of 50,000,000\$ is wanted, which amount, however, may eventually be increased, with the development of the concern in the course of its forty-five years duration unless the concessions are redeemed in 1915.

The following programme will shortly be submitted to the shareholders, and will immediately be carried out if the negotiations with the Brazilian government, in view of the transferring of the concessions to a new company, should lead to a favorable result. In this case a new company is to be formed, with a capital of 15,000,000\$, to which all the concessions now belonging to the Rio Gas Company, its works and plants, are to be transferred. In exchange the present company will receive, as long as the concession lasts, a share calculated on the following basis:—In the first place, from the net profits of the enterprise there are to be deducted the necessary sums for interest payments and for redemption of the loans which the new company will have to raise for fresh requirements. There will also be deducted an amount equal to that representing annual interest at the rate of 6 per cent., and the annual installment of an amortization fund of 15,000,000\$, with a premium of 20 per cent., and any other supplementary capital created in the course of the concession. Out of the balance the old Rio Gas Company will receive 75 per cent. as long as the capital is 15,000,000\$, and from the following amounts, up to 40,000,000\$, 1 per cent. is to be deducted per 1,000,000\$. In the latter eventuality the company will benefit by 50 per cent., which will remain invariable, even if the capital of the new company is again increased.

According to the *Moniteur*, a group of Belgian banks and continental companies have declared their willingness to carry through the operation. The syndicate includes the Société Generale de Belgique, the Banque d'Outremer, the Banque International, the Banque de Paris, the General Gas Company of France and Abroad, and others. Although the syndicate will undertake to find the total amount of 15,000,000\$, the present Rio Gas Company has an option in this operation up to 40 per cent.

FINANCIAL NOTES

—A report is current that Dr. José Carlos Rodrigues is about to leave for Europe on a new official mission—the unification of the public debt.

—The receipts of the Mandos custom-house amounted last month to 547,656\$431 against 698,504\$916 in February, 1900. The decrease was 150,848\$485.

—Our friends in London can now see themselves how accurately President Campos Salles predicted the revenue receipts for 1900. Some of these days they will perhaps learn that it is not always safe to rely upon the optimistic promises of officials.

—It seems to us unnecessary to attempt to analyse the confused and scarcely intelligible statement with which the *Noticia* endeavors to prove that the accounts of public revenue and expenditure for the year 1900 close with a surplus of 76,901,935\$. We wait a clearer and more tangible statement.

—To Minister Murinho, who is consumed by a burning desire for burning, we recommend the counterfeit money that now circulates so abundantly. If he will burn a few thousand contos of this money, he will not only amuse himself, but also render a valuable service to the public, thus advantageously combining business with pleasure.

—A telegram of the 12th inst. says that the revenue of the state of Pernambuco amounted last year to 12,578,298\$155 and the expenditure to 12,439,302\$978. In the first half of the present year the receipts amounted to 3,465,432\$274 and the disbursements to 2,745,912\$265. The funded debt is 23,560,479\$956, and the floating debt 805,889\$395.

—The returns of gold customs receipts for February are still more unfavorable than those for January. At all the custom-houses except Paranaçu and Corumbá, from which returns have not yet been received, they amounted last month to 2,388,795\$782, against 2,910,612\$616 in January at the same custom-houses. At Paranaçu and Corumbá they amounted in January to 20,881\$48. At this rate the total gold receipts of all the custom-houses this year will not exceed 32,000,000\$, or 13,450,000\$ less than the budget estimate of 45,450,000\$. In view, however, of the commercial and financial condition of the country, it is probable that they will be considerably less than 32,000,000\$.

REVENUE FOR 1900.

In our issue of the 5th ult. we published returns showing the receipts of the general revenue office, custom houses and Central railway for the year 1900 in comparison with those for 1899. Returns, published in the *Noticia*, which, though not definite, are, we presume, approximately correct, enable us to add to those figures the receipts of the post-office and telegraphs. The result is as follows:

	1899	1900
Postoffice receipts....	7,691,828\$000	6,112,000\$000
Telegraph receipts....	10,237,674\$000	7,992,000\$000
Currency receipts of general revenue office, custom-houses and Central railway....	256,958,403\$000	218,874,456\$000
Total ascertained currency revenue....	274,887,905\$000	232,978,456\$000
Ascertained gold revenue....	18,897,217\$000	23,286,317\$000
Aggregate ascertained gold and currency revenue....	293,785,122\$000	256,264,773\$000

These figures show an increase of 4,389,124\$ in the gold revenue, and a decrease of 41,909,449\$ in the currency revenue, equivalent at the present gold value of currency, to a net decrease of nearly 14,000,000\$ gold in the revenue of the country. In view of the shrinkage, thus shown, in the principal sources of public revenue it is not difficult to account for the government's frantic anxiety to obtain ready money at any cost from the Banco da Republica.

A LADY—possibly a dean's wife—had two parrots, one kept in the lady's apartments, the other in the kitchen. The lady had taught the parrot parrot to say the responses when she herself said the Litany. One day the parrot refused to utter a word in the presence of some callers, whom its mistress wished to exhibit its accomplishment. A servant suggested that if the kitchen parrot was brought and placed by the side of the other, the birds would talk. The kitchen parrot, on being brought, at once rapped out, "I wish the devil had our missis!" to which the other parrot devoutly responded, "We beseech Thee to hear us, Good Lord!"

SATURDAY'S QUOTATIONS—S. PAULO

	seller.	buyer.
Banco Commercio e Industria	310 000	300 000 c
Construtor e Agricola	—	—
Credito Real da Carteira H.	85 000	85 000
Lavradores	—	150 000
Mercantil de Santos	—	—
S. Paulo	120 000	110 000
Ribeirão Preto	—	—
Ciãdo de S. Carlos (all paid)	240 000	215 000
do do (20%)	110 000	90 000
Ciãdo de S. Paulo (all paid)	45 000	35 000
Santos	—	—
Clã Agua e Luz	—	—
Antares	—	250 000
Argos Paulista	—	6 000
Fabril Paulista	—	—
Ferro Carril São. Amara	—	—
Gaz de S. Paulo	—	—
Italo Paulista	—	25 000
Lipton	—	—
Mechanica	150 000	116 000
Melhoramentos de Brotas	—	80 000
Mogiana (all paid)	216 000	212 000
idem (at 30 days)	220 000	2 3 000
Paulista	211 000	208 000
idem (at 30 days)	211 000	203 000
Progreitor	—	35 000
Stupakoff	—	—
Telephonica	—	80 000
União Sportiva	40 000	26 000
Viação Paulista	5 000	500



BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL
RIO DE JANEIRO

In view of the National Census to be taken on the 31st March, instant, it is requested that particulars of all British Subjects resident in this district be registered at this Consulate General on that date or as near thereto as possible.

C. B. RHIND,
Acting Consul General.

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- Park Davis' medicines.
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- Stafford's Ink, and
- American notions.

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For Sale.

The chacara (Boa Vista) on the Baed, Curitiba, state of Paraná, ten minutes from tram line. This chacara stands on one of the most beautiful and healthy spots overlooking the city. It is about five acres on extent, the greater part cultivated, a lot of English and native fruit trees, 130 grape vines, and a fine selection of English roses and other flowers. It has also two splendid wells, stoned throughout, with pump-lifting tank and water-tower to supply the house. The house is built in the American style, with large porch of double brick, with flat the roof, 8 to 9 years old, contains 12 rooms, W. C. with patent pan, bath-room with large zinc bath and heater. Also large wooden building that serves for stable, coach-house and barns, servants' house and small greenhouse. This fine chacara is to be sold cheap. For particulars apply to the office of this paper. (21.)

Missing Friends.

Information is desired at the British Consulate in regard to the whereabouts of Maudream Weinstein, whose address was given as Rua Senhor dos Passos No. 55 (sobrado).

Hotels.

Hotel dos Estrangeiros

PRACA JOSE D'ALENGAR No. 1

(Cottoto)

Telephone No. 498

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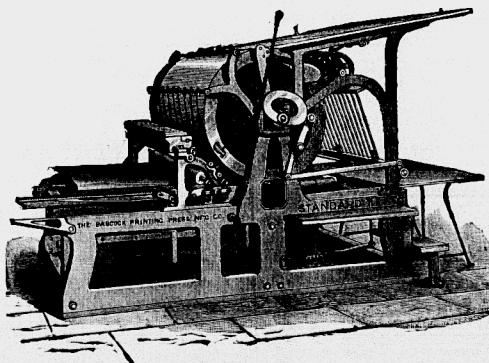
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1901		
Mar. 29	Roland	Bahia, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Bremen.
Apr. 12	Heidelberg	Bahia, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Bremen.
" 26	Trier	Bahia, Antwerp and Bremen.

Passengers and cargo accepted.
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TABLE OF DEPARTURES.

Date	Steamer	Destination
1901		
Mar. 25	Magdalena	Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon, Vigo, Cherbourg and Southampton.
Apr. 3	Clyde	Montevideo and Buenos Aires.
" 13	Danube	Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon, Vigo, Cherbourg and Southampton.

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For sea sickness, nausea in pregnancy, impoverishment of blood, weakness of the legs and convalescence after long and serious illness, the pills should be ground and dissolved in a small glass of Port wine in order that they may be taken as a liquid to insure a prompt action; it is also to facilitate for adults and children who cannot take dry pills, and in this case they can be dissolved in pure water if no wine is to be had.

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THE RIO NEWS.

This paper is now in its 27th year, having originally been published as *The South American Mail* and *The British and American Mail*. It assumed its present title at the beginning of April, 1874, when it was published three times a month. From a tri-monthly it has been changed to a weekly publication, and from four pages it has been increased to twelve.

As an advertising medium *THE NEWS* occupies an exceptionally advantageous position. It circulates widely throughout Brazil, and also in Europe and the United States. Its subscribers are principally business men interested in Brazilian trade, industries and investments. No other periodical, even with much larger circulation, can offer better inducements to advertisers who seek the attention of these classes.

All communications should be addressed to the Editor and Publisher, Caixa do Correio, 258, Rio de Janeiro.