

# THE RIO NEWS.

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## OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

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## CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

From advance sheets of the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* which the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have kindly forwarded to us we are enabled to give the further correspondence between that society and the Chinese ambassador at London. After giving extracts from Deputy Joaquim Nabuco's speech of September 1st on that subject and the address of Counselor Siminib which appeared in our issue of October 5th, the *Reporter* gives the following correspondence with the Chinese ambassador, which shows clearly the present status of the Chinese immigration question:

To his Excellency the Marquis Tseng, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Empire of China to the Court of St. James.

MAY I PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—On behalf of the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, we beg to call the attention of your excellency to the speech of the prime minister of Brazil—Counselor Siminib—addressed to the Senate on the 1st ultimo, on the question of the proposed treaty between Brazil and China for the introduction of Chinese coolies into Brazil.

At the same time we beg leave to offer a few remarks upon some of the statements put forward by the minister.

In the first place we would observe that the comparison made between the United States of North America and the slave-holding empire of Brazil as a field for Chinese immigration is unjust and misleading.

In North America, as well as in the British colonies of Australia, there has long been a very large influx of Chinese immigrants, and these men have competed with white labour so as to arouse jealousy and hostility amongst the immigrants of European countries. To such an extent has the feeling of resentment grown in the United States and in Australia that extraordinary restrictions and impediments have been placed upon the introduction of Chinese by the governments of those countries.

The Anti-Slavery Committee have no wish to encourage such restrictions in countries where the immigration of China is free and open, and where the Chinese labourer is subject to the same laws that govern the white man. It is then quite as easy for him to change masters or to leave the country as it is for the white labourer, and hence none of the evils which befall the indentured coolie are to be feared.

As your excellency has already been informed in our letter of August 14th, the empire of Brazil is a country in which the institution of slavery may continue to exist for a period of almost half a century, and it is certain that unless the legislature should wisely shorten the time, it must yet last for at least several years.

The history of all countries in which slavery exists serves to show that whenever other labour is introduced from without—be it Chinese, Indian or African—no safeguards that can be framed are able to secure the immigrant from the evils of slavery. Slavery and free-labour cannot exist and grow up side by side. In support of this statement we would refer your excellency to the startling revelations made by Consul Crawford when we had the honour of meeting your excellency in deputation last April, relative to the sufferings of Chinese coolies in Cuba.

We therefore feel bound to impress upon your excellency the importance of using every effort to save your countrymen from the sad fate that had overtaken so many thousands in Cuba and Peru. If Chinese immigration is to take place into Brazil let it be exempt from all the restrictions of indenture and forced labour, though then we fear it will not meet the views of the Brazilian planter. The immigrant should always be free to come and go as he may feel inclined; for should he be bound down for a term, his condition will be little removed from that of the actual slave.

As your excellency is aware from the experience in Cuba both treaties and laws are of little avail for protection in countries where slavery exists; and if anything could more strongly illustrate this in the case of Brazil it is the fact that even emigrants from England found their condition and treatment so deplorable as to require the most urgent efforts for their rescue from a state of absolute destitution.

We trust that your excellency will use your influence with the Chinese government to prevent the conclusion of a treaty with Brazil until slavery has ceased to exist in that country, otherwise it may be the means of consigning thousands of your poorer countrymen to a state of hopeless and cruel slavery.

On behalf of the Committee,  
We are, with much respect,  
JOSEPH COOPER,  
EDMUND STURGE, Hon. Secs.  
CHARLES H. ALLEN, Secretary.  
27, New Broad Street, London, E. C.,  
November 4th, 1879.

To this letter the committee have received the following very satisfactory reply from Dr. Halliday Macartney on behalf of his excellency the Marquis Tseng, and they now trust that in spite of the efforts of the slave-holding party in Brazil, backed as they have been by the prime minister of that country, there is but little danger that the Chinese government will enter into any treaty that shall allow of immigration to Brazil upon the *forced labour*, or *indenture* system—a system which is, as all the world knows, only slavery in disguise.

CHINESE LEGATION, London,  
6th November, 1879.

GENTLEMEN,—I reply to the communication which you were good as to address to the Chinese minister on the 4th inst., I have been directed by his excellency to present to you his sincere thanks, and at the same time to assure the committee that his government are quite at one with them regarding the inadvisability of sanctioning any kind of emigration which would in the slightest degree restrict the independence of the emigrant. The committee appear to be under the impression that the Chinese government are about to enter into a convention with Brazil, having for its object the importation into that country of Chinese labour; but his excellency begs to assure them that such is not the case, and that his government have, in replying to the overtures of the Brazilian government, resolutely declined to entertain the discussion of that subject in any form. This does not arise from the existence of anything which is peculiar to Brazil, but partly on account of the representations which the committee have at various times made to the Chinese minister, and partly, in consequence of the result of the inquiries which the Chinese government have made into the condition of Chinese labourers now fulfilling their contracts in foreign countries, the government have resolved on discontinuing overtures for the supply of Chinese labour, irrespective of the quarter whence they may emanate. Neither does it appear that such conventions are in the least necessary, for, experience has shown that, wherever Chinese labourers have been fairly treated, and an adequate remuneration been paid them for their services, they have gone thither in sufficient numbers of their own accord.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, Your most obedient humble servant,  
HALLIDAY MACARTNEY.  
The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, 27, New Broad Street, E. C.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION.  
[From the *Gazeta de Notícias*, Dec. 6, 1879.]

Our news from the commission for fixing the boundary between this empire and the republic of Venezuela is dated from Marabitanas, on the Rio Negro, Oct. 1, 1879. Our informant says:

"An act has just been realized which is worthy of being recorded in the annals of our internal navigation, as a proof of human effort in the discharge of duty. The Rio Negro, as is known, is navigated by the only two companies of the steamers of the Amazonian company in a little above Uajuary, about 145 leagues from Manaus, while at times during the fall of the river they only get to Barcellos on account of the shallowness of the channel during this season. The navigation from Sta. Isabel up has been considered very dangerous on account of some small falls and the rapids and with before reaching Camama. In the meantime it should be considered as proven that there was an exaggerated notion, or an evident timidity in undertaking the navigation so advantageous to the interests of the province, which are already sufficiently injured, for as in 1871 a launch of our flotilla passed over this section as far as the *remota* of Camama without suffering any injury, and as two months ago this commission had the little launch which accompanied it anchored in this same place, it having arrived there without any great difficulty, it is very evident that the navigation as far as Camama is not impossible.

What is wanted is that the steamers destined to this service should be of light draft and great power in order to pass the numerous rapids met with.

But from Camama to São Gabriel, a distance of twelve miles, it must be confessed that navigation is impossible on account of the large number of rocks forming falls and rapids which impede the passage of steamers beyond the quiet water and render the passage of barges difficult near the banks, they having to pass this distance foot by foot by the force of the long vines alone. For it is clear that dynamite must be used to throw these obstacles out of the way, and, if not to get rid of them entirely, at least to better them.

But the commission, naturally desiring to try if it were possible to take their launch beyond S. Gabriel in order to use it in their explorations, put this service in the hands of one of its members. After a month of hard work, privations and sacrifices, and even risk of life, our distinguished companion was able to put into execution what was up to that time considered a mere dream. It was a terrible struggle between the launch driven under full head and aided by two strong cables of vines drawn by fifty strong men, and the current of the stream which dashed over and among the rocks with a velocity sufficient to render one giddy, and scilicet the bow of the little launch in such a volume as to almost sink it. Twice everything was almost entirely lost. After passing the fall of the "Forte de São Gabriel," the launch went on by the channel, avoiding the strong currents and in four days arrived at Marabitanas. Our joy on embracing our companion can be imagined, when he returned successful in this happy effort and giving the glory to this commission of baptizing the waters of the upper Rio Negro above Camama, beyond our frontier in the territory of Venezuela, with the passage of the most powerful element of progress of the age, which by its speed diminishes distances. The people of São Carlos and the Venezuelan people on the 20th of September, at 2.30 p. m., received this fact as a proof of our prosperity, future greatness and everlasting union and sympathy with them.

The geographical positions of different points on the Rio Negro have already been determined and that of Marabitanas has just been obtained by means of the lunar culminations, occultations and eclipses of the stars of Jupiter, it being worthy of note that the longitude found for this place by each of these means, differs very little from that found with the chronometers, which does honor to our colleague in charge of them. The section which went to the frontier to survey the river from the Cacaly mountain to Dimitti has already returned.

We are still suffering for want of proper food. Since March our daily food has consisted of beans, rice, jerked beef and cod-fish by turns. Up to June we had fresh meat for only one week and since that time it has been jerked beef, cod-fish and a few sardines. No stomach can stand it. But we are obliged to put up with this living for many months yet without hope of bettering it, for there is nothing to be had.

The caoutchouc rubber-gathering industry occupies all the people to such an extent that it may be said that there is not a plantation worth looking at in all the valley of the Rio Negro. And while they plant nothing, they miss less. It is certainly deplorable. A few cases of intermittent fever continue to appear. The rains have never stopped. They are almost daily and the river is continually rising and falling. It is probable that there will shortly be a real fall. Notwithstanding this state of affairs the rubber-gatherers are already going to their tents in the *leptote* on the overgrown islands in search of rubber. And they do not want to die of fever either!

## PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Work has begun on a tramway in Fortaleza.  
—A slight earthquake was felt at Barcellos, Amazonas, on the morning of October 15.  
—Small-pox is raging with great intensity at Jardim, Ceará.  
—The examination of the medical students from this city begins at Bahia to day, the 15th.  
—The *Constituinte* of São Paulo is urging the cultivation of strawberries.  
—There is an epidemic of measles at Salto, Rio Grande do Sul.  
—The receipts of the Pará tramway during the Nazareth  *festa* were 17,850\$.  
—Heavy rains fell throughout the interior of Pernambuco about the middle of last month.  
—The number of Italian colonists in the province of Santa Catharina is estimated at 20,000.  
—On and after the 1st of January next the city of Deserto, Santa Catharina, will be lighted by globe gas.  
—The number of children ill with measles at Paysandú, Rio Grande do Sul, was estimated at two hundred on the 27th ult.  
—The secret service expenses of the Pernambuco police for the fiscal year 1878-9 were 11,928\$-140.  
—The dispatch of muscovado sugar at Pernambuco for New York on the 28th ult. amounted to 329 tons.  
—Two hundred boxes of "Água Florida" were shipped from Porto Alegre for Rio de Janeiro on the sailing steamer *Rio de Janeiro*.  
—A quarantine has been established at Corrientes by the Argentine government against the introduction of small-pox from the upper Uruguay.  
—Wheat raising from choice Portuguese seed is about to be tried by Col. Soares Lima at Jaguará, Rio Grande do Sul.  
—According to the *Gazeta de Porto Alegre*, there have been exported from Buenos Ayres during the past season 711,500 cwt. of jerked beef to Brazil, and 421,900 cwt. to Havana.  
—During the month of November the receipts at the Bahia custom house were: national 716,754\$8903 and provincial 74,009\$0885; of the collector's office: national 90,649\$205 and provincial 45,851\$506.

—The project authorizing an expenditure of 180,000\$ for the construction of water works for Maranhão finally passed the provincial assembly of Rio de Janeiro on the 6th inst.

—Advises from the upper Amazon of the 10th ult. report a recent assault on Santo Antonio by the Acangapirua Indians. The assault was repulsed without loss of life.

—The *Diaria de Notícias* of Bahia says that the cane harvest, upon which they are just entering at Santo Amaro, promises to be better than that of last year.

—Late advices from Santo Amaro, province of Bahia, state that abundant rains have fallen in that locality, which have greatly benefited the cane plantations.

—The receipts of the collector's office at Manaus, province of Amazonas, during the month of October, were 136,640\$150, of which 30,075\$570 were received for the Amazon navigation company on the 13 per cent. additional.

—Two sailors named Alexander Fox and John Stevens, undertook to steal sugar from the British lgh. *Lady Bird*, at Pernambuco, on the night of the 23rd ult., and lost their lives from the carbonic acid gas accumulated in the vessel's hold.

—The dry goods merchants of Rio Grande do Sul, understanding that the custom of selling goods in auction by the importers, is about to be resumed, have entered a protest and have pledged themselves not to buy at such auctions.

—Some slight efforts have been made toward the production of silk in Santa Catharina. The climate is said to be highly favorable to the silkworm, and the Italian colonists are petitioning the government to furnish them with mulberry trees and cocoons.

—The *Gazeta de Porto Alegre* says on the authority of a Livramento paper that the stock-risers of that place have signed an agreement binding themselves to take their cattle from the table lands of Pelotas and send them to the markets of Uruguay.

—Reports from the Parangary river state that the water is so low as to render navigation alone Augustan impossible. The heat has become intense, the thermometer marking 96° in the shade. An epidemic of black small-pox is reported from Villa Formosa.

—Complaints come from Santa Catharina about the excessive quarantine at the River Plate ports. As this quarantine is against all Brazilian ports, and as Santa Catharina's only foreign exports are sent to the Platine republics, the limited commerce of that province must necessarily suffer greatly.

—We see by a Rio Grande exchange that the competent authority of that province recently granted permission to the master of the national schooner *David* to fill out his crew with foreigners, he being not able to get the one-hundred Brazilians exacted by the law of April 11, 1874.

—On the morning of the 6th inst. three men forced their way into the printing office of the *Jornal de Commercio* and carried a quantity of type, three imposed pages of the paper, pieces of the press, etc., which they threw into the Parahyba river.

—The president of Santa Catharina has issued a regulation imposing an impost of 18 on all cattle, horses and mules, which descended from the mountains to the coast or from Rio Grande to Arranguá. Riding animals or animals with loads are excepted. The impost is called a road tax.

—The people of Santa Catharina are complaining that their neighbors of Paraná are encroaching upon their territory, and that the province will in time be reduced to an island and a narrow belt of contiguous mainland if the general government does not soon fix the boundaries between the two provinces.

—A Rio Grande writer has discovered a Thermopyle in the career of General Osório—the fight at Passo de Águas. Another has discovered in him the qualities of Alexander, Caesar and Napoleon. The list is now nearly full. It yet remains, however, for someone to do the brave old soldier full and exact justice by putting him in his real position before the world.

—The *Gazeta de Porto Alegre* says that many persons of the Saldade colony wish to pay for their lands in full in order to have the right to transfer them at will, and have offered the money to the government fiscal agent. This the agent refuses on the ground that he is not authorized to receive the money, and the colonists are therefore retained in their present state of dependence upon the government's favor.

—The *Gazeta de Porto Alegre* of the 24th ult. says: "The minister of finance has written to the treasury of this province that, beginning with the current month, 5 per cent. must be deducted from the salaries of the custom-house employees of this province which exceed 1,000\$ per annum. This is simply an inquiry when the fiscal employees are so badly remunerated."

—Late advices from Natal, province of Rio Grande do Norte, note the arrival on the 17th ult. of the American bark *Saravotta*, Captain Thomas Gould, from the United States with railway material for the projected line between that city and Nova Cruz. The same vessel brought 107 men who are to be employed in the construction of the road. Another vessel with material for the same road is expected sometime during the present month.

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY
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RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 15TH, 1879

THE RECENT action of Judge Theodoro Machado Freire da Silva in the affairs of the bankrupt estate of Amaral & Co. is being severely censured by the principal creditors. It seems that there is no authority for the course taken, and that the interests of all the principal creditors are being unjustly and wantonly sacrificed. In a matter where so large amounts are at stake, it certainly seems desirable and just that the parties most interested should decide the course to be taken, instead of a crowd of minor creditors whose losses will be so slight and can be so easily arranged. It is to be hoped that the recent proceedings in this case will not be allowed to pass without protest.

WE GIVE in another column the second protest of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society against the introduction of Chinese labor into Brazil, and the reply of the Chinese ambassador. It would seem from this reply that there is little prospect of success in the negotiations with which Dr. Eduardo Callado is charged at the Chinese court, unless it be that he is instructed to conclude a commercial treaty pure and simple. The introduction of Chinese labor into this country under contract, and we can see no other purpose in the schemes now being urged, is a policy so full of probable if not certain dangers that it has aroused more than ordinary opposition from philanthropic men. To Brazil it can mean nothing more than a continuation of slavery; to the Chinese it offers not even the advantages which the slave now enjoys. From the reply of the Chinese ambassador, and from other sources of information, it is evident that the Chinese government is beginning to understand the meaning of the "coolie labor system," and has decided to counteract it no longer. Now that the scheme seems likely to fail, would it not be advisable for the Brazilian planters to make an honest effort to retain and utilize the negro on their estates? There is certainly no time to lose.

IT WILL be seen from our news columns that a question has arisen between some property-holders of this city and the government with reference to the inclusion of the gardens and yards attached to dwelling houses in the surveys of unoccupied grounds preparatory to the imposition of a new tax. The reply of the chief of the survey leaves the matter in greater doubt than ever. From the reply we gather that the government can not yet draw the line between occupied and unoccupied lands and that this survey will enable the competent authorities to determine just how much ground may be attached to a house under the description of yards and gardens. That a law should have been passed for the purpose of taxing unoccupied grounds, and yet drawn in so loose a manner as to enable the treasury to levy and collect taxes on grounds already occupied and taxed which were not specified in the bill, nor mentioned in the discussion of the bill, is a matter which deserves a general public consideration. It should be understood that these private grounds already pay a tax of from ten to twelve percent on their rents—a tax which is always proportional to the extent and value of the property. Men rent or own spacious grounds only when they can afford to meet all the extra expenses attendant

upon such choice, and it may fairly be considered that they meet their public obligations when they pay a tax per centum upon the rental of their residences. It seems however, if we understand the attempted explanations of this matter, that the government now proposes to define just how much or how little land may be considered as part of occupied premises, no matter what may be the conditions or obligations under which the property is held. The passage of laws in so loose a manner and their application to purposes clearly outside their captious, is a matter not only vexatious but dangerous. It leaves the interpretation of the law, as well as its enforcement, in hands which clearly can not be trusted, and the vexations and exactions sure to grow out of it will inevitably weaken the moral force of the government. The passage of laws in this manner, as illustrated by the passenger tax as well as the one under consideration, is a matter which can not be deplored too deeply.

WE SEE by the speech of Dr. Ferreira Nobre before the municipal council, November 29, that the slaughter house which the government is constructing at Santa Cruz will be a delight to the eye, as well as a relief to the municipal nose. No penny-wise-pound-foolish policy hampers the contractors in their creation of this truly imposing work. The unsightly scenes and material smells which for so long a time characterized the imperial suburb of São Christovão will be known no longer;—science will spread her mantle over them and the fragrance of roses will linger where once the urubú took his morning nap. There will stand no longer the rambling barracks which shamed the trembling brutes led out for sacrifice;—thirty miles away in the unfrequented and uninhabited precincts of Santa Cruz a costly temple is springing into existence where sweet sounds and smells, and fairy scenes will fill the closing moments of bovine existence with unmeasured joy and satisfaction. It would be no stretch of the imagination to sketch white-robed children crowning a delighted ox with flowers and leading him with dancing steps to the sacrificial altar—where there children in Santa Cruz to do it. As it is, the wildest brute of the herd will derive new dignity from his surroundings, and he will walk forth to the meat hooks with all the decorum and philosophy of a cultured mind. The toughness of fibre which arises from the tense struggles of a tortured animal will vex us no more, and our steaks will henceforth have that tenderness, that flavor, that impalpable and indescribable relish which come only from a serene spirit and a placid acquiescence in the unalterable decrees of the inscrutable. Nor is this all. Not only is the new slaughter house designed for a bovine euthanasia, but it will also be devoted to the more rational and refined amusements of humanity, to the aesthetic and intellectual culture of the Brazilian people. Two thousand contos, judiciously placed, will do wonders in art and architecture; in this instance it will achieve results even beyond the wildest dreams of philanthropists and statesmen. Although we have not heard of stately marble columns, nor sculptured entablatures, we are convinced that art has not been sacrificed in this eminently useful work. Mindful of the comfort and enjoyment of those who shall visit this secluded spot, the government is sparing no expense in its effort to make this temple of slaughter a thing of beauty and a joy forever." In the imperial reception room, says Dr. Nobre, the painting of the ceiling alone amounts to 5,000\$. Five contos in paint—what will there not be in stucco! Five contos on the one ceiling—what will there not be on the four walls! Some narrow men will talk of strained finances, of retrenchment; pessimists will brood over an empty treasury and waning revenues in the future—these misguided men have no poetry in their souls, no appreciation of the refining influences of high art upon mankind. Not only will our steaks be better henceforth, but the subtle influence of art upon the butcher and drover will eliminate from them all that grossness and sensuality which has characterized their occupations in the past, and transform them into men of as finely-wrought organizations and delicate susceptibilities as those whose philanthropy and foresight have anticipated the wondrous change. Verily, that perfect day of a perfect dream draws nigh!

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—The amount expended in behalf of the Benevolent colony by the president of Pará, has been reduced from 56,000\$ to 24,000\$ per month.

—The Jornal do Commercio of the 9th inst. relates that on the 20th of August last, as Joaquim Caetano da Silva was being taken from the jail of that capital to São João, an interior town, the four soldiers of his escort set upon him and shot him so barbarously that he died soon after arriving at his destination, the blood running from his mouth.

—On the night of the 16th ult. at a place called Guilherme, Pernambuco, João Canuto was shot by a concealed person, who was afterwards discovered to be a certain Miguel Jorge. The assassin escaped.

—Late advices from Rio Grande do Norte, report the death of a noted lander, named Jesuino Brillante, in a conflict with a military force on the 21st ult. Two other bandits were killed at the same time, and one soldier was wounded.

—On the 25th ult., the tribunal da relação confirmed the sentence of death imposed by a jury in Acary, Rio Grande do Norte, for killing and burning a person under circumstances of the greatest brutality.

—Public aid to the colonies of Bon Gosto and S. José de Tentugal, Pará, has been suspended because they have been in part forsaken by the immigrants, and those remaining are able to take care of themselves.

—The minister of empire has directed the president of the Amazonas to provide sustenance for the Ceará refugees established at Tanaperaná because of an alleged scarcity of work.

—The provincial government of Ceará has made a contract with the advocate Luiz Francisco de Miranda for codifying the laws, decisions, etc., of that province from the first of January, 1762, to the 31st of December of the present year.

—It is announced that the Visconde de Pimentel is about to inaugurate a school for the free children of his slaves on his fazenda in the municipality of Valença. This purpose is deserving of the warmest praise.

—At a festa at the Jardim Publico, city of São Paulo, the Club Gymnastico raised 600\$ for the small-pox hospital.

—Steam communication between Pará and the towns of Santa Isabel do Pinheiro and Benfca was opened on the 23rd ult.

—The provincial assembly of Maranhão closed its sessions on the 28th ult. It has left a record of eight sessions during which one law was passed authorizing the construction of two bridges.

RAILROAD NOTES

—During the month of October the Cantagalo railway carried 2,671 passengers, and 2,183 1/2 tons of merchandise. Its receipts from all sources were 127,114,957, as against 115,786,827 for the same month of last year.

—The receipts of the Baturité railway during the month of October were 22,378,475; expenses 14,184,868; balance remaining in the treasury 8,193,604.

—The October returns of the Dom Pedro II railway show that 215,165 1/2 passengers were carried, of which 72,782 were 1st-class and 142,383 1/2 were 2nd-class; 227.7 tons of baggage, 34,395.7 tons of freight, of which 17,952.7 tons were of coffee. The receipts from all sources were 1,172,279,828, of which 200,254,800 were from passengers, 26,338,750 from baggage, 916,373,820 from freight, and the remainder from diverse sources. For the same month of 1878 the number of passengers carried was 177,889 1/2; baggage 551.3 tons, freight 28,910 tons of which 15,975 tons were of coffee, and the receipts from all sources were 916,373,820.

LOCAL NOTES

—The American packet City of Rio de Janeiro sailed from New York for Brazil on the morning of the 6th instant.

—A curious individual in Pernambuco has been investigating the telegraph line (land line) between Rio and that city. A dispatch sent from this city at 4:30 p. m., on the 1st inst. reached his hands at 1 p. m., on the 2nd—it having been twenty hours and twenty minutes on the way.

—A party of Portuguese merchants, assisted by a brass band, called at the residence of Dr. Bezerra de Menezes, president of the municipal council of this city, on the 8th instant, and presented him a life-sized portrait of himself, as a token of their esteem.

—The government, according to dispatches from the department of agriculture of the 11th ult., requires for its various departments for the ensuing year of 1880, a total of 31,000 passes from the Carris Urbanos tramway, 22,000 from the São Christovão, 20,000 from the Villa Isabel, and 45,500 from the Botanical Garden—116,500 passes in all, or an average of 319 per day. This represents a sum of about twenty-one contos per annum.

—It has been lately discovered that everything has not been altogether lovely on the Dom Pedro II railway. Some of the employees of that line have been in the habit of receiving freight and forgetting to make the necessary credits on the company's books. The full extent of these robberies has not yet been made public, but it is well known that the company wants to be paid a second time. The matter is still under consideration.

—The devotees of Santa Rosa ask that attention be given to the abandoned condition of the chapel of that saint whose altar is ready to tumble down, while the patron saint rests upon a table in complete neglect, and is without eyes! It is said that there is a national bond and some money belonging to the saint, but no one knows anything about it. We call the attention of the Exm. Sr. Dr. Juis de Capellan, and of the Rev. Sr. vicar of the parish to this fact.—O Fluminense, Niterói, Nov. 26.

—The German steamer Kronprinz Friedrich Wilhelm which entered this port on the 10th inst., brought 1,428 immigrants for the southern provinces.

—By decree 7,539, of the 12th ult., the government concedes to Mr. C. P. Micks a privilege for constructing and operating telephonic lines in the cities of Rio de Janeiro and Niterói, with permission to connect the two cities with a submarine cable. The concession grants permission to carry the lines into public and private buildings, and requires that the company shall furnish all subscribers with telephones gratuitously, and shall submit its monthly or annual subscription rates to the approval of the government. Existing lines are to remain intact, and the right to construct private lines is retained. The concession is given for a term of ten years, with a proviso that the government will not authorize a similar enterprise during a term of five years. We understand that it is Mr. Mackie's purpose to establish a "telephonic exchange" similar to those so widely used in the United States.

—Fired by the recent complaints in Botafogo bay, a number of the boatmen and bargemen who are accustomed to a happy and primitive existence on the bay of Rio de Janeiro, effected an organization and made a descent upon the peaceful shores of Gamboa during the night of the 9th instant. They had no cannons nor breech-loading muskets, nor did they have any clean white trousers. At the dead hour of midnight when nothing disturbed the peaceful slumber of the policeman but the murmur of the sea and the never-ending yelps of the Rio Gó, these hardy sons of the sea effected a landing and made a vigorous attack on that avary suburb. The policemen rallied, as is their wont, and a fierce combat ensued, in which sticks, and stones, and flashing swords took the place of cannon and musketry. The hard forces finally received a reinforcement, and the invaders were driven away. We await a dispatch from the minister of war.

—Charles A. Morsing, Esq., chief engineer of the Baturité railway company, Ceará, arrived in this city on the 10th instant, by the coasting steamer Pará. Mr. Morsing reports favorably on the prospects of the railway, and expects to complete it by the 1st of April next. There is a population of 30,000 people living on government rations along the line of the works, 3,000 of which are employed in carrying water. All grown males are obliged to work on the construction of the railway as a condition precedent to drawing rations. Mr. Morsing has displayed great administrative ability in successfully utilizing the material thus thrown upon government support.

—In passing down the Ouvidor this (Saturday) morning, a friend of ours—and a thoroughly venturesome and adventurous young man, by the way—Pará, saw that he counted 2,721 beggars, or 475 beggars to the square foot. They all took the shady side of the street, all forced their deformities, diseases and filth into all the stores and upon the attention of every person, and all wore the professional air of individuals doing a respectable and legitimate business. It is said that they are increasing in number. Why would it not be good policy to build another asylum for them?

—It will be interesting to know that, in view of the recent impulse given to the decorative art in this city, there is a philanthropic individual who proposes to establish an *express* for that purpose and has taken a pension from our city fathers, and put the blank walls of the city with pictures, emblems, physiognomies, etc. All he asks in an authorization to *read* with the owners of the walls. It is not to be considered as a privilege—the only link is that no one else is to be authorized to collect pay for the embellishments. Owing to the rapidity with which unauthorized persons are decorating the walls, it is to be hoped that the aldermen will decide quickly, as all available space will soon be taken.

—Some unhappy victim complains to the Jornal do Commercio that the surveys detailed by the government to measure unoccupied grounds preparatory to the imposition of the new tax upon such property, are measuring the back-yards and gardens of occupied houses. As these houses already pay taxes which are deducted from their rents, this dissatisfied grumbler seems to think that a double tax is about to be collected. The Jornal, strange to say, seems to take the same view of the question, and argues that taxing back-yards as unoccupied grounds is an absurd interpretation of the law. That highly conservative sheet even hints that admission to these grounds should be refused to the surveyor. All this is revolutionary in the highest degree. The government can not be hampered by these changes of "abundant interpretation," "unjust enforcement," "double collection," etc., etc. The government can not undertake to think, to dig up possible inconsistencies, probable impossibilities. The government wants—it decrees!

—In reply to the charge made against the survey of unoccupied lands, the chief of the commission charged with that work writes that he is instructed to survey the grounds which are built upon as well as those which are not with a view of making a map of the city; that this is necessary in order to furnish data for drawing the line between these two classes of property as it is difficult to determine just what are dependencies upon dwelling houses and what are not; that without this work it will be impossible to determine the lands subject to this new tax, and that on its completion it can then be defined just how much ground can be exempted as belonging to a residence; and that the survey has no other end than to enable the treasury to proceed with "justice and equity" in the imposition and collection of this tax. All of which means, of course, that the tax collector will do as he pleases in the collection of taxes on private grounds and gardens and that the tax will be enforced with all the exactions and injustices now common to the water rates, *decima urbana*, and the many municipal taxes left to the discretion of subordinates. The law should leave nothing to the discretion of such men; it should define everything at the outset.

—There have been plentiful rains since our last issue, but for some strange reason there are still, localities in this city where the people are without water.

—The minister of empire has approved of the municipal by-law which enforces the closing of all places of business on Sundays and holidays, druggists' shops excepted. Provision shops are allowed to keep open until midday.

—The United States corvette Wachusett, Captain Byron Wilson, arrived at this port from Boston on the 11th inst. She took sixty-six days for the passage, a part of that time being employed in making soundings. The Shenandoah sailed for the River Plate on the 6th inst.

—On the evening of the 11th inst. the closing exercises took place of Mrs. Leslie's school on Santa Theresa hill, and on the following evening those of Mrs. Lutz's school on Nova Cunha hill. Both of these schools have been well attended and are in a very flourishing condition.

—The dispatchers of the custom house have organized a mutual relief association, and its by-laws have been approved by the government. Now let the importers organize a similar association also, in which they can "pool" their afflictions and vexations, and from which they can always draw the solace of companionship in misery.

—The Uberaba correspondent of the Jornal do Commercio says that at the close of a dramatic entertainment on the 23rd ult., a touching poem by Caspary da Silva was distributed among the spectators. Its subject was "Charity," preceded by that edifying theme of Victor Hugo—"He who gives into the poor lends unto the Lord." The only surprising thing about it is that the poet Gaspar did not credit the theme to Paul de Kock instead of Victor Hugo.

—It is said that the Barão de Tefé, who has been engaged in a profound study of this harbor for about two years, is soon to present the first part of his report to the government. The marked success of this illustrious and titled engineer in the deep water business, as is illustrated by his experience at the entrance to the port of Santos and in the port of Maranhão, entitles his views to a serious consideration. He is the one man of a thousand whose work requires a most careful and conscientious examination.

—Some one announces in the Jornal that the "merchants who formed a part of the revising committee" of the new tariff are proposing to get up a public manifestation to Sr. Costa Pinto, customs inspector, as a fitting acknowledgment of the manner in which he presided over their labors. If the manifestation goes no farther than the manners of the inspector, we presume there will be no objection; but if it includes also the results of the work, the questionable way in which the inspector finally treated their work, we very much doubt the spontaneity of the movement. At any rate, we shall be delighted to give publicity to the name of every merchant who worked on these committees and who is now willing to say: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"

—James Pinto was arrested and sent to the house of detention on the 28th ult. for appropriating and transferring to his own name at the Caixa de Amortização twenty-six *apólices* belonging to a minor, a son of Sr. João Carlos de Souza. We are sending James' explanation of the affair with great anxiety. If he proposes to invest in a lottery and to pay back the *apólices* with the proceeds, if he simply borrowed the money for a short time, or if somebody is to be educated or some charity benefited by it, we are confident that an indulgent pupil will overlook the appropriation.

—We have received the three first numbers of a new journal "devoted exclusively to music," which was begun in New York on the 16th of October under the direction of Messrs. A. Mac Martin, G. Kooblé and J. C. Rodrigues. The *Musical Review* will be published weekly, and will contain a vast amount of music, selected by music-loving endeavor to fill a want long felt by music-loving people by the impartial discussion of all matters pertaining to music and the compilation of news respecting music and musicians. One of its editors, Mr. J. C. Rodrigues, is well known in Brazil as the editor and publisher of the *O Novo Mundo* and *Revista Industrial*.

—Bernardino Francisco Vallettero is an unfortunate man. He went out on the 6th inst., as was his custom, to solicit alms from the charitable for the purpose of burying his mother, who had just died. Broken with grief from his great loss—a loss to which he has never been reconciled through all his long experience—and bowed with humiliation at the necessity of seeking the charity of others in a matter which appealed solely and deeply to his own filial heart—but the poor body could wait no longer—he wended his way to the Largo de São Francisco and began his sorrowful duty. In an unfortunate moment he ran across an unfeeling policeman who doubted his story. He was taken to a station and examined where it was discovered that he had no mother, that he was one of the many vagabonds who never have anything to eat nor anywhere to sleep, and that he had already collected 12,440 for funeral expenses. And Bernardino is only one in a thousand.

—It transpires that the *modus operandi* of the treasury officer, José Pereira Lopes da Silva, who was dismissed for dishonesty last month, was something like this: A man enters the collector's office and pays 350\$. José receives the money, fills out a receipt for 50\$ which he carries to the proper officials for signature and entry into the books of the office; and then while on his way back to the man who is waiting for his receipt, he (José) contrives to prefix a figure 3 to the 50\$ mentioned in the paper. The man then has his receipt for 350\$ regularly signed, the treasury has 50\$ and that amount regularly entered in its books, and José has the difference, 300\$, in his pocket. It is the opinion of the administrator of the collector's office that this fraud could not have taken place without the connivance of the outside parties—an opinion which is probably advanced to justify the threatened action of the treasury in re-collecting the amounts stolen from parties who hold the altered receipts.



THE RIO NEWS.

The provincial assembly of Rio de Janeiro closed its second session on the 4th instant.

During November the police fined 33 drivers of diverse vehicles and 16 cartmen for infractions of city ordinances.

The Italian steamer Pompea, which arrived at this port from Genoa on the 30th ult., brought 647 immigrants, destined for colonies in Santa Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul.

The government has conceded (Decree 7,560, of Nov. 29th) a privilege for ten years to Mr. Frederick W. Emes for a railway vacuum brake...

Notwithstanding the late rains the residents of Rua Nova do Principe assert that there has not been a drop of water distributed in that street for four months.

A wounded man was taken to the hospital. "Where were you wounded?" asked the physician; "it was here near the verberal column?" "No, sir; it was near the Caroca police station."

The Journal do Commercio says that it has seen samples of "Aqua Florida" made in the "imperial steam manufactory of Messrs. Loto & Alves," of Porto Alegre, which seems to be equal to the imported article.

One course no one wishes to complain nor publish his suspicions, but, we hear it asked, where has the yellow fever gone to? How is it that the disease which has been with us all through the cool season, has quite left us at the approach of the hot season?

The protest of Sr. Calogeras and others against the concession of privileges to Messrs. William Darley Bentley and Charles Collins for the construction of a railway from this city to Petropolis and Aguas Claras, because it conflicts with privileges already granted, has been politely deferred.

Dr. Pinheiro de Bittencourt lectured on the 7th inst. on the use and abuse of tobacco. That's all very well, but if the lecturer had discussed the abuses to which humanity is subjected by the constant use of cigars and cigarettes in public places, such as street cars, ferry boats, theatres, etc., he would have touched upon a fertile theme.

There is no place in the world where a man will smoke in your face—and ladies are not excepted—with greater nonchalance than in Rio de Janeiro.

COMMERCIAL

Table with columns for destination, 1879, 1878, 1877. Includes entries for United States, Europe, and other regions.

EXCHANGE

Table with columns for destination, 1879, 1878, 1877, 1876, 1875. Includes entries for Europe, United States, and other regions.

MOVEMENT OF THE STOCK MARKET FROM DECEMBER 4th TO DEC. 10th INCLUSIVE.

Table with columns for shares, company, and price. Lists various banks and financial institutions.

CASH STATEMENT

Proportion of cash reserve to liabilities on deposits at call and on 30 days notice of the banks of Rio de Janeiro, taken from the official monthly balances published November 29th 1879.

Table with columns for banks, deposits, and cash. Lists various banks and their financial data.

N. B.—Where a bank declares part of its cash to be in the Banco do Brasil such amount is deducted from the balance of the latter and included in that of the former.

During the month of October 1,465,549 kilos, or 1,043.0 tons, of rubber were dispatched at the provincial collector's office of Parana.

SHIPPING NEWS.

ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN VESSELS. DECEMBER 3. Richmond—Nor. bk. Braziliana; 25 tons; Thomson; 47 dc; 2,500 lbs. Bag. for Philipps Bros. & Co.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS. DECEMBER 3. Lissabon, 6—Dunch brig Ida de Johannes; 150 tons; Rooker; coffee.

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DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

DECEMBER 3. Lissabon, 6—Dunch brig Ida de Johannes; 150 tons; Rooker; coffee.

DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN STEAMERS. DECEMBER 3. Richmond—Nor. bk. Braziliana; 25 tons; Thomson; 47 dc; 2,500 lbs. Bag. for Philipps Bros. & Co.

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FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT OF RIO DE JANEIRO, DEC. 13 1879.

Table with columns for name, where from, consigned to. Lists various shipping companies and destinations.

On the 20th ult. there were 45 vessels anchored in the port of Rio Grande do Sul, of which 13 were Brazilian, 10 British, 8 Portuguese, 4 German, 2 American and 1 Swedish.

The Bahia Italia steamer was shipwrecked on the Bagua shoals on the night of the 23rd October last. The captain and crew arrived at Parati with their personal effects on the 24th ult., and reported the vessel a total loss.

The Br. bk. Sankler, Br. brig. Lady Bird, and Br. brig. Z. B. sailed from Pernambuco for Rio de Janeiro on the 24th ult., which cargoes of sugar.

The Dan. brig. Ingomar arrived at Bahia from Liverpool on the 31st inst. with materials for the Nazareth tramway and the "Trilho Central" company.

THESELS LEAVING. New York—Gr. brig. Santa Cruz; 5,000 lbs. coffee; £200. Also—Br. brig. Mary; 5,000 lbs. coffee; Philipps Bros. & Co., 120c.

EXPECTED TO LOAD. New York—Br. steamer. New York—Fr. steamer.

FREIGHTS. NOTE.—Since our issue of the 13th inst. there has been a very marked decline in sailing rates to European ports.

BANKS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES

OUR "BLUGGY" COLUMN

At a place called Melancias, province of Bahia, Felipe da Silva Pinapin was shot by his brother Victor da Silva.

A soldier of the 11th battalion, accompanying the Brazilian boundary commission on the upper Rio Negro, recently assassinated a comrade.

On the 6th ult., at a place called Ilhetas, near Limoeiro, Pernambuco, a certain Joaquim M. de Jesus met Manoel Rodrigues da Silva whom he knocked down and afterwards stabbed through and through.

According to the Diario de Maranhão a boy of 13 years was recently brought before the police authorities for committing a rape on a girl of 9 years. Both were censured.

Lucas Brando, of Santa Victoria, Rio Grande do Sul, was in no trifling humor on the 17th ult. He killed a mutton, named Bertoldo, with a gun shot, apparently without cause, and then severely wounded José Matias because he interfered.

A Pelotas correspondent of the Gazeta de Porto Alegre of the 28th ult., says that the body of an Italian commercial traveller, named Rafael, was recently found in the Boqueirão district with his throat cut.

On the 25th ult., at a place called Charuca, province of Pernambuco, says the Jornal do Recife, João Francisco Pereira de Moraes killed a septuagenarian José Bon-Fim dos Santos with a sword and wounded the old man's wife who endeavored to secure assistance. The criminal escaped.

João Espindola Martins went up to the Rio do Ouro on the 3rd to receive his wages. Returning he met four individuals who knocked him about a little and then emptied his pockets as a retributive punishment for his trouble. João called on the police the following day and exhibited his losses.

São Paulo papers of the 7th inst. state that a German, named Christian Schroeder, was recently assassinated in Campinas, in the square of the Protestant cemetery. The assassin was a black man in whose company Schroeder has refused to drink at a tavola.

Two assassins were captured and imprisoned at Uberaba, Minas Geraes, on the 26th and 27th ult. One, Francisco da Costa, killed a man named José Joaquim de Pousa-Alto, Goiaz; the other, Januario Ferreira de Faria, had killed his father-in-law in Fruclat, Minas Geraes.

On the 11th ult. at Parahyba José Fernandes Lima, master of a national bark, and Raymundo João de Andrade quarreled on shore, and on their return to their vessel the quarrel ended in a wound which caused Raymundo's death before morning. Lima was arrested.

Maria da Conceição and Quitéria Franca, residing in Rua de Santos Rodrigues, had a difference of opinion on the 5th inst., which they undertook to settle by tooth and nail. Maria, getting worsted in the encounter, resorted to a knife and routed her adversary with a wound in the left arm. Maria's playfulness was put under restraint.

A Rio Madeira correspondent of the Commercio de Amazonas, writing Oct. 23rd, says that on the Rio Aricaú, a Bolivian, named Belchior, recently established a river merchant named Monteiro de Sá through some business misunderstanding. Belchior is said to be guilty of other similar crimes, and is not distrusted because of intimate relations with the police subdelegado.

An ensign of the 7th battalion of infantry, named Manoel Braz de Oliveira, living at No. 11 Rua S. Leopoldo, assassinated his wife Rozalinda Emilia da Silveira, on the evening of the 14th inst. The woman received two wounds from revolver shots and twelve from a dagger. The assassin, after legs infidelity on the part of his wife as the reason for the act, an accusation which is denied by her brother.

Zeferino da Cruz, of Santa Victoria, Rio Grande do Sul, possesses a playful spirit that will do him credit some day. In some countries it would secure a very elevated position for him. While playing with a slave child the other day he drew a pistol and discharged it in order to impress the child with a due sense of his majesty and importance. The child accepted the proof and died the next day.

Romão Francisco de Udrigas, a black man 90 years old residing in the Bom Jardim district, Bahia, was recently assassinated by three men named Cavaleiro, and a fourth named Tiburcio. They had learned that the old man had money in his possession, and killed him to get it. It is said that they took over 1,000\$. The three Cavaleiros were counterfeits, as well as cutthroats. Three of the party were captured.

On the night of the 8th ult. as Otto Trein, cashier in the house of Hutch & Co., Porto Alegre, was going home he was assaulted on the street by two men who first begged money and then knocked him down with a club for the purpose of robbing him. The highwaymen were frightened away before accomplishing their purpose. The affair occurred at 10 o'clock, in the public street, and near a police station.

A poor man living at a place called Guayabi, Cascavel district, says a Ceará paper, was attacked at midnight of October 12th by a gang of ruffians and was beaten until he was left for dead. The wretches cut off one of his ears, and then attacked his wife, beating her mercilessly and cutting off her hair. One of the ruffians was a brother to a mistress of the police delegado, and when arrested he was promptly liberated on a writ of habeas corpus.

Ildefonso José Freire and Theresa Cavaleiro de Siqueira reside at the Pesqueira (Pernambuco) jail under charges of murder—the latter being charged with killing her husband. Being somewhat oppressed by the loneliness of their situation and drawn together by a companionship in misfortune, they procured a marriage license, and on the 23rd ult. were married at the parish church with all due form and ceremony. "Two loving hearts that beat as one," etc.

As a policeman was about to interrupt a fight in Ladeira João Honório, on the night of the 7th inst., he was set upon by a gang of ruffians armed with clubs, who not only rescued their companions, but also gave the policeman a severe clubbing. The wounded officer was sent to the hospital. On the following day two of the ruffians were arrested.

The house of Captain Manoel Joaquim de Magalhães, of Urubá, Bahia, was broken into some time since and robbed of property to the value of about 10,000\$. A slave woman, Luiza, who had been left in charge, was not to be found, and the robbery was supposed to have been committed by her. Three or four days after, however, the body of Luiza was found some distance below in the São Francisco river wrapped in a hammock and with a shawl drawn tightly about the neck. The real criminals were not known.

The delegado of police at Igarapé-mirim, Pará, issued a warrant for the capture of Manoel Antonio Pereira for an attempt to kill, and sent an officer with some citizens to arrest him. The party arrived at Manoel Pereira's house on the night of the 9th ult., which was closed against them. In the morning Manoel Pereira, armed with two guns, a revolver and knife, sallied forth, shot one of the besiegers, named Manoel Ceará, dragged his body into the house with vociferous cheers, and closed the door again. And there the account ends.

On the 19th ult. at Joinville, Santa Catharina, Carolina Henning was a quitted of the charge of killing Lisette Glade by a vote of 11 to 1 in the jury. The admitted facts were that the accused, after five years of married life, became so enraged by the criminal conduct of her husband and Lisette Glade that she armed herself with a knife and killed the latter in the house of a neighbor. The defense was: 1st, the accused had not been proved to be the guilty party; 2nd, that, admitting the first point, the conclusion could not be drawn that she intended to kill Lisette Glade; 3rd, that she, in the commission of the act, was in such a state of excitement that she had no knowledge of its criminality.

THE CANADA PACIFIC BUBBLE. The Dominion ministers who last summer went over to England to solicit an imperial guarantee for the Canada Pacific Railroad, we see it announced, are on their way back home, and, as might have been expected, without having accomplished their object. And what is still more aggravating, their overtures to private capitalists in England to come over and have ocular demonstration of the magnificent resources of the country, which, it is alleged, demand a highway to the Pacific for their proper development, appear to have been equally unsuccessful. Their eloquence was as ineffective as their arguments were unconvincing. So at least we conclude from the statements in such of the Dominion journals as are known to be in the confidence of the ministry. The result of this disappointment, even in advance of any official announcement of the failure, we are already beginning to discern, is a feeling or sentiment that the affection of the mother country is on the wane, and that the refusal of the imperial guarantee is but another evidence of the growing disposition of the home government to let the Dominion shift for itself. A philosophic view of the situation, however, would suggest that the home government has with held its guarantee, not really from any lack of solicitude for the welfare of the Dominion, but from a cautious indisposition to depart from its settled policy in questions of that kind, and from an indisposition also to encourage an enterprise which, to put it mildly, has all the attributes of a large bubble. Nor can they find fault with the inability of the private capitalists to accept their promises and prospectuses at their face value. Railroads through wildernesses, predicated upon inviolable commercial, political and social necessities that lie in the far-off future, at one time had irresistible temptations of the Atlantic; but, it is not too much to say, the rough experiences of the past few years have remanded all such magnificent projects on paper to the catalogue of things that it is best not to touch.—N. Y. Com. Bulletin, Sept. 22.

PRINTING-OFFICE FOR SALE THE BOOK AND JOB DEPARTMENT OF THE RIO NEWS printing-office, known as the "Typographic Office," comprising the type, furniture, press and machinery, excepting the Rio News outfit, will be sold as good terms. It is considered to be the best mounted and best equipped office in the city.

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Table with columns: DATE, STEAMER, DESTINATION. Includes departures for Dec 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30 and Jan 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 27.

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