

# THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED ON THE 5th, 15th AND 24th OF EVERY MONTH.

VOL. VI.

RIO DE JANEIRO, APRIL 15th 1879

NUMBER 8

## AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH BRAZIL.

The following extract from the eloquent speech of Mr. Joaquim Nabuco, delivered April 3d in the Chamber of Deputies, in the discussion of the estimates of the Ministry of the Treasury, will be of interest to many of our readers:

No one appreciates more highly than I the relations which Brazil has the happiness to entertain with the American government. We all know the manner in which the Emperor was received in the United States, in homage not only to his person, but, I may say, to his country; we all know also the flattering opinion which is there held of our institutions and of our progress. Only to-day in a journal which is perhaps, the most ably written and conducted of any in the United States, *The Nation* of New York, I saw this country termed 'The Imperial Republic of Brazil.'

Gentlemen, the United States does not allow herself to be deceived in respect to the civil and political liberty which a country really enjoys, by appearances, by the external form of government (to borrow an expression from the Constitution). When she looks to South America and sees the progress which we have made, although not in the same proportion as herself whose natural development is the marvel of the century; seeing above all the extraordinary liberty which we enjoy, in certain respects, as for example, one of which we may justly be proud, our liberty of the press which until to-day has not suffered the slightest violation or limitation; and seeing on the other hand the agitated republics of the south, the sanguinary dictatorships of Central America, the organized anarchy that reigns around us,—the United States, I say, considers us more advanced, more free as we are more prosperous than those republics. Our form of government has not to this day created the slightest divergence, the slightest violation between the two greatest countries of America. (Applause.)

MR. FELICIO DOS SANTOS:—Does the noble deputy believe that, if these republics were monarchies, they would be tranquil and would prosper.

MR. JOAQUIM NABUCO:—In relation to the republic, I shall have occasion at another time to express myself with the greatest frankness in this place, but I may do so at once.

Gentlemen, no one is less opposed than I to the republican form. The republic appears to me the fairest form of government, when I see, for example, Athens creating all those masterpieces of art that immortalized the Grecian genius; producing an incomparable civilization and leaving for ever in each of those fragments that remain to us, the inimitable model of an epoch which will ever be the eternal despair and also the greatest memories of our race. The republic seems to me the strongest of governments, when I see Rome subjugating the world by the power of her civil laws, by the superiority of her customs, of her jurisprudence, of her language. The republic seems to me, at the same time that it is the most free, that which has in itself the greatest force of resistance, when I see the United States, not speaking now of the long and never interrupted experience of liberty that that country has had, nor of the immense material development that she manifests in our time, in the two greatest crises she has traversed—the crisis of the civil war when it was necessary to raise thousands of soldiers who remained on the fields of battle; in the midst of the financial panic which caused gold to rise to a fabulous premium; when thirteen of the states breaking the national compact, wished to leave the union by force of arms; and the presidential crisis of which I was a witness, and which no other country would have traversed without agitation and without anarchy—yes, gentlemen, no other country in which the supreme authority, the first magistracy—and for me, by way of parenthesis, the chief, the only advantage of the constitutional monarchy is the placing out of the reach of political ambitions of men as well as of parties, the chair or throne of the chief of state,—no country of those in which

the supreme authority is always in the arena of political contests or rather of civil wars, would have resolved except by revolution the crisis from which only the political spirit of the American people could alone save the United States in 1877. (Great applause.)

THE SPEAKER:—Attention; I beg the noble deputy to leave the republicans who are not contemplated in the budget.

MR. JOAQUIM NABUCO:—Gentlemen, we see in the recent presidential crisis of the United States, this is perfectly relevant to what I am about to say, we see one party against the other, both claiming to have elected the president of the republic. The democratic party attributed scandalous frauds to the republican party; the republican party attributed to the democratic party, aside from the rebellion which was the cause of all, the violation of the rights of the negroes whom America had made citizens. The two parties claimed to have elected the president, and the country did not care to see in Washington what occurs in Mexico, called by the Americans *Mexicanization*, the political phenomenon habitual to the republics of Central America, the existence in the country of two presidents governing and exercising the supreme power at the same time. We saw then in the United States, the House, favorable to the democratic candidate, and the Senate, favorable to the republican candidate, recognize the necessity of electing an extra-constitutional, committee which should arbitrate in the contest. This committee, composed of five senators, five representatives and five judges of the Supreme Court decided in solemn session that the president elect was the present president of the United States. But, gentlemen, the agitation of spirits was such that a man of the eminence of Mr. Everts, speaking to the judges, said in inspired language: 'If you do not vote in accordance with the principles I have sustained then there remains to the American people no other resource than that which remained to the Jewish people when, after the government of the judges, it went to Samuel—to ask for a king.'

I do not mean to say that a monarchy would be possible in the United States. I know the country well. (Interruptions.) The noble republican deputies should have the toleration to listen in the Brazilian parliament to the defense of the constitutional monarchy because I am convinced that for many years, the fate of liberty in this country, the pacific development of its progress, its political and moral integrity, must depend on its present institutions transformed, and enlarged by the liberal spirit that is compatible with them. (Applause.)

A republic in Brazil could only be federative and you know what a federative republic would be. I consider myself more liberal, much more liberal than many republicans; and I think that no liberal who, prizing the political dignity of his country and of his race, his own personal dignity, can consider incompatible with the most elevated sentiments of man and the most liberal aspirations of the people, that same form, the constitutional monarchy, which the English, who of all people are most jealous of moral rectitude and of political liberty, have accepted for their government. (Applause.)

But, gentlemen, what I was about to say in relation to the United States when I was interrupted by the homage which, from the knowledge I have of her, I felt obliged to render that country, was the following. We are subsidizing an American steamship company that performs the service between New York and Rio de Janeiro. Before this contract an English company, without subsidy of any kind, rendered exactly the same service of direct steam communication from Rio de Janeiro to New York; not finding sufficient freight to return from New York to Rio de Janeiro, its steamers went from there to Liverpool from whence they returned to Brazil with products not American but English. The United States was thus the only one interested in subsidizing a company for the commerce with South America, because our exportation does not require subsidized lines to reach the American markets, while that of the United States as President Hayes showed in his message, has a vital necessity

of creating in America markets for her excessive production, and for this reason should complete by the subsidy the protective system she has adopted.

Notwithstanding this, gentlemen, Brazil actuated by a kindly feeling towards the American government rather than by any commercial interest, subsidized at once the present American company, giving thus a blow to the private English enterprise which had no aid from the state, and to the liberty of commerce by establishing a monopoly. When however a subsidy was lately asked from the American Congress for this same company and for these same steamers, carrying the starry banner of the Union rarely seen to-day in this port, the *New York Times*, the principal organ of the republican party, could only find for this company and for this subsidy such expressions as fraud on the treasury, scandal, and others still worse of the American political language, for I must remark that in the United States very strong words are used to characterize facts, towards which we are ordinarily indulgent and tolerant.

A member of Congress, Mr. Beck, speaking of Brazil in reference to the subsidy asked by the company, said that Brazil was a country with which the United States should not attempt to develop commercial relations, because notwithstanding that the Emperor had endeavored to persuade the United States government to remove the duty on coffee, the export duty was afterwards increased and the imposts of coffee maintained so as to render the price in the United States still higher than before. I do not know if the noble Minister of Finance is informed respecting this.

MR. AFFONSO CELSO (*Minister of Finance*):—I am.

MR. JOAQUIM NABUCO:—It seems to me that there was not and could not have been any formal agreement, but I believe that there was a promise and an exchange of notes respecting this between the honored Viscount of Caravelas and the last American Minister, Mr. Partridge; whose interest in the progress of this country I take pleasure in recognizing in this chair.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:—I have only the notice of the vote in the American Congress.

MR. JOAQUIM NABUCO:—I do not wish to maintain now the point of view of the republican party of the United States which is to-day in power and which is the true liberal party of that country, that a subsidy is always odious, that it constitutes a privilege, and that a monopoly created by the state in favor of a few is ruinous and unjust; a point of view taken by this party to constantly refuse subsidies and favors which modify the equality of competition. We have not yet adopted the American system; the liberal party with us has not the same antipathy to subsidies; we have many subsidized companies; but with relation to the company of Mr. John Roach I should say that an American line which counts only upon the support and guarantee of a foreign government, when the government of its own country refuses the subsidy that it asks, cannot feel itself much injured in its rights nor in the equity due it as was stated in the Senate by the honorable President of the Council, because, in virtue of a modification of the contract made by the proper authority, the only one that can grant subsidies, the legislative power, its vessels were obliged to touch at Maranhão.

## THE FAMINE IN CEARÁ.

In the latter part of 1878, a young American, well known to us and to scientific and literary circles in various parts of Brazil, visited this country with the purpose of studying its resources, industries and commerce. While in this city in November, his attention was called to the alarming reports from the famine-stricken province of Ceará and he determined to visit that section of the country and study the causes and features of the *seca* for himself. This determination was accomplished in the month of December, in the very midst of the most frightful ravages of small-pox. On his return to New York in January he prepared a painfully minute narration of his observations in Ceará which was published in the *New York Herald*, filling

nearly seven columns of that journal. As he is known to us as a keen and conscientious observer, and as the results of his experiences are full of absorbing interest, we subjoin herewith such extracts as our space will permit. [Eds. News.]

I question if one American in ten has ever devoted more than a passing thought to the famine in Northern Brazil. Most people do not know of it at all. How should they when the newspapers have contained no more than brief notices—little paragraphs to be remembered dreamily as something that is occurring in another planet? A month or two past there were notices of the smallpox epidemic, mortality figures so large that they forced themselves on the bulletin boards, but I suppose that hardly anybody connected these accounts with those of the previous drought and famine. Besides, all notices come indirectly by way of Rio, and I know from experience that no correct idea can be obtained there. What I did learn at Rio was enough to show me the importance of the subject; beyond that nothing but mortuary statistics and vague accounts from men who had passed through Ceará. I determined, therefore, to visit the famine district and get my information at first hand. Now, God knows I do not exaggerate, but I can hardly believe myself the horrors that I write. I can hardly believe that the world has been so indifferent to one of the greatest calamities in her history. The Chinese and Indian famines will not compare with this one when we consider the proportion of population. Our yellow fever dead would hardly have been noticed in the great cemetery of Ceará. The plague of London is the only comparison that I know of for these pestilences in Brazil, but the plague was a dwarf to this giant. What of a petty European war that changes a boundary, perhaps, and carries off two or three hundred thousand men out of 100,000,000? What is it to a scourge which has destroyed a province as large as France (destroyed it, for nothing but the ground is left), swept a whole population from the earth, with death volleys of hunger and disease and murder?

In this part of Brazil there are no manufactures whatever, very few mines, no fisheries of importance, no forest industries. The community is exclusively agricultural and pastoral. There are immense herds of cattle, considerable plantations of sugar, cotton, etc., and the poor people plant mandioca and corn, using the land of their richer neighbors, for whom they do a little work occasionally. Whether it be for the pasturage of cattle or the growth of crops the whole community depends on the soil, and hence on the fertilizing rains of winter. If the rains do not come the people starve. Again, the population has to suffer terribly because it has no help in itself. Of the 2,500,000 nominal inhabitants of the *sertão* not 100,000 are rich men, or even reasonably well off. The vast majority are an Arab-like race, produced by the intermixture of the blacks, whites and Indians—people who have no property and never try to rise above their normal condition. Probably this is the most degraded class in Brazil; immoral, ignorant and abominably filthy, hardly washing flesh or clothes from one year's end to the other. The dress generally is of coarse cotton, white or blue; the men with a pair of drawers, a shirt hung loosely outside of them and a broad brimmed leather hat; the women with only chemise, skirt and a cloth to throw over their heads. These people live in palm thatched huts; the women do most of the farm work; the men gain a few dollars as herdsmen or by hiring themselves out for a day occasionally. The upper classes, on the contrary, will compare favorably with any in Brazil. Most of them are pure whites; they are intelligent, brave, domestic. This mixed population was distributed through the *sertão* much as the people are in our Western communities—there were numerous villages and hamlets joined together by tolerable roads, hardly any railroads, and, as I have intimated, no navigable rivers. It is important to note this, as it explains much of the suffering brought on by the drought. The *sertão* is a strip averaging 500 miles in width, extending from the Paratyba river southward along the coast or near it to the S. Francisco; thence between the coast range of

mountains it is continued southwestward to Minas Geraes, almost in the latitude of Rio. The drought of 1877-78 was felt all over this tract, but its black nucleus was in the province of Ceará. In 1876 this province contained 900,000 inhabitants, of which at least 750,000 were non-proprietors—the poor people of whom I have written.

In Ceará the winters of 1875, 1876 and 1877 were all remarkable for torrential rains. The poor people had abundant harvests from their little clearings, and all went on happily enough. They were preparing to plant again with the rains of January. But early in the winter of 1878 vague reports of drought began to circulate in Fortaleza. It was said that Crato, Icó, Telha and other villages of the interior had had no rains; that the cattle were dying, and even the poorer people began to be pinched for food, even went so far as seriously to fear a bad year. The government papers insisted that these reports were a fiction of the opposition; but when the 1st of March came and the rumors were worse than ever the Bishop ordered prayers in all the churches *ad precliam pluviam*. I visited the place in March, 1877. The drought was then a subject of general conversation; but nobody understood the extent of the calamity. Suddenly, like a thunder-bolt, there came to the quiet town a message of terror; men's faces grew white; men's hearts sank within them, for they knew what the words prophesied. It was from Telha, in the interior of the province, a letter dated March 8. The words were simple enough—"people are dying here of hunger." Now this was early in March, when the drought had lasted no more than two months, when it was not yet certain that the year would be altogether a bad one. But the poor *sertanista* is so evenly balanced with nature that he cannot stand a fresh strain. His mandioca fields are for a year only. In a year and a month he will starve, unless he has new crops. It was a sad month in the *sertão*, this one of March. There were no leaves on the trees—The cattle were crying for water as only mute nature can. Children were crying for food in the palm thatched huts. All the earth cried for rain, and yet not a tear of pity came from the clouds. The large cattle proprietors began to kill their stock in order to get the meat and hides while there was time. The peasants gathered around these slaughter houses to beg a morsel of flesh, and, for the most part, they found willing hearts and hands, for the richer Cearáns are not the men to refuse an alms. But where there were no cattle the poor people suffered dreadfully. Already they began to devour the *manihot* seeds (like a red bean) and forest roots—unwholesome, disease producing food—but what could starving people do? April came with a blazing sun; no hope of rains. The people, indeed, were in despair. They had formed long penitential processions, cutting themselves with sharp knives or carrying heavy stones on their heads. Now they began to flee from the country to the larger villages. Some of them came down to the city of Fortaleza, ragged, dirty wretches, with famine marks on their faces, with famine weakness in their thin forms. And still the government insisted that the drought was a political scheme to bring their party into disrepute. The people were eating cats and dogs by this time, when they could get them.

The influx of refugees to the villages and towns was enormous—fifteen or twenty thousand was no unusual number in a place whose normal population was no more than two or three thousand. By the end of the year there were 750,000 wretches encamped around Fortaleza, lying on the sands under huts made of boughs or of palm leaves, hardly clothed, filthy, famished, begging where they could, and finally dying in the streets, because private charity was exhausted. And yet the city was in constant communication with Rio, Pernambuco and Pará by weekly steamers.

I find that up to September, 1877, the sufferers in Ceará had received government and private aid to the amount of about \$350,000, and probably the richer Cearáns had given away \$150,000 to their poor neighbors. Now I can hardly calculate at less than 500,000 the indigent population, existing here at

(Continued on fourth page)

THE RIO NEWS,

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

on the eve of departure of the American packet, the French packet of the 15th, and the Royal Mail packet of the 24th of the month.

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, a table of freights and charters, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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 PUBLICATION OFFICE:—St. Rita Street de Setembro.

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 15th, 1879.

THE RIO NEWS will be furnished to the subscribers of "The British and American Mail," which it succeeds, until the terms of their subscriptions shall have expired.

LATE advices from Venezuela via Mandos and the Rio Negro represent the civil war in Bolivar, termed the *Guarnicionista*, as still raging with the greatest frenzy. Thus far the Venezuelan government seems utterly unable to suppress it even though the most energetic measures have been taken to overthrow the insurgents.

AFFAIRS on the West coast are gradually assuming a serious aspect. As long as Chili and Bolivia were only concerned, there was little danger of serious consequences. Now that Peru has entered the *mélée* as the ally of Bolivia, there is a chance that somebody will get hurt. It must be an anxious time for the sanguine bondholder.

MATTERS pertaining to the Banco Nacional case seem to be *in statu quo*. At first there were rumors that proceedings would be taken against the three directors under whose management the frauds took place, and to that end the decision of the *Relação* would be sent to the Senate before whom the President of the Council can alone be tried. We have trustworthy information that, at the last meeting of the Council, Counselor Sinimbu offered his resignation and Emperor peremptorily declined to accept it. It is believed that the Emperor decidedly disapproves of the attacks made on the President of his Council in this matter; and from the general hesitation and quiet into which both parties have dropped, there seems to be very good grounds for the belief. One thing is evident in every crisis the Emperor's will is law and neither party will care to oppose it.

SPeAKING of the depressed state of the sugar industry in a recent speech in the Chamber of Deputies, Counselor Sinimbu said: "This industry is in decadence, not so much from lack of laborers or of capital, but principally on account of our lack of skill and knowledge. The first step to take in this branch of industry is the separation of cultivation and manufacture by means of central factories." This, of course, is in entire harmony with Counselor Sinimbu's favorite project of developing the wealth of Brazil through the *grande lavatura*. It should be observed that there is a basis of sound economy in his statement, but it leaves entirely out of account the conditions and surroundings upon which the true success of his plan rests. The basis of this plan is coöperation, and that is based upon the voluntary and mutual agreement between the parties who are to be mutually benefited by it. In a locality where there are many small landowners this coöperation can be made highly beneficial as has been proved in the cheese and sorghum industries in the United States. In a country, however, where the land is held in large tracts, the success of a general system of central factories is very problematical. The time and cost of transportation must be considered, and besides that the time lost in waiting for the manufacture of the large products which obtain precedence at the factory. If a man can afford to own a large plantation and employ many laborers, the knowledge of manufacturing processes is not only advantageous to him, but it is highly probable that he can do it himself as cheaply as it can be done outside.

THERE seems to be a very general belief among prominent Brazilians that the agricultural development of this country depends largely upon the adoption and encouragement of a system of cultivation on a large scale. The land must be held in large tracts, serve labor of some sort must be employed, buildings, machinery and material of modern invention must be procured, and over all there must be administration and capital. This theory sounds well enough in the legislative chambers and in amateur agricultural societies, especially when coming from men whose acres and slaves are numbered and whose provincial influence is unmeasured. If Brazil seeks a landed aristocracy, this system will accomplish the purpose; if, however, the highest development of agriculture, and, at the same time the highest development of the agriculturist—the laborer—is sought, then it will be found not merely ineffectual, but positively obstructive.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

For the last week or two the discussions in the Senate have been devoid of general interest. The time while waiting for the Budget bills to come up from the Chamber of Deputies, has been taken up with routine business and political discussions of purely personal or local interest. The Chamber of Deputies has been more active, discussing the estimates for the Ministries of War, Agriculture and Finance and the bill relative to Joint Stock companies.

The so-called religious question was touched on in the Senate in a discussion of some recent acts of the Bishop of Pará. In the Chamber, a petition from the Protestant clergymen of Rio relating to the registration of marriages, etc, was presented by Mr. Saldanha Maranhão, and a representation from the provincial assembly of Rio Grande do Sul in favor of granting full political rights to non-catholics was presented by Mr. Silveira Martins.

The military estimates have passed the third reading, the Amazonas navigation subsidy bill has passed the second reading, and the discussion by articles on the second reading of the Joint Stock companies bill advanced to art. VII. Various modifications in the text of the bill as it was published in *The British and American Mail* of March 24th, were made which we will notice on the final passage of the bill, if it becomes a law.

The estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture passed the second reading with amendments making reductions to the amount of 818,078\$. The minister, Counselor Sinimbu, explained and justified his estimates, showing that the increase over previous ones was only apparent and due to his resolution to avoid supplementary credits and the transference of appropriations. Thus while the estimates for 1877-8 were, in round numbers, 16,443,000\$, 25,712,000\$ were expended—an amount greater than that asked for, viz: 20,322,000\$. His Excellency then entered into considerations relative to railroads and colonization, condemning the system that had been followed in the location of the former, of seeking great extension into unproductive regions to the neglect of more fertile districts much nearer to the seaports, and to the neglect of water routes that could be utilized. In respect to the labor question, His Excellency criticised the various attempts made at colonization in which no provisions had been made for the reception of the colonists who had been located in unfavorable conditions, far from markets, and from routes of communication. Without discouraging European immigration, he argued that this is most proper for the so-called small culture, and for the mechanic arts, and can never be counted on to supply the lack of slave labor on the large plantations, and that the principal resource of Brazil, its agriculture on a large scale, must depend for its salvation on Chinese labor.

The discussion of the interpellation of Gavito Peixoto regarding the financial policy of the government was continued April 7th, by the S. Paulo deputies, Gavito Peixoto and José Bonifacio censuring the project of the Minister of Finance, allowing the Banco do Brazil to undertake credit operations and to transfer to that institution the service now performed by the *Caixa de Amortização* in relation to the internal public debt. The Minister of Finance, Mr. Afonso Celso, defended these measures, but did not present anything new regarding his financial policy.

The estimates of the Minister of Finance for revenue for the ensuing fiscal year entered into its first discussion April 8th.

The amendments proposed by the Budget committee were approved, as well as two others which are to be discussed separately. One of these raises the custom house of São Paulo to the 2nd, and that of Ceará to the 3rd class of the 1st order. The other provides for the suppression of the *Caixa de Amortização*, and the transfer of the service of exchange, emission and redemption of paper money to the Treasury, and of that of the internal public debt to some banking institution.

Mr. Silveira Martins in the session of April 8th asked for a suspension of the files to interpellate the government on the question whether it had still the moral force to continue to direct the destinies of the country after the decision of the *Relação* in the Banco Nacional case. The suspension of the rules being refused, he asked that a time be set for the interpellation.

On April 8th the Chambers adjourned their sessions during Holy Week, to meet again on April 14th.

DETERMINATION OF THE DIAMETER AND VOLUME OF THE SUN.

The *Journal do Commercio* of April 1st, has an interesting communication from the Imperial Observatory on the determination of the diameter and volume of the sun and of Mercury deduced from the observations on the transit of Mercury May 6th, 1878.

The distances between the centres of the two bodies in the positions obtained by a method of observation devised by Mr. Laís, Director of the Observatory, was calculated by means of a formula in which the relative movement in right ascension of the centres of the two bodies, that is the difference of their right ascensions near conjunction, was represented by means of the three first powers of the values of the time expressed in hours, either before or after conjunctions. An analogous formula gave the difference of the declinations of the centres of the two bodies.

The following values were obtained for the sun and difference of the half diameters of the bodies at the instances of 51 external and 1st internal contact.

$$\begin{aligned} (R-r) \sin \theta &= 15' 56'' 374 \\ (R-r) \cos \theta &= 15' 45'' 596 \end{aligned}$$

R and r being the half diameter of the sun and Mercury respectively.

From this is deduced the values.  
 $R = 950'' 985$  and  $2r = 10'' 778$  which reduced to mean distance gives  $R = 959'' 982 = 15' 59'' 982$  and  $2r = 10'' 778$ , which differs but slightly from the number  $10'' 0'$  considered by Leverrier as the most probable, but is considerably different from that obtained by the micrometer by Todd who gives  $11'' 84$ .

The diameter of the planets during the passage, obtained by observations of contact by the method of Mr. Laís, gave a mean value  $2r = 10'' 74$  very nearly the same as that obtained from the contact of the limbs, thus confirming the accuracy of the result which is considered to be as nearly exact as it is possible to expect.

From these data the diameter of the sun is calculated at one hundred and nine and a half times greater than that of the earth, and its volume at one million three hundred and sixteen thousand times greater.

The diameter of Mercury is thirty-four hundredths and its volume four hundredths that of the earth.

A PARLIAMENTARY paper has been issued containing the accounts relating to the trade of the United Kingdom for the month of January. The total value of the imports for the month was £26,367,046, as compared with £26,669,956 in January, 1878, and with £32,896,380 in the corresponding month of 1877. The exports amounted in value to £14,196,518, as against £15,423,011 in 1878, and £15,946,080 in 1877. In coal and coke, although the export has increased from 1,012,542 to 1,047,369 tons, the value has declined from £494,340 to £478,849. Copper shows, upon a total for the month of £201,617, a decrease of £88,494. On the other hand, the exports of haberdashery, etc., also reached a total value of £244,011, being an increase of £ 49,778; linen manufactures £ 551,336, an increase of £ 17,955; jute manufactures, £ 214,971, an increase of £ 12,988; steam engines, £ 218,021, an increase of £ 56,402; and silk manufactures £ 183,831, an improvement of £ 43,320.

THE EXCESS of exports over imports of merchandise for the month ended Jan. 31, 1879, was \$25,876,864; for the seven months ended January 31, 1879, \$175,595,357; for the twelve months ended Jan. 31, 1879, \$897,686,063. The excess of exports of gold and silver coin and bullion for the month ended Jan. 31, 1879, was \$671,893; excess of imports for the twelve months ended Jan. 31, 1879, \$3,293,435. The total exports for the month of January, 1879, were \$33,522,281; of domestic exports, \$58,594,710, and of foreign exports, \$804,436.—N. Y. Tribune.

COFFEE PRODUCTION.

Messrs. Editors:—In preparing rather hurriedly the short notice, on this subject, which appeared in your last issue, I was led into an error in estimating the sale price, in the United States, as a parity of the average sale price to which the Brazilian planter may be entitled in this market for his crop.

It should have been stated that the sale price of 18 1/2 cents had reference to what in the American markets is classed as *Good*.

The average price of 78500 per arroba, for the whole crop, would correspond, in parity, with a sale price of 16 1/2 and not 18 1/2 cents, as unintentionally stated by me; while 88500 per arroba being a fair estimate for the value of *Good* coffee here, taking the average of 78500 for the crop as a basis, would correspond with the sale price of 18 1/2 cents in the United States, as a parity.

And, as I do not desire to be either the intentional or unintentional instrument of circulating erroneous impressions, in regard to the cost of growing coffee, in this country, I beg that you will have the kindness to give a place to this correction in your next issue.

ROBT. CLINTON WRIGHT.

Rio, April 5th 1879.

BRAZILIAN FINANCE.

In the *Anglo-Brazilian Times* of the 5th inst., Mr. Robert C. Wright continues his discussion on the present state of Brazilian finances, of which the following is a brief summary:

While the emphatic position of the Minister of Finance, in relation to the impolicy of any further issue of paper money as set forth in his address before the Chamber of Deputies on the 18th ult., is extremely gratifying to everyone whose interests are allied with the future of this country, it is to be regretted that it does not seem to realize the evils arising from the present large excess of currency, and ascribes the depression in exchange to other causes than this unwarranted over-issue. According to his view, the present low rate of exchange is due in great part to the unfavorable "balance of payments" in the foreign trade relations of this country. It must be admitted that the "balance of payments" is an important factor in determining the rate of exchange, especially in presence of a large and varying volume of paper money. We have frequently seen exchange vary four pence within a year without any change in the volume of currency, but this arose from the greater or less abundance of the products of the country, or the greater or less activity of the transactions in them.

The three instances cited by the Minister of Finance to prove his position are capable of a widely different interpretation. He states that in 1859-60, although the volume of currency had risen from 23,714 to 90,000,000\$, exchange advanced from 23 1/4 to 27 1/4 pence. The exchange of 27 1/4 pence was really due to the recovery in the prices of our produce from the great depression induced by the crisis of 1857. It was a commercial exchange which in 1859, ignoring under a favorable balance of payments the excessive volume of currency, did not fairly mark its depreciation, but when on 1860 the bulk of the crops had been shipped, the excess of currency manifested itself and exchange fluctuated between the extremes of 24 1/2 and 27 1/4 pence.

In the next place the Minister refers to the phenomenon that when, in 1875, the government issued some 25,000,000\$ in relief of certain banks, exchange was at 25 to 26 pence and actually rose, as the issue proceeded, to 28 and 28 3/8 pence, falling again to 24 pence when the issue was withdrawn. This phenomenon was due partly to a temporary dislocation of the currency and partly to hoarding. The effects of the panic which arose were not fully developed until after the issue had been made, and this obliged those who were forced to sell exchange to accept the best terms they could get from a small number of unwilling buyers; hence exchange was pushed up to 28 3/8 pence. When the effects of the issue were felt there was a restoration of confidence, and this, in connection with the high rate of exchange, induced a return of currency to its ordinary channels. When the government retired its issue there was still a superabundance of currency, and the law of supply and demand, as affecting exchange, at once reduced the rate to 24 pence.

Again the Minister cites the apparent fact that exchange was not sensibly affected by the issue of 40,000,000\$ in the month of April of last year, and that there was a slight decline the month previous. It must be borne in mind that, for some time previous to the issue, there was a general conviction of commercial circles that it would be made, hence every effort was made to anticipate and hasten remittances. These anticipated remittances not only led to a decline of exchange previous to the issue, but also prevented so great a decline as would otherwise have occurred, when it was made. Through deferred, the subsequent decline to the neighborhood of 20 pence was due principally to the inevitable influence of the issue. It is possible that the progressive depression in coffee may have contributed, in a very small degree, to the decline of exchange.

Finally, the Minister refers to the "balance of payments" in the foreign intercourse of the country and finds therein an explanation of the low rate of exchange. He states that the exports show an excess, in value, over the imports, for the three fiscal years of 1875-78, of 82,000,000\$, or about 27,000,000\$ per annum. On the other hand, the treasury is obliged to remit about annually from 25,000,000\$ to 30,000,000\$ to meet the interest on the foreign debt and the expenses incurred in the public service; and there is an estimated annual remittance to residents abroad of 20,000,000\$ and as

interest on foreign capital invested in banks, companies, etc., of 10,000,000\$—making in all a total remittance of 60,000,000\$. From these figures there would appear to be a "balance of payments" against Brazil of 30,000,000\$.

The estimates of exports are doubtless based upon official valuation, to which, as they do not embrace the duty and shipping expenses attending the export of produce, we may add nearly, if not quite, 20 per centum to arrive at the actual value of our produce in foreign exchange. Assuming the sum of our exports in round numbers to be 200,000,000\$, we should have at once 40,000,000\$, or 7,000,000\$ in excess of the unfavorable balance above estimated. It is quite questionable whether the weekly valuation for the assessment of duty is not, as a rule, somewhat below the market value of our produce, and we may add, for that score, probably one or two per centum more—say 4,000,000\$. To this should be added at least 5,000,000\$ as the value in precious stones and specie exported of which no return is made to the custom house. We thus have a probable sum of 50,000,000 to offset the adverse balance of 33,000,000\$, leaving some 17,000,000 to the credit of the country.

If these positions are well-taken it must be conceded that two illusive factors have been present in the value of our currency—one the phenomenal and false relation to gold which a paper currency may hold when issued from a source affording a reasonable guarantee of redemption; and the other a favorable "balance of payments." With these two factors present and exchange more than 25 per centum below par, who will hesitate in pronouncing our currency greatly excessive?

RAILROAD NOTES.

The railroad from Camocim to Sobral which, it will be remembered, is one of the *Jamino* roads ordered built by the Imperial government in Ceará, is progressing well under the able direction of the engineer Luis da Rocha Dias. The preliminary surveys for the whole extension of the line, 132 kilometres, have been completed, 51 kilometres located and 23 kilometres of road bed prepared. It is stated that more than 10,000 persons are employed along the line of the road and are regularly fed by the enterprise which gives employment to the majority of them. The work of laying the rails began on the 26th ult. with the customary ceremonies.

The Cantagallo railroad, during the month of February, rendered 119,370\$840, an increase of 38,510\$096 over the corresponding month of last year. This increase is principally due to an increase of freight of which 1,990,643 kilos were transported, an excess of 608,973 kilos over last year. The number of passengers and the income from other sources show only a slight increase.

The receipts of the Leopoldina railroad for the 1st. quarter of 1879 was 227,714\$595, an increase of 87,576\$621 over the corresponding period of last year. The movement of coffee during the month of March was 1,447,522 kilos, other freight 916,198.

The net receipts of the Baturité railroad for the part already in operation during the month of February, were 6,927\$904. The gross receipts were 16,778\$248, not including the transportation of articles for the relief of the famine sufferers and for the construction of the road, which, if charged, would amount to 8 624\$853 for the former and 2,143\$897 for the latter.

The receipts on the Macaé and Campos railroad for the month of March were as follows: from passengers 17,381\$820; express 3,599\$860; freight 64,009\$850; receipts from all sources 84,990\$10. For the same month of last year, the total receipts were 63,370\$370.

The receipts of the Carangola railroad during the first quarter of this year were 24,950\$920, an increase of 18,211\$110 as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The passenger traffic was nearly twice and the freight traffic nearly four times as great as last year, there having been transported 8,519 passengers and 1,642,566 kilos of freight.

We learn from a speech by the Minister of Agriculture that the government proposes to ask from the Chambers authorization for the extension of the Pernambuco and São Francisco railroad, an equal extension of the starting from some point on the sea coast. It is only necessary to know a very little of the *carvão* and its proximity to appreciate the wisdom of this measure.

The Minister of Agriculture, Counselor Sinimbu, referring to the Brazilian railroad system in a recent speech said:

"They have to say to the Chamber that if when we commenced to develop our railway system we had not been carried away by the ambition of reaching the great deserts, if we had started from freely navigable ports in contact with the markets of the world and sought the productive points where a producing population was already established or could be established, I am convinced that our industrial progress would have been much greater. But no, we allowed ourselves to be dominated by a vague sentiment, we wished to embrace the world. The Dom Pedro II railroad, utilizing an excellent means of communication, the *União e Indústria* road which has cost so much money, penetrated in the direction of Barbacena, seeking the valley of the São Francisco. Bahia not to be left behind and feeling that the monopoly of those waters was hers when also her road to Fortaleza, Pernambuco, was opened in the same manner and instead of reaching the most fertile regions resolved also to seek the valley of the São Francisco. I know that it shall incur the censure of all, but I think that the most natural way of developing the São Francisco valley is, as was justly remarked by the noble deputy from Minas, the Paulo Afonso railroad. To-day the principle is generally recognized that when a grand water way can be had, it should be utilized in preference to railroads. Even the United States which has given examples of so much magnificence in railroads is proceeding in a different manner, seeking to extend and improve the navigation of her rivers." It is to be hoped that these words of wisdom will be listened to in time to prevent Brazil from falling into the same stuporous blunder in regard to the valley of the Paraná.

THE RIO NEWS

On the 4th inst. the President of the Board of Health made the following quarterly report on the death rate of this city as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. The tables include the deaths occurring in the Jurubá hospital, located outside of the city limits and used principally by the shipping.

Table with 2 columns: Month and Deaths from all causes. Rows for January, February, March, and Totals.

Table with 2 columns: Month and Deaths from yellow fever. Rows for January, February, March, and Totals.

Table with 2 columns: Month and Deaths from other fevers. Rows for January, February, March, and Totals.

—Chan Reticker is organizing his forces in New York for an extensive equine raid on the Empire of the Southern Cross.

—According to a recent telegram the American steamer, "City of Pará," arrived in New York on the 5th inst. and sailed for this port on Saturday last.

—The many friends of the American Minister, Hon. Henry W. Hilliard, will be pleased to know that his recent trip to Europe has occasioned a decided improvement in his health.

—We understand that a recently opened gold mine, worked by a company of Boston capitalists, has been abandoned by the manager as unproductive.

—American manufacturers and exporters learn matters of detail slowly. It is again time to remind them that the language of Brazil is not Spanish but Portuguese.

—In the first column of the first page of the last issue of The News the printers made us say that Col. W. Minor Roberts was born in 1840, instead of 1810.

—The American bark, Sereno, arrived in this port on the 11th inst., reports the loss of three sailors in the 3570 N. and long 67 1/2 W.

—We are pleased to learn from a telegram, received from Bahia on the 10th inst., that the cable communication between that city and Rio de Janeiro is now open.

—Good Friday will have an additional meaning to the eight criminals whom the clemency of the Emperor set free last Friday.

—A subscription list has been opened in this city to raise the sum of 30,000 francs to complete the sum of 280,000 francs for publication of the Serpium Pitumayo.

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THE RETURNS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1879. The returns for the first quarter of the present year as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1878 show an increase of 388,748,865 in the total receipts at the custom houses.

Table showing returns for 1878 and 1879 for Imports, Exports, and Total. Includes sub-totals for increase and decrease in returns.

—The returns from imports and exports by the month are as follows: 1879 Imports Exports January 3,096,578,411 638,869,961

Table showing returns from imports and exports by the month for 1879, including January, February, and March.

—The firms engaged in shipping coffee and their totals of shipment during the quarter just ended, together with their shipments during the month of March are as follows:

Table listing shipping firms and their coffee shipment totals for the quarter and month of March.

PROVINCIAL NOTES According to late advices from the north, the drought is reappearing in some parts of Ceará.

—News from the province of Rio Grande do Sul, dated the 2nd inst. state that smallpox is raging with great intensity in the capital of that province.

—The President of Pará has opened an additional credit of 60,000\$ for the relief of the Ceará refugees.

—A telegram from Bahia yesterday states that a conflict between the soldiers of the 16th battalion and the city police, took place on the 13th inst.

THE VALUE OF SPECIE EXPORTATION FOR THE QUARTER ABOVE MENTIONED ARE AS FOLLOWS: Gold, dust 45,015,839

Table showing value of specie exportation for the quarter, including Gold, dust, Gold coin, Silver bars, and Silver coin.

—The foreign vessels were distributed among different nations as follows: British 107, German 44, French 33, American 29, Spanish 27, Portuguese 22, Norwegian 11, Swedish 9, Belgian 6, Danish 6, Russian 3, Italian 2, Argentine 2, Austrian 1.

SEMI-MONTHLY SUMMARY From the 16th to the 21st, of March, inclusive, the transactions in exchange amounted to 6,528 at rate of 21 1/8 @ 20 1/2 d.

THE MARKETS Coffee.—Since our last issue on the 5th inst. the market has been very firm but transactions have not been extensive.

Washed nominal Fine 6840 @ 6500 Superior 6830 @ 6840 Good 1st 5800 @ 5830 Regular 1st 5800 @ 5820 Ordinary 1st 4840 @ 4800

White Pine Lumber.—There have been no arrivals since our last, but there is a fair demand at from 55 to 103 reis per foot according to quality.

ARRIVALS FROM THE UNITED STATES During the first trimester of 1879 amounting to 2,506,217 feet, divided amongst the following importers:

Table listing importers of goods from the United States and their respective quantities.

SHIPPING NEWS. ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS. APRIL 3. BEUNOS AYRES.—It. bk. Venancio Madry: 820 tons; Muratori: 11 ds; bound for Antwerp with wood and lumber, called for water.

SANTOS.—Br. str. Menz; Brice: 19 ds; pas's and cargo in transit. Germ. str. Hokenkollen: 1,000 tons; Sander: 19 ds; coffee to Brants-Kramer & Co.

LIVERPOOL.—It. bk. Thales: 980 tons; Blair: 7 ds. 6 ds. from Montevideo; pas's and sundries to Norton, Megaw & Co.

LONDON.—Now. bk. Aeri: 345 tons; Dornd: 42 ds; sundries to P. S. Nicholson & Co. This day's arrivals: 39 ds. from Bahia; pas's and sundries to Brants-Kramer & Co.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS. SOUTHAMPTON.—Br. str. Venancio: 1,438 tons; Ritchie: pas's and sundries.

ANTWERP.—It. bk. Venancio Madry: 820 tons; Muratori: 11 ds; bound for Antwerp with wood and lumber, called for water.

NEW YORK and intermediate ports.—Am. str. City of Rio de Janeiro; Ven: pas's, coffee and sundries.

NEW YORK and intermediate ports.—Fr. str. Comp. Gen. Pichet and sundries.

NEW YORK and intermediate ports.—Fr. str. Comp. Gen. Pichet and sundries.

NEW YORK and intermediate ports.—Fr. str. Comp. Gen. Pichet and sundries.

(Continued from first page)

the time. We reach the conclusion that during the five months—April to August, inclusive—each starving person had received \$1. I know from personal experience with workmen in northern Brazil a man cannot be well fed, however coarsely, for less than twenty cents per day. Provisions at this time were ruinously high, and in most places there were absolutely no crops. No wonder that the people died. From September to December, inclusive, when the necessity was much greater, the entire aid received by this province was about \$700,000. The beginning of a new year found the provincial treasury empty; the general government indifferent, only private charity as ready as ever. Government and private aid were badly administered, though in the main I believe there was little dishonesty—rather incompetence and laziness. The refugees were allowed to congregate about large towns; to live in filthy, crowded huts; to clothe their filthy bodies with filthy rags; and so it was that pestilence was presently added to the famine. Smallpox appeared in Fortaleza and was raging all through the year. Yellow fever came in November; its victims were counted by scores and hundreds. That curious paralytic disease, the beri-beri raged in the interior villages. Pernicious fevers, hardly known before, now assumed a terrible epidemic force. And so with famine and disease and misery the weary months wore away, and all men looked forward to the winter and aid from heaven, as humanity could give them nothing.

Picture yourself the condition of Ceará in January, 1878. A province dried up, blasted. Pastures without grass, forests without leaves, rivers without water, fields without crops. The cattle industry destroyed utterly; only a few bees survived about the larger towns of the thousands that had roamed over these plains. The cotton and sugar industries almost annihilated; no mandioca even, except in about three or four mountain villages. People obliged to go five or six miles from their houses to dig for water in the bed of some torrent. At least two hundred thousand refugees encamped about the larger town—70,000 of these added to the 25,000 of Fortaleza. A famine mortality, which in many places had reached twenty per day. A mortality from disease very much greater. No money in the provincial treasury; no hope of outside aid, except the drop of private charity, and all men looked for rain. The greatest mortality from hunger was probably in March; from February 1 to May, when the exodus was taking place. I can hardly calculate the number of famine deaths at less than one hundred thousand; and during the whole drought probably one hundred and fifty thousand died of hunger. I should add that my calculations are much lower than those of other persons; some place the entire number as high as three hundred and ten a day; in Fortaleza it was less at this time, but eighty per day was bad enough. I have notices of ten, twenty or more daily deaths in small villages; and everywhere along the roadsides nameless scores still tell the story of uncalculated victims.

In Fortaleza the death rate had reached 200 per day, even as early as May or June. In Aracaty it was hardly less. There were pernicious fevers, with the spring months. But above all other diseases the smallpox began to assume a terrible pre-eminence. It was worst at Fortaleza. Very few of the people were vaccinated. Isolation of the sick was never enforced. The pestilence, confined at first to the refugees, soon spread to the richer classes. By October the 150,000 adventitious population had dwindled to 70,000 or 90,000, including the townspeople; many had died, many had emigrated. Among those that were left the pestilence was stalking and marking its victims. On November 1, 99 persons died of smallpox in Fortaleza; on November 2, 124, and this out of a population of only 90,000. Your yellow fever deaths never reached such a proportion. But the disease went on increasing rapidly. Two hundred, three hundred, four hundred deaths a day—toward the end of November the figures ran above five hundred. On the 30th there were 574 registered, but this includes only the interments in the public grounds. There were families that could afford to bury their dead in the city cemetery. There were peasants who were laid in the thick forest or carried out to sea on catamarans and sunk there.

The whole number of registered deaths in November for the two cemeteries of São João Baptista and Lagoa-Funda was 11,075. Of

these 9,270 were smallpox cases. But I think we must add to this at least one thousand buried, as I have said, in the woods or sunk in the sea. At this time there were 30,000 sick—more than a third of the population. Still the death rate increased. On December 10, 868 smallpox dead were buried in the cemetery of Lagoa-Funda, at least 75 in São João, and probably 150 in the woods and the sea—a total death record of over 1,000 in a single day—and this out of a population (now reduced) of only 75,000. The great plague at London reached this death rate, but that was from a population of 300,000. After this the mortality rate decreased, but only because the disease had nothing more to feed on. By the end of the year the death rate had gone down to 200 per day. The entire number of deaths for the month was not far from 21,000.

I went to the graveyard of Lagoa-Funda, where the poor people are buried; for the old cemetery was overflowing long ago, and the government had this one made a league out of town, on the leeward side. The precautions were necessary, too. The filthy huts were bad enough, without the worse evil of a poisoned air. At Lagoa-Funda the dead are buried in trenches, twelve together; "except," remarked one of the overseers, "where the bodies come in too fast for us; then we put fifteen or twenty in a trench, conforme." The trenches are deep; the bodies are placed in two layers and well covered. But the soil is of sharp silicious sand, with no more disinfecting properties than a pile of stones would have. Several cases of asphyxia have occurred among the workmen. Men have actually fallen dead in the graves they were digging, as was recorded during the London plague. Walking back from the cemetery to the city I counted fifty-two bodies going to burial.

I could write much more of Ceará and the good and evil I saw there; the evil, alas, too sadly predominant! A province utterly ruined; a population of 900,000 reduced to 400,000, and these dying at an enormous rate. Probably there have been 300,000 deaths in the other drought-stricken provinces of which I have few notices. There is nothing in history that will compare with it. God grant that there never may be again!

CONCERNING the amount of business done in the United States during the past year the *New-York Tribune* says:—Very few are aware what an enormous business was done during the year 1878. Graveling seems to be natural for the Anglo-Saxon, and particularly for the Anglo-Saxon trader. When all the traders, in all the commercial cities, are growing about "the prostration of business," it is not easy to avoid the impression that the traffic must on the whole be small, notwithstanding the cheering evidence occasionally given by partial returns of tonnage, or by crowded streets or returns of exchanges. But the complete reports of transactions in different branches of business during the year of 1878 are now coming in. They show, in the aggregate, a surprising increase. Even in the iron business, which has been more depressed than any other, the official statements show that the quantity produced and manufactured last year was greater than in 1877, and that prices began to improve toward the close of last year. At the other extreme is the grain trade. That it was very large last year all know, but comparatively few have so fully realized its magnitude that the elaborate review given by *The Railroad Gazette* will not surprise them. It there appears that the receipts of grain (flour not included) at the seven Atlantic ports were greater by \$4,000,000 bushels, or more than 50 per cent, in 1878 than in 1877, and greater by \$6,000,000 bushels, or 48 per cent, than in 1876, or any previous year. The largest previous record, that of 1874, was 20,000,000 bushels smaller than that of 1876. With 247,424,000 bushels received in a single year at the Atlantic ports, the country surely has no reason to complain as to the magnitude of its grain business.

THE IMPORTS of gold coin and bullion registered for the year ended the 31st of December, 1878, in Great Britain—is stated at \$104,361,000 and the exports \$74,842,000, giving a gain in gold of \$29,519,000. Of these imports, Austria furnished \$38,492,000, France gave \$29,540,000 while taking from England \$22,997,000. The United States sent \$4,330,000 in gold to England, and received therefrom \$4,143,000, a loss of \$187,000 notwithstanding the enormous excess of exports of general products to Great Britain the over-imports therefrom. The imports of silver coin and bullion amounted to \$7,746,000, and the exports \$58,590,000 or \$84,000 more silver than was imported for the year. Of the imports of silver, Germany supplied \$10,997,000 and India and China together took \$21,335,000. France exported to England \$8,799,000 in silver, and imported therefrom to \$10,954,000. The United States also exported to England \$8,079,000 in silver, while importing therefrom \$5,404,000. Mexico supplied silver to England to the amount of \$17,599,000.

SALICYLIC acid is employed by brewers in Belgium to preserve their beer from secondary and injurious fermentation. It does not modify the taste or the appearance or the slow alcoholic fermentation and, according to recent experiments, even when used in such quantities as from five to ten grammes to the hectolitre it has no injurious effect upon the health.

FROM ENGLISH CONSULAR reports: Among the imports to Königsberg in 1877 was a cargo of herrings from the United States. The supply of codfish at the Grand Canary is inexhaustible, and the quality is at least as good as that of Newfoundland fish. Perla is drifting into bankruptcy, owing to the decreasing production of silk. Bari is the second emporium for export traffic in Italy. At Montevideo 90,000 cattle are annually concentrated into extract of meat. The history of Annam is traced to the year 93 after the Deluge. Huahine, Raita and Borabora, in the Southern seas, are states important enough to have national flags and tonnage returns. Pigeon-English is now spoken in all the islands of the South Sea and is becoming the means of communication between the tribes. The New Caledonians pick up English more readily than French. The Chinese in Siam are setting up rice-cleaning mills, encroaching on a monopoly hitherto held by Europeans.

THERE are twenty-five Memontie villages in Manitoba, Dominion of Canada with 480 dwellings and 2,841 residents. The immigrants from Russia have 10,470 acres under cultivation, 362 horses and some 2,500 cows and oxen and have already large stores of grain and other produce. They are getting rich rapidly and prove the very best of citizens, settling all their disputes among themselves and having in their colony neither a constable nor a lock-up. There should be a decidedly large emigration of these people this year, as heretofore those who remain in Russia will be liable to serve in the army.

THE MERCHANDISE imported into and exported from the United States during the month of December, 1878, shows the following totals: Imports, \$31,494,991; domestic exports, \$65,596,224, and foreign exports, \$1,099,035. The total for twelve months ending December 31, 1878, \$304,542,571. Total for the year 1877, \$140,056,112. A comparison of the exports and imports of gold and silver coin and bullion for the twelve months ending December 31, 1878, shows: Imports, \$1,974,173; for the year 1877, exports, \$24,548,352.

THE LONDON coal trade, in 1878, amounted to 8,794,576 tons, against 8,591,683 tons in 1877. Of the receipts in 1878, 3,198,309 tons, or 36.4 per cent, came by sea, and the remainder by railroad and canal. Of the total receipts, 2,115,440 tons were shipped out of London, of which about one half was exported. The city consumption was about 6,700,000 tons. The average price for the year was about \$4.60.

THE PUBLIC domain of the United States at the beginning of 1878 was 1,814,000,000 acres, of which 369,000 acres were located in Alaska. During the year 4,418,344 acres for homesteads, 1,870,434 acres for the encouragement of forest planting, and 877,555 acres were sold. The amount received at the General Land office for conveying, etc., amounted to only \$2,010,555.

THE BRITISH crown estates, besides the park and domain of 14,000 acres attached to Windsor Castle, comprises a royal patrimony of 70,000 acres, much of it in farms, and something more than 100,000 acres in forest. The annual revenue from this property is \$2,469,000, of which the Queen receives \$385,000.

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City of Pernambuco	Capt. Weir	June 8	June 16
City of Rio de Janeiro	Capt. Weir	July 23	Aug 6

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