

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY
on the eve of departure of the American packet, the French packet of the 15th, and 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.

RIO DE JANEIRO, AUGUST 24TH, 1880.

It must be said that the necessity of bringing about an equalization between the receipts and expenditures of the government has obtained a firm hold upon the minds of many legislators, but it can not be said that the country has yet received any great benefit from the working of the law.

Mr. President: I have just read a great and memorable act of the Belgian government making a conversion of its lawful bonds. There, Mr. President, an important law was enacted to this effect: authorizing the government to convert its bonds of 4 1/2 per cent. into those of 4 per cent.—and that, too, without one single creditor complaining.

At a time when the great coffee-producing districts of Brazil are lamenting the coming crisis in labor through the abolition of slavery and are busily devising means to supply its place by another species of servitude through the importation of coolies, the province of Rio Grande do Sul has undertaken to solve the problem in a totally different and far more intelligent way.

The answers to these questions can not fail to be highly important to every business man in the empire. We believe that they would be serviceable even to ministers and legislators. It should not be that the minister of finance has delayed his reply for the purpose of studying the question; the fullest and most explicit replies should not only be immediately available but they should be always available.

small proprietorships. The small farmer, who has accomplished so much elsewhere, will accomplish no less in Brazil, and instead of the languishing state of agriculture which must inevitably come in the coffee districts under the present regime, the work of his own hand and brain in Rio Grande will insure to her an unchecked prosperity and development.

On the 26th of June last Deputy Saldanha Maranhão addressed an important interpellation to the government with relation to the financial state and administration of the country. Two months have now passed and the interpellation still remains unanswered. In view of the circumstance that Brazil is ostensibly a constitutional representative government this failure to answer important questions is a matter of no slight moment.

What expenses of 1878-79 were paid with the receipts of 1879-80 to the amount of 60,292,338\$723? To what year belongs the balance of 28,080,340\$345 said to exist Dec. 31, 1879? What are the actual expenditures for the years 1878-79 and 1879-80 to date at current and par rates of exchange? What are the preliminary expenses for the tax of 20 reis per square metre on unoccupied lands in Rio?

The noble president of the council said that he had not considered the question of emancipation, and the minister of agriculture has repeated these words: "The government has not taken this question into consideration," and from the benches of this Chamber were heard voices: "Your excellency restores the country."

amount to \$300,000; it is said here that the loss will be 1,000,000\$; it is also said that the ex-minister finally declined all responsibility and threw the losses upon a great banking institution and a prominent commercial house, through which the business was done.

THE EMANCIPATION QUESTION.

In the discussion of the annual budget of the department of agriculture in the Chamber of Deputies on the 10th inst. Deputy Joaquim Nabuco made an eloquent and forcible speech on the question of emancipation and the attitude of the ministry toward it.

Gentlemen: it is with sincere regret that I see even in the present budget that there is an intention to tamper with which it has been endowed by law. I am perfectly well aware that when economy is mentioned it only refers to two branches of our public service, the most important of all—public instruction and emancipation.

Gentlemen: the noble minister was perfectly right in calling the Chamber's attention to the service which he has rendered in distributing the emancipation fund, not only for the year of his administration but for preceding years.

But I am not content with the glory which the noble minister of agriculture has achieved in distributing the emancipation fund. I would have him do much more; I would have him restore the emancipation fund to all the resources which a law, voted by the country and a solemn law which binds us as much before ourselves as before the whole world, has created for this special and sacred service.

Nevertheless, in the present budget, as in its predecessors, 25 per cent. of this small and most insignificant emancipation fund is diverted to a purpose entirely foreign, entirely outside the emancipation of the slaves—the education of their free-born children. . . . The law devoted to the emancipation fund not only special taxes and fines and proceeds of lotteries, to all of which the law refers, but also an amount which should be annually voted by the legislature, as well as by the provincial assemblies.

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Gentlemen: this question is not one of those which the government can ignore. The government may have a settled opinion that it would be dangerous to initiate any measures, and that it ought to take no steps in this direction.

I would ask his excellency, amongst other things how a certain practice in the hands of the state is being carried on, a practice which consists of the infliction of chastisement by public authorities on slaves at the pleasure of their owners.

there were sold Africans imported after the law of 1831. . . . I still wish to call the attention of the noble minister to a case which has resulted in the liberation of more than a hundred of men illegally enslaved by the Morro Velho mining company, for I wish to know if this sentence has been fully carried out and what steps the government has taken to enforce compensation from the English company for the time which it kept in captivity those unfortunates who were free.

Gentlemen: in all that vast territory occupied by the Caucasian race to-day Brazil is the only quarter in which slavery still flourishes. Spain which in Europe shared with Turkey the privilege of being a slave-holding nation has just declared slavery extinct in the island of Cuba. We, in America, and Turkey, in Europe, are the only civilized nations which still preserve this institution, weighed down with years as with the crimes which have stained the whole face of our land with blood.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

The sessions of the Senate since our last report have been occupied principally with private bills, as usual. The bill fixing the land forces of the empire was passed on the 12th. The only other bill of importance before the house for discussion has been the budget for the department of empire which has not yet passed its 2nd reading.

The Chamber has been busily occupied lately with several matters of more than usual interest. On the 12th Deputy Moreira de Barros, of S. Paulo, presented a bill for annulling all inter-provincial traffic in slaves, under penalties of the law of Sept. 4, 1850.

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On the 17th the Chamber received a proposition from the "Navegação Brasileira" company for the performance of the service between New York and Brazil now performed by the American line, and for the same subsidy.

The bill granting a ten years' privilege to Guilherme Schuch de Capanema for the manufacture of carbon sulphide in Brazil has been up for discussion frequently since last report and was finally passed on the 20th.

LOCAL NOTES

The entries for the athletic sports will close tomorrow, the 25th.

By an imperial letter of the 14th inst. Dr. Luiz Felipe de Souza Leão was chosen senator from the province of Pernambuco.

The Gabinete Portuguez de Leitura delivered 200 copies of its fine edition of the Lusads to the department of empire on the 16th inst.

Another French society has conferred an honorary membership on Dr. José Pereira Rego Filho. We did not know that there were so many societies in all Europe.

The application of Mr. James C. Jewett, of New York, for a concession to collect, prepare and export phosphates and guano from the islands of and near the Fernando de Noronha group, paying therefor the sum of \$1.50 per ton, was rejected by the minister of agriculture on the 15th inst.

According to a telegram from Rome of the 19th inst., new difficulties have arisen between Brazil and the Vatican as to the filling of the episcopal chair in the diocese of Olinda, Pernambuco.

The steam fire engine long since ordered from Merryweather & Sons, London, for the fire department of this city, was passed through the custom house on the 13th inst.

According to Deputy Frederico Rego the number of employes in the treasury department is 649. As this deputy proposes to have the receipts and expenditures balanced in the budget, this regiment of public officials will now come into active service.

According to a recent letter from a member of the mission to China, every one of the Brazilians now there are enchanted with the Chinese. They say that the Chinaman must be seen near by order to be appreciated, in order that his physical vigor, his ardor, and his ability to labor may be fully known.

The two jobs of furnishing the military with 12,000 pairs of shoes and 13,000 caps, against which the local press has been so outspoken, have at last been given up. It does not yet transpire whether the troops are to go bare-footed and bare-headed for the future, or whether other contracts will be entered into.

The Journal of the 19th inst. calls the attention of the tariff revision commission to one of the articles (607) of the present tariff which should be so revised as to give it greater elasticity. Our colleague says: This article imposes on hats made of silk, pure or mixed, a tax of \$1500 each on plain ones and \$3000 on trimmed ones.

The Barão de Teffé having charged the inhabitants of Paranaçu with moving the buoy placed on the lower end of the Itapema reef, the latter responded so energetically on the 12th ult. as to stir up even the sleepy little town of Antonina, in whose interests the Barão has been working for so many years.

We are informed that the noble and distinguished engineer and statesman, Comendador Fulano de Figueiredo Sá, is about to petition the General Assembly for a special ninety years' privilege for the manufacture of his celebrated "Cimexda Sá"—an invaluable preparation for relieving the domestic establishments of the country from that irrepresible pest, the cimex lectularius.

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The following table, compiled from the Diario de Santos, shows the movement of the slave population of the three maritime districts of Santos, S. Vicente and Conceição, province of S. Paulo, up to the 31st of December, 1878.

Table with columns: district, materialized, registered, total, freed, removed, died. Rows for Santos, S. Vicente, Conceição, and totals.

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COMMERCIAL

The American packet City of Paris left Para for this port on the 20th inst.

Par value of the Brazilian mil reis (4,000) gold 27 d.

It is reported that the Emperor has appointed Conselheiro Thomas Fortunato de Brito, Barão de Arios, the Brazilian minister to the court of Belgium, as the third arbitrator between the United States and France.

August 23, 1880. Bank rate of exchange on London today 23 1/2 d.

The projectivist visit of Carlos Gomes to Niteroi on the 29th inst. will be celebrated by the organization of a society to be known as the "Congreso Literario Guarany."

August 14.—Light transactions on London at 23 1/2 d. bank paper, and 2 1/2 and 3 1/2 mercantile paper.

Annotated by the success of Counselor Capama with his privilege for manufacturing sulphate of carbon, Adolpho Pinz Galvao recently applied for a similar privilege to manufacture sulphate of guanine.

August 18.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

The Societa Academica de Emancipação, of the military school of this city, have finally effected an organization composed of 22 officers and a limited number of private members.

August 19.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

A treasury circular of the 3rd inst. provides that in the collection hereafter of the 1 1/2 per cent. tax on foreign goods shipped from one Brazilian port to another, it may be assessed ad valorem on goods according to invoice valuation.

August 21.—Bank rates unchanged at 23 1/2 d. on London, 40 1/2 on Paris, 56 to 57 on Hamburg.

João José dos Santos was discovered in a house on the 4th of February last and was caught after a brief pursuit, the 4th of February last and was caught after a brief pursuit, the 4th of February last and was caught after a brief pursuit.

August 22.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

On the morning of the 19th inst. as a Carris Urbano was passing through Rua de Theophilus Ottoni it accidentally ran off the track.

August 23, 1880. Bank rate of exchange on London today 23 1/2 d.

According to a statement made by Senator Cordeiro on the 18th inst. the government had paid over 13,800,000 to the house of Francisco de Figueiredo & Co. since June, 1877, for expenditure in relief of the famine-stricken provinces of the north.

August 24.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

It is now announced that Julio Cesar Ribeiro de Souza, of Para, has at last definitely solved the problem of aerial navigation, the aereostat Julio Cesar having notified the president of the province of his success.

August 25.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

In discussing the budget of the department of empire, on the 19th inst. the Barão de Cotegipe took the government to task for not dismissing and punishing corrupt officials.

August 26.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

The minister of agriculture gave instructions to the director of the Dom Pedro II railway on the 20th inst. to transfer the service of discharging and storing coffee from the central to the Gamboa station at the earliest moment possible.

August 27.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

MON'LY SUMMARY. Meteorological observations taken at Braz, in the city of S. Paulo, during the month of July, 1880.

August 28.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

Receipts continue increasing and the average since the beginning of the month is now 13,250 per day, against 13,054 bags per day in August, 1879.

August 29.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

Compank a Cantabrisca e Egloas. Lat. 23° 30' S., 48° 40' W. (Greenwich). Height of barometer: 2,933 ft. above mean sea level.

August 30.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

Thunder and lightning on 8 days. Lunar halo was observed on evening of 12th. Lightning seen, thunder low, on two days. Fog on the mornings of 9 days and evening of 17 days. Dew on the mornings of 18 and on the evenings of 17 days.

August 31.—Market much firmer than there was but little business done, and that principally in mercantile paper.

Market steady. The arrivals have been 105,815 feet per Urthia from New York, which have been sold at 100 reis per foot. Market well supplied.

RECEIPTS OF FOREIGN VESSELS. PENNSYLVANIA—Dr ship Covens, 1,225 tons; Steamer: ballast. PHOENIX—Dr ship Covens, 1,225 tons; Steamer: ballast. NEW YORK—Dr ship Laffa, 556 tons; Downer: ballast.

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DEPARTURES OF FOREIGN VESSELS. AUGUST 13. PENNSYLVANIA—Dr ship Covens, 1,225 tons; Steamer: ballast. PHOENIX—Dr ship Covens, 1,225 tons; Steamer: ballast. NEW YORK—Dr ship Laffa, 556 tons; Downer: ballast.

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ARRIVALS OF FOREIGN STEAMERS. TABLE WITH COLUMNS: DATE, NAME, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNED TO.

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FOREIGN SAILING VESSELS IN THE PORT OF RIO DE JANEIRO, AUG. 20, 1880. TABLE WITH COLUMNS: NAME, TONNAGE, DESTINATION, WHERE FROM, CONSIGNED.

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PROVINCIAL NOTES.

The city council of Santos has authorized the purchase of a small fire engine.
An extraordinary session of the Maranhão provincial assembly is called for the 26th inst. to vote the provincial budget.

The Mantos custom house receipts in June were 23,796\$938. The total receipts for the year 1879-80 were 312,322\$877.

The police delegado and promoto publico at S. Francisco, Ceará, have been dismissed because of the part taken in the election conflict of June 30.

The S. Paulo papers state that the river steamer Piracaiaba arrived at Piracaiaba from Porto dos Lençoes on the 31st ult. with 800 arrobas of coffee.

We learn from the Actualidade, of Ouro Preto, that a "minute examination of the island of Alaska" has lately been made by a naval officer of the United States.

A municipal election fight at Coadajaz, province of Amazonas, early in July, resulted in four persons wounded and three bruised. Troops were sent there from Mandos at once.

The Artista, of Rio Grande, complains of the existence of a daring gang of thieves in that city through whose industry many people have recently suffered considerable loss.

The provincial assembly of Bahia has applied to the General Assembly for the creation of a second legislative house for that province in accordance with Art. III of the additional act.

The receipts of the Uruguanayma, Rio Grande do Sul, custom house during the fiscal year 1879-80 were 336,123\$256 as against 395,184\$123 in 1878-79. The falling off in revenue was therefore 29,061\$867.

That item about the female journalists of the United States has now nearly completed the rounds of the provincial press. It would quite break the hearts of our fair colleagues to see the pitiable state to which their names have now been reduced.

The Provincia, of São Paulo, of the 11th inst. announces the arrest of Domingos Calabrero the previous day for passing counterfeit coin. The coins were gold 10\$ and silver 500 reis, and were made of some base metal galvanized with gold and silver.

At a meeting of the Sociedade Auxiliadora da Agricultura, of Pernambuco, on the 5th inst., a representation to the General Assembly was adopted against the unconstitutional exclusion of the great mass of agricultural laborers and tenants from the right of suffrage.

The Gaceta of Porto Alegre is still denouncing the bad management of the postoffice of that province. There seems to be no regularity in the mail service and no certainty in the receipt of mails. The continued abuses would seem to prove the complexity of those who have the power to check them but who have thus far failed too so.

The provincial government of Rio Grande do Sul has taken measures of its own to encourage immigration to that province. The last provincial assembly appropriated the sum of 119,000\$ for this service and authorized the president to survey public lands and to reorganize the service of colonization. The price fixed for public lands is one real per square metre, or at the rate of \$497 per acre. The maximum extent of land allowed to each colonist is 74 acres and cash payments will be allowed 12 per cent. discount.

The brigantine Echo was recently wrecked on the S. Thomé beach, some fifty miles above Machés, province of Rio de Janeiro. According to the Monitor Campana, of the 18th inst., a police force had gone to that place to assist in saving the cargo. It was said that fully two thousand persons had collected at the place to rub the wreck, and that the most audacious robberies were committed in open day. They stole even the spurs and riding whip of the police delegado. The woods near by were filled with concealed chests of wine, boxes of beer, pieces of canvas, etc.

RAILROAD NOTES.

Decree 7,793, of the 17th inst., approves the plans for the extension of the Dom Pedro II line from Quêlez to Ilabrão do Campo, Minas Geraes, a distance of 61 kilometers.

Some planters and merchants of Bananal, São Paulo, are trying to raise capital for the construction of a railway between that place and Barra Mansa, on the Dom Pedro II line.

The testing of the Westinghouse air brake on the mountain grades of the Dom Pedro II is to take place on the 26th inst. The directors and engineers of various railways have been invited to be present.

The two men who introduced the first railway locomotive into the United States in 1829 are still living. Three locomotives were bought in England for the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co. for use on a wooden railway connecting the Lackawanna coal fields with tide water. The first trial was made at Honesdale, Pa., August 8, 1829. The engines weighed seven tons and proved too heavy for the wooden track.

The main line of the "Philadelphia a Caravelas" railway, to which the government has recently granted the privilege of purchasing six kilometers of unsettled public land each side of the line, will be 320 kilometers long, and will connect the interior of Minas Geraes with the port of Caravelas, province of Bahia. The surveys of the line have been completed at 600\$ per kilometer, and the cost of construction is estimated at 23,600\$ per kilometer. The total cost of the line, exclusive of the projected branches, is estimated at 7,360,000\$. The provinces of Minas Geraes and Bahia have conceded to it a subvention of 9,000\$ per kilometer, or a guarantee of 7 per cent. interest, the former on a maximum of 5,000,000\$ and the latter on a maximum 5,500,000\$. The lands specified in the recent legislative authorization are to be devoted to the foundation of colonies along the line. It is expected that on the completion of the road the port of Caravelas will at once become of great importance and will be the outlet for all the productions of interior Minas. It is believed that Caravelas will then become a port of call for foreign steamship lines and will have direct communication with foreign countries.

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