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**HANDBOOK**  
**OF THE**  
**RIVER PLATE REPUBLICS.**

**COMPRISING**

**BUENOS AYRES AND THE PROVINCES OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC  
AND THE REPUBLICS OF URUGUAY AND PARAGUAY.**

**BY**

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# HANDBOOK

OF

## THE RIVER PLATE.

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### INTRODUCTION.

THE River Plate offers a fine field for immigrants, as is proved by the thousands of Europeans here who have gained fortune and position during the last twenty years. It is, however, absolutely necessary to bear in mind the classes of emigrants most needed in a new country:—

1st. Farm servants; unmarried men, of strong constitutions, accustomed to country life, will find immediate employment at 30*l.* per annum, being found in house, provisions, horses, &c. After two or three years, they usually get a flock of sheep with third profits, and ultimately become independent farmers.

2nd. Cooks and housemaids; unmarried women at once get situations in native or foreign families, at 35*l.* to 55*l.* per annum. They often get married to the above class of sheep-farmers.

3rd. Young married couples; when unencumbered with family, this class is in greater demand than any other. The husband as sheep-peon or gardener, and the wife as cook. If they hire on an estancia in Buenos Ayres their joint wages may be calculated at 50*l.* to 60*l.* per annum, but if they go to Banda Oriental, Entre Rios, or the other provinces, they will earn much more.

No passport is required on landing in the River Plate, but if the emigrant has no friends here, it would be well for him to bring a certificate of baptism or other document showing his name and nationality. In receiving letters at the Post Office, taking out a marriage licence, receiving money from home, &c.,

positive proof of identity is required, and as passage tickets are often lost, an official document is more valuable.

There are fifteen lines of steamers :—

1. *The Royal Mail Company* dispatch a steamer on the morning of the 9th and 24th of every month, from Southampton. Fares—1st class, 35*l.* and upwards ; return tickets, available for twelve months, issued at a fare and a half ; 2nd class, 25*l.*, good accommodation. Bed, bedding, plate, and utensils provided for both classes. A reduction of one-sixth is allowed for families of four or more persons travelling first-class. The steamer calls at Lisbon, Cape Verdes, Bahia, Pernambuco, and Rio Janeiro. The voyage takes twenty-eight days to Montevideo, and twenty-nine to Buenos Ayres. For regulations about luggage, &c., apply to J. M. Lloyd, Esq., 55, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.

2. *The Messageries Maritimes*, or French mail line from Bordeaux, established in 1861, also carry a fortnightly mail, leaving Bordeaux on the 5th and 20th. Few Englishmen come by this line, but if a person wishes to visit Paris *en passant* he can reach Bordeaux from London in two days. The vessels call at Lisbon, Dakar, Bahia, Pernambuco, and Rio Janeiro : they are similar to the Royal Mail steamers. First cabin, including wine, 50*l.* Second cabin, 20*l.* Office—Messrs. Fletcher and Co., Liverpool, and Messrs. Horne, 4, Moorgate Street, London.

3. *The Liverpool and River Plate Mail Company* dispatch a mail steamer from Liverpool on the 20th of each month, calling at Lisbon, Bahia, and Rio Janeiro, besides other steamers of this line every fifteen or twenty days. The treatment and accommodation on board are excellent. The line was established in 1863, and in 1868 obtained a mail charter from the British Government. First cabin, 35*l.* Second cabin, 25*l.* Steerage, 16*l.* The 1st and 2nd classes are found in everything ; steerage passengers get rations on the emigration dietary scale. Agents—Messrs. Lamport and Holt, 21, Water Street. Reduction for families. Return ticket, for twelve months, at a fare and a half.



4. *The Pacific Navigation Company* dispatch a fortnightly steamer from Liverpool for Valparaiso, calling at Rio Janeiro and Montevideo; the voyage to the River Plate is made in twenty-six days, the vessels being constructed for great speed. The Company was established in 1868, and has a subsidy of 12,000*l.* per annum from the Chilian Government.

Besides the above, there are two lines from Glasgow, two from Havre, one from Hamburgh, one from Bremen, three from Genoa and Marseilles, and one from Naples.

We advise the emigrant to provide himself with an abundant supply of light clothing, not only for the voyage, but because they cost here three times their value in England, and may be introduced duty free. They must be *boná fide* for personal use. A gun or revolver, saddle and equipments, should not be omitted.

Emigrants bringing money should obtain a letter of credit through any bank in England, Ireland, or Scotland, on the London and River Plate, Mercantile, or Mauá Banks of this city and Montevideo.

The voyage is usually made in thirty days, the distance being about 7800 statute miles. The outset is often disagreeable in crossing the Bay of Biscay, but the rest of the voyage is generally delightful, and rough weather is exceedingly rare between Lisbon and Rio Janeiro.

Lisbon is reached in four days from England. The entrance to the Tagus is highly picturesque. The panorama of the city is most attractive; a crowd of steamers, war-vessels, and shipping line the quays. We land at the Custom House, in the Terreyro do Paço, or Black-horse Square. The streets of the new town are spacious, the houses six or seven stories high, and all built of stone. The three principal streets, Rua Aurea, Rua Augusta, and Rua da Prata are on the site of the earthquake of 1755, when most of the old town, with 40,000 inhabitants, was destroyed.

Englishmen usually stop at the Hotel Braganza, which

surmounts one of the seven hills, and is situated close to the Opera House, in the aristocratic quarter: charge, 8s. a day. It may give some idea of Lisbon to say that it comprises 355 streets, 281 travessas or causeways, 12 plazas, 52 plazuelas, 5 public parks, 6 theatres, 200 churches, and 36 public fountains. It contains over 300,000 inhabitants, and enjoys a fine climate. The traveller should visit the Cathedral, the Abbey of Belen, the Paseo da Estrella, the Aqueduct, and the Opera House. In the coffee-houses may be had capital port wine at 2s. a bottle. The English book-store is in Rua do Carmo. If the steamer delay more than one day the traveller should take the tramway out to Cintra, 17 miles, one of the most charming spots in the universe. There is now railway communication from Lisbon to Paris, and some people come this way to avoid the Bay of Biscay. The route is this—Paris to Bordeaux, 12 hours; Bordeaux to Madrid, 20 hours; Madrid to Badajoz, 16 hours; Badajoz to Lisbon, 15 hours. Between Madrid and Lisbon the traveller had better carry provisions.

Four days from Lisbon we pass the Canary Isles, the Peak of Teneriffe rising to a height of 11,000 feet. The late Marshal O'Donnell was born here. The islands produce good wine and fruits. Lord Nelson fought one of his battles here.

Lamport and Holt's steamers sometimes call at Madeira, a very pleasant halt for passengers.

The Cape Verde Islands are made in seven days from Lisbon. San Antonio is fertile and mountainous; opposite to it is the Island of St. Vincent, the most barren spot on the world's surface; sundry bold ranges of mountains, but not a particle of vegetation. The port is spacious and secure; on one side a small port flying the Portuguese flag; on another, the summit of an adjacent mountain bears a resemblance to the head of Washington. Mr. Miller has a cottage a little above the town, which is a straggling collection of about a hundred houses. On the beach is the grave of an English colonel's wife, who died returning from India. The water is so clear and blue that

the natives will dive for a shilling, and catch it before it reaches the bottom. The boatmen sell mats and inlaid work-boxes, which come from Madeira. There is a good supply of fruit from the Island of San Antonio. The garrison of the place consists of a company of Portuguese soldiers. The natives are all black, and occupy themselves in coaling the steamers.

From St. Vincent to the Brazils the sea is always as smooth as a mill-pond, and the heat is of course intense, crossing the Line. You see myriads of flying-fish, and now and then a shark, or a shoal of porpoises, or the tiny little nautilus. At night the sea is phosphorescent, and the constellation of the Southern Cross reminds us that we are in a new hemisphere. Passengers should beware of catching cold, and on no account sleep on deck. If they continue their usual morning bath they will find it very relaxing, the sea-water being actually warmer than the atmosphere.

Fernando Noronha is sighted on the seventh day from St. Vincent. It is a small rocky island, used by the Brazilians as a penal settlement, and has a lighthouse. As we approach the coast of Brazil we see numbers of birds, and the first land visible is Cape San Roque, a bold headland, 200 miles north of Pernambuco.

Pernambuco is the worst port in the world. The mail steamers lie out far to sea, and there is a nasty reef near the shore. When the weather is at all rough, passengers are lowered over the side in an arm chair. There are sudden changes in the weather about 1 P.M., which render it difficult and dangerous for passengers to return aboard. Bathers had better look out here, for sharks are numerous. The city has about 100,000 inhabitants, including a few English, and does a great business with England and other countries in coffee, cotton, &c.

From Pernambuco to Bahia the voyage occupies thirty-six hours. The overland journey would take as many days, there being no road through the forests. The distance is under 500 miles. In these waters we meet a number of "catamarans," the

strangest kind of craft; they sometimes venture over 100 miles from shore.

Bahia, or San Salvador, is the oldest city in Brazil, and next in importance after Rio Janeiro. The bay is very fine; the city stretches along a hill-side, with numerous churches and other massive buildings. The suburb called Victoria is the residence of the English merchants, embowered in gardens, and enjoying the fresh breeze from the Atlantic. On landing the traveller finds a host of palanquins ready to carry him up the hill. The heat is so great that the best plan is to take a coach and four mules. Drive first to the Botanical Gardens, whence a splendid view is obtained. Then see the old Jesuit Cathedral, the Government House, Railway Terminus, and Post Office: if you have time to drive to the head of the bay, near the Portuguese hospital, it will repay the trouble. More than three-fourths of the inhabitants are coloured, and the city is so filthy that foul odours assail one on all sides. There is an excellent coffee-house opposite the Post Office. There is an English cricket club here. Bahia boasts the largest oranges and the fattest black women in South America.

Rio Janeiro is about 800 miles from Bahia, and the voyage takes nearly three days. The entrance to the Bay of Rio is the grandest picture that ever delighted the eye of man: grand, solemn, and imposing. At every instant, as the steamer advances into the bay, the scene changes like a kaleidoscope, the mountains seem to move one behind the other, and to change entirely in shape, till we get in full view of the city, with the Organ Mountains in the back-ground, and the middle distance occupied by sundry islands bristling with batteries.

The Sugar-loaf is the most striking feature. The peak of Santa Cruz is on the right, overlooking a fort of a hundred guns. All the navies in the world might ride at anchor in this bay, which is 100 miles round. Small steamboats are plying in all directions, to the suburbs along the water-line.

The steamer comes to her moorings alongside Coal Island.

The landing-place is close to the market. In coming ashore we notice the Arsenal, where some of the ironclads were built for the Paraguayan war. The houses are high, the streets as narrow as those of Genoa, and the shops very small, but rich. The vehicles are drawn by mules. Black servants in livery abound. The best hotels are the Exchange, Carson's, and Estrangeiros. The Plaza Constitucion is a very handsome square, with fountains, and in the centre is an equestrian statue of Peter I., the founder of the Brazilian monarchy. A little farther is another plaza, where the Lyric Theatre, Senate House, and other buildings claim notice. As we get to the outskirts we see the reservoir of the grand aqueduct of Tijuca. The pleasantest excursion from Rio is to Tijuca, situate in the mountains, about twelve miles inland, by tramway from San Francisco Square every half-hour. Numerous charming cottages, among gardens and orange-groves, occupy the line of route as we ascend towards Tijuca. The road winds round a succession of precipices, disclosing at every point the most enchanting views. The English Hotel is at a great height; the proprietor is Mr. Whyte. It would be difficult to find anything to surpass the neatness and comfort of this house. Mr. Whyte gets up pic-nic parties to all the finest points of scenery in the lovely neighbourhood. After seeing Tijuca, make a trip to Petropolis: in steamboat, 14 miles across the bay; the Baron Mauá's railway, 16 miles, and the rest by diligence. The ascent of the Sierra da Estrella, a branch of the Organ Mountains, is most picturesque. The road is a triumph of engineering, the mountain side being almost perpendicular. Petropolis, embosomed in the mountains, at a height of 2600 feet above the sea, is the summer residence of the Brazilian Court and aristocracy. The Emperor's palace is not unlike an Italian villa. From Petropolis drive to Luiz da Fora. Return to Rio by Entre Rios railway.

The great attraction in Rio is the Botanical Garden, with an avenue of palms that has no match in the world. The drives

around by Botafogo, Larangeiras, La Gloria, &c., are very beautiful, and tramways ply every half-hour from the square adjoining the Emperor's palace. In the shops of Rua Ouvidor will be found feather-flowers, beetles, jewellery, and such like articles. The English Consulate is in the Rua Direita, Consul Mr. George Lennon Hunt, who is also agent for the Royal Mail steamers. The Exchange and Post Office are in the same street as the Consulate and Exchange Hotel.

From Rio to Montevideo takes four or five days, according to the weather. Pamperos are not uncommon on this coast. Far out to sea, before seeing land, we can perceive the effect of the waters of the River Plate, changing the colour of the ocean. Maldonado is situate at the mouth of the river, and a profitable seal fishery is carried on at Lobos Island.

Montevideo, capital of the Republic of Uruguay, as seen from the bay, looks to advantage, the towers of the Matriz Church, and the Custom House and Caridad Hospital being conspicuous. The best hotels are the Oriental and Americano, charge \$3 per day. Strangers are admitted to the Club. The Rev. Mr. Hoskin reads Divine service at eleven o'clock on Sundays, at the English church. Major Munro is British Consul.

The steamers leave Montevideo in the evening and arrive at the outer roads of Buenos Ayres by daybreak. The minarets, church towers, and cupolas give a light and fantastic appearance to the city, which, seated some 80 feet above the western shore of La Plata, extends about 2 miles along the water's edge.

Passengers are usually landed in a little steamboat, but failing this it will be necessary to take a whaleboat (McLean's are the best), and be sure to bargain with the boatman before leaving the ship: his charge will depend on the weather, say \$20 to \$50 a head. On no account let any of your luggage be separated from you. You will be assailed by an impetuous gang of porters; pick out one of them, count for him the number of your trunks, and let him get others to help him if he like. At the Resguardo, near

the end of the mole, open your trunk for examination; you will find the officials most polite. If you have cigars, silk, jewellery, or firearms, declare the same. On arriving at your hotel, if you have any difficulty with the porters about your luggage, ask the landlord to settle with them. You will find the hotels very cheap and good, the charge for bed and board not exceeding eight shillings a day. Lock your room whenever you go out, leaving the key with the porter: lock it also at night. If any of your trunks have been detained at the Resguardo or sent to the Custom House, lose no time to employ Mr. McLean, or some other broker, to clear them for you.

The change of climate will oblige you to be careful as to your manner of living. Rise early, take a cold bath every morning, beware of walking about much in the sun, and remember that there are frequent changes of temperature even in one day. Flannel singlets, light clothing, and a straw hat are advisable in summer months. At all seasons the mornings are frequently cold, necessitating warm clothing. Be very careful of a cut finger or other trifling wound, which must be kept closely bandaged: many cases of lockjaw occur from a mere scratch not attended to. It is very bad to drink much cold water. The most wholesome drink at breakfast or dinner is French wine, for which no charge is made in the hotels. As soon as convenient after arrival you may call at the *Standard* office, 118, Calle San Martin, where the editors will give you any advice in their power. Letters from home may also be directed to their care free of charge. Poor emigrants looking for employment have advertisements inserted gratis.

The currency in Buenos Ayres is \$122½ to the 1*l.* sterling, making the paper dollar equivalent to 2*d.*: the National Bank money is in hard dollar notes of 50*d.* each. In the upper provinces the currency is Bolivian dollars, worth 3*s.* English. In Montevideo the dollar is worth 52*d.*, the sovereign changing for \$4 70*c.* Distances are reckoned by the Spanish league, nearly 3¼ miles English. Weights, by arrobes of 25 lbs.

English, or quintals of 100 lbs. weight, and measures are alike all over the River Plate, but in Paraguay the league is only 5000 varas, or about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. A square league of ground is nearly 6600 acres: in Buenos Ayres it is divided into 1660 manzanas or cuadras (say 4 acres each), and in Banda Oriental into 3600 cuadras of less than 2 acres each.



## CHAPTER I.

## THE RIVER PLATE REPUBLICS.

THE River Plate Republics are three in number, viz.: the Argentine Confederation (or La Plata, properly so called), Uruguay or Banda Oriental, and Paraguay. These immense territories, formerly comprehended in the viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres under the Spanish régime, cover nearly 1,400,000 square miles, with a scanty population not reaching three millions, or two inhabitants per square mile. The mineral and agricultural resources of these countries are perhaps equal to those of the United States, and the water system is almost unrivalled, the affluents of the Plate ramifying one-half of the Continent. The climate is the healthiest on the face of the globe, the inhabitants are very friendly to foreigners, civil and religious liberty prevail in the fullest sense, and treaties of amity and commerce have been concluded with all the great Powers. Trade relations and new enterprises of importance have brought the River Plate into close contact with Great Britain and the London capitalists, and there are few countries which offer more inducements to English emigrants than these, or few foreign nations viewed with more respect, by Argentines, than Great Britain.

*The Argentine Republic* is for the most part an unbroken plain, bounded on the north by Bolivia, on the west by the Cordillera of the Andes, on the south by Magellan's Straits, and on the east by Brazil, Banda Oriental, and the Atlantic. It is divided into fourteen provinces, some of which are little deserving of note, but others have attained a high degree of civilization; and also comprehends Patagonia and the Gran Chaco.

The province of Buenos Ayres is nearly equal to all the

rest collectively, in importance, wealth, and population, being moreover the great centre of foreign immigration. The city of the same name is the seat of the National and Provincial Governments, and one of the principal seaports of South America. In the refinement of its society, progressive spirit of the people, and activity of trade and industry, it yields to no other city in the Continent, and has earned the title of "Athens of South America." Entre Rios and Santa Fé have of late attracted much notice as sheep-farming countries. Cordoba, the heart of the interior, has received a great impulse from the Central Argentine Railway. San Juan and Catamarca are remarkable for their mineral wealth. Mendoza, at the foot of the Cordillera, formerly the chief city of the Cuyo provinces, has emerged from the ruins of the earthquake of 1861. Santiago and the other northern provinces have been hitherto so isolated as to be almost valueless, but the navigation of the Vermejo, and the new narrow-gauge railways will unite them, through Cordoba and Rosario, with the river Paraná, the great artery of the Republic. The provinces called Litoral, from being adjacent to this river, have an immense advantage over the rest, possessing cheap freight and easy transit to Buenos Ayres and the commercial world. The population of the Republic by the census of September, 1869, was 1,836,490, but is now much over that estimate. The established religion is Roman Catholic, and the language Spanish, from which nation the original settlers were descended.

*The Republic of Uruguay*, or "Banda Oriental," is separated from the last-mentioned country by the Rivers Plate and Uruguay: the Plate, opposite Buenos Ayres, being 28 miles wide. It is very different from the sister state, in being intersected with numerous chains of mountains, called here Cuchillas or Sierras. Its extent is 63,000 square miles, or larger than England by one-eighth. Many of the general features are similar to those of La Plata, the country being eminently adapted for sheep and cattle farming, and, moreover, free from

Indian incursions. The capital, Montevideo, is favourably situated near the mouth of the Plate, and its commerce is almost equal to that of Buenos Ayres, from which port it is distant 120 miles. The next towns of importance are—Salto and Paysandú, on the river Uruguay; Canelones, Tacuarembó, and Minas, in the interior; Mercedes, on the Rio Negro; Colonia, abreast of Buenos Ayres; and Maldonado, on the Atlantic. The country is thickly wooded in parts, and presents a beautifully diversified appearance. Of late years there has been an influx of immigrants, and several Buenos Ayrean land-owners also possess estancias on this side. The population was quintupled in the forty years from 1824-64, and is now returned as 454,000. During past years the country was desolated by civil war, but everything now seems satisfactorily settled.

*Paraguay* is not always counted one of the River Plate Republics, being over 1000 miles inland, but it was formerly a part of the viceroyalty of La Plata. It is the country least known of this Continent, and yet had made great advancement in the years just preceding the late war. Up to 1840 it was entirely closed against foreigners, under the rule of the sanguinary tyrant, D. Gaspar Francia. Railways, telegraphs, arsenal, dry docks, and other splendid works sprung up under Lopez, employing a large and efficient staff of English mechanics. The Republic covers about 70,000 square miles. The census of 1857 gave a population of 1,337,449, which was probably exaggerated: the destruction caused by the war was such, that there are now hardly 100,000 inhabitants. The climate is warm, the country hilly and picturesque, and the soil fertile. The inhabitants are the most industrious in South America, the amount of land under cereals, cotton, and tobacco formerly amounting to half a million of acres. The chief product of the country is yerba-maté or Paraguay tea, which, in time of peace, is annually exported (mostly to Buenos Ayres) to the value of 200,000*l*. The cultivation of cotton was begun in 1863, but interrupted by the war. The capital, Asuncion, is a town of

25,000 inhabitants, in weekly communication by steamer with the River Plate. Villa Rica is the most important town in the interior, and those next in order are situated on the river Paraguay. The language of the country is Guarani, most of the people being descended from that race of Indians by inter-marriage with the Spanish settlers.

## CHAPTER II.

## THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

AMONG South American nations this country is second only to Brazil in extent and importance, being far ahead of all the sister republics in trade, commerce, railways, telegraphs, revenue, literature, schools, and the number of European settlers; it likewise surpasses Brazil in all but the returns of trade and national revenue, while its climate and soil are the most favoured of the habitable globe. Although emancipated from the Spanish yoke in 1816, the real independence of the country may be said to date from the fall of the Dictator Rosas in 1852, and the progress made during the last twenty-one years is hardly surpassed by any of the most flourishing nations of the present day.

The Republic comprises fourteen provinces, with an aggregate population of 1,736,923, according to the census of 1869, and an area of 600,000 square miles; besides three vast territories extending over an equal area, and whose population is roughly estimated at 100,000, chiefly Indians.

## PROVINCES.

	Sq. Miles.	Population.
Buenos Ayres .. ..	45,000 .. ..	495,107
Cordoba .. ..	70,000 .. ..	210,508
Entre Rios .. ..	40,000 .. ..	134,271
Santiago .. ..	35,000 .. ..	132,898
Corrientes .. ..	40,000 .. ..	129,023
Tucuman .. ..	20,000 .. ..	108,953
Santa Fé .. ..	36,000 .. ..	89,117
Salta .. ..	50,000 .. ..	88,933
Catamarca .. ..	76,000 .. ..	79,962
Mendoza .. ..	50,000 .. ..	65,413
Carried forward ..	462,000 .. ..	1,534,185

PROVINCES—*continued.*

	Sq. Miles.	Population.
Brought forward .. ..	462,000 .. ..	1,534,185
San Juan .. ..	33,000 .. ..	60,319
San Luis .. ..	40,000 .. ..	53,294
Rioja .. ..	35,000 .. ..	48,746
Jujuy .. ..	30,000 .. ..	40,379

## TERRITORIES.

Gran Chaco .. ..	150,000 .. ..	50,000
Pampas .. ..	150,000 .. ..	30,000
Patagonia .. ..	300,000 .. ..	20,000
	<u>1,200,000</u> .. ..	<u>1,836,923</u>

Some of the above provinces have doubled their population in less than twenty years, as Buenos Ayres, Entre Rios, and Santa Fé; the others in less than thirty years; the returns of the Census Commissioners putting down the following estimates, exclusive of Indians:

1849 .. ..	935,000 inhabitants.
1859 .. ..	1,304,000 ..
1869 .. ..	1,736,923 ..

Of the last number one-eighth were foreigners, and if the children of these were included it would appear that foreign residents formed one-third of the entire population. The official returns class the various foreign nationalities thus:

Italians .. ..	71,442
Spaniards .. ..	34,080
French .. ..	32,383
English .. ..	10,709
Germans and Swiss .. ..	10,857
S. Americans .. ..	42,112
N. Americans .. ..	1,551
Various .. ..	8,859
	<u>211,993</u>

In some of the upper provinces there is but *one* inhabitant to the square mile; the proportion in Cordoba is *three*, in Tucuman

*five*, and in Buenos Ayres *ten*. Taking the fourteen provinces together, there are *three* inhabitants to the square mile; but if we include the total area of the Republic it will be only  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , or a hundred times less than is usual in Europe.

The Argentine Republic, extending from the foot of the Andes to the Atlantic, and from the limits of Bolivia and Brazil to the Straits of Magellan, presents for the most part an unbroken plain, with every variety of soil, where fruits of the tropical or temperate zones are readily cultivated, the country being traversed for thousands of miles by the great riverine systems of the Paraná and Uruguay, with their numerous tributaries. These also form convenient highways for commerce, the Paraná and its affluents being navigated by steamers in a straight line for over two thousand miles from the mouth, near Buenos Ayres, to Matto Grosso. The Gran Chaco is said to possess more timber than the whole of Europe. The mineral resources of Catamarca, Rioja, San Juan, San Luis, Mendoza, and Cordoba are inexhaustible, especially in silver, lead, and copper, which will become staple articles of export as soon as the railways now in construction open up the interior. The products of mineral or industrial interest sent to the Paris Exhibition of 1867 were rewarded with no fewer than nineteen medals.

Wool, hides, and tallow constitute the staple products which we export to foreign countries, the sheep-farms of Buenos Ayres alone counting 60,000,000 sheep; the annual yield of wool is more than 200,000,000 lbs., being somewhat higher than the total clip of Australia. The growth of this business during ten years is shown as follows:

	Lbs.
1862, export of wool .. ..	58,153,575
1866           "           .. ..	116,494,970
1872           "           .. ..	203,610,000

The shipments from Buenos Ayres in 1873 showed an increase of 24,709 bales over 1872.\*

\* *Note.*—The latest statistics for 1873-4 will be found in Appendix.

The gross trade of the country doubles in less than ten years; the aggregate value of imports and exports having risen from \$45,000,000 in 1862 to \$66,000,000 in 1866, and \$105,000,000 in 1872, this last sum being equal to 21,000,000*l.* sterling. The British Board of Trade returns show that English commerce with the River Plate has increased twice as rapidly as with the British Colonies in general.

The balance of trade has steadily improved of late years, as the figures show :

	Imports.		Exports.	
	\$		\$	
1870.. ..	46,624,776	.. ..	26,753,203	as 9 to 5
1871.. ..	39,393,000	.. ..	23,442,543	as 5 to 3
1872.. ..	60,229,143	.. ..	45,743,192	as 4 to 3

There was a falling-off in 1871, caused by the yellow fever; but since then the growth of trade has been steady, the returns for 1873 showing considerable excess over the previous year. The bulk of our imports comes from England and France, the figures being as follow :

	\$
From England .. .. .	19 millions.
„ France .. .. .	16 „
„ Spain .. .. .	4 „
„ Brazil .. .. .	3½ „
„ United States .. .. .	3½ „
„ Italy .. .. .	3 „
„ Belgium .. .. .	3 „
„ Germany .. .. .	2 „
„ Various .. .. .	6 „
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
	60 millions.

Belgium takes the foremost rank among customers for our produce, as we ship most of our wool to Antwerp. Sheepskins go chiefly to France, hides and tallow to England and North America, jerked beef to Brazil and Cuba, live cattle to Chile. These various items represent the following values :



			\$ fuertes.
Wool .. .. .	203,610,000 lbs.	.. ..	16,352,122
Sheepskins .. .. .	72,970,000 lbs.	.. ..	4,158,864
Ox and cow hides .. .. .	3,121,758	.. ..	10,571,710
Jerked beef .. .. .	916,220 qq	.. ..	2,110,914
Tallow .. .. .	1,182,240 qq	.. ..	7,427,901
Live horned cattle .. .. .	162,428	.. ..	1,600,609
Other animals .. .. .	58,856	.. ..	335,799
Minerals .. .. .	13,540 qq	.. ..	310,179
Bones, skins, horns .. .. .	..	.. ..	2,718,206
Hay, tobacco, flour, &c. .. .. .	..	.. ..	156,888
			<u>45,743,192</u>

The returns of 1872 show 41 per cent. more wool than in 1870, and 24 per cent. increase in the number of hides.

The Customs report shows that Buenos Ayres stands for 82 per cent. of the Republic, Santa Fé 11, Entre Rios 5, and the other provinces 2 per cent., as regards revenue. The growth of our revenue in ten years has been much greater than in Chile :

	Argentine.	Chile.
1863 .. .. .	6,478,682	6,700,659
1866 .. .. .	9,568,554	6,097,111
1869 .. .. .	12,676,680	11,484,806
1872 .. .. .	18,172,379	13,843,000

The movement in shipping shows a still more surprising increase ; the returns of tonnage in arrivals and sailings of sea-going vessels are :

1870 .. .. .	1,520,706 tons.
1871 .. .. .	1,217,175 ..
1872 .. .. .	2,151,640 ..

The last is nearly one-fifth the gross tonnage returns of all the French ports (11,921,000 tons), whereas France has eighteen times our population. There are thirteen regular lines of steamers from Europe to Buenos Ayres :

Royal Mail .. .. .	6 steamers.
Lamport and Holt .. .. .	26 ..
Belgian .. .. .	12 ..
Glasgow .. .. .	2 ..
Hamburg .. .. .	5 ..
Three Genoa lines .. .. .	12 ..
Five French lines .. .. .	25 ..

Besides the foregoing are the Liverpool Pacific liners to Montevideo, which bring us thousands of passengers.

The Budget for 1874 amounts to \$23,500,000, nearly 5,000,000*l.* sterling, and is made up thus :

	\$	£
Interest on public debt ..	7,801,602	equal to 1,560,000
Floating debt .. ..	3,500,000	700,000
Customs officials .. ..	1,452,215	300,000
President and Cabinet ..	210,369	45,000
Congress .. .. .	490,088	100,000
Army .. .. .	5,178,515	1,040,000
Navy .. .. .	298,437	60,000
Indian subsidies .. ..	223,556	45,000
Legations abroad .. ..	158,149	33,000
Federal Court .. .. .	150,036	31,000
Ecclesiastical grant .. ..	182,588	38,000
Schools and libraries .. ..	1,500,519	310,000
Finance offices .. .. .	376,816	80,000
Railways .. .. .	219,070	45,000
Immigration .. .. .	226,225	46,000
Post Office .. .. .	352,220	72,000
Telegraphs .. .. .	252,660	52,000
Subsidies to provinces .. ..	225,000	45,000
Public works, &c. .. ..	623,328	130,000
	\$23,421,392	£4,732,000

The ways and means consist of :

	\$	£
Import duties .. .. .	15,750,000	equal to 3,200,000
Export ditto .. .. .	2,700,000	550,000
Warehouse fees .. .. .	600,000	130,000
Stamps .. .. .	350,000	75,000
Post Office .. .. .	180,000	38,000
Telegraphs .. .. .	100,000	21,000
Lighthouses, &c. .. ..	100,000	21,000
Interest on Varela loan funds	420,000	90,000
Ditto on C. Arg. RR. shares	232,000	47,000
Treasury bills .. .. .	2,989,392	560,000
	\$23,421,392	£4,732,000

In 1873 President Sarmiento congratulated Congress on a surplus of \$4,778,449, or nearly 1,000,000*l.* sterling, the revenue having yielded \$2,000,000 over the estimates, and the expenditure being less.

The National Debt in January, 1874, stood thus:

1st. The Home debt, commenced in 1863, amounted to \$20,933,976 *ftes.*, equal to 4,186,795*l.* sterling, viz.:

	\$ <i>ftes.</i>
Total emissions to date .. .. .	25,995,423½
Amount amortized .. .. .	5,061,447
Actual Home debt .. .. .	20,933,976½

The following table shows the items thus:

	Emission. \$ <i>ftes.</i>	Amortized. \$ <i>ftes.</i>	Balance. \$ <i>ftes.</i>
Buscenthal .. ..	2,674,823½	1,007,059	1,667,764½
National Bonds ..	21,714,600	3,968,388	17,746,212
Roads and bridges	1,248,000	86,000	1,162,000
National Bank ..	358,000	..	358,000
	<u>25,995,423½</u>	<u>5,061,447</u>	<u>20,933,976½</u>

The amount paid for interest during eleven years was \$8,853,924, say 1,770,785*l.* sterling.

2nd. The Foreign debt, as follows:

	£
London loan of 1826 .. .. .	1,770,100
Ditto of 1865 .. .. .	2,209,100
Ditto of 1871 .. .. .	5,688,698
Foreign claims .. .. .	351,523
	<u>£10,019,421</u>

Thus the total debt is \$71,000,000, or about \$35 per head of the population, which is much less than the annual average of exported produce.

The regular army of the Republic consists of 9000 men, employed mostly on the Indian frontiers at Mendoza, Rio Quinto, Rojas, Azul, and other stations, besides a small garrison at

Buenos Ayres, and others scattered through the provinces. The National Guards are seldom called out, but their muster-roll numbers 150,000 men, of whom 40,000 are in the province of Buenos Ayres. The navy consists of some newly-constructed ironclads and a few old steamers.

Public instruction has made wonderful progress, the late President Sarmiento and his minister Avellaneda having almost doubled the number of schools: the returns show 1645 public schools and 103,000 children attending school, the largest proportion in any country of South America. The above figures include 4000 boys receiving university education at the national colleges. The provinces of San Juan and Mendoza have successively won the Congress prize of \$10,000 for having one-tenth of their population at school. The census of 1867 showed that 312,011 inhabitants could read and write, or about one-fourth of the adult population. In Buenos Ayres the ratio is four times greater than in Santiago del Estero, three times greater than Tucuman or Jujuy, and about double the rest of the provinces, of which the highest are Santa Fé, Entre Rios, San Juan, and Cordoba. There are 120 free libraries in the Republic.

The farming stock of the fourteen provinces may be roughly set down at fifteen million horned cattle, four million horses, and eighty million sheep. Buenos Ayres stands for three-fourths of the sheep, and half the cows and horses. Santa Fé and Entre Rios come next in importance. The value of all this live stock cannot fall short of 30,000,000*l.*, yielding about 9,000,000*l.* per annum in exported produce.

Immigration and agriculture have increased so rapidly in the last ten years that we do not any longer import American flour or other cereals, but raise enough for our entire population. Immigration now averages 90,000 arrivals yearly, and the prosperity of immigrant settlers is shown by the ratio of depositors according to the various nationalities in the Provincial Bank of Buenos Ayres.

	Depositors.	Amount.
Argentines .. .. .	18	27
Italians .. .. .	30	20
English .. .. .	4	14
Spaniards .. .. .	13	10
Basques .. .. .	13	9
French .. .. .	9	8
Germans .. .. .	4	6
Various .. .. .	9	6
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Thus it is seen that of 17,000 depositors nearly 14,000 are European artisans or settlers, the average deposit to each being about 300*l.* sterling.

There are ten railways open to traffic, with an aggregate length of nearly 1000 miles.

There are also five lines in active course of construction, making up 636 miles; without counting many already conceded, to a length of nearly 3000 miles, but not yet commenced. There are 6000 miles of telegraph through the provinces.

The city of Buenos Ayres has over 80 miles of tramways, besides short lines in most of the principal towns of the Republic.

The form of government is similar to that of the United States. The President resides at Buenos Ayres, and each province has its own governor and local legislature. There are eighteen towns of note in the provinces, viz. Cordoba, Rosario, Tucuman, Salta, Corrientes, Santa Fé, Paraná, Gualaguaychú, San Juan, Mendoza, Santiago, Gualaguay, Concepcion, Catamarca, Concordia, Rioja, San Luis, and Jujuy, with their respective banks, national colleges, free libraries, and other institutions.

## CHAPTER III.

## RIO DE LA PLATA AND TRIBUTARIES.

THE River Plate is one of the greatest rivers in the world, including its two great tributaries, the Paraná and Uruguay. Suffice it to say that the traveller can take steamer at Montevideo and ascend without interruption to the capital of Matto Grosso, a distance of over 2000 miles. At Montevideo the river is about 65 miles wide, but the water is brackish: at Buenos Ayres the water is quite fresh, and the river is 28 miles wide. Twenty miles above Buenos Ayres we arrive at the junction of the Paraná and Uruguay. The Lower Paraná is about 900 miles long from its embouchure, near San Fernando, up to the Tres Bocas, above Corrientes: the Upper Paraná, from the Tres Bocas to the Salto de Guayrá, is only navigable for small boats. The Paraguay river, which debouches into the Paraná at Tres Bocas, is navigable as far as the Cuyabá: on this latter stream is built a city of the same name, residence of the Brazilian authorities of Matto Grosso, about 1100 miles above the city of Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay. The Uruguay is ordinarily navigable only as high as Salto, but in flood times the steamers ascend the rapids and go up to Uruguayana and San Borja, in the Brazilian province of Rio Grande. The Rio Negro is one of the chief affluents of the Uruguay; the Salado of the Paraná; and the Vermejo, Tebicuari, and Pilcomayo fall into the Paraguay.

The average depth of the River Plate is 18 feet, greatest 36 feet, with a bottom of fine sand. The tide rises and falls regularly at Buenos Ayres, although the river is sometimes affected by strong winds. The South Atlantic tidal wave, twice every 24 hours, ascends the Plata and is perceptible for over

100 miles up the Paraná and Uruguay. It travels  $258\frac{1}{2}$  miles in 11 hours 45 minutes; it is about 16 inches at Buenos Ayres, the medium depth of water to Las Palmas being 10 feet, distance 64 miles, and ascends the Palmas 55 miles at the rate of 19 miles an hour: average depth of Palmas  $38\frac{3}{4}$  feet. At new or full moon it is always high water at Buenos Ayres; generally when the moon is on the horizon it is high water, and low when she passes meridian. Soundings in the port of Buenos Ayres vary from 15 to  $22\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The mean current of the River Plate seems to be 118 feet per minute on the surface, 103 at four feet depth, and 41 at the bottom.

#### THE PARANÁ.

##### *Buenos Ayres to Matto Grosso.*

There is a regular Brazilian monthly mail-service from Montevideo to Cuyabá, making the trip in ten to twelve days. Various companies have steamers running from Buenos Ayres to Corrientes and Paraguay. The scenery has much of interest for the traveller, although at times the coast is low and marshy. The Paraná has a larger volume of water than all the rivers of Europe put together.

If we leave the roadstead of Buenos Ayres on a fine morning, nothing can be more charming than the panorama of the city and suburbs. We pass, in succession, Palermo with its plantations to the water's edge; Belgrano, seated on a gentle acclivity; Point Olivos, a handsome promontory, where a new town has been projected; San Isidro, with its delightful country-seats; and San Fernando, at the head of the estuary of La Plata.

We enter the Paraná by one of its many mouths, the best known of which are the Guazú and Palmas: the latter is the shorter route, used by small steamers which touch at Zarate and San Pedro. The delta of the Paraná comprises a multitude of fertile and picturesque islands, planted with fruit trees; and if the traveller halts at San Fernando or the Tigre, he can

amuse himself for several days by boating in the Conchas and Lujan rivers, or making an excursion to the Carapachay islands. These islands are termed the Argentine Tempe; they teem with wild-fowl and the richest fruits, and a number of Italian charcoal-burners are the principal inhabitants. We do not get a glimpse of the mainland till reaching Campana, the estancia of Dr. Costa, who has built a fine house on the bluff. Here is the terminus of the River Paraná or Port Campana Railway, in course of construction.

*Zarate* is a straggling village of 1000 inhabitants, with a small trade in grain, firewood, and vegetables. There is a new church, also a tolerable Basque inn, and two public schools. During the Paraguayan war this was the chief port for shipment of horses.

*Baradero*: this is another small port, comprising 105 houses, a church, and school-house. The place derives some importance from a flourishing Swiss colony.

*San Pedro* is a better town, and looks well from the river; it has a new church and two public schools. Mr. Revy made Government surveys here for a port, the Paraná forming a kind of lagoon with an anchorage area of 312 acres, the minimum depth 18 feet at low water. Vessels drawing 20 feet can at all times ascend from the Atlantic to San Pedro.

A little above San Pedro is the pass of Obligado, where the English and French cut the chain placed across the river by Rosas. Higher up is the fine estancia of Llavallol, at a point of the river called Rincon de Las Hermanas, after which we pass the Rincon Ramallo.

*San Nicolas*, 40 miles above Obligado, is the last town in the territory of Buenos Ayres; it is a place of some importance, having received the rank of "city," with a population of about 8000 souls. It has 300 rateable houses, besides Mr. Armstrong's valuable mill. It is the centre of a district which comprises sixty-five estancias, and a number of chacras under wheat.

At San Nicolas the river is 4787 feet wide, 72 feet greatest



depth, current  $255\frac{1}{4}$  feet per minute (say three miles an hour), the Paraná being here an undivided stream.

*Rosario* is 35 miles above San Nicolas, or 202 from Martin Garcia, being the largest town on the Paraná, 80 feet above the river. Vessels drawing 15 feet can always ascend this far. The river often rises here 12 feet, this rise being permanent at least three months, sometimes for two years in succession. It is a well-built town covering 150 cuadras or blocks, with a population of 23,169 souls. The plaza, parish church, Custom House, market-place, and Jardin de Recreo, are worthy of notice: the theatre was recently rebuilt. The railway terminus and workshops at the north end will repay a visit. The town also possesses two mills, three saladeros, two cemeteries (for Catholics and Protestants), a public hospital, an American chapel and school, tramway, and gas-works. There are some good hotels and coffee-houses. Mr. Perkins, superintendent of the central Argentine colonies, will give strangers any information they may require. Mr. Lewis Joel is H.B.M. Consul. Excursions may be made by rail to the colony of Bernstadt, or on horseback to the fine English estancias in the valley of Pavon.

About six leagues above Rosario we sight the edifice of San Lorenzo, with its large convent. Diamante, 70 miles above Rosario, is the beginning of the mainland on the Entre Rios side, forming a bluff 200 feet high called Punta Gorda, from which the delta of the Paraná downwards begins. For hundreds of miles this bluff continues, while on the opposite, or Santa Fé, side are innumerable islands in succession. The Entre Rios bluff shows the three geological strata, of which the upper or Pampean is encrusted with fossils of giant mammalia.

The approach to Paraná is highly picturesque—towering bluffs of red sandstone, here and there relieved by a wild furze of deep green. There are several lime-kilns along the Entre Riano coast.

Paraná was the capital of the Argentine Republic during nine years, from the fall of Rosas till the battle of Pavon (September 17, 1861). The Custom House is at the foot of the "barranca,"

and a steep road leads up to the town : the population does not exceed 8000. The Grand Plaza is very pretty, the buildings having been constructed under Presidents Urquiza and Derqui. The former Legislative Chambers occupy the north side : the President's palace also merits attention.

*Paraná* is 35 miles above Diamante, and is accessible at all times to sea-going vessels of 12 feet draught. The bluff of the Entre Rios line is 120 feet high.

A steamer plies across the river to Santa Fé city, remarkable for its antiquity and many fine churches. A number of islands intervene, completely shutting it out from view.

Five leagues from *Paraná* we sight the colony of Villa Urquiza, where great efforts were made to plant cotton in 1864. Two hours' sail brings us to a place called Conchillas.

The river now breaks into a variety of channels. We cannot see the Gran Chaco, from which we are separated by numerous islands, teeming with tigers and small crocodiles ; the latter are called caymans, and resemble what naturalists term the "iguana." Tradition says that the first Spanish expedition to Paraguay passed more than twelve months in exploring the long and tortuous course of the *Paraná*, for although the direct distance is only 1000 miles, the way is rendered very much longer by the necessity of crossing and re-crossing from one side to the other.

*Feliciana*, 69 miles above *Paraná*, brings us to a wild part of the river ; islands, sand-banks, and submerged rocks, with whirlpools, rendering navigation difficult from the currents, although the rocks are so many fathoms deep as to offer no danger. Fifteen miles above *Feliciana*, or five from the last rapids, there is a second ledge of rocks across the *Paraná* with deep water and strong current.

About twelve hours' sail from *Paraná* is *La Paz*, near the borders of *Corrientes* : the town is a poor place, but some leagues inland is a fine estancia belonging to Mr. Haycroft. *La Paz* is 101 miles above *Paraná* : all towns now are on our *right* (that is

the river's *left* bank), the other side being Chaco or Indian territory. About 25 leagues above La Paz we come to the mouth of the Arroyo Espinillo, which is the frontier line between Entre Rios and Corrientes. On Captain Page's map it is marked Sarandi or Guayquiraro: it is not navigable. Again there is a number of these delightful islands, revelling in all the beauty of tropical vegetation, with palmetto trees, and a plant bearing golden leaves, easily mistaken for oranges. The savages of the Chaco never come down here, as they have plenty of means to pursue their occupations of hunting, fishing, or wood-cutting on the mainland. The coast of Corrientes is low but well wooded, and yonder is a little hut, elevated on poles, and with a tile roof, which answers as the Capitania del Puerto for Esquina, this town being half a league distant on the mainland.

*Esquina*, 58 miles above La Paz, is a well-built town, of 1794 inhabitants, situate on an eminence at a bend of the river Corrientes, near its confluence with the Paraná. It possesses a good church, public schools, juzgado, and other edifices, extending along the crest of the hill for about a mile, most of the houses having azoteas, with wide verandahs. The surrounding country is remarkable for its excellent pasture, and the inhabitants are wealthy cattle-breeders, sheep being comparatively few. Mr. Hayes, the son of an American, is the only foreign resident in the town. There is an abundance of tigers about here; and abreast of us is the thriving Alexandra Colony of Thomson, Bonar, and Co. Here you find in the midst of the Chaco 500 hardy Europeans with steam-ploughs, threshing-machines, flour-mills, &c.

The Paraná now gets very wild, this being the worst part, up to the Yaguarete pass (22 miles below Goya), with islands varying from 5 to 30 square miles in extent, and shifting sand-banks.

Six leagues above Esquina we pass *Costa Tala*, where the stream attains an enormous width. Carpinchos or sea-hogs show themselves on the river bank. Higher up on our left, a

short distance inland, are the ruins of two Jesuit missions, Concepcion and St. Jeronimo, the second near a stream called Arroyo del Rey.

*Goya* is 141 miles above *La Paz*. About the commencement of the present century, the site now occupied by the town of *Goya* was a cattle farm occupied by a Portuguese whose wife was named *Gregoria*, contracted into *Goya*. Here the ships passing used to call for beef. *Goya* is capital of the richest district in the province, and one of the finest towns on the *Paraná*. The houses are of brick, and the population is 4233, including a large foreign element of Italians, Basques, and French. The principal trade of the place consists in hides, wool, cheese, and oranges. Orange groves are frequent, but the business is diminishing, while the excellent cheese is finding its way to the various ports "aguas abajo," a large quantity being sent to *Buenos Ayres*.

After a couple of leagues we pass a very picturesque locality, known as *Rincon de Soto*. Here is a large *saladero*, and a fine bay admits vessels of some burthen to come close to the establishment. Not far inwards, about two leagues from *Goya*, is the ancient village of *Santa Lucia*, founded by the Jesuits.

We pass several rivulets with Indian names, none of which are navigable, although wide as European rivers, with luxuriant vegetation overshadowing their banks.

The red sandstone bluff now ahead of us is *Las Cnevas*, where the river at low tide is hardly 100 yards wide. The Paraguayans erected a battery here in 1865, which inflicted serious injury on the Brazilian ironclads in forcing the pass. Yonder is the orange grove of Mr. Henry Hall, with its dark green outline against the horizon.

*Bella Vista*, 54 miles above *Goya*, is seated on a gentle slope, in the midst of tropical foliage, a most charming picture. It was first peopled by a settlement of convicts, sent hither under General Ferre in 1826. It now contains about 1000 inhabitants.

Passing Empedrado, which is half-way between Bella Vista and Corrientes, we reach the mouth of the Riachuelo, famous for the great naval battle fought here on 11th June, 1865, between the fleets of Paraguay and Brazil. The former was much less than the latter in ships and weight of metal, but was aided by a shore battery of forty guns. The struggle lasted from daybreak till nightfall, and ended in the utter defeat of the Paraguayans, who displayed great bravery: over 2000 men perished in the battle, the Paraguayans losing four steamers and the Brazilians having three vessels *hors de combat*. The vicinity of the Riachuelo is said to produce good tobacco; and now we come abreast of Don Domingo Latorre's famous quinta, with its 5000 orange trees.

*Corrientes* covers a plateau elevated 60 feet over the water level, so that we can see little but the church towers. A tanning establishment and timber yard form the centre of the picture, with the Custom House, Casa de Gobierno, several palm ranchos, and a sprinkling of orange trees to fill up the whole, giving a strange and not unpleasant aspect. The streets are about 50 feet wide. The plaza is much the same as it was three centuries ago. *Corrientes* is suitable for an arsenal because commanding the two great rivers which unite at Tres Bocas; one of these, the Paraguay, is navigable for over 1000 miles. Timber for ship-building abounds. *Corrientes* is accessible to vessels drawing 7 or 8 feet, and at flood times up to 12 feet. The important island of Cerrito is 17 miles above *Corrientes*, or 702 from Martin Garcia.

On leaving *Corrientes* we can distinctly count the seven currents, which give the city its name; they are formed by as many projecting points of land above the town. We now approach the Tres Bocas, the confluence of the rivers Paraguay and Upper Paraná. The scenery about here is very fine.

The Upper Paraná, from Tres Bocas, is bold and picturesque, with a rocky coast on either side. At the falls of Apipé, 150 miles above *Corrientes*, we find the islands of Apipé and

Yaureta a ledge of rocks from Apipé to the Corrientes mainland, another from Yaureta to the Paraguayan shore, forming the rapids. In flood seasons small steamers can pass by the Apipé side. Magnificent scenery of hills and forests intervenes until we reach the ruins of Itapua, with those of Candelaria on the opposite bank, 186 miles above Corrientes, the river being here only half its ordinary width.

The Falls of Guayrá are among the most remarkable in the world. In 1863 Lopez sent Colonel Platiño to explore them, and his report was as follows :

“ At a distance of 30 miles a noise is heard like thunder. Even 3 miles off it is difficult to hear anyone speak. Some settlements had to be abandoned because the inhabitants became deaf. The whole region is in the hands of the wildest class of savages, a miserable race of Indians.”

The falls are 150 leagues above Corrientes, and the river a little higher is 13,000 feet across, having more water than all European rivers taken collectively. This great mass narrows to 200 feet, and falls 56 feet, causing a kind of earthquake. Mr. Revy computes a million tons of water per minute, and a current of 40 miles an hour.

Little or nothing is known of the Paraná above the Guayrá Falls, except that it drains chiefly Brazilian territory. At Corrientes Mr. Revy says it drains a basin of 500,000 square miles, and gains nothing afterwards in volume, as it loses by evaporation all it gains in tributaries.

#### RIVER PARAGUAY.

Entering the Paraguay river at the Tres Bocas, we pass the Guardia Cerrito, and in a few hours reach Curupaity, where the Allies sustained a great reverse on the 22nd of September, 1866. Every inch of ground was here disputed with immense sacrifice of life during more than two years, till the Paraguayans finally abandoned Humaitá in July, 1868. A bend of

the river reveals to us this formidable position, which was defended by casemated batteries, torpedoes, and chains across the river. This place was the key to the upper rivers, and the garrison, before the war, usually numbered 12,000 men: the fortress was constructed by French engineers in 1854, under the régime of the first Lopez.

A little above Humaitá, on the Chaco side, we come to the mouth of the Rio Vermejo, which is about 300 yards wide, and bordered by a dense thicket. Some of the Chaco Indians may often be seen about here, spearing fish.

*Villa Pilar* is a pretty little town, with numerous orange-groves and a handsome church, about a mile from the shore. It is the chief town of a district which showed a census return of 160,000 inhabitants. Under the rule of Francia it was the commercial emporium of Paraguay, the city of Asuncion being shut to all foreigners.

An hour's sail takes us to the mouth of the Tebicuari, a large river which rises in the Yerbales or *máte*-fields of Misiones, and after a course of 400 miles falls into the Paraguay at this place. Just before the war President Lopez had sent to Europe for two light steamers to navigate the Tebicuari.

*Villa Franca* is a village of no importance: the surrounding district has only 10,000 inhabitants.

*Villa Oliva* is another small place, with a church and public schools: here the steamers often take beef and firewood. And now we may observe shoals of alligators on either bank—sometimes as many as a dozen basking together in the sun, a few measuring 7 or 8 feet in length. They lie motionless, like a log of wood, with their jaws extended, showing two alarming rows of teeth. The body is scaly like a tortoise, with four short fin-like legs, and they glide into the water with great ease. Carpinchos may be seen in close proximity, apparently on good terms with the "Yacares," for this South American crocodile confines his tastes to fish.

*Villeta* is a difficult pass of the river, about 7 leagues below

Asuncion. At times the water is so low that no vessels drawing over 18 inches can pass. The banks on the Paraguayan side rise as we proceed up stream, and the Paraguayans used to have a battery of a few guns commanding a bend of the river. The scenery is very diversified and tranquil, with stately palm-trees that stand forth at intervals to remind us of the tropics.

The peak of Lambaré is enchanting, with its cone-like elevation clad in luxuriant foliage, raising its lofty form to the clouds. The adjacent village of Lambaré is a suburb to the capital, remarkable for its church and cemetery.

On the left bank is the mouth of the Pilcomayo, which rises in Bolivia, near the city of Chuquisaca, traverses the Gran Chaco, and after a course of 1500 miles, here falls into the Paraguay.

There are two batteries at the turn before we get view of the arsenal and city of Asuncion.

*Asuncion*, the Paraguayan metropolis, is a town of some 30,000 inhabitants; it was founded by a Spanish captain named Ayolas, on August 15, 1536. There are some splendid public buildings, and excellent hotel accommodation is found at the Club. The shops are poor, and all imported articles very dear. The railway to Villa Rica runs through a country unsurpassed for scenery. The traveller will find many delightful rides in the environs of Asuncion, and he should take a bath before sunrise at the Chorro. A description of the city and people will be given at full in the section of this work devoted to Paraguay.

Ascending the river to Matto Grosso, the first place beyond Asuncion is Villa Occidental, on the Chaco side, where a French colony was established by Lopez, but resulted unfortunately. We next pass the towns of Rosario and San Pedro, and the mouths of the Confuso, Jejuy, and Ypape rivers, arriving at Concepcion, 180 miles from Asuncion. The depth of the river varies from 20 to 70 feet, its width being from half a mile to a mile, and the banks usually about 15 feet high.



Concepcion is a town of 2000 inhabitants, and the great port of the yerba-maté trade.

*Salvador* is 70 miles above Concepcion, and has a population of 1000 souls. From Salvador to Rio Apa is nearly 100 miles, the scenery being very beautiful near the ranges of Itapucu Guazú, and the country inhabited by warlike Indians. Here begins the disputed territory, which extends 80 miles north, as far as Rio Blanco, and is claimed by both Brazil and Paraguay on account of the important position of Fort Olympo.

*Fort Olympo* is 420 miles above Asuncion, standing 45 feet above the river, which is here 600 yards wide: it forms a square of 100 feet, with bastions for cannon, the walls being 14 feet high and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick, without embrasures. It was built by the Spaniards in 1798, garrisoned by Francia in 1822, abandoned by Lopez in 1850, again occupied in 1856, and afterwards seized in turns by Brazil and Paraguay. Before reaching Olympo is the picturesque mountain called Pan-de-azucar, and 5 miles above the fort is Bahia Blanca, at the mouth of the Rio Blanco.

We enter Brazilian territory at Salinas, and here the left bank is claimed by Bolivia, while the right forms part of the province of Matto Grosso.

*Fort Coimbra*, in lat.  $19^{\circ} 55' 43''$ , and long.  $57^{\circ} 52' 32''$ , stands on a hill of the same name, which slopes to the river: it is 40 feet above the water level, and is a solid stone structure, completely commanding the river, which is here 600 yards wide. The officers' quarters within the fort consist of small stone houses. All supplies are obtained from Albuquerque or the neighbouring Indians. The low lands for some distance above Coimbra are subject to inundation, but there are also some pieces of firm land, covered with excellent woods and never overflowed except in seasons of extraordinary rise. The mountains are small insulated peaks or short ranges, probably spurs of the Bolivian sierras. The surrounding country is held by the

Guaycurú Indians, whom the Brazilian Government treats with much conciliation. Coimbra is 33 miles above Fort Olympe.

*Albuquerque* is an insignificant village of seventy houses, only useful for supplies of provisions, and 47 miles from Coimbra. Passing the mouth of the Tacuari we reach Corumbá, 60 miles from Albuquerque, and 560 from Asuncion. This place sprung into importance with the introduction of steam traffic: it produces some good cotton.

From Corumbá to Cuyabá is nearly 400 miles, the course changing in lat.  $18^{\circ}$ , long.  $57^{\circ} 30'$ , from the Upper Paraguay to the river Cuyabá. The city of Cuyabá is capital of the province of Matto Grosso, residence of the President, Bishop, and other Brazilian functionaries, and a place of much importance. This is the highest point navigable in a steamer. Captain Bossi, in 1862, attempted to cross over to the head-waters of the Amazonas, but failed. The distance overland to Rio Janeiro is 1200 miles, practicable on mules in about sixty days, but much infested by Indians, passing through a country of woods and mountains. The early Spaniards are known to have made the journey. A Brazilian expeditionary force left Rio Janeiro in 1865; most of the men perished on the route, the rest deserted to the woods.

#### UP THE URUGUAY.

The scenery of the Uruguay is the finest in these countries, and there is almost daily communication between Buenos Ayres and Salto: the steamers are elegant and commodious, and make the trip in thirty-six hours.

As we cross the La Plata to ascend the Uruguay, the fine estancias of Martin Chico and San Juan are pointed out on the Banda Oriental coast. Passing the Cerro San Juan we sight the island of Martin Garcia, the Gibraltar of the River Plate.

*Carmelo* is the first town we sight, and looks very pretty, seated on a bend of the river, but a good view is not obtained till we pass upwards. A small steamer calls here in connection

with Colonia or Higueritas. The next thing we see is an old convent, now used for an estancia-house.

The scenery improves as we advance, the Entre Riano coast being much lower than the Oriental.

*Nueva Palmira* or *Higueritas* is on the eastern bank; it is a small place, and has few attractions, except that it offers a convenient landing-place for passengers for the interior.

At the mouth of the Rio Negro a small steamer meets us to take the passengers for Mercedes. Higher up we meet the Gualaguaychú steamer, forming another branch line of the Uruguay service.

As we proceed up the river the scenery is of varying beauty. The Uruguay at times rivals the Paraná, but often sinks to comparative insignificance. It is of remarkably uniform depth, averaging 27 feet in February and 45 feet in October. The sectional area at Salto varies from 25,000 square feet at low water to 71,200 at periodical rise, or 126,800 at October flood. It is two and a third times as rapid as the Paraná abreast of Rosario.

*Higueritas* is 3 miles above Punta Gorda, where the Uruguay joins the River Plate. Three miles above Higueritas the river expands into a lake 6 miles wide and 56 miles long without any islands. The delta of the Uruguay begins at Fray Bentos, 58 miles above Higueritas, and numerous islands succeed for 67 miles, till approaching Paysandú. From this place upward the banks become solid rock, 100 feet high, and the Entre Rios shore displays numerous palm-groves. The navigation of the river terminates at Salto, 200 miles from Higueritas. The Uruguay is here 2500 yards wide, 18 to 30 feet deep, and the fall is 25 feet. In the streams and along the rocky coasts the sand is richly interspersed with pebbles of cornelian, agate, chalcedony, onyx, and jasper, all more or less pure, and some of them of great beauty.

*Fray Bentos* is a new town on the same side of the river, chiefly noteworthy for the famous Liebig Extractum Carnis

Factory, which was established by the late Mr. Giebert, in 1864, at a cost of 200,000*l.* It gives constant employment to 600 or 800 persons, and can kill 500 head of cattle per day. The machinery was made in Glasgow, and cost 45,000*l.*; it is the most complete and elaborate that can be imagined. The beef extract is made up in boxes of 100 lbs. each, for shipment to Europe, where it is sold at 1*l.* sterling per 1 lb. weight, chiefly for hospital use.

*Roman* is the name of a landing-place, and also of a *saladero* near it, about 70 leagues from Buenos Ayres. The *saladero* is owned by Don Felipe Iglesias, and the town is little else than a group of irregularly built houses to accommodate the workmen.

It is usually midnight when the steamer calls at Concepcion, the chief town of Entre Rios, which we shall visit on our return down the river. By daybreak we are at anchor in the port of Paysandú.

*Paysandú*, 80 leagues from Buenos Ayres, contained before the civil war 7700 inhabitants. So great has been the activity of business since the restoration of peace, that it is believed the population now exceeds 10,000. New houses are seen in all directions, and these are of a better class than the old ranchos battered down in the bombardment. In the Department of Paysandú are five *saladeros*, two of these are in the city, one at Casa Blanca, one at Roman, and one at Fray Bentos. At each of these there are killed annually 40,000 to 50,000 animals. The beef is salted and dried in thin, large slices, and finds a market in Brazil and the West Indies. Hides are salted and go to Europe, chiefly to Antwerp and Liverpool, and the tallow to England. There are no manufactories in Paysandú, but sundry stores, and shops of shoemakers, tailors, wagon-makers, blacksmiths, &c. Hotels, La Paz and La Francia; charge \$1½ per day. Labour is dear both for house and farm service the poorest labourer receiving, at the lowest, \$20 per month Don Miguel Horta, the principal shopkeeper, is Spanish Vice Consul, and his house is the rendezvous of all English *estancieros*

Some pleasant excursions may be made to the neighbouring estancias of Messrs. Mundell, Peile, Hughes, and Bell, to the saladero at Arroyo Negro, to Williams' saladero, and by boat to the Swiss colony across the Uruguay.

From Paysandú to Salto is the finest part of the river: the scenery is varied and beautiful. At the Hervidero we pass a large establishment: it is a two-story house, built over twenty years ago by a company, of which Mr. Lafone formed part, and had a saladero, now in ruins, and an estancia with over 100,000 cows and sheep. The Mesa de Artigas is a bold headland, just over the river. Here General Artigas encamped his army in the War of Independence, and tradition says he threw his Spanish prisoners hence, sewed up in hides, into the river. After passing the estancia Delicias and other valuable establishments belonging to foreigners, we reach the dangerous pass of Corralitos. This reef of rocks has but one narrow and tortuous channel, and is impassable by night. Sailing vessels cannot pass but with the most favourable wind, and we see coasting craft at anchor in front of the old port of Concordia, which is nearly a league below that town. In high water the Corralitos are covered, but often the river is so low that the buoys are high and dry. You cannot see Concordia from here, but there is a "casilla" at the new port, and coaches are in waiting to convey passengers to the town. We have now a fine view of Salto at the head of the river, about 3 miles above, covering three or four hills, with large white edifices, and apparently a town of great extent.

*Salto* (Hotel Concordia) is 110 leagues from Buenos Ayres; it is a very flourishing place, with 9000 inhabitants, one half of whom are Italians.

The town has a bustling aspect, new buildings going up on all sides. The view is very picturesque in every direction. The city stretches out much to the north, the new town laid out by Mr. Coleman being already thickly settled. The situation is charming, the Uruguay bathing the declivities of the "cuchillas," which run down in almost parallel lines, the white buildings

studding the hill-sides, and clumps of brushwood fringing the outskirts. It is the head-quarters of all frontier traffic to Rio Grande and Corrientes, and the railway in construction by Messrs. Clark, Punchard, and Co., of London, will terminate at Santa Rosa, on the frontier. The Salto Chico is about a mile above the town, and sometimes quite dry; the Salto Grande higher up is a barrier to navigation in almost all periods. A little below the town is a tanyard, and farther down was the Brazilian encampment in 1865. Salto is reputed a very healthy place, the only epidemic ever known being small-pox. The water here, as in all other parts of the Uruguay, has a mellifluous taste. Mr. Richard Williams, one of the oldest British residents in the River Plate, has a handsome residence, commanding a view of the Uruguay, and Concordia on the opposite bank.

In times of very high water, a steamer (drawing 3 feet) goes up the falls to Uruguayana: the distance is about 150 miles, and the scenery well repays the journey.

After passing the falls we coast alternately the shores of Entre Rios and Banda Oriental, on both of which there are many large cattle estancias. Some leagues above Concordia is the Arroyo Yuqueri, where General Mitre established his headquarters when the Paraguayan war first broke out. A range of hills called Puntas de Mandisobi, 12 leagues from Concordia, was subsequently General Flores' rendezvous before the battle of Yatay. Not far hence is the village of Federacion, and nearly opposite, in Banda Oriental, is another, called Constitution.

A stream debouching on our left, called the Mocoreta, is the frontier line between Entre Rios and Corrientes; and 10 leagues higher, on the right, we come to Santa Rosa, at the frontier of the Brazilian province of Rio Grande: this place is 30 leagues above Salto, and has *vis-à-vis* the Correntino village of Monte-Caseros.

Twenty leagues farther is the important town of Uruguayana,

at a pass of the river, called Paso de los Libres. It was founded in 1843, and was a thriving frontier town previous to the war; it had about 10,000 inhabitants: it was the centre of the trade of this part of Rio Grande. In 1865 the Paraguayans took it and held it for some time, till the allied generals closely invested the place, and the Paraguayan commander surrendered to Dom Pedro in person. The town was found to be in a dreadful condition; but it is now fast recovering its prosperity. The Uruguay is here half a mile across.

Twenty leagues higher up is the Correntino village of La Cruz, and 2 leagues farther, on the Brazilian shore, stands the town of Itaqui, which was also taken by the Paraguayans in their descent on Rio Grande. A battle occurred near a rapid river above the town, in which the Brazilians were worsted, obliging them to abandon Itaqui.

Twenty-five leagues farther on are the towns of Santo Tomé and San Borja. The former is in lat.  $28^{\circ} 20'$ , and long.  $58^{\circ} 10'$ : it is the chief town of the Misiones of Aguapey (Corrientes). Exactly opposite is San Borja (Rio Grande): the country around is rich and populous. The distance across Misiones to Itapua on the Upper Paraná is 38 leagues.

We have now ascended 100 leagues from Salto, and the traveller may still continue his explorations in Misiones. The return voyage from San Borja to Salto will occupy a day and a half.

If we cross the Uruguay river below the falls from the eastern to the western side, we shall find Concordia, an Argentine city of the province of Entre Rios, and nearly opposite Salto. There is at Concordia one *saladero* which uses about 50,000 animals in the "faena" (cattle and horses). This is the property of A. Benites and Co.: the city counts about 5000 inhabitants, and is a place of considerable business. Rents and wages are high, and good houses are not easily found to rent. The Eastern Argentine Railway starts from here, and is being actively pushed forward into the province of Corrientes.

*Colonia de San José*, 24 leagues below Concordia, is a colony of Swiss and German immigrants, numbering about 2500 persons. The town itself is only the few houses needed at the landing, for the people are agriculturists, raising wheat, maize, potatoes, &c.

*Concepcion del Uruguay*, 9 leagues lower down the river, is at present the capital of the province of Entre Rios. The anchorage of steamers is near the shore, but the landing is so far away from the city as to leave but little opportunity to see the town from the steamer. There are said to be 5000 inhabitants. The princely residence of the late General Urquiza is 7 leagues distant, at San José. At Concepcion are two saladeros, but there are no manufactories.

#### THE SALADO AND VERMEJO.

These two rivers belong to the Gran Chaco territory, and are generally considered navigable, although many obstacles have been met with in the expeditions sent for their exploration.

The Rio Salado rises in the upper provinces, passes through Santiago del Estero, and falls into the Paraná just above Santa Fé city. A Spanish gentleman named Esteban Rams Rupert devoted many years and a large amount of money to the scheme of canalizing this river. His first expedition was at the close of 1862.

Baron Mauá provided funds, pending the formation of a company in England, and Mr. W. H. Cock began the works in 1863. The Baron, however, found it impossible to get up the company, owing to the Flores revolution of April, 1864, and after a year (December, 1864) Mr. Cock received orders to suspend operations.

Mr. Rams had some iron lighters built by Marshal of Baracas, and was almost ready to start for the Salado, when he was cut off by cholera, in April, 1867. The enterprise, however, was not suffered to fall through, but in the following month Mr. Señorans started from Buenos Ayres.



After a voyage of three months and a half he returned to Santa Fé with his expedition, having reached a point some hundred and eighty miles above Monte Aguará, at which latter place the river Salado takes a great bend to the west, just before entering into the province of Santiago del Estero. Mr. Señorans thus examined and went over that part of the river which Captain Page was unable to explore, owing to his steamer drawing too much water. The river, during the whole time occupied by the expedition, was pretty high—16 feet of water often being found, so that the theory of the navigation of the Salado by small steamers towing "chatas" was thus fully established, and even if this navigation be only practicable during six or seven months of the year, it is still of the very greatest importance, as it will facilitate the settlement of the lands on either side of the river. Mr. Señorans was successful in gaining the good will of the various tribes of Indians on his route. All the caciques of the river came to visit him, and he made treaties with many of them.

Since the return of this expedition (September, 1867) no other has gone up the Salado.

The Rio Vermejo rises in Bolivia, and, after a tortuous course of 1200 miles through the forests of the Chaco, falls into the river Paraguay near the fortress of Humaitá. The first expedition to navigate its waters was in 1826, when some Englishmen and Buenos Ayreans successfully descended the river: they were, however, taken prisoners by Francia, tyrant of Paraguay, and kept in captivity for many years. In 1856, José Maria Arce, a Bolivian, accompanied by an Irish sailor named William Martin, safely descended from Oran to Corrientes. Señor Arce made four voyages afterwards, the last in November, 1863, on this occasion losing two men, killed by Indians. He brought 150 tons cargo and ten passengers, including his brother, Dr. Arce (with two secretaries), who had credentials from the Bolivian Government as Minister Plenipotentiary to the Argentine and Paraguayan cabinets: his principal business being to

make treaties for the navigation of the Pilcomayo. President Lopez would not make any treaty on the subject, as he declared the Vermejo and Pilcomayo belonged exclusively to Paraguay. Arce, in his last voyage, found the Vermejo nowhere less than 5 feet deep, his vessels drawing only 27 inches: but in many places the boughs of trees obstructed the navigation.

In February, 1863, Lavarello's expedition started from Buenos Ayres, on board the steamer 'Gran Chaco.'

The course of the river changes five or six times every league, so that Captain Lavarello reckons one thousand bends from Esquina Grande to the mouth of the Vermejo. The Indians also rendered essential services by assisting to cut and load wood, and by hauling the vessel loose, with ropes, when occasionally stuck upon sand-banks.

At last they reached Rivadavia colony in July, and the expedition returned to Buenos Ayres early in 1864. Just then President Lopez sent to Europe for two small steamers, to navigate the Vermejo and Pilcomayo, but the war soon after ensuing the enterprise was prevented.

In November, 1868, a petition was laid before Congress from Messrs. Lezica and Lanuz, in connection with the Vermejo. A subsidy was granted, and the enterprise passed into a joint-stock company, on whose behalf Captain Page ascended the river in 1871, and in 1874 the canalization of the Teuco having been effected by Mr. Roldan, the Vermejo is now navigable to steamers of light draught, two of which, built in the United States, have recently arrived.

## CHAPTER IV.

## COLONIES OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

THE report of Mr. Secretary Wilcken verifies the assertion that the Argentine Republic is the poor man's El Dorado.

There are 3185 families scattered over the thirty-four colonies of Santa Fé and Entre Rios, owning farms and cattle to the value of \$11,186,216 Bol., equal to 1,864,359*l.* sterling, which will give a proportion of 585*l.* per family; most of these families having arrived here within the last eight or ten years without a dollar.

Special attention is due to the Central Argentine colonies, begun only three years ago, numbering already 3000 souls, with 50,000 acres under crops.

The statistics of the thirty-four colonies are summed up briefly as follows :

<i>1st—Population.</i>							
Swiss..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,857
Italians	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,157
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,889
Germans	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,483
English	..	..	..	..	..	..	486
Native born	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,364
Various	..	..	..	..	..	..	442
							16,678

<i>2nd—Stock.</i>							Head.
Oxen	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,767
Cows	..	..	..	..	..	..	33,561
Horses	..	..	..	..	..	..	11,958
Pigs	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,457
Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,625

Value of above, \$767,000 bol.

<i>3rd—Farms.</i>			
Area occupied .. .. .	75 sq. l.		
Under tillage .. .. .	500,000 acres.		
Farm implements .. .. .	\$1,056,820		
Houses, sheds .. .. .	2,305,600		
Crops of 1872 .. .. .	1,383,196		
Value of farms .. .. .	2,023,600		
Stock, &c., capital .. .. .	4,417,000		
			<u>\$11,186,216</u>

The reader will find a general view of the colonies in the table which follows, expressing the date of foundation of each, the present population, and the number of fanegas in the last crop.

Name.	Date.	Population.	Crop.
Esperanza .. .. .	1856	1,856	18,000
San José .. .. .	1856	1,991	19,976
V. Uruguay .. .. .	1858	800	4,700
S. Geronimo .. .. .	1858	958	13,000
S. Carlos .. .. .	1858	1,992	33,007
Guadaloupe .. .. .	1864	425	3,800
Helvetia .. .. .	1865	800	20,000
California .. .. .	1866	72	2,750
Francesa .. .. .	1867	70	1,400
Cayasta .. .. .	1867	303	5,350
Corondina .. .. .	1867	220	2,801
Tunas .. .. .	1868	244	3,762
Emilia .. .. .	1868	298	2,588
Eloya .. .. .	1868	14	..
Cavour .. .. .	1869	165	730
Humboldt .. .. .	1869	685	7,424
Gruetli .. .. .	1869	49	957
S. Justo .. .. .	1869	150	800
Welsh .. .. .	1869	44	750
Alexandra .. .. .	1870	130	..
Germania .. .. .	1870	65	1,600
Jesus-Maria .. .. .	1870	950	15,000
Candelaria .. .. .	1870	392	5,800
S. Agustin .. .. .	1870	437	6,587
Frank .. .. .	1870	162	2,000
Bernstadt .. .. .	1870	2,000	8,500
Carried forward .. ..		15,272	181,282

Name.	Date.	Population.	Crop.
Brought forward .. ..		15,272	181,282
Cañada Gomez .. .. .	1870	335	3,000
Carcaraña .. .. .	1871	510	..
Tortugas .. .. .	1871	262	..
Hansa .. .. .	1871	40	..
N. Italia .. .. .	1871	80	..
Hugues .. .. .	1871	60	..
Est. Grande .. .. .	1871	85	..
Orono .. .. .	1872	30	..
		16,674	184,282

This shows that every man, woman, and child in the colonies represents an annual production of nearly 12 fanegas of grain; or, if we divide the area under tillage among the different families, we shall find that each family cultivates a farm of 157 acres, say 40 cuadras. The crops are found to give thirty or forty fold on an average, but in some cases only fifteen to twenty fold. However, Mr. Thomas Moore, of California Colony, obtained in 1870 as much as fifty-five for one.

*Esperanza* is on the right bank of the Salado, 7 leagues N.W. of Santa Fé. It was founded in 1856, and is in a most flourishing condition, most of the settlers being worth from 500*l.* to 2000*l.* each: they are about one-half Swiss, one-third Germans, with a sprinkling of French and Italians. The land, which was at first worth 2*s.* an acre, has risen to 2*l.* per acre. The colonists have built a bridge at Paso Miura which cost 2500*l.*, and the projected railway will connect the colony with the port of Santa Fé. There are 3 steam-mills—those of Maurer, Trombére, and Kelle—and a brewery belonging to M. Schneider; also 5 brick-kilns, 27 shops, 2 saw-yards, 4 inns, and 386 brick houses. The Catholic school has 132, the Protestant 75 pupils. The colonists have 5000 head of horned cattle, which yield 10 tons of butter for exportation. The annual profits of the colony are estimated at 30,000*l.* The plantations count 100,000 fruit trees.

The wheat crop gave 15,000 fanegas.

The colonists are 1856 in number, comprising 362 families, of which 282 are Catholic and 80 Protestant. There are 210 farm lots of 80 acres each.

*San Geronimo* is 2 leagues from Esperanza, towards Sunchales, founded in 1858 by Swiss families from the Valais canton. The sons of the colonists are a hardy race, and rear a good deal of cattle. M. Rodemann has made periodical visits to Switzerland, bringing out new settlers every time. The school is managed by the priest of the colony, and attended by eighty-five children.

There are 196 farms, inhabited by 958 settlers, all of whom are Catholics except two. There are 13 shops, 133 houses, and 42 sheds, but no mills. The implements comprise 250 American ploughs, and 42 Buckeye reapers. An unfenced farm lot may be had for 60*l.* The last wheat crop gave 10,000 fanegas.

*Las Tunas* was marked out in 1868 into 184 lots, at 40*l.* each, equal to 10*s.* per acre. This colony has been a great success. Only eight of the lots are yet undisposed of. It lies east of San Geronimo, and counts 244 settlers, of whom 165 are Catholics and 79 Protestants. Four-fifths are Swiss, the rest Italians and Germans. They have 874 head of cattle and 2500 acres under crops, but neither church nor school nearer than San Geronimo. The colonists are models of industry and sobriety.

*Frank Colony* is called after its founder, Mauricio Frank, whose estancia is 2 leagues from Santa Fé. Farm lots of 80 acres for 80*l.*, payable in three years. It was founded in 1870, and its success has surpassed Mr. Frank's expectations. Of 228 lots, there are 81 occupied. The settlers are mostly Italians, with a sprinkling of Swiss and French, in all numbering 161, of whom 127 are Catholics and 35 Protestants. The crop was 2000 fanegas, the area under tillage being 2300 acres.

*San Augustin*, belonging to the London and River Plate Bank, was founded by Mariano Cabal, near San Carlos, in 1870,

and sold to the bank in 1871. It is 6 leagues S.E. of Santa Fé city, in a picturesque, rolling country. There are 376 farm-lots of 80 acres at 65*l.* each, payable in four years, with 10 per cent. interest. The manager for the bank is Don T. Lubary, who has sold most of the lots to speculators, chiefly from the neighbouring colony of San Carlos, the soil being the best in Santa Fé. The population is 437, mostly Italians, and all Catholics. The live stock numbers 2274 head; the crops gave 6600 fanegas; and there are 5600 acres under tillage. Mr. Lubary speaks well of the colonists.

*San Carlos* is 6 leagues S. of Esperanza, and was established in 1857 by Messrs. Beck and Herzog. It is the most prosperous of all the colonies, and is almost equally composed of Swiss and Italians, the proportion of Catholics and Protestants being as 3 to 1. There are 2 churches and 2 schools, 3 steam-mills, 1 doctor, 2 apothecaries, 2 breweries, 55 shops, 184 brick houses, and 2 inns. Nothing can exceed the neatness and flourishing aspect of the colony. Farm-lots that were sold last year at 50*l.* (§300) have risen to 80*l.* The wheat crop is doubling every two years, and the exports last year reached 60,000*l.* worth. The colonists have 224 wagons, 478 ploughs, 110 reaping and threshing machines, and 6000 cows and horses, besides 135,000 fruit trees. The cultivation of silk-worms progresses favourably: 50 lbs. of silk were raised last year. Area under tillage, 20,000 acres. The colonists count 1492 Catholics and 500 Protestants, the churches of each persuasion being very handsome. The taxes collected last year amounted to §4205. Among the richest of the colonists is Battista Goetschi, who arrived in 1859, and is now worth 6000*l.* sterling. The best mill is that of Frank and Bauer, whose flour took a gold medal at the Cordoba Exhibition. The colonist Laprada has three steam threshing machines.

*Corondina*, three hours' riding S.S.W. from San Carlos, and close to the old village of Coronda, was founded by Governor Oroño in 1867, each settler receiving 2 oxen, 2 horses, 2 cows,

and the material for a house, with a farm-lot of only 20 acres. There are 67 lots, which cost the Government \$35 each, and are now worth from \$200 upwards. The site is close to the Salado: population 220, comprising 56 families, of whom 3 are Protestant. The settlers are Italians and Swiss. There are 68 houses, 5000 trees, 700 head of cattle, and some silk-worms. The school is attended by 26 children. Last year's crop gave 2000 fanegas. The port of Coronda is advantageous.

*Oroño*, 2 leagues W. of Coronda, was founded in 1872 by Senator (formerly Governor) Oroño. Farm-lots of 100 acres each at 65*l.*, payable in four years without interest, or 50*l.* cash. Six Italian families were the first settlers, and Signor Boccicio, of Coronda, is authorized to sell lots.

*Guadalupe* consists of German families from Brazil, the first having come in 1864. They supply Santa Fé with fowl, vegetables, &c., besides raising corn, tobacco, and other products. They are well-to-do people, and have splendid plantations, with farm-lots of 80 acres well fenced round. At first the settlers, who are nearly all Hanoverians, suffered many reverses, and the Government had to give them horses and oxen. They have only 2000 acres under grain, but they make a comfortable living by fruits and vegetables. The population is 425, in 97 families, of whom 73 are Catholic, and 24 Protestant; one-fourth are Italians. The school has 25 children.

*Cavour*, founded in July, 1869, 8 leagues from Santa Fé city. Farms of 80 acres for 40*l.* Population 169, chiefly Italians and French, who raise great quantities of vegetables, and sell as many as 30,000 water-melons in a year. The founder, Lambruschini, allows them to cut wood gratis. There are 99 farm-lots occupied, and last year's crop gave 730 fanegas. There are 25 ploughs, 10 wagons, and 40 houses, besides 68 pair of oxen, and 1030 head of other cattle. All the settlers, except 22, are Catholics.

*Humboldt*, commenced in July, 1869, by Beck and Herzog; concessions of 80 acres for 30*l.* Population 685, chiefly Swiss,



who have under tillage 4000 acres. Crop 7489 fanegas. Trees 12,000. This is one of the colonies which shows the most rapid and surprising progress. It is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  leagues from Esperanza, in a beautiful country bounded by the Chaco forests. Of 282 farm-lots there are only 20 yet to be disposed of. The colonists have 164 American or German ploughs, 100 wagons, 19 reapers, 3532 head of cattle, and 168 houses; 525 settlers are Catholics, 160 Protestants.

*Gruetli*, founded in 1869 by San Carlos colonists. Farms of 80 acres for 30*l*. Population 49, chiefly Swiss. The colony comprises 5 square leagues, sold by Mr. Cullen to Mr. Gessler. It lies west of Esperanza and 13 leagues from Santa Fé. The lands are wild, wooded, and exposed to Indians, and in 1870 two Americans who had joined the colony were murdered by the savages, which almost caused the settlement to be abandoned, only thirteen families remaining. In February, 1872, ten families from Sunchales came to reinforce the settlement, which is now the farthest outpost of civilization in this direction in the heart of the Gran Chaco. A wooden bridge has been placed across the Arroyo de las Prusianas. Two-thirds of the settlers are Catholics. The crop gave 957 fanegas. There are 18 houses, 38 ploughs and harrows, 4 reapers, 11 wagons, and 370 head of cattle.

*Emilia* is on the Salado, 13 leagues N. of Santa Fé, in a delightful locality, surrounded by the richest timber. It was founded in 1868 by Governor Cabal; 121 eighty-acre lots, which were at first given gratis, but now cost 40*l*. Cabal made advances to poor settlers, and gave them free use of the timber. The crop gave 3000 fanegas of wheat. Excellent tobacco is also raised, 60 plants giving an arroba worth 30*s*.: this is better than wheat. There are 298 settlers, of whom two-thirds are Italians, with several French, Belgians, and Swiss, besides a few natives and 5 Paraguayans, forming 71 families, all Catholics. There is a fine steam-mill, also a barn used as a church, 72 houses, a brick-kiln, 80 American ploughs, a steam-

thresher, and 2700 cows, horses, and sheep. The crop gave 2500 fanegas, the colonists selling at Cabal's agency at the same price as in Santa Fé. The agent's offices and steam-mill are a league from the colony. Cabal still offers 50 farm-lots at 40*l.* each, payable in three years, and will advance oxen, flour, and beef to poor settlers. In March and April of 1872 there were five births, twins in every case.

*San Justo*, another of Cabal's colonies, lies 21 leagues N. of Santa Fé, and was marked out in 1868 into 500 lots, at first given gratis, but now worth 30*l.* each. There are 27 families, who live mostly by cutting timber and raising tobacco from Habana seed. Cabal helped poor settlers at the outset, and the farm-lots were of 80 acres each. In 1869 the colony counted 300 souls, but it has fallen off to one-half, Cabal being obliged in 1871 to transfer it to the London and River Plate Bank at the price of \$4000 per league. Since then it has been going to ruin, and on all sides are seen abandoned houses and gardens, as well as English machinery scattered about. There are still 150 settlers, Swiss, French, and Italian. The last crop of wheat was only 800 fanegas, a fire having destroyed 200 acres. The school counts about a dozen children. The settlers dispose of their produce at the neighbouring colony of Emilia.

*Conde* is still farther in the Chaco, being situate between the rivers Colastiné and San Javier, 10 leagues from Calchines and 20 from Santa Fé. It derives its name from Count Tessières Le Boi de Bertrand, who came out here in 1867, and prevailed on forty Swiss families of the San Carlos and San Geronimo colonies to settle down with him in the Gran Chaco. The Count has a charming residence in a wood opening on a hill that commands the river Colastiné, where he has a cattle-farm independent of the colony, the Government having ceded him a league of land. The colony is properly called Cayastá, from an old mission of that name, and may be reached in eighteen hours by steamer from Santa Fé. There are 45 farms of 80 acres, and the low grounds are in common for grazing cattle.

The crop was 5500 fanegas. There are 12 shops, 97 houses, 2600 head of cattle, 76 ploughs, 4 reaping machines, 39 wagons, church, school, municipality of 7 members, town-hall, priest, &c. Steamers and sailing vessels take produce for Corrientes, E. Rios and Santa Fé. The colonists are 303 in number; one family is Protestant.

*Helvetia* is on the San Javier river, 25 leagues N. of Santa Fé, and was founded by Dr. Romang in 1865. The concession has 4 leagues front on the San Javier river, and lots of 100 acres are sold to settlers at 8*l.* to 24*l.*, according to situation; 137 lots are under grain. The cultivated lots are valued at 70*l.* to 100*l.* These colonists number 125 Swiss, German, Italian, and French families. Last year's crop gave 12,000 fanegas of wheat, besides 8000 fanegas of maize, and a quantity of beans, potatoes, &c. There are 7000 head of cattle and 800 horses. The settlers drive a brisk trade in cutting timber, and a steamer calls three times a month, plying to and from Santa Fé, besides numbers of sailing craft. This is the most flourishing of the colonies on the San Javier. The first settlers were from Esperanza, and had much trouble from Indians. The growth of this colony will be seen by these figures:

	1870.	1872.
Colonists .. .. .	500	800
Stock .. . . .	3,000	7,000
Crop, fanegas .. .. .	6,000	20,000

The colony is growing so fast that the settlers have begun buying the Quiroga and Frank estancias adjoining. Dr. Romang says some of them own 500 head of cattle, all are very industrious, and they have paid him so honourably that there is not 600*l.* due to him in the colony. Good smiths, carpenters, shoemakers, and tailors are wanted. The colonists count 492 Protestants, who have a neat chapel, and 308 Catholics, who attend the Cayastá church. The municipality comprises 7 burghers, the parson, doctor, and tax-collector. There are 25 shops, a steam-mill, hotel, 5 brick-kilns, a school attended by 30

children, 159 houses, 343 ploughs and harrows, 101 wagons, 13 patent reapers and threshers, a Justice of Peace, and three policemen. The colonists make sugar from "sandias," and cotton grows well. Freight by water to Rosario 1 real and Buenos Ayres  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per arrobe. The port is becoming important and houses are going up, but as there is no Customs officer the colonists have to send a chasque to Santa Fé, at \$15 each time that a vessel calls. The duties last year gave \$1280, against \$480 the previous year.

*Estancia Grande*, also on the San Javier river, 30 leagues overland, or 48 hours by steamer from Santa Fé, was founded in 1871 by Cullen and Cabal. Lots of 80 acres at 40*l.* each, payable in four years, have been taken up by 18 Swiss, German, and French families, but the Elia family dispute Cabal's title, and the colony is in a precarious way.

*Francesa* was founded by M. Couvert, from Esperanza, in 1867. There are 91 lots, of which 20 are under cultivation, and the rest will be given gratis to comers. There are 14 families, and last year's crop gave 800 fanegas of wheat. The lots are of 80 acres each, the present settlers being mostly of the Valais canton. The colony is 9 leagues north of Helvetia, and 1 south of the town of San Javier. The colonists have little encouragement in so remote a place, but Mr. Couvert has a first-rate camp-store, for which the Californian and Thomson Bonar's colonists give him good custom. There are two smithies and carpenters' shops.

*New California* was founded in 1866 by some Californian families, who bought  $1\frac{1}{2}$  league of land from the Santa Fé Government, at 50*l.* per league; it is nearly opposite La Paz, on the Paraná. Each family has 600 yards front on San Javier by 9000 deep. Last year's crop gave 2750 fanegas of prime wheat. The colonists have Kentucky rifles and the most approved implements of agriculture. In 1869 the chief of the colony, Mr. Alexander McLean, solicited from the National Government a grant of 20 leagues of land beyond El Rey, in

order to establish there 200 American families on lots of 640 acres gratis, but his petition was refused. The colony comprises 13 families, mustering 72 persons, all Protestants. They have 5 Gang ploughs, 5 Wood's reapers, and Mr. Wilcken says their lands are the best cultivated that he has seen. They are their own smiths and carpenters, and aid each other, living like one family, the women attending to the dairy and teaching the children. They live well, but their houses are mere huts, since the frequent inroads of Indians and illiberality of the Government had almost induced them to return to the United States; but now that the Alexandra colony has been formed they are less troubled with Indians, and have begun making bricks to build comfortable homesteads. Their cattle comprises 1500 cows, 60 oxen, 70 horses, and 300 pigs, which they keep in an island facing the colony. They find ready market for their products with dealers from Entre Rios and Corrientes, who touch at intervals. Each cottage is surrounded with five or six acres of fruit plantation, the trees having grown prodigiously in five years. The steam-thresher of Ransomes' and Sims, as well as Thomson's road-steamer belonging to Alexandra colony, made their successful *début* at this colony. Their reaping machines will cut each ten acres of wheat daily. The colonists' names are McLean, Moore, Henry, Hurt, Mounts, Thompson, Smith, Schneider, Bennett, Wasp, and Barkly, all of whom, according to Mr. Wilcken, have good returns for the little capital they brought with them to the country.

*The Welsh* colony, a league beyond the Californian, consists of laborious settlers who left the Chupat colony in Patagonia, in 1869, and obtained a grant of a square league from the Santa Fé Government. They have over 240 acres under cultivation. Their crops have turned out very well. The present number is 44, all Protestants, who have their "ranchos" in a group for protection against the Indians. They are surrounded by thick woods. Their stock comprises 200 cows, 30 oxen, 40 horses, and 20 pigs. The settlers are Mouldsdale, Hughes,

Roberts, Davids, Morgan, Pugh, Reed, Price, Jones, Griffith, Burrell, Davies, and Williams.

*Eloisa* is also on the San Javier, 2 leagues farther north than the Welsh. It comprises a grant of 20 leagues to Mr. Wornes, who arrived with fifteen families in August, 1869, and they raised tobacco with much success, selling various consignments in Santa Fé at \$10 [30 shillings] per arrobe. In 1870 the colonists numbered 160 souls, but partly owing to bad management and still more to attacks from Indians, who killed two colonists and plundered the place, the manager running away, the settlement was gradually abandoned, and there are now but three families remaining. They have a mill and some houses strongly fenced in. Henriet has 7000 tobacco plants, which gave him last year 2500 lbs. Of maize and wheat the crop has been 330 fanegas.

*Alexandra*, between the rivers San Javier and Saladillo Amargo, is north of Fort San Javier, in the Gran Chaco, forming part of an area of 22 square leagues, which Messrs. Thomson, Bonar, and Company, of London, obtained from the Santa Fé Government. Farms of 100 acres for 62*l.*, payable in four years, without interest, or 40*l.* each. Advances of 50*l.* worth of cattle, seed, &c., to poor settlers, to be repaid in three years, at 10 per cent. interest. There are 9 leagues of fine high lands for agriculture; the rest is swampy. There are three settlements marked out A, 100 English colonists; B, 250 Waldenses arrived in August, 1872, from Piedmont; C, 150 Swiss families. Only one-fourth Catholics; they are in a kind of village close to the agency-offices, which cover a site of 4 acres, surrounded by a palisade. The colony was marked out in 1870 (when Mr. Weguelin was killed by the Indians); an area of 600 acres has been fenced in. In April, 1872, Colonel Obligado was sent to garrison a fort on El Rey, so that now the colony will be less exposed. It is 46 leagues overland from Santa Fé. The colonists are admirably supplied with everything—steamboat, lighters, traction-engine, steam-mill, machines for plough-

ing, reaping and brickmaking, camp-store, forge, bakery, carpenter, butcher, &c., and 430 head of cattle. It is proposed to plant sugar-cane and rice.

*Bernstadt*, so called from the Swiss settlers, is at the Roldan station, 4 leagues by rail from Rosario. It was the first of the Central Argentine colonies. The first batch of twenty-five families arrived from Switzerland in March, 1870, and found houses, wells, farming implements, &c., in readiness for them on the ground. A second batch arrived three months later; and the colony now comprises 385 families, who have 394 farms under cultivation. The Company advanced most of them free passage from Europe, farm implements, food, houses, &c., repayable in two years. The farm-lots are of 80 acres, which are sold at 1*l.* per acre, or rented 1*l.* per cuadra (one shilling per acre). The colonists have 394 houses, 30,000 trees, 2100 horses and cows, a school-house, &c. One of the colonists, who arrived in March, 1870, sold his wheat crop for 1400 Bolivian dollars—240*l.* sterling. The rate of sowing was 15 quintals per acre (60 per quadra), and the yield was up to 35 for 1. The colony raises abundance of butter, cheese, eggs, and vegetables, for the Rosario market. The schools are attended by 80 children. Two chapels, Catholic and Protestant, are being built. Besides the Swiss there is a sprinkling of English, Germans, and French. A municipality is formed for the village in the centre, where there are already good brick houses. Colonists who wish to buy, instead of renting their land, are allowed four years to pay, without interest. Excellent water is obtained at 10 or 12 feet deep. The soil is admirably suited for cereals. The colony has an area of 4 square leagues (2600 acres), of which three-fourths are settled on. Mr. Perkins, the manager, speaks highly of the colonists, who are about 1500 Catholics and 500 Protestants. There are 174 farm-lots yet to be disposed of. This colony possesses two extraordinary advantages, in its entire security from Indians and the easy access to Rosario, that market being less than an hour's journey by railway. At

Bernstadt the Company have established a model-farm of 330 acres for acclimatizing plants and trees. A small new colony is at San Geronimo, 2 leagues farther along the railway: area 800 acres. Although little over four years old, its population exceeds that of any other colony in the River Plate, and the colonists have already 40,000 acres under tillage.

*Carcarañá*, on the river of the same name, 9 leagues from Rosario, is another of the Central Argentine colonies, offering the same conditions and advantages as Bernstadt. It covers 8 square leagues of fine, rolling country, on either side of the river. Well water is good, but 60 feet deep. Favourable soil for wheat and potatoes. A town is projected near the railway station; building lots of 50 feet front are given gratis. The colony is only a year old, and there are already 168 farms under cultivation, 400 more remaining to be taken up. The population is 510, including 100 Protestants: 89 families are occupied in farming, and 13 in the village. They are mostly French and Swiss, with a few Italians and English. It is thought this colony will even beat Bernstadt, the lands being higher and better, and the settlers first-class French farmers. The Company is forming a model-farm of 1000 acres on the far side of the *Carcarañá* river.

*Cañada Gomez* is a first-class English settlement. The first settler, Mr. Paul Krell, has 830 acres fenced in under tillage, and reaped last year 9000 quarters of wheat and maize. The farmhouse and agricultural machinery are probably unrivalled in the country. The other farms are in lots of 400 acres each, chiefly under wheat, but Messrs. Hope plant flax on a large scale. Mr. West reaped in 1870, 120 acres of wheat and 100 of maize. Not far removed are the admirable farms of *Las Lomas* and *Las Rosas*, belonging to Englishmen, who have spent large fortunes in importing prize horses and cattle, superior machinery, &c. Garrett's threshing machine, which took the prize at Cordoba, a steam-plough, and other first-class farming implements are in use at *Cañada Gomez*. The Cricket Club counts 60 members, the Central Argentine Company



having given the ground free. A site of 400 acres is marked out for a town, 130 quintas of 4 acres each around it. The ground is high and commands a fine view. Water excellent, varying from 15 to 40 feet. Wheat gives 30 for 1. Flax also yields splendidly. The colony forms the third station on the railway, and is 14 leagues from Rosario. There are 131 farm-lots of 100 acres, sold or rented to English, German, and other settlers; the total population being 335, of whom 200 are Protestants. Mr. Heiland, of Mecklenburg, who came out in 1866, was three years in charge of Krell's estate, and has now a farm of 800 acres of his own. His improvements in planting, &c., are wonderful, and although he landed here without money he is worth over 2000*l.* Mr. Krell has expended a large sum on steam-plough, steam-thresher, patent reapers, &c., besides importing blood cattle. His stock comprises 2000 cows and horses and 4000 sheep. The Krell estate covers 6000 acres. Near the old village of Cañada Gomez the Company has rented out 1000 acres among thirty native families. There are 200 farm-lots of 100 acres to be disposed of.

*Tortugas*, the fourth Central Argentine colony, is on the frontier line of Santa Fé and Cordoba. It was formed in 1871 of thirty-four families imported from Lombardy and Piedmont, who have thirty-nine farms under tillage. The land is the best on the route to Cordoba, the plains remaining green even in dry seasons. The manager's house is surrounded by the others, each occupied by a family. The settlers are all Catholics, and there are 529 farms yet to be disposed of: the colony has an area of 4 square leagues.

*Hansa*, founded in 1871 by Messrs. Tietjen, of Rosario, at the Totoral, 4 leagues N. of Cañada Gomez, has an area of a square league. Farm-lots of 80 acres at 50*l.*, payable in three years, the owners also advancing cattle, implements, and food to the settlers, who must be Germans or Scandinavians; all Protestants, occupying about 800 acres, and raising cheese. There are seventy lots to be disposed of.

*Germania*, founded in 1870 by Mr. Nordenholz, German

Consul, 6 leagues north of Cañada Gomez. Lots of 100 acres for 50*l.* payable in three years, the settler having to fence in the land and plant 500 trees. Thirty farms are occupied by German and Scandinavian settlers. At present the colony fits in a square league, but Mr. Nordenholz proposes to enlarge it to four: he has put up a steam-mill and got machinery and farming implements of the most improved kind, besides which he gives new settlers food, seed, cattle, &c. The Germania and Hansa colonies are within easy reach of Cañada Gomez railway station.

*Nueva Italia*, 4 leagues from Rosario, on the road to San Lorenzo, was founded by the Italian Consul, Luigi Petich, in 1871, on a slip of land with 600 yards frontage on the Paraná, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  league in depth. The settlers got garden lots of 12 acres, with advances of oxen, ploughs, and food, paying back same, besides 65*l.* for their lots, and interest at the rate of 1 per cent. a month. Fifteen Italian families have settled here, all Catholics, and they are likely to do well, as there is demand for market-garden produce at Rosario.

*Jesus-Maria*, founded at the close of 1870, on Grondana's camps, by Cullen and Aldao, is 8 leagues from Rosario, on the banks of the Paraná, with a port suitable for vessels. The first settlers from Piedmont and Lombardy arrived in November, 1870, and more have been engaged. The situation, soil, &c., are excellent.

The colony has an area of 6 square leagues, and is cut up in 500 farms, which are sold at 120*l.* each lot of 80 acres, the same payable in three years, without interest, or 80*l.* cash. Each settler has to give one fanega in 100 of wheat, towards school fund. The coast line on the Paraná extends 15 miles, and offers every facility for shipping. Since the foundation (November, 1870) there have been 6 deaths, 6 marriages, and 80 births. The colony has its own steam-mill, drug-store, grocery, priest, manager, and justice; and a handsome chapel. The colonists, 950 in number, are all Catholics, chiefly Italians,

and very prosperous. Last year's crop gave 17,000 fanegas. There are 1900 cows and horses, 505 ploughs and harrows, 80 wagons, 25 reaping or threshing machines.

*Candelaria*, founded in November, 1870, by Mr. Charles Casado, of Rosario, is 9 leagues from that town. It comprises 1000 farm-lots of 60 acres each, price 100*l.* each, payable in three years, without interest; 324 farms have already been taken up by English, French, Swiss, and Italians, and some of the settlers are of those who came out for the Henly Flax Colony. The official representative of Mr. Casado in Europe is Mr. F. Albarracin, Antwerp; and in Buenos Ayres, Mr. A. Albarracin, of 261, Calle San Martin. Those settlers who prefer to take farms as tenants will have to pay a rent of 10*l.* a year for a 60-acre lot. There are 111 houses, 268 ploughs, 960 cows and horses, some carpenters' and blacksmiths' shops, and a grand agency built by Mr. Casado, with spacious offices. The land is reputed the best in Santa Fé. Last crop, 5800 fanegas.

*Villa Urquiza* was founded in 1858, about 2 leagues above the town of Paraná, in lots of 20 acres, which are found too small, obliging many of the colonists to move over to Santa Fé. The settlers are half native, half foreigners, and raise 5000 fanegas of wheat: tobacco grows well, and cotton was tried, but abandoned after two years. There are many well-built houses, fine plantations, a chapel for Protestant settlers, a windmill, a steam-mill in construction; 3 schools, attended by 130 boys and 50 girls, who learn French, German and Spanish: there are also 14 shops, 5 brick-kilns, an inn, lime quarries, smithies, carpenters' shops, &c., besides 618 wagons, ploughs and harrows, 3000 cows and horses, and 2000 sheep. A handsome church and town-hall are being built. The Protestant chapel is closed, the congregation depending on rare visits of the pastor of Helvetia colony, in Santa Fé. The Legislature of Entre Rios has at last ceded 20,000 acres (3 square leagues) towards allowing the colonists more room, in farms of 56 acres each. There are 800 settlers, in 132 families, one-half being Protestant.

*San José*, with a port called Colon, opposite Paysandú, was founded by General Urquiza in 1856. The colonists got free passage from Europe, seed, implements, food, cattle, and land-grants of 124 acres, on condition of giving in return one-third of their crops for the first five years. The colonists soon paid up everything, and the settlement was so well managed that they are all now very prosperous; the cultivated lots are worth 100*l.* to 300*l.* Nearly one-half are Swiss, and the rest French or Italians, besides four German and four American families; they have two churches and three schools, the latter attended by 300 children. Their stock comprises 4020 horned cattle and 900 horses; they have 44,000 fruit trees, and their crop last year, including 20,000 fanegas of wheat and maize, realized 30,000*l.* The average price they obtain for wheat is \$10 Bol., and through their port of Villa Colon they export large quantities of butter, poultry, vegetables, &c. A fence 5 leagues in length has recently been put up to protect the farms from stray cattle. There are 522 farms under cultivation, and 50 new lots of 64 acres may be had for 50*l.* each. The executors of General Urquiza intend to establish another colony 2 leagues W. of Concepcion. The San José colony counts 1991 souls, not including 1000 in the port of Colon. In 1871 there were 133 births, 13 marriages, and 29 deaths. There are 418 houses, 14 shops, 1 steam and 2 wind mills, also 130 beehives. The taxes in 1871 gave \$2776. Benites' saladero is near this colony. There are 150 Protestants in the colony. The exports in 1872 included 7 pipes of rum and wine produced on the spot.

*Hugues*, a private colony, founded about a year ago a little south-west of San José. Farm-lots of 65 acres for 50*l.*, payable in four years. There are 63 farms yet to be disposed of.

*Baradero* colony was established in February, 1856, the municipality giving free land-grants of 12 acres to ten families, who were joined by eight others the following month, now comprising 816 chacras of 8 acres, and 275 quintas of 2 acres, the

latter paying 5s., the former 15s. (§90) rent per annum. A law has been passed to sell the holdings to the present occupiers at 300 paper dollars per cuadra, or 12s. per acre. Two-thirds of the colonists are Swiss and the rest are Basques, Italians, and natives. Cultivated lots are sold at 2*l.* per acre. The crop produced over 33,000*l.*, and the value of the houses and plantations is estimated at 50,000*l.* The returns show 145,000 fanegas of grain and potatoes, besides 18,000 dozen eggs, 60,000 arrobes wool and 35,000 arrobes tallow. The stock comprises 24,000 sheep, 12,000 cows, and 600 horses.

*Concordia*, 25 leagues W. of Bragado, is a new colony in the Pampas, under the direction of D. Feliz Brizuela. The first twenty-five families who settled there in 1872 received free farm-lots of 200 acres, garden lots of 8 acres, and building lots of 2 acres. Each family is provided with cattle, seeds, implements, &c., for which they are allowed three years to repay, without interest.

*Chuput*, the Welsh colony in Patagonia, was founded by Mr. Lewis Jones in September, 1865, the settlers numbering 180 souls. The National Government spent 2000*l.* in supplies for their use, but in 1867 they were on the point of abandoning the place. They have 30 houses, a chapel, 200 milch cows, and 100 horses. They raise wheat, maize, &c., trading with Buenos Ayres and bartering with the Pehuelches Indians for ostrich feathers, skins, &c. They live on excellent terms with the Indians, who have often helped them with provisions. At present there are 120 colonists.

*Chivilcoy* can no longer be counted among the colonies, as it is now the most important department in Buenos Ayres. Population, 16,000; area under crops, 150,000 acres; crop as by railway returns, 250,000 fanegas of wheat and maize.

## CHAPTER V.

## RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC WORKS.

THERE are over 1000 miles of railway in actual traffic in the River Plate, consisting of 12 lines in the Argentine Republic, 2 in Banda Oriental, and 1 in Paraguay. There are also 7 Argentine and 2 Oriental lines in construction, making up another 1000 miles; besides a dozen concessions, in the aggregate 2000 miles, not yet commenced.

*Argentine Republic.*

1. Central Argentine, Rosario to Cordoba, length  $245\frac{3}{4}$  miles, cost at 6400*l.* per mile, say 1,600,000*l.*; net profits equal to 5 per cent. Constructed in 1863–70 by Brassey, Wythes, and Wheelwright. Stock held mostly in England. Company has land-grant of a million acres, and flourishing colonies. Government guaranteed 7 per cent., and paid from 1867 to 1874 the sum of 272,000*l.* on account of same.

2. Villa Maria to Rio Cuarto, length 82 miles, cost 5200*l.* per mile, say 420,000*l.*; constructed in 1870–3 for the National Government, by Mr. Peter Stuart. Branches off from Central Argentine. Gross receipts only 3 per cent. on cost of construction.

3. Western, Buenos Ayres to Chivilcoy, 102 miles, cost 10,000*l.* per mile, say 1,020,000*l.*; carried 820,000 passengers and 152,000 tons in 1873; working expenses 62 per cent.; profits equal to  $8\frac{1}{4}$  div. First line made (1857–66) in these countries; belongs to Provincial Government of Buenos Ayres.

4. Western branch to Lobos,  $42\frac{1}{2}$  miles, cost 4200*l.* per mile, say 180,000*l.*; carried 40,000 passengers and 11,000 tons; working



# ARGENTINE RAILWAYS.

Open

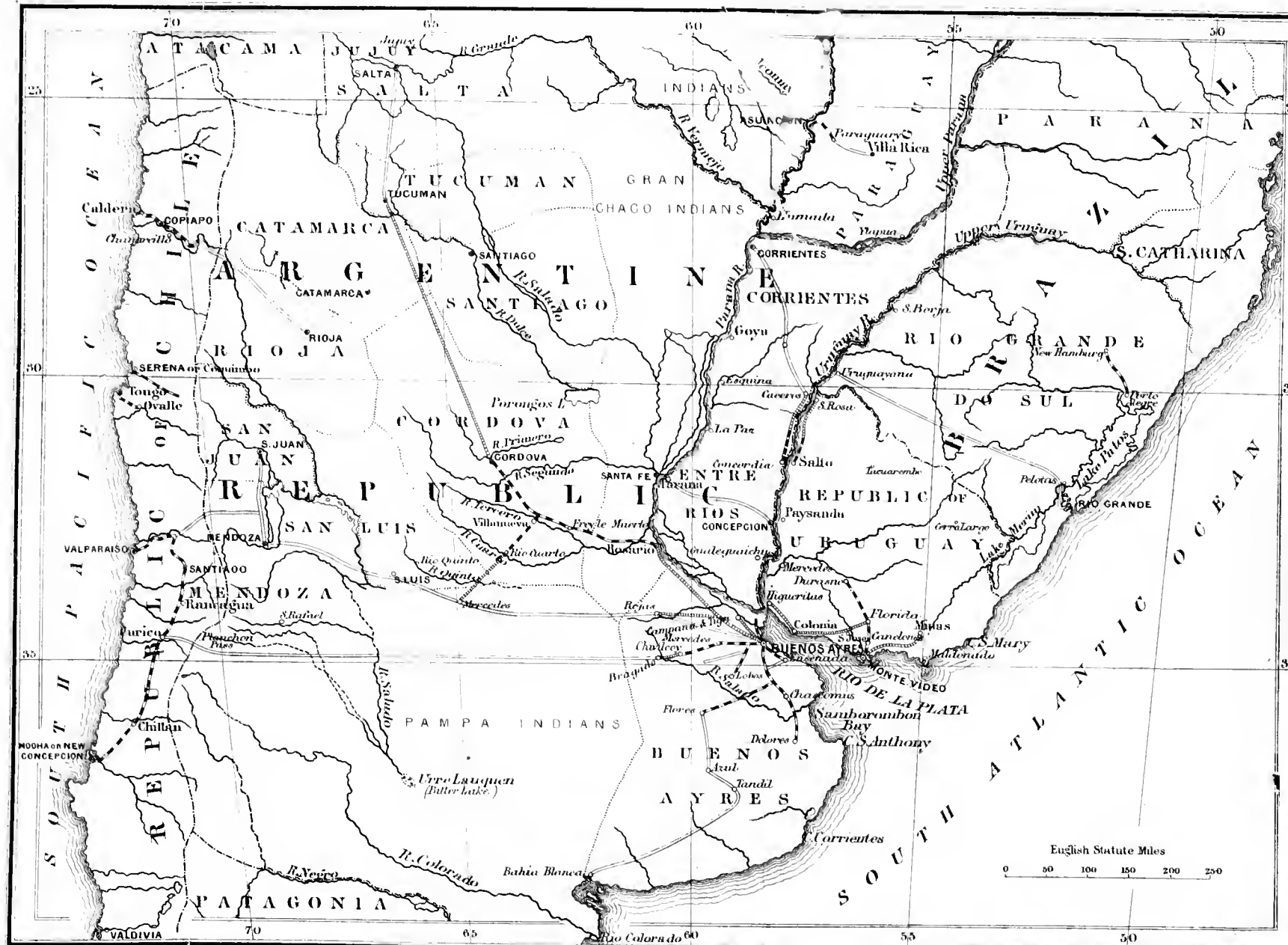
- A Buenos Ayres Western, to Chivilcoy, 101 miles.
- a Branch to Lobos, 42 miles.
- B Buenos Ayres Northern, to Tigre, 20 miles.
- C Buenos Ayres Great Southern, to Dolores, 130 miles.
- D Branch to Las Flores, 75 miles.
- E Rosario to Cordoba, Central Argentine, 246 miles.
- F Villa Maria to Rio Cuarto, 82 miles.
- G Buenos Ayres to Ensenada, 37 miles.
- H Concordia to Federacion, East Argentine, 36 miles.

In Construction

- K Buenos Ayres to Rosario, 185 miles.
- k Brauches to Rojas, Pergamino, &c., 240 miles.
- L Buenos Ayres to Port Campana, 40 miles.
- M Central Northern, Cordoba to Tucuman. 336 miles.
- N Andine, Rio Cuarto to Rio Quinto, 76 miles.
- O Federacion to Caseros, East Argentine, 55 miles.
- P Chivilcoy to Bragado, Western, 30 miles.

Projected or Conceded

- Q Transandine, Buenos Ayres to Mendoza, San Juan, and Chili, 900 miles.
- R Bragado and Planchon to Chile, 650 miles.
- S Rioja to Copiapó (Chile), 300 miles.
- T Totoralejos to Rioja (branch of Great Northern), 200 miles.
- U Paraná to Concepcion, 155 miles.
- V Santa Fé to Swiss Colonies, 17 miles.
- X Las Flores to Azul and Tandil, Great Southern, 130 miles.
- Y Corrientes to Mercedes, 138 miles.
- Z Caseros to Mercedes, 91 miles.
- X 2 Bahia Blanca to Tandil, 140 miles.
- Z 2 Las Heras (Lobos line) to 25 de Mayo, 75 miles.



# REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY.

- Open
- Monte Video to Durazno, Central Uruguay, 135 miles.
- In Construction
- Branch of above, from Santa Lucia to Higuieritas, 140 miles.
- North-Western, Salto to Santa Rosa, 110 miles.
- Monte Video to Minas, 90 miles.

# PARAGUAY.

- Open
- Asuncion to Villa Rica; open 40 miles, to Paraguay.

# RIO GRANDE.

- Open
- Port Alegre to New Hamburg, 26 miles.
- Projected
- Rio Grande to Uruguayana, 400 miles.
- Baron Mau's Surveys for a Line to Bolivia, 800 miles.

# CHILE.

- Open
- Valparaiso to Santiago, 80 miles.
- Santiago to Curico, 140 miles.
- Concepcion to Chillan, 120 miles.
- Caldera to Copiapó and Chanoreillo, 100 miles.
- Coquimbo to Serena, 15 miles.
- In Construction
- Chillan to Curlecó, 70 miles.





expenses 18 per cent. over earnings; constructed in 1869-71 by the Provincial Government.

5. Western branches to Chacrita, &c.,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles, cost 6000*l.* per mile, say 37,000*l.*; receipts much inferior to expenses. The Chacrita line was made in 1871 to carry the dead to the new cemetery; the Basura line is for taking the city dust-carts towards Barracas.

6. Northern, Buenos Ayres to Tigre, 18 miles, cost 16,500*l.* per mile, say 300,000*l.*; carried 542,000 passengers and 15,000 tons; working expenses 56 per cent., leaving profit  $8\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. on cost; constructed by a London Company in 1862-4, with guarantee of Provincial Government. Shares usually at a high premium.

7. Boca and Ensenada, 37 miles, cost 18,000*l.* per mile, say 670,000*l.*; carried in 1873 512,000 passengers; working expenses 70 per cent.; constructed by Brassey, Wythes, and Wheelwright in 1863-71, without guarantee. Punta Lara pier opened for service of Ensenada port in 1874.

8. Great Southern, to Chascomus, 74 miles, cost 10,000*l.* per mile, say 740,000*l.*; carried 311,000 passengers and 87,000 tons; working expenses 54 per cent., profits equal to 7 per cent. div.; constructed in 1864-5 by Peto and Betts, for an English Company, with guarantee of 7 per cent. by Provincial Government. Before branches were made profits reached 10 per cent. Shares always at high premium.

9. Southern branch to Salado and Las Flores, 75 miles, cost 4500*l.* per mile, say 340,000*l.*; this branch was opened in 1873.

10. Southern extension from Chascomus to Dolores, 61 miles, the above Company receiving a bonus of 30,000*l.* from the Provincial Government in lieu of a guarantee. Only recently completed. All the above lines are 5 ft. 6 in. gauge.

11. East Argentine, first section opened in 1874, from Concordia to Federacion, 34 miles; second section, to Caseros, will be 63 miles; third, to Mercedes (Corrientes), 91 miles, with National Government guarantee of 7 per cent. on 10,000*l.* per mile; gauge, 4 ft.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in. Stock held in England.

12. Central Northern, Cordoba to Tucuman; first section opened in March, 1874, to Jesus-Maria, 30 miles; line to be completed, 336 miles, by September, 1876. Contractors, Telfener and Co.; gauge,  $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches; cost, 4500*l.* per mile. This line is made for the National Government out of the Public Works Loan for 6,000,000*l.* sterling in London, 1871.

13. Andine, Rio Cuarto to Mercedes, 76 miles; begun by Rogers and Thomas in 1873;  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet gauge; to cost 400,000*l.*; constructed for National Government.

14. Gualeguay to Port Ruiz, 6 miles, at present suspended.

15. Buenos Ayres to Campana, 42 miles, with Government guarantee on a cost of 400,000*l.* Works nominally begun in October, 1872, by Mr. Matti, and actively resumed by a London Company in April, 1874. Contractors, Messrs. Thompson, Boyd, and Co.; gauge, 5 ft. 6 in.

16. Buenos Ayres to Rosario, trunk line, 185 miles, with National Government guarantee of 7 per cent. on 6400*l.* per mile. Works commenced by Waring Brothers in 1873, for Mr. Billinghurst, concessionnaire. Gauge, 5 ft. 6 in.

17. Branch from the above to Sarate, 22 miles.

18. Branch to Baradero, 21 miles.

19. Branch to San Pedro, 18 miles.

20. Branch to Giles and Rojas, 94 miles.

21. Branch to Arrecifes, 20 miles.

22. Branch from San Nicolas to Rojas, 66 miles. None of these branches have guarantee.

23. Santa Fé and Esperanza, 17 miles; concession to late Henry Zimmermann, with guarantee of 7 per cent. from Santa Fé Government on cost of 120,000*l.* Works commenced by Waring Brothers in 1873, but suspended on Mr. Zimmermann's demise.

24. Interoceanic, from Buenos Ayres to Junin, Rojas, San Luis, La Paz, Mendoza, and San Juan, 724 miles; to cost 4,200,000*l.*

25. Trans-Andine, by Los Patos or Uspallata pass, 160 miles; to cost 1,700,000*l.* Both these lines have been conceded to Mr.

John Clark, of Valparaiso (February, 1874) with Argentine Government guarantee of 7 per cent. (say 300,000*l.* per annum) on Argentine side, and a free bonus of 20,000*l.* a year from the Chilian Government. The main line from Buenos Ayres to Valparaiso (not including the branch from Mendoza to San Juan) will be about 800 miles; gauge, 39½ inches; steepest gradient in the Andes, 1 in 25, with a tunnel two miles long at summit, 12,700 feet over sea-level. It will place Buenos Ayres and Valparaiso within 48 hours; proposed fare, 10*l.*

26. Totoralejos, on the Tucuman line, to connect Rioja, Catamarca, and San Juan, 440 miles; to cost 2,600,000*l.*

27. Tucuman to Jujuy and Salta, 220 miles; to cost 2,000,000*l.* Both these are of the narrow-gauge lines ordered by Congress in 1871, but not yet commenced. Gauge, 39½ inches. They will be pushed forward as soon as the Cordoba and Tucuman line be completed.

28. Paraná and Concepcion, 155 miles; 4 ft. 8½ in. gauge; concession by Entre Rios Government. This line, not yet begun, will traverse Entre Rios and connect the two rivers Paraná and Uruguay.

29. Rosario to Santiago del Estero, 420 miles, at 6400*l.* per mile, passing by the Swiss colonies, and then crossing the Gran Chaco; conceded by Congress in 1873. Not likely to be carried out.

30. Corrientes to San Roque and Mercedes, 138 miles; to cost 1,300,000*l.* Concession granted in 1874 to Messrs. Furness and Co. 5½ feet gauge.

31. Buenos Ayres and Luxan River, 40 miles; Rubio and Foley's project (1867); estimate, 100,000*l.*; apparently abandoned.

32. Southern extension from Los Flores to Azul and Tandil, 82 miles; concession without subvention or guarantee by the Provincial Government of Buenos Ayres in favour of Great Southern Railroad Company; surveys made. This line would cost about 500,000*l.*

33. Southern branch from San Vicente to Cañuelas and Monte; concession as above; length, 40 miles; approximate cost, 200,000*l.*

34. Chivilcoy to Bragado, western extension, ordered by Legislature of Buenos Ayres, at cost of the Provincial exchequer. 32 miles; 5½ feet gauge; to cost 8000*l.* per mile, say 256,000*l.*, which it is proposed to obtain by mortgage debentures.

35. Chivilcoy to Chacabuco and Junin, 56 miles; 5½ feet gauge; probable cost, 450,000*l.* Only a project; not yet surveyed.

36. Bragado to Nueve de Julio, 34 miles; to cost 8000*l.* per mile, say 270,000*l.*

37. Lobos to Saladillo, 51½ miles; to cost 7800*l.* per mile, say 400,000*l.*

38. Bragado towards Mendoza, 124 miles; to cost 6300*l.* per mile, say 790,000*l.* These four projected branches of the Western have little chance of speedy realization, as the Lobos branch is not paying.

39. Las Heras to Navarro and 25 de Mayo, 75 miles. This is also no more than a project.

40. Ensenada to Magdalena, 29 miles, projected.

41. Junin to Rojas, 25 miles, projected.

42. Concordia to Gualaguaychú, 100 miles, projected.

43. Azul to Bahia Blanca, 210 miles, now before Provincial Legislature.

44. Bahia Blanca to Salinas Grandes, 150 miles, also before Legislature. Both these lines would be of great utility to form a secure Indian frontier; the first would, in connection with the Southern railway, form a continuous line of 400 miles from Buenos Ayres to Bahia Blanca; the second would constitute a barrier against the Southern Indians, and open up the productive salt-fields.

45. San Roman's railway from Jujuy across the Andes, to meet the Copiapo line in Chile; granted by Congress in 1873.

46. Hopkins' project of a line across the Gran Chaco to Bolivia; granted in 1871.

47. Waring Brothers' project of a line over the Andes by the Planchon pass; surveys made by Mr. Robert Crawford in 1872, for the Government of Buenos Ayres, at a cost of 40,000*l.* Plans show 15 tunnels, 2 viaducts; steepest gradient, 1 in 20; sharpest curve, 574 feet radius. Summit, 8225 feet over sea-level; 830 miles from Buenos Ayres, and 274 from Valparaiso.

### *Republic of Uruguay.*

1. Central Uruguay from Montevideo to Durazno, 135 miles; completed by Messrs. Waring Brothers in 1874. It was begun by a local company in 1867, with Government guarantee of 7 per cent. on 10,000*l.* per mile, 4 ft. 8½ in. gauge, but only 6 miles were made; until in 1871 the business was arranged in London, and the works pushed forward so actively that the Santa Lucia section was opened in 1872, length 40 miles; and the gross receipts showed during 1873 about 12 per cent. on the outlay.

2. Higueritas branch, conceded in 1873 to Messrs. Waring Brothers, with same guarantee and gauge as main line. The first section, from Santa Lucia to Colonia, is being constructed.

3. Montevideo Eastern, to Pando and Rocha, is being constructed by Messrs. Pealer and Co.; 4 ft. 8½ in. gauge. The first section, to Pando, will be 20 miles in length. Rocha is 120 miles from Montevideo.

4. North-Western of Uruguay, from Salto to Santa Rosa, 110 miles; constructors, Clark, Punchard, and Co.; 4 ft. 8½ in. gauge. First section, to Arapey, completed in 1874. Government guarantee of 7 per cent. on 10,000*l.* a mile.

### *Paraguay.*

Asuncion to Paraguari, 40 miles; constructed for President Solano Lopez in 1860–63, by Messrs. Burrell, Valpy, and Thompson, who had 5000 soldiers as workmen. It was intended to make the line as far as Villa Rica, 80 miles; but the fall of Lopez intervened. A contract was signed in London in 1870,

between the Paraguayan Consul-General and Messrs. Waring Brothers, for the completion of the line; but the Government of Asuncion ignored and cancelled the contract.

### *Telegraphs.*

There are over 7000 miles of telegraph lines in the Argentine and Oriental Republics, of which 4000 have been made by the Argentine Government, the rest by joint-stock companies, almost entirely within the last six years. These lines form a network over the whole country, but the longest distances may be put down thus :

	Miles.
Buenos Ayres to Mendoza and Chile .. .. .	800
Cordoba to Tucuman and Jujuy .. .. .	641
Tucuman to Andalgalá (Catamarca) .. .. .	474
Buenos Ayres to Corrientes and Paraguayan frontier ..	658
Rosario to Concordia and Federación .. .. .	486
Mendoza to San Juan .. .. .	100
Buenos Ayres to Chivilcoy .. .. .	100
Buenos Ayres to Dolores .. .. .	140
Buenos Ayres to Montevideo .. .. .	130
Montevideo to Florida and Salto .. .. .	300
Florida to Brazilian frontier .. .. .	300
Salto to Santa Rosa .. .. .	130
Montevideo Cable to Chuy, Brazilian frontier .. ..	300

The construction of new lines in the provinces goes forward at the rate of 500 miles a year, and many of the existing lines are being doubled. The uniform charge on the Argentine Government lines is 25 cents for 20 words. Messrs. Fusoni and Maveroff were contractors for most of the Argentine lines (at 100*l.* per mile), and Messrs. Lamas for the Oriental. The number of messages exceeds 300,000 yearly.

### *Public Works.*

In the Argentine Republic the most important public works in hand are the city of Buenos Ayres improvements, on plans made by Mr. Bateman, and for which the province of Buenos

Ayres obtained a loan in London, in 1873, to the amount of 2,000,000*l.* sterling. The contract for making drains, sewers, &c., provides for 15,000,000 gallons water-supply and 60,000,000 gallons drainage in 24 hours. Contractors, Messrs. Newman and Medici (backed by native capitalists). It is expected to complete the works by 1877.

The port of Buenos Ayres, as projected by Mr. Bateman, would consist of docks fronting the city, and a deep-water channel 15 miles long to the Outer Roads. Probable cost, 3,000,000*l.* sterling.

Montevideo harbour improvement is proposed in a variety of schemes; some for dredging the bay and throwing out piers from Fort San José and the Cerro, with an entrance midway for vessels; others for constructing a deep-water harbour south of the city, between Playa Ramirez and Punta de Carretas. The plans of Clark, Punchard, and Co., Waring Brothers, Tuson, Burns, &c., are all under deliberation. It is computed that the works would cost over 2,000,000*l.* sterling, and one-half be reimbursed by the amount of land reclaimed.

### *Tramways.*

There are 80 miles of tramways in the city of Buenos Ayres, 20 in Montevideo, and numberless short lines in Paysandú, Paraná, Rosario, San Nicolas, Asunción, and other small towns.

The Buenos Ayres lines carry 1½ million passengers per month, and some of them earn over 12 per cent. net profits on the capital. The oldest is that of Messrs. Lacroze, opened to Plaza Once in 1869; it runs cars every two minutes. The City of Buenos Ayres Company's lines extend all over the city and to Barracas, the stock being mostly held in London. The Argentine lines of Mr. Billinghamurst take in the suburbs of Flores and Belgrano, each 5 miles from town, with double lines, and cars running every quarter of an hour. The National lines are owned by a London Company, and have a limited traffic.



The Boca tramway is owned by a private company. The fare on all the city lines is 8 cents, to Barracas 12, to Flores or Belgrano 20 cents.

The Montevidean lines are to the suburbs of Union, Paso Molino, Reducto, Buceo, and Punta Carretas, all paying well, and held by local capitalists, except that to the Reducto being owned by a Brazilian Company.



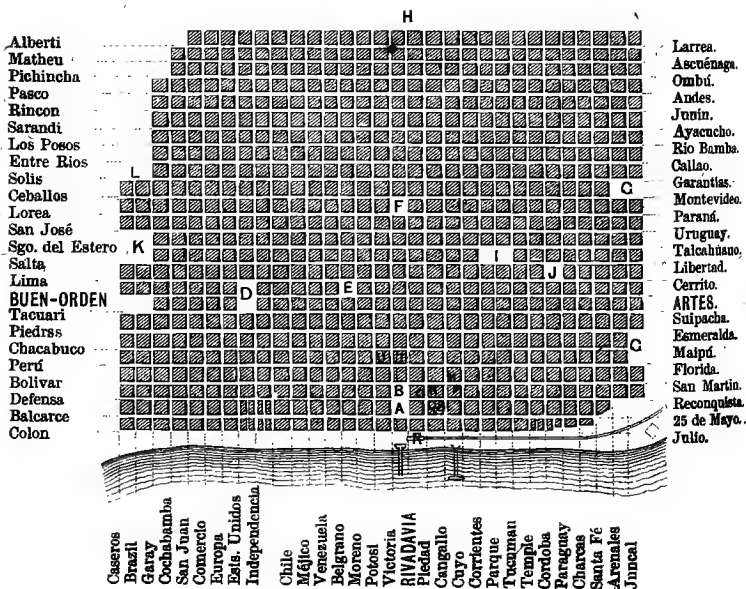
# PLAN

## OF THE

### CITY OF BUENOS AYRES.

- A Plaza Mayo and Government House.
- B Plaza Victoria and Cathedral.
- C Plaza Retiro and Barracks.
- D Plaza Independencia.
- E Plaza Monserrat.
- F Plaza Lorea.
- G Plaza 6 de Junio.
- H Plaza Once de Setiembre.
- I Plaza Parque.
- J Plaza Libertad.
- K Plaza Constitucion.

- L Plaza 16 de Noviembre.
- M 'Standard' Office and Bolsa.
- N Provincial Bank.
- O National Bank.
- P Mortgage Bank.
- Q London and River Plate Bank.
- R Central Station.
- S Mercantile Bank.
- T Foreign Club.
- U Progreso Club.



## CHAPTER VI.

## THE CITY OF BUENOS AYRES.

BUENOS AYRES is in many respects the finest city in South America, although second to Rio Janeiro in trade and population. In every other respect it stands first in this Continent. Being situated in S. lat.  $34^{\circ} 29'$ , it enjoys a delightful climate, and the first settlers called it Santissima Trinidad de Buenos Ayres. It covers a superficies of over 2000 acres, forming a parallelogram whose longest sides are east and west, and cut up like a chess-board, in blocks 150 yards square. When laid out by the early Spaniards, the streets were made only 36 feet wide, and the houses had no upper story. Since 1860 a rage for building has prevailed, and now we see splendid edifices of three or four stories in every street. The streets are 83 in number, of which 31 run from the river-side due west, and 52 from north to south. The city is being provided with drainage and water-supply, and is well lighted with gas. There are eleven parishes, containing sixteen Catholic churches, besides some chapels of ease, and four Protestant churches. There are two city hospitals supported by the Municipality, and four of foreigners, belonging to the English, French, Italian, and Irish communities. The theatres are five in number, besides a Concert-hall. Five markets, for the daily supply of the city with provisions, are placed at convenient distances; and the Plazas 11th September and Constitucion are the great wool-markets for the north and south districts of the camp. Hotel accommodation is cheap and good, the charge varies from five to ten shillings per diem. The stranger finds himself at once at home in Buenos Ayres, as he can procure entrée by a visitor's ticket

to all the clubs and societies in the city. There are five resident English physicians, and ten or twelve good English schools. Most foreign nations are represented by a Minister and a Consul, as vessels of all flags and people of almost every country are found in this port.

There are two convents of friars, and two of (native) cloistered nuns, which escaped the suppression of religious orders after the Independence. The French Sisters of Charity have numerous institutes and schools, and the Irish Sisters of Mercy have a school and hospital.

The National and Provincial Governments both reside in the city and act in perfect harmony. The Municipality, composed of a dozen Argentines and foreign residents, has its town-hall at the Policia.

Each parish has a Justice of Peace, and male and female public schools. The inhabitants are well educated. There are 20 daily papers, 15 Spanish, 2 English, 1 French, 1 German, and 1 Italian. Foreigners enjoy the fullest immunities, but have of course no voice in the Legislature.

There are few cities that have made such progress as Buenos Ayres in the last few years. In 1860 we had ten miles of railway; at present we have 400 miles. In 1860 there was but one line of ocean steamers; now there are fifteen lines from England, France, Germany, Belgium, and Italy. In 1860 there were but two banks: at present there are ten. In 1860 the newspaper circulation was 3000 daily; it now amounts to 30,000. In 1860 the population was 100,000, less than half the present estimate. In 1860 there was not a single English joint-stock company, nor an insurance office, in the country; to-day the English investments are put down at 25,000,000*l.* sterling. In 1860, the number of immigrants was 4700; at present the returns show 96,000 per annum. In 1860 the business of the Post Office comprised 400,000 letters and papers; at present it is nearly 6,000,000. In 1860 the Customs revenues were about 200,000*l.*; now they exceed 4,000,000*l.*

sterling. The same increase is observable in every branch of industry or enterprise.

Tramways are established throughout the city and suburbs.

The suburbs of Belgrano, San Isidro, San Fernando, Flores, Quilmes, Lomas, and Barracas are studded with charming country seats. The Western Railway is open (100 miles) to Chivilcoy, the Northern (20 miles) to the Tigre, the Great Southern (140 miles) to Dolores, and the Ensenada line (30 miles) to Ensenada. Pleasant boating excursions may be made to Las Conchas, the islands of Carapachay, and the delta of the Paraná. There is daily steam communication with the river ports, and diligences ply to the various camp towns.

Buenos Ayres is the grand centre of communication between this part of South America and Europe. The traveller may here book himself for any of the river ports in the Paraná or Uruguay, or for the upper provinces of the interior, or for the more distant republics of Paraguay, Bolivia, or Chile. He may even take a steamboat trip 2000 miles up the river, into the interior of Brazil, passing Asuncion. Or if anxious to visit the Indian tribes of Patagonia, he will find monthly steamboat communication with Bahia Blanca and Rio Negro. As a place of residence for the visitor or invalid, no city in this hemisphere has superior attractions. The climate is healthy, and there are a variety of public amusements, fashionable and enlightened society, a healthy atmosphere of progress, and an almost daily mail from Europe.

Telegraphic communication exists with Chile, messages costing \$4, and there are 6000 miles of lines through the upper provinces; at the uniform cost of 25 cents for 10 words you can telegraph as far as 1000 miles, to the confines of Chile or Bolivia. The cable to connect South America with Europe is rapidly approaching completion. The hotels frequented by English are, the La Paz, Argentino, Provence, and Europa.

There are two English, nine German, and three native clubs. The Foreign Club, 90, Calle Rivadavia, was founded in 1841, its

first president being the late Mr. Thomas Duguid: it has reading-rooms, &c., and visitors may obtain tickets gratis for three months. The United Club, 124, Calle St. Martin, is for a younger class of Englishmen, and was founded in 1870. The German clubs are some musical, some gymnastic, some philanthropic, viz. Germania, Turnverein, Teutonia, Concordia, Singing Academy, Heimath, Krankenverein, Hospital Society, and Thalia: the first-named dates from 1853. The Club Progreso, founded in 1852 by Messrs. Alvear, Posadas, Elizalde, and Estrada, gives the most brilliant balls in South America. The Plata, founded in 1860, is of a similar character, foreigners being freely invited to both these Clubs. The Negros is a juvenile club, the members making a grand display at Carnival.

There are five theatres, viz. Colon, in Plaza Victoria, built in 1856, holds 2500 persons, and is usually devoted to the Italian opera. Victoria, old and badly constructed, is about half the size of the preceding, and devoted to Spanish drama. The Opera House of Signor Pestalardo in Calle Corrientes, an elegant and commodious theatre. Alegria, near the old market, used for Spanish comedy. Variedades, similar to the last. There are also Alcazars, or music-saloons. Concerts are occasionally given at the Coliseum, in Calle Parque, built in 1865, and of elegant design.

There are ten banks, viz. the Provincial, National, Argentine, Mauá, London and River Plate, Mercantile, Italian, Mortgage, Belga-German, and Carabassa.

The *Provincial*, 29, Calle San Martin, was founded in 1822 by a number of English and native merchants, who handed it over to Government in 1826, the paper dollar being then worth 44 pence. Rosas made it a National Bank in 1836, the dollar having fallen to 6 pence; finally it fell to 2 pence, its present par value; its emission now averaging \$600,000,000, or 5,000,000*l.* Deposits range from 6,000,000*l.* to 7,000,000*l.* sterling, the bulk being held by artisans and European immigrants. Since the reform of the Bank in 1854 it is dependent on the Pro-

vincial Government, which appoints a Board of twelve leading merchants every year. The effective capital is 2,000,000*l.* sterling. The usual rate of discount is 7 or 8 per cent. The new bank erected by Mr. Hunt is a magnificent structure, which cost 90,000*l.*, equal to two months of the bank profits: it was opened in May, 1874: the main hall is over 120 feet long; the staircase, clock-tower, and decorations are noteworthy. The bank has branches in twelve of the principal camp towns.

The *National*, corner of Piedad and Reconquista, was founded by order of Congress in 1873, with a nominal capital of 20,000,000 hard dollars, of which 2,000,000 were subscribed by the Argentine Government. Its notes are now general not only in Buenos Ayres but all over the Republic, and branches are being opened in the various provinces.

The *Argentine*, 33, Calle St. Martin, founded in 1867 by Messrs. Cullen, O'Shee, Lanus, and other capitalists, has a paid-up capital of \$1,800,000 fts., its dividends averaging 20 per cent. per annum. Its branches at Rosario, Cordoba, Santa Fé, Concordia, and Paraná, emit paper-money in Bolivian currency.

*Mauá* is the oldest except the Provincial, and does a large Brazilian business, besides having branches all through the River Plate, Rio Grande, &c. Persons going to the interior will find its letters of credit very convenient. The bank edifice in Calle Cangallo is of elegant and spacious proportions. This was the first Savings-bank opened in the country. Baron Mauá holds large properties all over the River Plate.

*London and River Plate*, established in 1863, has a paid-up capital of 1,500,000*l.*, and usually gives from 10 per cent. upwards annual dividend. The new bank, built in 1867, is a fine building, facing the National Bank, and has a London clock over the door. The cashiers' counter is 60 feet long. This bank has branches at Montevideo, Rosario, and Cordoba. The Board is in London, and comprises some persons for many years connected with La Plata.



*Mercantile*, formerly Wanklyn and Co., 89, Calle Reconquista, was formed as a joint-stock company in London in 1872, as the Commercial, but has since changed its style to the Mercantile.

*Italian*, founded by a number of capitalists in Milan and Buenos Ayres in 1872, occupies the premises formerly held by the London and River Plate Bank. Dividends average 10 per cent. Paid-up capital.

*Mortgage*, better known as the Hypothecary Bank, founded in 1872, advances half-value on properties of real estate at 9 per cent. per annum. The splendid pile of building in front of the 'Standard' office, in Calle San Martin, is just completed.

*Belga-German*, 12, Calle Florida, was founded in 1872. Most of the shareholders are in Hamburg, Cologne, and other German towns. There is a branch at Montevideo.

*Carabassa's* is a private bank of old standing, the proprietor being a Spaniard of large mercantile connection. The bank is a tasteful edifice with marble front and fine offices, Calle Cangallo.

The *Bolsa* is a handsome building, in the best part of the city, Calle San Martin. The attendance on 'Change numbers several hundred persons. Half-a-dozen languages are spoken on all sides, the most general being English and Spanish. The busiest hour is about 3 P.M., and strangers can get a visitor's ticket through any of the members. Consuls and ship-captains are admitted free.

The *Plaza Victoria* is the principal square of the city, covering 4 acres. In the centre is the column of Liberty. On the west side is the Cabildo, erected in 1711, now the seat of the Law Courts. The town clock was put up in 1861. The *Recoba Nueva*, or new arcade, is on the south side of the Plaza, and consists of a number of shops. The north side is occupied by the Cathedral and the Archbishop's house. At the corner of the Cathedral and Calle San Martin is the foundation-stone of

Buenos Ayres, A.D. 1535, covered with an iron plate. This plaza takes its name from the victory over the English in 1806.

The *Plaza 25 de Mayo* is separated from the Plaza Victoria by the Recoba Vieja, and overlooks the river. It has the same area as the Plaza Victoria, and the chief objects of interest are the Government House and the Custom House, on the site of the old fort of Santa Trinidad, erected by the first Spanish settlers. Near the corner of Calle Balcarce is the Congress Hall, where the Chambers meet daily from May to November: it holds 800 persons. The members speak sitting down. The policeman at the door will admit no one with a walking-stick. In the last century this plaza went by the name of "Partridge Square," because the vendors of game and poultry had their stands here.

The *Plaza del Retiro*, at the N.E. end of the city, has an area of 8 acres. In 1862 the equestrian statue of General San Martin was put up: it was made in Paris. The barrack of the Retiro has accommodation for 1000 men. In 1702 a company of British merchants established here a depôt for slaves, and built that part of the barrack which looks westward.

The *Plaza Lorea*, between Calles Rivadavia and Victoria, derives its name from Don Isidro Lorea, who was killed along with his wife in the defence of this point of the city against General Whitelocke's troops.

The *Plaza Monserrat*, at the junction of Calles Belgrano and Buen Orden, is a small square, deriving its name from the adjoining church of Our Lady of Monserrat. In 1808 it was ordered to be designated as Plaza de Fidelidad in commemoration of the fidelity of the negroes, Indians, and cross-breeds who formed a volunteer battalion and drilled in this place to aid in repelling the English invasions of 1806 and 1807.

The *Plaza del Parque*, in the west end, covers 8 acres, and is nicely laid out. The Western Railway terminus is on the east side; and here was started the first railway in the River Plate.

The *Plaza Libertad*, close to the Parque, was laid out and

planted in 1862. There are some fine houses, especially Mr. Green's.

The *Plaza Independencia* or *Concepcion*, in the south end, recently laid out as a public garden, is called after the Independence of the Argentine Republic, proclaimed at Tucuman, July 9th, 1816.

The *Plaza Constitucion*, at the south end, covers about 20 acres. Bullock-carts from the South, with wool and hides, encamp here, to the number of several hundreds. The busy wool-season is from November to March.

The *Plaza Once de Setiembre*, at the extreme west of the city, has an area of 12 acres; it is the great produce market for the western and northern districts. During the wool season this place is crowded with Irish sheep-farmers.

The *Plaza 16 de Noviembre* is a large square at the extreme S.W. point, near the convent of the French Sisters of Charity.

*Plaza Caridad*, near the *Once Setiembre*, adjoins the *Calle Belgrano* station of the City of Buenos Ayres Tramway Company, much frequented on Sunday evenings.

*Plaza 6 de Junio*, near the *Recoleta*, at the junction of *Calles Paraná* and *Arenales*, is elegantly laid out.

There are five city markets, each about 2 acres in extent. Vegetables and fruit are supplied by the Italian "quinteros" of the suburbs; the river always gives an abundance of dorado, pejerrey, bagre, and other excellent kinds of fish; the railway trains bring in partridge, duck, and domestic poultry; and the "chacrer" of Moron, Quilmes, &c., raise most of the butter and eggs. The city is supplied with milk by a number of Basque "lecheros," who come in on horseback every morning from Quilmes, Lomas de Zamora, and Moron. The pork raised in the country is to be avoided, the pigs being usually fed in the saladeros. Game is always abundant and cheap; poultry is very dear. The best hour for marketing is 5 o'clock A.M. The usual market prices are as follows:—Beef, \$2 per lb.; fish, \$3; potatoes, \$1; vegetables, \$2; partridges, \$10

per pair; ducks, \$10; chickens, \$25; turkeys, \$40 each; butter, \$15 per lb.; eggs, \$10 per doz.; mutton, \$10 per quarter; peaches, \$1 per doz.

The *Old Market*, at the corner of Calles Potosi and Peru, was rebuilt in its present form in 1864.

The *Mercado del Plata*, at the junction of Calles Artes and Cuyo, was built in 1859, and called "The New Market." The stall-keepers are mostly Italians, and the market is always well supplied.

The *Mercado del Comercio* was erected in 1862, and answers for the extreme south end of the city.

The *Mercado de Lorea* was opened in 1864, adjacent to the Plaza Lorea. It is fitted up with great taste.

The *Mercado de Independencia*, at the corner of Calles Independencia and Lima, is an acre in extent. It was opened in 1866, for the S.W. quarter of the city.

The *Mercado del Norte*, in Calle Florida, opened in 1874, is in the most fashionable quarter and well stocked.

The *National Government House*, in Plaza 25 de Mayo, is an irregular edifice: it was twice partially burnt in 1867. The President's saloons, upstairs, are fine and airy, with a good view of the port. Here the Foreign Ministers are received when presenting their credentials. The various departments of the Interior, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Instruction, and War, have their offices in the same building. Tesoreria and Contaduria are on the ground floor.

The *General Post Office* is alongside, built quite recently, and has 160 branch Post Offices all over the Republic. Letters for Europe are dispatched three times a week, and pay 5 cents besides the English or French postage. The returns for 1873 showed 6,700,000 letters and papers passed through this department, of which Buenos Ayres stood for 62, and the provinces 38 per cent.

The *Police Department* is in Plaza Victoria. The chief of police has 2 secretaries, a treasurer, 28 clerks, 2 physicians, a

jailer, a watchmaker, 21 commissaries, and 1600 policemen, including those of the fire brigade.

The *Provincial Government House* was built by Rosas, and occupies half a "cuadra." The entrance is in Calle Moreno. The Governor of Buenos Ayres has his apartments on the right: an aide-de-camp receives visitors in the ante-chamber. The Minister of Government, the Inspector of Arms, and other officials have offices on the left. The Finance Department is in the second "patio." Parties wishing to inspect the *Contribucion Directa* books for the city or province can do so free of charge: they form a complete register of the various properties, their owners, and valuation.

The *State Library* is in Calle Moreno, opposite the Government House, occupying seven saloons in the upper story. There are 18,740 volumes and 101 manuscripts, most of which belonged to the Jesuits. There is also a number of foreign works in all languages. The library is open to the public, free, on all week days, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. The library was established by Moreno in 1810. There is a complete collection of all newspapers published here and in Montevideo.

The *Chambers of the Legislature of Buenos Ayres* have their principal entrance in Calle Peru. The Chamber is small but elegant, in the shape of an amphitheatre. The galleries for the public give accommodation to 400 persons. The Legislature is composed of 24 senators and 50 deputies, elected by the various partidos or electoral districts of the province of Buenos Ayres. The Hall of Session was built in 1822. It occupies the court-yard of the old Jesuit building, standing on the exact spot formerly occupied by the dungeon in which the followers of the famous cacique Tupac Amaru were confined after their attempted revolution in 1780.

The *Topographic Department*, Calle Peru, was founded by Rivadavia in 1824, and published in 1866 an admirable map of the province of Buenos Ayres, showing minutely every estancia and all the natural features of the various partidos.

It also published in 1867 a similar map of the city and suburbs.

The *State Archives* are next door. Here are kept the valuable records of Buenos Ayres since the Conquest, which throw such light on the history of the viceroyalty of La Plata and the neighbouring countries of Spanish America. The contents of the archives are 7500 bundles of documents and 8700 printed books and pamphlets. Since 1857 Señor Trelles has published twenty volumes of ancient records and statistical reports.

The *National Statistical Department*, 64, Calle Belgrano, compiles the various official returns from the fourteen provinces. A national census was taken in 1869.

The *Department of Agriculture*, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Oldendorff, is at the corner of Calles San Martin and Tucuman. It fomented agriculture, introduces and exchanges seeds or plants of other countries, diffuses useful information, and publishes a monthly review.

The *Parque*, or Artillery Magazine, situate in the Plaza Parque, covers an entire "cuadra." It was founded by the famous patriot Moreno, who served as Minister of War in the epoch of Independence. The collection of guns is more remarkable for antiquity than usefulness, most of them being old bronze pieces of the Spaniards, with quaint inscriptions.

The *Congress Hall*, in Plaza Mayo, was erected by President Mitre's Government for the first united Argentine parliament on the removal of the metropolis to Buenos Ayres, and inaugurated in May, 1864. Congress is composed of 28 senators and 86 deputies, there being two senators for each province, and deputies in the following ratio—Buenos Ayres, 25; Cordoba, 11; Corrientes, 6; Santiago, 7; Tucuman, 5; Catamarca, 4; Salta, 4; San Juan, 3; Mendoza, 3; San Luis, 3; Jujuy, 2; Rioja, 2; Entre Rios, 7; Santa Fé, 4. The sessions open in the first week of May and close in October. The deputies receive a salary of \$4000 per annum: some of them reside altogether in Buenos Ayres.

The *National Credit Office* was organized on 16th November 1863, and commenced its labours on January 2, 1864: it is in the same building as the National Bank.

The *Capitania*, or Captain of the Port's Office, is situate in Calle Mayo, opposite the English church, with another entrance by Paseo Julio. All foreign vessels arriving from beyond the seas have to send their Bill of Health before being allowed to communicate with the shore: the captains have also to declare on arrival what cargo they bring, to whom consigned, date of departure from home, and arrival here: if they bring passengers a list of same must be entered in the *Capitania* books, and any letters are handed over to the branch Post Office in this building.

The *River Plate Telegraph Company* was established in 1864 and the cable laid in October, 1866. There is a great business done between Buenos Ayres and Montevideo. The head office is at Montevideo, and the central station at Buenos Ayres, Calle Reconquista. Messages can also be sent to or from Chile, Brazil, or Europe. Mr. Oldham is the superintendent and manager. The offices at Montevideo and Buenos Ayres are open on all week days from 8 A.M. to 7 P.M., and on Sunday for an hour in the morning and another in the evening.

The *Municipality* holds its meetings in a saloon over the *Policia*: its charter dates from October, 1854, and it is composed of a president and thirteen members, but a reformed corporation is about to be instituted. The revenue hardly amounts to 100,000*l.*, and is insufficient for city wants. Foreign residents are often elected.

The *Archbishop's Palace* is a handsome two-story edifice, next the Cathedral: the reception hall, in the upper story, is a magnificent apartment, with a bust of Pope Pius IX. and some pictures. The building was completed in April, 1862, since when the Archbishop resides here, along with his secretary, chaplain, and three other clergymen.

*Courts of Law.*—There are the ordinary Courts of Primer

Instancia in the Cabildo, where civil and criminal causes are tried. Attached to these courts are the offices of the escribanos or notaries, for all judicial proceedings, transfer of property, &c. Most of the escribanias date back many years, and have records from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, being used as registry offices in all matters of assignment, mortgage, &c. The Tribunal of Commerce is in Calle Peru: its proceedings are guided by the "Codigo de Comercio." The Superior Tribunal of Justice is composed of ten judges, and sits in the Cabildo, to hear appeals from the ordinary civil, criminal, and commercial courts. Each of the judges has a salary of \$6000 a month. The public never attend the hearing of lawsuits. There is no trial by jury, unless in cases of press prosecution for sedition or libel. Witnesses usually give their depositions in writing. The Supreme Federal Court, in Calle Bolivar, was established in 1863, and consists of five judges. All matters in which foreigners are concerned, either against the Government or private parties, or questions between any of the Federal provinces, are finally decided by this court, to which also there is appeal from all other tribunals.

*Faculty of Medicine*, founded in 1852, at present consists of eight professors. Foreign practitioners, although having diplomas from European universities, are not allowed to practise without examination by the Faculty of Medicine. The school of medicine is opposite San Telmo Church, and was built in 1858. There are two large lecture rooms, a library, a school of pharmacy and natural history, and a small museum; besides the grand hall for the conferring of degrees.

*Vaccination and Board of Health*, situate next the Provincial Chambers in Calle Peru. The first vaccinator in Buenos Ayres was the Rev. Saturnino Segurola, and in 1821 Rivadavia established the department, subject to certain municipal regulations.

The *Emigrants' Home* provides board and lodging gratis for poor immigrants, until they find employment, but not more than 5 per cent. of immigrants seek its refuge. The first immigra-



tion committee was established in 1824. The Emigrants' Home now in construction below the Retiro will be a spacious edifice, covering 4 acres, and holding 800 persons.

The *Argentine Rural Society*, founded in 1866 by Messrs. Martinez de Hoz, Newton, and Olivera, counts over 200 members and attends to all farming interest. The club-rooms at 92, Calle Peru, comprise also a fine library in various languages.

*Public Lands Office*, in the Government House, Calle Moreno, established in 1859, open daily from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Information may be obtained for soliciting land "in enfiteusis," renting Government lands, or buying same.

*City Prisons*.—There are three: that under the Cabildo is the principal. The prisoners are allowed to see their friends on Sundays and Thursdays. The new jail and penitentiary will be one of the finest institutions in South America, covering an area of 8 acres, with accommodation for 1200 male and 400 female prisoners, the whole surrounded with a high wall: it was begun in 1872, from Mr. Burge's designs, and is now approaching completion, having cost 400,000*l.* sterling.

The *Museum*, one of the richest in the world in antediluvian remains, is managed by the distinguished Professor Burmeister. It is opposite the Old Market. We have a complete "Megatherium," the hind-part of a "Mylodon robustus," and three kinds of "Mylodontes," beside a "Scelidotherium"; a complete "Glyptodon," the head of a "Toxydon," and the fossil teeth of an antediluvian horse from the Salado. The "mammiferi" comprise 68 kinds in 110 specimens: the most important is the "Pichi-ciego" or "Chamyporus retusus." There are 1500 bird specimens of 500 different kinds. The insects comprise a splendid variety of Brazilian butterflies, which are kept in a dark room. In Botany we have samples of the beautiful woods of Paraguay, and an "herbarium," of European plants. There is a valuable case of minerals from Chile. In the portico may be seen a wooden anchor, mounted with lead; which belonged to the Vermejo expedition of Mr. Cheney Hickman, in

1852. There are also sundry fragments of a fossil whale. Dr. Burmeister has published a dissertation on Palæontology, with reference to the antediluvian treasures of Buenos Ayres; he is member of 26 different literary societies. The total collection in the Museum may be summed up thus: zoological specimens 1620, samples of mineralogy 1030, coins 2120, objects of antiquity and fine arts 30. The Museum is open, free of charge, on all Sundays and holidays between the hours of 10 and 2.

The *University of Buenos Ayres* adjoins the Museum, also forming part of the block originally built by the Jesuits. It was founded on August 9, 1821, by Governor Rodriguez, and his Minister, Rivadavia. The studies embrace the usual classic and scientific courses, besides modern languages, and degrees are given in theology, law, and medicine.

The *Colegio Nacional*, formerly the Jesuit College, has spacious premises adjoining the Church of San Ignacio. Up to 1863 it was used as an Ecclesiastical Seminary. General Mitre's Government converted it into a Head Grammar School: each province is allowed to send a certain number of boys for education, with board and lodging gratis. The sphere of studies is ancillary to that of the University.

The Municipality maintains forty free schools for boys and girls, which are attended by 3000 children of all ranks in society. The Government Department of Schools was established in 1852: in 1855 it was entrusted to Don Domingo Sarmiento, who established in five years as many as seventy public schools. There are at present 142 municipal and state schools in the city and province of Buenos Ayres, at which 8000 children are educated. There are also 125 private schools in the city; the best of these are English, at which the usual fees are, for boarders \$500, externs \$100 a month. The *Sociedad de Beneficencia*, composed of charitable ladies, has charge of 17 free schools for girls in the city, and 45 in the country districts. The Diocesan Seminary of Arch-

bishop Aneiros is situate in Calle Victoria, close to the English cemetery. There is a lay college at the Balvanera, directed by French priests who are called Padres Bayoneses. Besides the day schools in connection with the English, Scotch, American, and German churches, there are boarding-schools attached to the Irish convent, Calle Rio Bamba, and the French convent, Calle Cochabamba; also a day school kept by French nuns in Calle Rivadavia. The Jesuit College in Calle Callao is, perhaps, the finest in South America, covering 4 acres, with noble corridors, class-rooms, dormitories for 300 boys, playground, and the church of San Salvador attached.

The *Cathedral*, in Plaza Victoria, one of the grandest temples in this Continent. Don Juan de Garay, in 1550, marked out the site, and the first bricks made in the country were devoted to this church. In 1752 it was rebuilt by the architect Rocha. The interior is imposing, the nave presenting a brilliant spectacle on feast days. The high altar stands nearly under the dome, which rises to a height of 130 feet. There are 12 chapels in the aisles. The Archbishop's throne is on the right of the high altar. The sacristy and baptistery communicate with the episcopal palace. On the left side are the halls for use of the chapter, and here are the portraits of all the prelates from Dr. Carranza down to Bishop Medrano, eighteen in number, of whom four were natives of Buenos Ayres (including the brothers Arregui). In 1866 the see was created an archbishopric, under Dr. Mariano Escalada, who died at the Council in Rome in 1869. The chapter consists of nine canons.

The *Merced*, at the corner of Calles Cangallo and Reconquista, was built in 1768, and had formerly a convent of nuns attached. The convent is now a female orphanage: an annual bazaar is held for its support.

*San Ignacio*, corner of Bolivar and Potosi, is usually called the College church, and formerly belonged to the Jesuits.

*San Francisco*, corner of Potosi and Defensa, belongs to the Franciscan monastery. The first mention of Franciscans in this

city is about the year 1594. In the suppression of religious orders, in 1822, this community escaped; it now consists of thirty mendicant friars.

*San Roque* is a chapel of ease, adjoining San Francisco, and set apart for the especial use of Irish residents. One of the Irish clergy celebrates Mass and preaches in English every Sunday at 11 A.M.

*Santo Domingo*, corner of Defensa and Belgrano, belongs to the Dominican convent which was established in 1591. This church preserves rare trophies, which are hung from the dome on certain feast days: they consist of four English flags taken from Whitelocke's army in 1807. In one of the belfry towers are seen twenty-four cannon shot, thrown by the English fleet from the roadstead, on the same occasion. Some of the Dominicans are very able preachers: this church is also remarkable for the splendour of its ceremonials and processions.

*San Telmo*, Calles Defensa and Comercio, dedicated to the patron of sailors, is a small church on a high point overlooking the roadstead.

The *Concepcion*, adjoining Plaza Independencia, is a new church, from designs by Padre Marin.

*Santa Catalina*, in Calle Brazil, is a chapel of ease, built in 1860, in pursuance of a pious testament, with schools attached.

*San Juan*, Calles Potosi and Piedras, is attached to a convent of Capuchin nuns, established in 1749, and has now thirty-six nuns. The convent has a large garden. The church is attended by French priests.

Our *Lady of Monserrat*, adjoining the Plaza of the same name, is a handsome new church: the interior is elegant.

*Las Salinas* is a chapel situate in Calles Victoria and Sarandi, attached to the Archbishop's college: the latter is under the direction of Vicar-General Brid and a staff of professors, including the Very Rev. Canon Dillon. Another chapel is on the site of General Guido's quinta, Calle Potosi, built by the Italian residents.

*San Miguel*, Calles Suipacha and Piedad, stands in the highest part of the city. An orphanage was attached to this church, and the Jesuit printing-press, from Cordova, was devoted to its support: it was founded in 1727 by Don Juan Alonzo Gonsalez, during the prevalence of a great plague. Gonsalez was a native of Cadiz, and after his wife's death became a priest. His son succeeded him as director, and died in 1801; there is a slab to his memory on the right of the altar.

*San Nicolas de Bari*, Calles Corrientes and Artes, is the favourite church of Italians.

*La Piedad* is a fine church not yet completed, at the corner of Calles Piedad and Paraná.

*La Balvanera* is a fine edifice, near the Plaza Once de Setiembre, with a college attached, under the charge of some French clergymen.

*El Socorro*, near the Plaza Retiro, is small and unpretending. Close to it is a garden that was formerly the British cemetery.

*Las Monjas*, corner of Temple and San Martin, is a small church of some antiquity, attached to the convent of Dominican nuns, called Catalinas, whose order is very strict. The convent was founded in 1744. There are forty nuns, each of whom at entering brings a small dowry; for the rest they depend on public charity: their garden occupies the whole block. The military of the Retiro attend Mass here on Sundays.

The *Irish Convent of Sisters of Mercy* is situate at the corner of Calles Rio Bamba and Tucuman; it has a chapel, schools, and hospital, under the patronage of St. Joseph. The first sisters were brought out by the late Father Fahy, in February, 1856, under the superioress, Mother Mary Evangelist Fitzpatrick. In 1861, their countrymen built for them the present elegant structure. The community consists of about twenty sisters, of whom one-half are daughters of Irish sheep-farmers. They make the three usual vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, and a fourth for the service of the poor and sick. Their

principal task, however, is the education of boarders, the daughters of Irish estancieros; and the gratuitous instruction of 200 poor native children. They also feed, clothe, and instruct a limited number of orphans. The boarders are taught English, French, Spanish, music, and needlework: no children are admitted under five or over fifteen years of age. The convent covers an area of two acres, and the northern wing consists of a hospital for sick and distressed Irish. The sisters also visit the sick of the neighbourhood, and did good service during the yellow fever. They receive a small subsidy from the State, each of the nuns having her own dowry on entering.

The *Recoleta* is attached to the North cemetery, about two miles from Plaza Victoria: it was built by the Franciscans in 1720; and in 1858 the building was taken for a Poor Asylum, which is cared by the French Sisters of Charity.

There are four Protestant churches: the English, Scotch, American, and German.

The *English Church*, near the corner of Calles Mayo and Cuyo, is capable of accommodating about 700 persons. In 1825 the Government had the generosity to cede this site gratis for an English church, and for the last fifty years a chaplain has been attached partly at the expense of the British Government. The present chaplain is the Rev. Dr. Smith. Divine service is held every Sunday at 11 A.M., and in the evening. Two pews, marked A and B, are set apart for ship captains. Attached to the church are the schools, attended by about 100 children.

The *Scotch Church*, in Calle Piedras, was built in 1838, at a cost of 7000*l.*, and has seats for 300 persons. The first Scotch colony came to Buenos Ayres in 1827 with the Messrs. Robertson. There are Scotch chapels at San Vicente, Chacomus, and other parts, with resident clergymen. The first chaplain was the late Rev. W. Brown, D.D., whose successor is Rev. James Smith. Divine service every Sunday at 11 A.M. and 7 P.M.: there is a fine choir. The Scotch school was founded in 1842; the average attendance is sixty pupils, and the curriculum

includes English, French, Spanish, Latin, &c. The school-room is spacious, and sometimes used for lectures.

The *American*, or Methodist Church, is in Calle Corrientes, a very handsome structure. The actual incumbent is Rev. Mr. Jackson, of the American Missionary Society. There is a Sunday School, the children of which have a grand annual fête. Divine service on Sundays, 11 A.M.; also in the afternoon.

The *German*, or Lutheran Church, is in Calle Esmeralda, between Piedad and Cangallo. It has a pretty Gothic façade, and holds about 300 persons; it was built in 1847 by the German residents, and is almost too small for the present congregation. The chaplain is the Rev. Mr. Griesemann, who has also charge of the schools attached. Divine service at 11 A.M. and 7 P.M. on Sundays. The choir is the best in the city. The architect was the late Mr. Taylor.

The *Recoleta Cemetery* is now little used; here the inhabitants of the city were interred for three centuries. The mausoleum of Bernardino Rivadavia, the statesman of 1828, is the finest, and stands in the central avenue. Opposite to it is a monument which will call the attention of Englishmen, as it marks the resting-place of the famous Admiral Brown. On a flight of marble steps, covering the vault wherein are deposited the remains of the gallant admiral and his wife, rises a shaft, with Corinthian capital, 30 feet high. Upon the base are well-executed "relievos" of the following naval engagements:—11th June, 30th June, Juncal and Emperatriz; also the arms of the Republic, initials of the deceased, and a graceful epitaph bordered with wreaths of shamrocks. The whole of the work was executed in Buenos Ayres, from designs by P. Beare, C.E.: the castings weighed over five tons, and were made by F. Carulla.

On the north side, against the convent wall, is a niche where the lamented Father Fahy's remains are deposited: he died during the plague of 1871. Near the entrance-gate is the monument of Colonel Brandsen, who fell in the battle of Ituzaingo, in 1827.

The *English Cemetery*.—In 1821 the English residents obtained

from the Government a charter for a Protestant Cemetery, and a plot of ground near the Socorro Church for several years was used as their burial-ground; in 1832 Mr. John Harratt purchased the present site, corner of Calles Victoria and Pasco, covering a "manzana" of 4 acres, nicely planted and walled in. The Germans have a quarter to themselves, and English, Scotch, and Americans occupy the rest. There are some very sad mementos, such as naval officers accidentally drowned in port, and persons killed in civil commotions. The visitor may pause at the grave of Mr. Priestly, who was shot at his own door in a street riot; or at a tablet, near the entrance, to the memory of Mr. Taggart, an American, who was drowned in rescuing some ladies in the Lujan river.

The *Men's Hospital*, founded under the patronage of St. Martin, in 1611, is maintained by the Municipality at a cost of \$2,000,000 per annum. It is situate at the corner of Calles Comercio and Balcarce, and attended by twenty French Sisters of Charity. Old and infirm people have also an asylum here, and are allowed a little pocket-money for tobacco and yerba. The average number of patients is over 4000 yearly, of which 11 per cent. die. The proportion of nationalities is—Argentines 42, Italians 13, Spaniards 11, French 8, Germans 6, English 2, other nations 18 per cent. The average cost of a patient is \$10 a day.

The *Women's Hospital*, under the patronage of St. Michael, was established in 1743, by Padre Juan Alonzo Gonsalez; it was much enlarged in 1823, when it passed under the charge of the Sociedad de Beneficencia, which association of ladies still directs its management. The hospital is under the care of fourteen Sisters, called Daughters of Mary, brought from Italy in 1859: there are branch houses at Santa Fé, Rosario, and Cordoba. It has often been proposed to remove it from so central a locality to the suburbs, but there are no funds to build a new one. The Sisters receive a trifling pension of \$200 a month. There are 200 beds, the average number of patients admitted being 800 per annum, of which 27 per cent. die.



The *British Hospital*, a commodious structure, standing at the southern extremity of the city, with a pleasant prospect, was built in 1859, at a cost of 3000*l.*, the British Government contributing one-half. The local subscriptions amount to about 600*l.* per annum. There are two wards, one for opulent patients at \$50, the other for humbler classes at \$20 per diem. Patients are admitted gratis when certified to be distressed British subjects. The resident surgeon is Dr. Culbourn, and the returns of patients, operations, &c., are most favourable. A large proportion of the patients is made up of sailors and distressed British subjects. The committee is composed of H.B.M. Consul, the English and Scotch chaplains, and subscribers annually elected.

The *French Hospital*, in Calle Libertad, was established in 1862, and placed in charge of four Sisters of Charity brought out from France for the institution. It has accommodation for thirty-five sick. During the cholera and fever these nuns rendered great assistance to the poor; the first Superioress fell a victim to the cholera, and her successor died in the plague of 1871. During the Paraguayan war they attended the military hospitals, both in this city and at Corrientes.

The *Italian Hospital* is close to the British, at the corner of Calles Bolivar and Caseros. The edifice is large and airy, with a handsome façade: it was opened on the 27th December, 1863, the Bishop officiating, and the sponsors including the Pope's Nuncio, the Italian Minister, the President of the Republic, and the Governor. The committee consist of the Italian Consul, the Vice-Consul, and 100 subscribers.

The *Irish Hospital*, in Calle Rio Bamba, was established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1862, a wing being built to the convent by the Irish sheep-farmers. The wards are generally empty; the number of sick among the Irish residents bears no proportion to their population. The nuns have a House of Refuge attached, where fifteen orphan girls are brought up at the expense of the convent. One of the Irish priests acts as chaplain both to the convent and the hospital.

The *Sanitary Institute*, on Calle Buen Orden Hill, now about to be used as a Women's Hospital, is one of the finest establishments in the country. It was opened in June, 1868, by Mr. Lassance, as a speculation, in the form of a private hospital, but failed, and the founder died of yellow fever, a pauper, in one of the city hospitals, in 1871.

The *Convalecencia*, or Lunatic Asylum, on a hill overlooking Barracas, was a hospital founded by the Bethlehemite monks. The present building, erected in 1859, is spacious, being the only asylum for male and female patients in the country. It is related by Pillado that in 1785 there were but seven lunatics in Buenos Ayres. The average number of patients is about 400, of whom 28 per cent. are cured. The men's quarter is under the charge of a manager, a physician, and fourteen keepers: that of the women is managed by nine Italian "religieuses," called "Daughters of Mary."

The *Cuna*, or Foundling Asylum, is situate at the back of San Francisco, facing the Debtors' Prison, with the touching inscription, "My father and mother have cast me out, God's pity has sheltered me here." Infanticide is unknown, thanks to this institution. There is a staff of seventeen nurses, under the direction of six Italian nuns; also a physician and a chaplain. A new asylum has been erected near the *Convalecencia*, where forty weaned children are cared for. The parents may claim a child up to two years, but after this term it becomes the property of the institute: at a certain age the children are given out, with consent of the Juez de Menores. Notwithstanding every care given to the poor foundlings from the first moment, about one-third of them die; 4 per cent. are claimed by their parents. The *Cuna* was established by Don José Riglos and the Viceroy Vertis, in 1779.

The *Female Orphan School*, begun at San Miguel church, in 1755, is attached to the Merced church, under the direction of the *Sociedad de Beneficencia*. Previous to the cholera of 1867 the number of orphans was limited to thirty-two, but it is now

seventy-five. There are also 100 externs educated in the school.

The *Asilo de Mendigos*, or Poor Asylum, is situate in the extinct convent of the Recoleta, adjoining the cemetery. Buenos Ayres has always been almost free from mendicity, although Mr. Parish represents a few beggars in his time who used to go about on horseback. The Boys' Orphanage and Reformatory, near Plaza Caridad, is a fine institution, opened by Governor Castro, after the yellow fever of 1871, with accommodation for 400 boys, and covers 4 acres. The asylum was established by the Municipality in 1858. The average number is about 200, including some foreigners and old soldiers. The treatment they receive is very good.

*Los Ejercicios* is a kind of female penitentiary at the corner of Calles Salta and Independencia; it was founded in 1794, by Maria Antonia Paz, from Santiago del Estero. There are usually 100 persons in the house, between nuns and penitents, the latter being sent hither by the Tribunals.

*Sociedad de Beneficencia*.—This society of charitable ladies was founded in 1823, to take charge of the Women's Hospital, Foundling Asylum, Orphan School, and the State schools for girls. It was installed by Rivadavia, partly suppressed by Rosas in 1838, and revived under Mme. Garrigos in 1852. Since then it has rendered invaluable service, remodelling the above-mentioned institutions and establishing seventy female free schools in town and country, which are attended by 5000 children.

*Deaf and Dumb Institute* was founded in 1857 by a philanthropic society called La Regeneracion, and placed under the direction of Mr. Charles Keil. The Provincial Government pays a subvention. The children are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, drawing, Christian doctrine, &c., but their number rarely exceeds half-a-dozen. They afterwards earn a living as cigar-makers, boot-makers, &c.

There are various associations of a mutual and friendly cha-

racter, such as the Typographic Society, the Spanish Mutual Aid Association, the Cricket Club, the Odd Fellows, the British Clerks, the Philharmonic Society, the Masonic Fraternity, the Athletic Club, the Jockey Club, the Italian Benevolent Society, the St. Vincent de Paul Confraternity, &c.

The *British Clerks' Provident Association* was founded by Mr. F. M. Wells on September 1st, 1861. Although limited in number it has been successful in a monetary sense, the annual dividends ranging from 12 to 18 per cent.

During the last five or six years several factories on a large or small scale have been established. The traveller should visit the great German brewery in Calle Santa Fé, the cloth factory at the Retiro, the Mutual Gas Company's works at Barracas, the Argentine gas-works at Almagro, the old gas-house at the Retiro, the glass factory in Calle Cochabamba, the shoe factory in Calle Belgrano, the artificial coal manufactory near the Recoleta, the Belgrano gas-works, the Hesperidina bitter orange distillery, Bieckert's brewery at the Retiro, the Italian brewery in Calle Juncal, the glove factory, the tanyards of Bletscher and others, the foundries of Stevens and Marshall, the steam saw-mills, the artificial flag-stone factory, the San Isidro brick factories, Demarchi's ice factory, and many others, nearly all driven by steam-power. No less remarkable are the workshops of the Western and Southern railways, the Customs' deposits of Seeber at the north and Lanus at the south end, the central station where the Northern, Southern, and Ensenada railways converge; the new terminus of the Western at Plaza Once is to cost 360,000*l.* sterling.

There are three principal suburbs, Belgrano, Flores, and Barracas, connected by rail and tramway with the city.

*Belgrano*, 2 leagues from the city by the Northern Railway, has become in a few years one of the prettiest places in the River Plate. It was founded in 1854, on a high ground about a mile from the river; the number of quintas belonging to the leading families of the city is very considerable, those of

Messrs. Beedle, Corti, Kinch, Amorins, Guerin, Matti, Plowes, Esteves, Segui, Gowland, Oliver, Piaggio, Haycroft, Llambi, Benn, Sardà, Rossi, Lamas, &c., being among the most remarkable. On the hill overlooking the railway is a little chapel, and a large church is being erected in the Plaza. On the east side of the Plaza are the Town Hall and public schools, built in the Grecian style. In winter Belgrano is all but deserted, but at the approach of the hot season, in November, the most extravagant rents are demanded; often 200*l.* or 300*l.* for the summer months. Watson's hotel, in the Plaza, is a first-rate English house, good wines and cookery, and on holiday mornings parties often come out for breakfast. Adjoining the Northern Railway station is a promenade. A tramway now connects Belgrano with the city, running along the barranca. The partido of Belgrano comprehends a number of chacras or farms; in some we see wheat and vegetables cultivated on a large scale; in others there are fine breeds of horses and cattle. This district includes Palermo.

This place was the residence of Rosas, once surrounded with beautiful gardens and plantations, but now it is a miserable ruin, the palace used as a military school, the timber cut down, and the whole place a scene of desolation. Here Rosas held his court for twenty years, till the battle of Caseros, 3rd February, 1852, resulted in his overthrow. In 1862 it was proposed to make Elysian Gardens here, but the project fell through. The Northern Railway runs through the park, and near the station is the English cricket-ground.

*San José de Flores* is 2 leagues from town by the Western Railway, and takes its name from the founder, Don Juan Diego Flores. The church, built in 1831, consists of three naves, and here was signed the treaty of 1859 between General Urquiza and the city of Buenos Ayres. On the east side of the Plaza is the public school, with Grecian front. The village is surrounded by the quintas of wealthy English residents. The Italian

"chacreros" raise beautiful fields of lucerne, which give splendid hay-crops: they also make much money by fruit and vegetables. The district of Flores is a succession of gardens, orchards, country-houses, &c., from the moment we leave the Plaza Once de Setiembre till we reach Floresta.

*Barracas* is one league south from the Plaza Victoria, and was formerly much frequented by English families.

The chapel of Santa Lucia, in the Calle Larga, is quaint and old-fashioned; the quintas of Krabbe, Nowell, Cambaceres, Videla, Havallot, Fernandez, Atkins, and Senillosa are in the vicinity; as also the orphanage and chapel built in memory of Mr. Felicitas Alzaga. The Banderita is an ancient pulperia, famous for its horse-races on Sunday afternoons.

Holterhoff's candle factory, opened in 1856, sent some samples to the Paris Exhibition of 1867.

The village of North Barracas has little to recommend it, consisting of sundry "barracas" for storing produce, a few liquor shops, and a state-school. At the bridge a toll is collected from passengers in coaches or on horseback. Most of the inhabitants are Basques or Italians: thirty years ago there was a large Irish population, employed in the saladeros of Brown, Dowdall, Armstrong, Cambaceres, Downes, &c., but they are now mostly estancieros in the camp.

The great industry of Barracas consisted in its saladeros, of which there were sixteen, until abolished in the plague of 1871. The Saladero is a place fitted up for the killing of cows and mares, salting the beef and hides, and boiling down the sheep and mares' flesh to extract the grease. As many as 10,000 cows and mares have been slaughtered in a day, in the busy season. The celerity with which the saladeros work is so great that 500 head are slain, cut up, salted, &c., in a few hours, by a comparatively small number of peons. The flesh is first hung in strips, to dry in the sun, and then put in an immense salted pile previous to shipment. The peons earn from \$40 to \$200 a

day, according to their skill. The killing season usually begins in November, and ends in May, and the "faena" sometimes amounts to 400,000 head of cattle.

At the Tres Esquinas is the dockyard of John Marshall, who built the first steamer in the River Plate in 1863.

Following the Riachuelo we pass a number of "barracas" where a bustling trade is always going on, baling wool for shipment, or embarking hides, wool, and bone-ash in lighters for the vessels in the roadstead; till we reach the region of Italian boat-builders, the Boca, consisting of an assemblage of wooden houses. Numbers of coasting craft from the islands of the Paraná and the Gran Chaco bring cargoes of oranges, vegetables, charcoal, firewood, &c., for the use of the city. The whole village is at times inundated. The situation is damp and unwholesome, and the cholera made great havoc here. The boat-builders use hard woods, such as urunday, algarroba, quebracho, lapacho, &c., from Paraguay and the Gran Chaco.

South Barracas forms a distinct "partido" of the province, but is really a suburb of Buenos Ayres. The church is a fine building. The railway to Ensenada runs parallel with the high road towards Quilmes: the fields on either side produce abundant crops of hay. The coast line is low and marshy. The traveller should pay a visit to the artesian well in Cambaceres' saladero, 89 yards deep; the water is brackish, but said to possess saline qualities, on which account baths are established here.

The saladeros are now at Ensenada, 10 leagues farther south, where a good port can be made at little trouble or expense, and Mr. Wheelwright's railway connects the place with Buenos Ayres.

## CHAPTER VII.

## THE PROVINCE OF BUENOS AYRES.

THE territory of the province is not clearly defined: it is supposed to include all the area bounded on the N. by Santa Fé, on the W. by Mendoza, on the S. by the Magellan's Straits, and on the E. by the La Plata and South Atlantic. Meantime the Indians are undisputed owners of immense regions in Patagonia and the Pampas, and the settled districts of Buenos Ayres hardly exceed 50,000 square miles, which is about the extent of England, while the Pampas and Patagonia cover a superficies of 440,000 square miles. Part of this latter territory, at present wholly useless, is claimed by the province of Mendoza, and also by the Republic of Chile. The general appearance of the country is that of a vast plain, covered with grass or thistles, and almost destitute of trees. In the north there are numerous arroyos which fall into the Paraná; these have their origin in swamps or "cañadas," and sometimes dry up in summer time, but the rivers of Del Medio, Arrecifes, Areco, and Luxan are permanent watercourses: in the south we find some large rivers, viz. the Salado, which runs for 250 miles from west to east and falls into the estuary of the La Plata near Cape St. Anthony; and the Colorado and Negro, which may be regarded as the Indian frontier-line southward. Among the tributaries of the Salado are the arroyos of Las Flores, Tapalquen, and Azul, which give their names to the districts they irrigate. The Rio Negro has its origin in the Andes, crossing the continent from west to east, and is navigable almost the whole course. Farther south is the Chupat river, where the Welsh colony is established. Among the minor streams of the south are the Chapaleofú, Tandileofú, Aapaleofú, Vivoratá, and Arroyo Grande, of sweet



water, and the Pantanoso, Quequen-grande, Quequen Salado, Christiano Muerto, Carmelo, Mulponleofú, and Sauce Grande, which have a brackish taste, being impregnated with certain salts. There are numerous lagoons or lakes scattered over the various districts; like the rivers, some of them dry up in the hot season; they are mostly of sweet water, and valuable for the use of the flocks and herds: the lakes of Chascomus, Bragado, 25 de Mayo, Encadenadas, Laguna de los Padres, and Mar-Chiquitat are the most important. The only lines of hills are those in the southern Indian country, viz. the Sierra Vulcan, Tandileofú, Tandil, Huesos, Tapalquen, Sierra Tinta, Chapaleofú, Azul, &c., which rise near Cape Corrientes, run 200 miles inland in a W.N.W. direction, and are lost in the Pampas: farther south are the Curra-malal, Guanini, and Sierra Ventana, which stretch out about 100 miles. The Sierra Tinta is famous for superior marble. Among natural curiosities is worthy of mention the great rocking stone of Tandil.

The population of the province, exclusive of the city of Buenos Ayres, is returned as 317,302 souls, in the following order—Argentines 245,325, Spaniards 18,332, French 14,594, Italians 13,768, English 12,449, Germans 2339, Indians 6966, others 4000. These returns are pretty correct in an official point of view, since they include all foreigners' children born in the country under the classification of Argentines. If, however, we be permitted to count the families of foreign settlers as belonging to their nationality, we shall find the estimates thus:

Argentines .. .. .	180,000
French and Basques .. .	40,000
Spaniards .. .. .	30,000
English .. .. .	35,000
Italians .. .. .	30,000
Germans .. .. .	5,000

The natives may be said to occupy themselves exclusively in the care of horned cattle. The French and Basques are found

to be innkeepers, artisans, shepherds, brick-makers, bullock-drivers, &c. The Spaniards are sometimes shopkeepers, sometimes shepherds, chaereros, &c. The Italians are often found as pulperos or travelling hucksters, and have little shops here and there through the country. The British subjects consist of 30,000 Irish and 5000 English and Scotch. The Irish have, for over twenty years, formed the bulk of the sheep-farming community, and to them is in a great measure due the staple wealth of the country; they are mostly found in the north and west, where they own large estancias; each district has its own Irish clergyman, lending library, and racing club. The Scotch have flourishing communities in San Vicente and Chascomus, originally men of humble fortunes, but thrifty, well-informed, and laborious. There is a Scotch chapel near Quilmes, and another on the Adella estancia near Chascomus.

In the last century the sole industry of the country consisted in killing horned cattle for their hides. Of late years the sheep business has sprung up rapidly, and attained colossal dimensions. The country is well adapted for rearing innumerable flocks, and when the frontier is once securely fixed along the Rio Negro we may look for further expansion to this industry. Agriculture has some drawbacks, particularly that of want of hands, but it is making unprecedented progress in those districts connected by river or railway with the capital: the wheat crops, especially, are abundant and remunerative. The official statistics of stock are as follows:—sheep, 60,000,000; cows, 6,000,000; horses, nearly 2,000,000. This gives an average of 200 sheep, 20 cows, and 6 horses to every inhabitant, a proportion that will not be found in many other countries of the globe.

As a rule the northern camps are high, and, in dry seasons, exposed to drought: in 1859 a million horned cattle perished. The southern camps are low and suffer in wet seasons. The soil is in general very rich and produces luxuriant crops of natural clover. The climate is agreeable, and one seldom sees

healthier-looking men than Europeans who have resided long in the country, and those of European descent. The spring is the pleasantest season. As summer approaches the heat becomes excessive. The thistles, which before looked like a crop of turnips, suddenly spring up to a height of ten or eleven feet, armed with strong prickles, forming dense jungles impenetrable to man or beast. The appearance of the country undergoes a complete change in the course of a week or two. About Christmas (midsummer) the thistles are all in full bloom, and soon droop and die. Tropical rains fall in winter, and the earth turns green again. Snow may not be seen for a generation, but ice is not uncommon, and the wind is often piercingly cold.

Among the animals peculiar to the country is the "biscacha," which is classed by naturalists among the family of *Chinchillidæ* and order of *Rodentia*. "Biscachas" are an abhorrence to sheep-farmers, as they burrow the land in all directions, and there is much danger to persons galloping after dark, of the horse stumbling over a "biscachera." Another curious animal is the "peludo," or armadillo, which burrows in the ground, but leaves no opening behind it. "Peludos" are considered by the natives as a very dainty dish, being cooked and served up in the shell. "Mulitas" are almost the same as "peludos," and have such powerful claws that if once they get their head under ground it is impossible to pull them out. In the more distant camps there were formerly wild dogs which went about like wolves, in large packs, doing much havoc among sheep. The "comadreja" is an animal between the weasel and the otter; it is fond of sucking eggs, and has a pouch, like the opossum, for carrying about its young. Rats, mice, and frogs are abundant in all parts of the country; and among venomous reptiles are found the "escuerzo," a deadly kind of toad, and the "Vivora de la Cruz," a small snake so called from its having a cross on its head; the latter is very rare. The other animals comprise ostriches, "nutrias," polecats, and tiger-cats: "nutrias" are much esteemed for their

skins, in which the Indians do some trade. Tiger-cats are about double the size of the domestic animal.

Birds are as scarce as trees in Buenos Ayres, if we except game, which is very abundant: the country swarms with wild duck, partridge, and a species of horned plover, called "terotero" from the cry which it makes. There is a kind of hawk or vulture called "chimango," which picks out the eyes of young lambs; the "carancho" is another kind, somewhat larger, and both these birds are a kind of scavengers, specially provided by Nature for carrying off the carrion that infests the camps on all sides. Parrots are often found in large numbers. The "Pica-flor," or humming-bird, is one of the tiniest and prettiest of the feathered tribe; it is no larger than a bee, of the most beautiful and variegated hues, and lives by sipping from the flowers, like a butterfly: there is also the "Hornero" or "oven-bird," a little larger than a lark, which builds its nest of mud on the fork of a tree.

The botanist will find little to interest him in the Pampas: nevertheless the "pita" or flowering aloe is a beautiful plant, indigenous to the country. It is usually seen forming a fence in the suburban quintas, and has a fine effect, springing up to a height of 30 feet, and at the base surrounded by prickly leaves, 7 or 8 feet long, and 5 or 6 inches in thickness. The fences formed by these plants have often proved impenetrable against the Indians. The chief ornament of these plains is the "Ombú," which affords a cool and refreshing shade, and is invaluable as a landmark. Poplars grow abundantly in the south, paradise-trees in the north, and peach-trees everywhere; these last are useful not only for their fruit, but for supplying firewood, and are cut down every three years. Grapes, figs, and other European fruits thrive admirably, as also the vegetables in common use in England. In fact nearly all the products of the temperate zones and the tropics are reared with little difficulty other than that caused by the ants. Australian gum-trees acquire a wonderful height and bulk in three or four years. There are

many pretty field-flowers, apparently indigenous, but the science of horticulture is comparatively new and limited to the commoner kinds of garden-flowers, although the camelias seem much finer than in Europe.

Thirty years ago all travelling in the camp was done on horseback, and the natives still make light of galloping 100 or even 150 miles in a day. At present there are railways north, south, and west, traversing the country for 400 miles, and in connection with them a number of "diligencias," which renders travelling easy and expeditious. Goods and produce are transported by bullock-carts, which travel about 20 miles a day.

The province of Buenos Ayres was an independent republic from the fall of Rosas, in 1852, till the reconstruction of the Argentine Confederation in 1861; it is now one of the fourteen united provinces, having its own governor, legislature, and local authorities, and being represented in the National Congress by two senators and twelve deputies. The governor is elected for three years, and has two ministers of state, for the home and finance departments. The senators and deputies for the provincial legislature are elected by the various districts, at the rate of a senator for every 12,000, and a deputy for every 6000 inhabitants: the first sit for three years, the second for two. The judicial authorities comprise a High Court of Justice (from which there is appeal to the Federal Tribunal), the Tribunal of Commerce, District Courts at Mercedes, San Nicolas, and Dolores, Justices of Primera Instancia, and the ordinary justices of peace for the respective partidos. The administration of the laws is necessarily imperfect, owing to the difficulty of organizing a proper police force in so extended a country. Each partido has its municipal board, to which foreigners are eligible, and its cura, with one or two assistant clergymen, who are often Italian priests. Public instruction meets with every possible favour from Government, and the various camp-towns boast handsome state-schools; meantime the education of the rural population offers great difficulties, partly owing to the

distances intervening between the scattered towns, and still more to the habits and character of the gauchos. There are 561 schools in the city and province of Buenos Ayres, attended by 32,000 children. The number of National Guards amounts to 38,320, and from these are drawn contingents for the Indian frontier: all foreigners are exempt from this laborious and unpleasant service.

The budget for the province may be set down at \$90,000,000 currency, say 720,000*l.* sterling, made up thus:

<i>Income.</i>		
Property Tax, City	. . . . .	23 millions.
„ Country	. . . . .	7 „
Stamps and Licences	. . . . .	30 „
Public Lands	. . . . .	10 „
Municipal Taxes, &c.	. . . . .	20 „
		—
		90 „

<i>Expenditure.</i>		
Police	. . . . .	30 millions.
Interest on Debts	. . . . .	25 „
Schools	. . . . .	12 „
Law Courts	. . . . .	9 „
Government and Public Institutions	. . . . .	14 „
		—
		90 „

The debt of the province consists of—

Bonds of 1868 and 1872	. . . . .	102 millions.
London Loan, 1870	. . . . .	126 „
„ 1873	. . . . .	250 „
Municipal Bonds	. . . . .	60 „
		—
		538 „

equal to 4,300,000*l.* sterling.

The business of horned cattle is almost entirely in the hands of natives, and it formed for nearly three centuries the sole occupation of the Spanish settlers. Horses and cows were unknown

before the time of Alvar Nuñez, otherwise called Cabeza de Vaca (cow's head), who brought out the first cattle from Spain, A.D. 1541, since which time they have increased prodigiously, notwithstanding the slaughter of millions of cows and mares, merely for their hides.

Estancias for horned cattle usually vary from one to ten square leagues in extent; they abound in "pasto fuerte" or coarse grass, which stands the dry seasons better than the meadow grass or trefoil on which sheep are pastured.

The stock of an estancia often numbers 10,000 head, divided into herds of 2000 or 3000 each, which two men can easily care. The stock of horned cattle in the province is set down at 6,000,000 head, and the annual slaughter in the saladeros exceeds half a million, independent of the consumption for the city markets. In seasons of drought cattle are watered by means of a "balde sin fondo," which raises water from a well, and is worked by a man on horseback; it can water 2000 head of cattle in a day. Cattle-farming until recently was not considered lucrative, but when properly attended to it gives very fair results, say 20 to 30 per cent. on the capital invested. Herds of cattle, from 1000 upwards, may be purchased at \$100 or \$150 m/c (say 16s. to 25s.) a head. Land is so dear in the sheep-farming districts that the cattle estanciero has to choose an estancia in the southern partidos of Pila, Vecino, Monsalvo, or Loberia, but he must be aware of the western frontier, which is much exposed to Indians. As a rule the business of horned cattle does not at all suit foreign settlers, although some have in a measure combined it with the care of sheep.

The rich estancieros usually live in the city, in great fashion and luxury, leaving their establishments in charge of a "mayordomo," and going out once or twice a year to see how things go on. The "gauchos" live in wretched "ranchos," of which the sides are plastered with mud, and the roof is of "paja" or reeds that grow in the lagoons. The furniture consists of a wooden stool or bench, a few horses' or cows' heads that are used for

seats, and a cowhide stretched on stakes, which serves as the family bed. The cooking is done in the open air with an "asador" or spit that is stuck into the ground. The most important piece of furniture is the "recado" or native saddle, which is very complicated, and consists of trappings that often serve the "gaucho" for his bed; the "recado" is a very comfortable saddle for a long journey, but tires the horse more than the ordinary saddle. The business of cattle-farming will receive a great impulse, and prove much more lucrative if the project succeeds of exporting live cattle from the River Plate to England. Hitherto all efforts in Buenos Ayres to export cured beef for the English markets have failed to create a staple trade.

The province of Buenos Ayres counts 60,000,000 of sheep, which give a yield of about 3 lbs. a head, or 180,000,000 lbs. unwashed wool. The sheep-farms cover over 40,000,000 acres, being  $1\frac{1}{2}$  sheep per acre, and the number of shepherds may be estimated at 60,000, of which at least a quarter are Irish or Scotch, and the Basques also form a large proportion. Buenos Ayres closely competes with Australia for the rank of first sheep-farming country in the world.

Sheep estancias are generally smaller than those for horned cattle. Some Irish estancieros have only half a square league (say 3000 acres) with a stock of 10,000 sheep; others have estates of four or more square leagues, stocked with 100,000 sheep and upwards. A flock usually counts 1500 to 3000 sheep, and is managed by one man on horseback. The flocks of different estancias, and even those of the same estancia, are distinguished by the "señal," or peculiar mark cut in the ear. The pastures of the sheep-farms consist of fine grasses, which, in summer, are protected by forests of gigantic thistles from the scorching heat of the sun. Frontier lands are found unsuited for sheep, till the coarse grasses have been eaten down by cattle. There are certain poisonous herbs, such as "romerilla" and "mio-mio," which sometimes cause great losses in flocks.



Sheep also die from eating white clay, or getting the leach in low, marshy lands. The scab is a great plague to sheep-farmers, but of late years the application of extract of tobacco is used with much success as a remedy.

The profits of sheep-farming are a subject that has exhausted the calculations of the eldest farmers and the ablest economists in the country. At one time it was generally believed that a flock of sheep, minded by the owner in person, gave 80 or 100 per cent. per annum. The increased expenses have brought down the estimate to 60 or 70 per cent.

The class of immigrants by far the most numerous and most successful consists of those who land on our shores without a shilling. They begin as peons or servants, hiring with some *estanciero* at 30*l.* a year (\$300 per month) to mind a flock of sheep; they are found in horse and provisions, sleeping either at the *estancia* house, or in a *ranch*o on some part of the land.

It often happens that when a man has proved himself to be steady and sober, the *estanciero* gives him a flock of sheep on thirds, that is, the peon gets one-third the increase of the flock and the same proportion of the nett proceeds of the wool. Under ordinary circumstances the "tercero," as he is then called, becomes owner of half a flock in three or four years, and then he goes into partnership as "medianero," on halves.

Life in the camp has a peculiar charm for young men emancipated from the office desk. The complete liberty of thought and action induces a buoyancy of feeling that compensates for all the hardships undergone. Fortunes have been made in the camp, and are still to be made in minding sheep: one thing is requisite, the shepherd must keep to his sheep as close as possible, live economically, and abhor the sight of a "pulperia." We shall now begin our tour through the *partidos*, beginning with the north, and in every instance the distance will be calculated to the chief town or centre of the *partido*.

The province is divided into seventy-two departments, as follows:

					<i>North.</i>		
					Area.		Population.
					sq. miles.		
Belgrano	..	..	..	..	20	..	2,860
San Martin	..	..	..	..	44	..	2,867
San Isidro	..	..	..	..	26	..	3,955
San Fernando	..	..	..	..	18	..	4,254
Conchas	..	..	..	..	473	..	3,329
Zarate	..	..	..	..	357	..	4,231
Baradero	..	..	..	..	732	..	4,919
San Pedro	..	..	..	..	786	..	5,377
Ramallo	..	..	..	..	767	..	3,140
San Nicolas	..	..	..	..	288	..	9,491
Pilar	..	..	..	..	275	..	3,708
Capilla del Señor	..	..	..	..	752	..	3,970
San Andres de Giles	..	..	..	..	429	..	3,820
San Antonio de Areco	..	..	..	..	382	..	2,814
Arrecifes	..	..	..	..	660	..	4,245
Pergamino	..	..	..	..	1,182	..	7,757
Rojas	..	..	..	..	1,309	..	3,417
					<u>8,500</u>	..	<u>74,154</u>
					<i>West.</i>		
S. José de Flores	..	..	..	..	38	..	6,579
Moron	..	..	..	..	69	..	3,488
Moreno	..	..	..	..	112	..	2,329
Merlo	..	..	..	..	150	..	2,469
Matanza	..	..	..	..	148	..	3,248
Luxan	..	..	..	..	377	..	10,256
Las Heras	..	..	..	..	365	..	2,303
Mercedes	..	..	..	..	397	..	8,146
Suipacha	..	..	..	..	331	..	1,829
Navarro	..	..	..	..	612	..	6,347
Carmen de Areco	..	..	..	..	387	..	3,815
Lobos	..	..	..	..	635	..	7,168
Chivilcoy	..	..	..	..	883	..	14,232
Salto	..	..	..	..	579	..	4,143
Chacabuco	..	..	..	..	947	..	6,234
25 de Mayo	..	..	..	..	2,612	..	10,385
Bragado	..	..	..	..	1,169	..	6,577
Junin	..	..	..	..	797	..	1,929
Lincoln	..	..	..	..	2,691	..	504
9 de Julio	..	..	..	..	1,978	..	3,879
					<u>15,277</u>	..	<u>105,860</u>

	<i>South.</i>	Area. sq. miles.	Population.
Barracas .. .. .		36	8,003
Lomas de Zamora .. .. .		91	1,723
Quilmes .. .. .		218	6,809
San Vicente .. .. .		387	4,249
Ensenada .. .. .		584	4,440
Cañuelas .. .. .		459	4,749
Magdalena .. .. .		673	5,626
Rivadavia .. .. .		679	2,253
Ranchos .. .. .		632	5,616
Guardia Monte .. .. .		699	4,706
Chascomus .. .. .		1,576	9,637
Las Flores .. .. .		1,724	7,252
Saladillo .. .. .		2,042	7,341
Pila .. .. .		1,412	2,728
Castelli .. .. .		755	1,655
Dolores .. .. .		722	7,203
Tordillo .. .. .		470	705
Vecino .. .. .		825	2,516
Rauch .. .. .		1,522	3,591
Arenales .. .. .		1,361	3,253
Ayacucho .. .. .		1,175	2,993
Tapalquen .. .. .		2,512	2,394
Ajó .. .. .		1,058	3,381
Monsalvo .. .. .		944	3,810
Tuyú .. .. .		844	673
Azul .. .. .		1,087	7,209
Mar-Chiquita .. .. .		1,165	2,289
Tandil .. .. .		1,786	4,870
Balcarce .. .. .		2,396	4,198
Loberia .. .. .		2,022	2,901
Necochea .. .. .		2,563	1,129
Juarez .. .. .		2,223	1,610
Tres Arroyos .. .. .		5,944	550
Bahia Blanca .. .. .		675	1,472
Patagones .. .. .		1,000	3,772
		<hr/>	
		44,261	137,288
		<hr/>	
17 Northern .. .. .		8,500	74,154
20 Western .. .. .		15,277	105,860
35 Southern .. .. .		44,261	137,288
City of Buenos Ayres .. .. .		13	171,404
		<hr/>	
Total .. .. .		68,051	488,706
		<hr/>	

## RIVERINE PARTIDOS.

*Belgrano to San Nicolas.*

*Belgrano*, one of the suburbs, has been already described. Municipal revenue, \$500,000 m/c. Property valuation, \$25,000,000. State-schools attended by 200 children. Population, 2760. Tillage, 10,000 acres. Largest proprietors: Oliver, Saavedra, White, Sebastiani, Plowes, Lebrero, Gonzalez, Calderon, Corbalan, Coulin, Torres, Santillan, Castillo, Cabrera, Munita, Goya, Malcom, McDonnell, Moore, Esteves. It is connected with the city both by tramway and railway, and lighted with gas. Watson's is a first-class hotel and restaurant.

*San Isidro*, fashionable summer residence. Tillage, 10,000 acres. Population, 3955. Property valuation, \$16,000,000. School attended by 270 children. Largest proprietors: Uriarte, Aguirre, Azcuenaga, Pacheco, Martinez, Luca, Saenz Valiente, Omar, Escalada, Elias, Rua, Marquez, Perez, Castex, Gutierrez, Alvarez, Anchorena, Uribelarrea, Elortondo, Mackinlay, Paravicini, Brittain, McLean, Haedo, Wineberg, Velasquez, and Vernet. Village founded in 1706, distant 5 leagues from town, on Northern Railway. There are two good hotels, those of Tiscornia and Vignolles.

*San Fernando*, at the head of the River Plate, 7 leagues from town. Population, 4154. Tillage, 5000 acres. Property valuation, \$16,000,000. School attended by 400 children. Largest proprietors: Ibañez, Valle, Conde, Castro, Espinosa, Justo, Pietranera, Rodriguez, Croza, Crisol, Lima, Villarnel, Vela, Almandos, Catelin, Salguero.

Islands of Brunet, Sarmiento, Pinero, Crabtree, &c., beautifully cultivated.

San Fernando wharf has a branch to Northern Railway for conveyance of produce from coasting craft.

*Las Conchas*, between the rivers Luxan and Las Conchas, the

ancient territory of the Guacunambi Indians. Spaniards established a fort here in 1614, and present village was founded in 1720. Country-seats belonging to Madero, Garrigos, Tejedor, Cobo, Delcampo, Gonsalez Moreno, Balbin, Albarellos, Lynch, Majesté, Castellanos, Lawson, Romero, Martinez, Anciso, Rocha, Bullrich, Calzadilla, Carraga, Acuña, Cebey, Castrelo, Alcorta, Muñoa, Hernandez, Arana, Aguirre, Urioste, Dolz, Uparaguirre, Zurueta, Canedo, Vivanco; besides the farms of Pacheco, Villamayor, and Milberg. Church was built by Doña Magdalena Bonelo in the last century. State-school attended by 150 children. Property valuation, \$7,000,000. English boat-club at Tigre, which is also port for steamers to Rosario. Population, 3329, including 1580 foreigners.

*Zarate*, on the Paraná, has 60 sheep-farms and 140 agricultural. Population, 4211, including 147 Irish. Largest proprietors: Lima, Latorre, Insua Soler, Saavedra, Fox, Acebey, Murray, Gelvas, Castex, Pujol, Romero, Barrios, Conde, Anta, Balvidares, Gaetan, Palacios, Sosa, Silvano, Vidal, and Zarate. At Las Palmas, the Latorre estancia, the Jesuits had an establishment, which has given its name to this branch of the Paraná. Dr. Costa has a fine estancia at Port Campana, the site of proposed docks and railway terminus. Zarate village has 2020 inhabitants, nearly two-thirds males, and does a large coasting trade. Steamers call daily. It is 16 leagues N. of Buenos Ayres. Stock: 60,000 cows, 800,000 sheep, 30,000 horses. Land valued at \$600,000 per league. Total valuation, \$15,000,000. School of 184 children.

*Baradero*, comprising 92 sheep-farms and a flourishing Swiss colony. Population, 4919, including 1112 foreigners. Largest proprietors: Lynch, Castex, Wallace, San Martin, Macome, O'Rourke, Brennan, Casco, Whelan, Murtagh, Gelves, and Connaughtin. Land, \$400,000 per league. Property valuation, \$20,000,000. Stock: 80,000 cows, 700,000 sheep, 20,000 horses. At the Swiss colony, founded in 1856, there are 1091 farm-lots under tillage, the crop exceeding 33,000*l*.

sterling in value: some of the colonists have saved as much as 8000*l.*, all being very prosperous. Baradero village, 27 leagues N. of Buenos Ayres, is a port on the Paraná with 1199 inhabitants. It was founded in 1616 by Father Luis Bolaños. Steamers call daily. There is a branch of the Provincial Bank. Schools attended by 340 children.

*San Pedro*, comprising 63 estancias. Largest proprietors: Demarchi, Castro, Perez Millan, Obligado, Cobo, Magallanes Villalon, Palacios, and Quiroga. Among the principal Irish farmers are: Harrington, Doyle, Wheeler, Dogherty, Kehoe, Young, McDonald, Cronin, and Finnelly. Population, 5377, including 253 Irish. Land, \$450,000 per league. Property valuation, \$21,000,000. Stock: 200,000 cows, 1,400,000 sheep, 45,000 horses. At Obligado is where Rosas attempted to stop the English and French fleets. San Pedro port, 31 leagues N. of Buenos Ayres, has 2089 inhabitants, and schools attended by 245 children. Branch of Provincial Bank. Irish chaplain, Rev. Mr. Flannery.

*Ramallo*, comprising 70 estancias. Largest proprietors: Stegmann, Llavallol, Gomez, Laprida, Obligado, Olmos, Arias, Booth. Population, 3140, including 44 Irish. Stock: 108,000 cows, 960,000 sheep, 34,000 horses. Mr. Lewis Booth, an American, has a fine estancia. The school is attended by 52 children.

*San Nicolas*, comprising 170 estancias and 650 grain-farms. Largest proprietors: Guerrico, Ramos, Acevedo, Pereyra, Pico, Alvear, Roldan, Fernandez, Pineyro, Mancilla, Robles, Lafuente, Salinas, Garcia, Ruiz, Carranza, Aldao, Quiroga, Cardoso, Pezzi. Among the Irish settlers are: Hogan, Barker, Neale, Barry, Pearson, Stickney, Tait, and Savage. Population, 9491, including 1321 foreigners. Stock: 110,000 cows, 680,000 sheep, and 24,000 horses. Over 20,000 acres under tillage, the chacra land being valued at \$2,500,000, and estancia land at \$400,000 per square league. Property valuation, \$32,000,000.

The city of San Nicolas de Los Arroyos is a port on the Paraná, of rising importance, second only to Chivileoy among rural towns as regards population. It has 5985 inhabitants, with a branch Provincial Bank, 100 shops, 350 good houses, a mill, graseria, local newspaper, district criminal court, club-house, schools attended by 700 children, barracas for storing hides and wool, in the export of which a large business is done by Liverpool steamers and other vessels. It is 45 leagues N.W. of Buenos Ayres, on the route of the Rosario Railway now in construction.

## NORTHERN PARTIDOS.

*Pilar to Arrecifes.*

*Pilar*, area, 28 square leagues, comprising 170 estancias and some wheat-farms. Largest proprietors: Pacheco, Poucel, Huergo, Ponce, Olivera, Carrion, Egan, and Robert Kelly. Stock: 45,000 cows, 840,000 sheep, and 23,000 horses. Land valued from \$420,000 to \$650,000 per league. Total valuation, \$16,000,000. Population, 3708, including 51 Irish. School attended by 60 children. Municipal revenue, \$130,000. *Pilar* village, on the Luxan river, 9 leagues N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 1076 inhabitants, a new church, some good shops, and is a station on the railway to Rosario.

*Capilla del Senor*, otherwise Exaltacion de la Cruz, area, 75 square leagues, comprises 43 estancias and 50 grain-farms. The largest proprietors are: Costa, Culligan, Delamore, Fox, Scally, Gaynor, O'Brien, Tormey, Lennon, Lynch, Sosa, Pugh, Diaz, Cullen, Harrington, Avalos, Burgueño, Casco, Gutierrez, Ortega, Roldan, and Toledo. The lands held by Irish in this district exceed 50,000 acres. Irish chaplain, Rev. Mr. Grennan. Land, \$500,000 per league. Stock: 36,000 cows, 1,400,000 sheep, 26,000 horses. Village of *Capilla* has 1116 inhabitants, new church, partly built by Irish; state-school attended by 200 children. Population of district, 3970, including 500 foreigners.

*San Andres de Giles*, area, 43 square leagues, comprises 75 estancias. Largest proprietors: Tormey, Rodriguez, Butterfield, Monsalvo, Bustos, Wheelér, Riestra, and Salas. Stock: 26,000 cows, 700,000 sheep, and 16,000 horses. Land, \$500,000 per league. Population, 3820, including 520 foreigners. Village of Giles, 20 leagues N.N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 912 inhabitants, and a school attended by 210 children.

*Carmen de Areco* comprises 30 estancias, the most valuable of which belong to foreign settlers, chiefly Irish, viz. Duffy, Hale, Dowling, Murray, Kenny, Craig, Mullen, Wallace, O'Connell. The estancias of Piran, Lynch, Lezama, Rocha, Melo, and Romero are also of much extent. Property valuation, \$22,000,000. Stock: 60,000 cows, 25,000 horses, 1,250,000 sheep. Land under tillage, about 10,000 acres. Population, 3815, including 835 foreigners. The estancia Tatay, belonging to Mr. Hale, is an American model farm, and covers 25,000 acres. The estates of Duffy and Dowling are still larger. The village of Fortin de Areco, 27 leagues W.N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 1540 inhabitants, church, bank, 20 shops, and a state-school of 140 children. The Irish chaplain, Rev. M. Leahy, has a library and Literary Society called St. Brendan's. The Irish Racing Club has regular meetings.

*San Antonio de Areco* comprises 64 estancias. Largest proprietors, Duggan, Morgan, Guerrico, Mooney, Lanus, Almagro, Casco, Lima, O'Donnell, Chapeaurouge, Hogan, Gutierrez, Martinez. Property valuation, \$12,000,000. Stock: 80,000 cows, 20,000 horses, 900,000 sheep. The Irish residents own half the sheep and one-fourth of the land in this department. Population, 2814, of whom 488 are Europeans. The village of San Antonio, 21 leagues N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 1001 inhabitants, including an Irish clergyman and a few French or Italian artisans; it was founded in 1759 by the Areco family. A new church was built in 1869. There are two inns. Many of the shopkeepers speak English. A good bridge crosses the Areco river. The state-school is attended by 160 children.



*Salto* comprises 34 estancias. Largest proprietors: Dorrego, Pacheco, Lanata, Bell, Riddle, Blanco, Ayrala, Michael Murray, Patrick Murphy, John Hyland, William Murphy, and Berruti. The Dorrego estancia covers 100,000 acres. The land in this department is valued at \$450,000 per league. Property valuation, \$22,000,000. Stock: 100,000 cows, 30,000 horses, 1,000,000 sheep. Population, 4143, of whom 890 are foreign settlers. The village of Salto, 34 leagues W.N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 2173 inhabitants, church, bank, 25 shops, inn, schools attended by 270 children, Irish club and library.

*Arrecifes* comprises 60 estancias, the largest being those of Stegmann, Molina, Crisol, Lezica, Sarsfield, Saavedra, Cobo, Sierra, Ortega, Zapiola, Viñas, Andrade, and Perez Millan. Property valuation, \$32,000,000. Stock: 250,000 cows, 50,000 horses, 1,000,000 sheep. Population, 4245, including 215 Irish. The model sheep-farm of Mr. Stegmann, 4 leagues N. of the village, is one of the finest in the province. Arrecifes village was founded in the last century by Señor Peñalva, and the present church was built by Mr. Stegmann's grand-uncle, Perez Millan; the situation is picturesque. There are some good shops, a mill owned by a Frenchman, and state-schools attended by 200 children. The village is 33 leagues N.W. of Buenos Ayres.

#### NORTH AND WEST FRONTIERS.

##### *Pergamino to 25 de Mayo.*

*Pergamino* comprises 192 estancias. Largest proprietors: Peña, Acevedo, Lezama, Moreno, Azcuenaga, Basualdo, Goycotea, Quintana, Hale, Trelles, Boer, Hastings, Fitzsimons, Arnold, Blanco, Benitez, Bett, Herrera, Mooney, Winton, Viñas, Fox, Jacobs, Duffy, and Alvear. Stock: 270,000 cows, 50,000 horses, 1,400,000 sheep. Land at \$300,000 per league. Property valuation, \$23,000,000. Close to Mr. Hale's estancia is Fort Melincué, where the provinces of Buenos Ayres, Santa Fé, and Cordoba meet. The first sheep-farmer to settle here was John

Doyle, who was killed by runaway soldiers in October, 1859. Population, 7757, including 630 foreigners. The town of Pergamino, 42 leagues N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 3261 inhabitants, and was a halting-place on the old coach road to Cordoba. It was besieged by Indians so late as 1861. There are several good shops, a fine church, barracks, and state-schools attended by 520 children. This district is separated from the province of Santa Fé by the Cardoso lagoons and numerous small arroyos. It is watered by the Fontezuela, or Pergamino river. The Arroyo Cepeda, on the Azcuenaga estancia, was the scene of a battle in 1859.

*Rojas* comprises 50 large estancias, viz. those of Llavallol, Cano, Quirno, Ramos, John Hughes, Conesa, Martinez, Sagasta, Bollasty, Anderson, Tormey, Moffatt, Carey, Lawler, Geoghegan, Quinnan, Mullady, Tobin, Gerraty, Geddes, Dowse, Murray, McNeill, Boggins, Murphy, Madero, Riestra, Saavedra, Sarlo, Ghiraldes, &c. Stock: 180,000 cows, 15,000 horses, 700,000 sheep. Property valuation, \$12,000,000. Population, 3417, including 850 foreigners. Mr. James Bollasty's establishment, close to the village, includes both pasture and agriculture on a large scale. Mr. Hughes has a fine estancia, and a graseria for boiling down sheep. The Cano estancia is well planted, and laid out partly under agriculture. Llavallol's is the most extensive, covering an area of 65,000 acres. The farthest settlers on Indian camps are Madero, Irigoyen, and Alsina, at Chañaritos lagoon, 5 leagues from Melincue fort. The village of Rojas, 43 leagues W.N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 1508 inhabitants, church, shops, schools, cavalry barracks, Irish club and library, with stated race-meetings. Mr. Bollasty has long been a leading member of the Municipality. The schools are attended by 140 children. This district suffers constantly from Indians, who carry off all the horses.

*Jumin* comprises 80 estancias, the principal owners being Dowling, Murray, Saavedra, Atkins, Conesa, Coffin, Burke, Pombo, Alvear, Amezaga, Castro, Medina, Olivera, Escobedo,

Fajardo, Giles, Villafañe, Arza, Lastra, Gomez, Gonzalez, Vasquez, Lezica, Irigoyen, Franqui, &c. Ten or twelve years ago these were Indian camps, the first to settle here being some Irish sheep-farmers in 1863, who were obliged by the drought to drive their flocks out to new pastures on the frontier. The department is well watered by the Rio Salado and the lagoons of Chañar, Gomez, and Mar-Chiquita. It is still thinly settled, being much exposed to Indians. There are twenty grain-farms, with about 20,000 acres under tillage, the largest being those of Aparicio, Narbondo, and Reparas. Mar-Chiquita is 10 miles long by 5 wide; the Gomez lagoons 20 miles in length. Stock: 100,000 cows, 11,000 horses, and 150,000 sheep. Property valuation, \$3,000,000. Population, 1929, including 230 foreigners and 100 tame Indians. The village of Junin, 45 leagues W.N.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 886 inhabitants, 33 well-built houses, a school with 90 children, and accommodation for a small frontier garrison.

*Lincoln*, a new frontier department, comprises 30 estancias, the chief owners being: Gowland, Chapeaurouge, Murray, Atkins, Dowling, Rodriguez, Amadeo, Wiebeck, Bullrich, Villareal, Frers, Dunkler, Schroeder, Martins, Saavedra, Gorchs, Delsar, Vivot, Gimenez, and Pereyra; the last is one of the farthest settlers, being 65 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres. The new town of Lincoln will be built 10 leagues beyond Fort Ituzaingo. No returns of stock. Population, 504, including 60 foreigners.

*Chacabuco* comprises 60 estancias. Largest proprietors: Rocha, Perkins, Pacheco, Vidal, Alvear, Duggan, Casey, Allen, Murray, Pearson, Dowling, Drysdale, MacLean, Forest, Bell, Green, Castro, and Miro. One of the first settlers was Mr. Perkins, estancia Esperanza, who has a fine establishment of 17,000 acres, well stocked and planted. The estate of D. Patricio Rocha, at Medano Blanco, is still larger. On Mr. Allen's estancia there is an Irish chapel, with library attached. Stock: 200,000 cows, 50,000 horses, and 1,250,000 sheep. Tillage,

90,000 acres. Population, 6234, including 530 foreigners. Chacabuco village has 461 inhabitants, a school with 70 children, and some well-built houses, being 36 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres.

*Bragado* comprises many large estancias, mostly belonging to natives. Largest proprietors: Plà, Bians, Unzué, Quiroga, Meabe, Beccar, Lanus, Castro, Machain, Smith, Robbio, Grigg, Ramirez, Olivera, Martinez, Arza, Gallo, Lucena, Ruiz, Trejo, Montier, and Perez. This district has been slowly settled, owing to the constant inroads of Indians. The Rio Salado forms its north and east boundary. Good water is found anywhere at a few feet from the surface, and the pastures are well suited for sheep. Stock: 270,000 cows, 50,000 horses, 500,000 sheep. Property valuation, \$6,000,000. Population, 6577, including 700 Europeans. Agriculture has made such progress that there are 370 chacras, with 60,000 acres under tillage. Coliqueo's tribe of friendly Indians is kept as an auxiliary frontier force, receiving rations of tobacco, yerba, and cattle from Government. The Cacique dresses as a Major, but his people are squalid and repulsive; they move their tents at intervals. Bragado village has 2176 inhabitants, church, 20 shops, and school of 180 children. It is 42 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres. The railway is being prolonged from Chivilcoy, which will bring Bragado within half-a-day's journey of the city.

*Nueve de Julio* lies south of Lincoln and Bragado, comprising Indian territory chiefly settled on by Englishmen, viz. Douthal, Darbyshire, Dillon, Neild, Smith, Fletcher, Dowling, Gaynor, Dickson, Stephenson, Dick, Batchelor, Kavanagh, Foster, Shaw, Murray, Lynch, Young, Lewis, Daly, Wallace, Bullrich, Dunkler, Carlisle, Wampach, McDonnell, Ares, Seng, and Gillyat, who attend both to pasture and agriculture, and have annual steeple-chases. Among native proprietors, Messrs. Unzué, Trejo, Lima, Agrelo, Vedia, Haedo, Agote, Cazon, and Malbran are the principal. The district is studded with lagoons, and thinly settled. Until recently the only inhabitants were Coliqueo's

friendly Indians and an occasional frontier detachment. The land produces excellent wheat, there being 135 chacras, with over 5000 acres under tillage. Stock: 200,000 cows, 70,000 horses, 100,000 sheep. Population, 3879, of whom one-half are "friendly" Indians and 580 foreigners. The village of Nueve de Julio has 912 inhabitants and a state-school of 70 children; it is 50 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres, and the farthest settlers are about 10 leagues farther out. Deer and small game abound in these camps.

*Veinte-cinco de Mayo* was Indian country up to 1864, the only settler before that time being Mr. Keen, of Pedernales. The other English estancias now are those of Wright, Elliff, Keenan, Dickson, and Whelan. But larger than any of these is the Unzué territory, covering 130,000 acres; the next in note being Fernandez, Atucha, Peralta, Sosa, Olivera, Villarasa, Villanueva, Salas, Montero, Murillo, Galindez, Lezica, Diaz, Risso, Ghiraldo. Stock: 600,000 cows, 50,000 horses, 2,000,000 sheep. Property valuation, \$13,000,000. The department shows 512 chacras, with 180,000 acres under crops. Mr. Keen's estancia, on the banks of the Salado, is the finest in this part of the country. The lagoons are full of game, and the pastures good for sheep. The neighbours sometimes have trouble from the Indians. The village of 25 de Mayo has 1723 inhabitants and 100 good houses, besides a church, and schools attended by 190 children. It is 35 leagues W.S.W. of Buenos Ayres. The department counts 10,385 inhabitants, including 1100 foreigners.

#### WESTERN PARTIDOS.

##### *Flores to Chivilcoy.*

*San José de Flores*, the most favoured suburb of Buenos Ayres, is remarkable for the elegance of its country-houses, the extent of land under gardens and plantations, the salubrity of the air, and the number of English residents. The finest quintas are those of Wanklyn, Lezica, Ghiraldez, Boyd, Livingstone, Portela,

Duportal, Mulhall, Lamas Montes, and Lopez, at Lambaré; Ropes, Pfeiffer, Martinez, Pardo, Zorraquin, Zuberbuhler, and Negrotto, at Caballito; Terrero, Basualdo, Dorrego, Delpont, Carabassa, Llavallol, Methven, Bell, Fulton, Torres, Rathje, Riestra, Malbran, Bechem, Best, Samuel, Hughes, Stegmann, Silveyra, Olivera, Rom, Solé, Robles, Estrada, Carlisle, Neild, Moore, Wilson, Runciman, Campbell, Crowther, Cano, Repetto, and many others, about Flores. The village was made a parish in 1808, and now contains church, schools, hotel, club, theatre, several good shops, an English Protestant chapel, handsome cemetery, and tramway and railway to the city. Population of department, 6579; villages, 2256. The state-school counts 490 children. Messrs. Negrotto and Reynolds have a school for boys at Caballito.

*Matanzas*, sometimes called San Justo, from the village of that name, which is 4 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres, comprises some 300 "chacras" with an aggregate of 200,000 acres under tillage. Most of the old estancias are being cut up into grain-farms, thus enhancing the value of the land. That of Mr. Gahan was lately sold for 40,000*l.* sterling. The largest proprietors at present are: Ramos Mejia, Lagos, Zamudio, Villamayor, Ezcurra, Barnechea, Almaraz, and Posse. The department takes its name from a "matanza," or slaughter of Indians on the bank of the river in 1580, by Juan de Garay, to whom the King of Spain granted the land on which the country-seats of Ramos, Mejia, Madero, &c., are now built. An English-woman, named Hannah Burns, settled here fifty years ago, with a dairy farm. The stock of the district consists of 20,000 cows, 5000 horses, and 200,000 sheep. Property valuation, \$31,000,000.

The village of San Justo has 1001 inhabitants, mostly Basques, church, schools, and several good shops. An omnibus plies between the village and the railway station of Ramos Mejia.

*San Martin*, another agricultural district, comprises a fine

rolling country between San Isidro and Moron. There are over 100 grain-farms, the finest being those of Lynch, Pereyra, Fiorini, Igartua, Aguirre, Despuj, Ballester, Santamaria, Kratzenstein, Fanes, Blanco, Boniche, Luna, Salguero, Miro, Hué, and Sanchez. Land valuation, \$9,000,000. Stock : 10,000 cows, 2000 horses, and 10,000 sheep. The village of San Martin, formerly called Santos Lugares, is not far from the battle-field of Monte Caseros, where Rosas was overthrown on February 3, 1852, by the combined Argentine and Brazilian armies under General Urquiza. The population of the village is 1133, mostly Italian and French ; the schools are attended by 180 children. A new college, on a superior scale, has been built by some Spanish clergymen. The Rosario Railway will have a station here, about 4 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres. There are many newly-built country-houses, that of Dr. Bilbao being the finest, and M. Duhamel's nursery is specially worth notice. The new village of Billinghamurst is a couple of miles farther west.

*Moron* is a suburban district, chiefly noted for its quintas and country-houses, the finest being those of Coffin, Repetto, Gutierrez, Koch, Kiernan, Laroche, Garcia, Macias, Gaviña, Garbeler, Laplane, Cabral, &c. The Rio de las Conchas turns some mills and waters a fine belt of land, there being over 200 grain-farms cultivated by Italians and Basques. The price of land varies from \$1000 m/c to \$6000 per cuadra, say 2*l.* to 12*l.* per acre. The few estancias that there were have been broken up and sold in chacra lots. The total stock of the district does not exceed 30,000 sheep and cattle. Building sites in the town may be had, 10 × 50 varas, from \$10,000 n/c upwards. The streets are well laid out, the plazas neatly planted, the schools and public buildings commodious. The new church cost 10,000*l.* sterling ; the cemetery, south of the town, is one of the best arranged. Moron is reputed the healthiest part of the province of Buenos Ayres, and is crowded in summer : its permanent population is 1429, more than one-half foreigners. It is 5 leagues W.

of Buenos Ayres, and is reached in one hour by the Western Railway.

*Las Heras*.—We now enter the sheep-farming country, this district being a favourite one of Irish settlers, and comprising 60 estancias watered by La Choza, Paju, and Durazno streams, the largest proprietors being Plomer, Casey, Lynch, Corréa, Dillon, Lamudio, Moore, &c. The stock amounts to 10,000 cows, 15,000 horses, and 800,000 sheep. The district takes its name from an Argentine general; and a village called Rodriguez, after another general, is springing up around the station of that name on the Western Railway, two hours from Buenos Ayres. The church founded by Governor Saavedra has been dedicated to St. Patrick, in compliment to the Irish farmers around. An Irishman named Garaghan has a sheep-boiling establishment in view of the station: the latter is 11 leagues from Buenos Ayres.

*Merlo*, chiefly remarkable for the junction of the Lobos and Western Railways, is an agricultural district, watered by the Conchas, and comprising some 200 chacras, cultivated by Italians and Basques. The mill belonging to Messrs. Blumstein and Laroche does a considerable business. The farm known as that of Mr. Wyatt Smith was long considered one of the finest in the province, but has been sold and cut up into chacras. The village of Merlo has 456 inhabitants, a Gothic chapel, and schools attended by 174 children. It is 7 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres, being an hour and a half by railway. The value of building sites has risen twentyfold in the last five years. The branch railway to Lobos is 42 miles in length. Messrs. Dillon and Pearson have properties in this district, also Mr. Bernard Coffin, Mr. McLean, and other foreigners. The meat-preserving factory of Silveyra, in this district, sent some samples to England in 1873: it also makes artificial guano from the blood of animals.

*Moreno*, an undulating district beautifully cultivated, with 20,000 acres under tillage, the largest chacras being those of



Carranza, Gutierrez, and Posse. The Alcorta and Alvarez properties are also considerable. The district is one of the smallest, but thickly inhabited, there being few English. The village of Moreno, 8 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres, comprises some fifty houses and a fine new church, the best shop being that of Mr. Ccsario, an Englishman. An unfinished building in the plaza, with round turret, was the work of a Frenchman who died before its completion. Labastie's is a good inn, where horses may be obtained, or coaches for camp excursions. Moreno was for some time terminus of the Western Railway, and since then has declined. Population, 372, including 91 school children: the population of the district being 2329, of which 710 are foreigners.

*Luxan.*—This department belongs almost exclusively to Irish sheep-farmers, Browns, Hams, Caseys, Garaghans, Kellys, Clavins, Murphys, Maxwells, Cooks, Kennys, Burgesses, Fitzsimmons; there being only twelve native estancias of any dimensions. The finest of the latter is that of the Olivera family, at the station of that name, which is three hours by rail from the city. One-half of the population of the department is Irish, there being also many Italians and French. The stock comprises 30,000 cows, 20,000 horses, and a million of sheep. Land cannot be bought under 12 or 15 thousand pounds sterling per square league. Agriculture is making some progress, Italian chacreros having some 20,000 acres under tillage about the town and district. Villa Luxan, 14 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres, is one of the oldest towns in the province. A chapel to Our Lady was erected here in 1730, and the Viceroy Liniers escaped hither in 1806 from the English invaders. The town shows signs of decay, but has some good shops, and two resident physicians, besides an Irish chaplain, Rev. Samuel O'Reilly. It has 3393 inhabitants, being the fifth town in the province. The school is attended by 210 children.

*Mercedes.*—Another flourishing Irish settlement, of Murrays, Maguires, Ledwiths, Lowes, Kellys, Allens, Mahons, Smiths,

Garaghans, Connors, Dillons, Flanagans, Murphys, Martins, Keatings, Kearneys, Tyrrells, Flemings, &c. There are twenty-two good-sized native estancias, that of Mr. Unzué having an area of 60,000 acres. The stock of the department counts 40,000 cows, 25,000 horses, and 15,000,000 sheep. The "City of Mercedes," 20 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres, is one of the best-built camp towns, being inferior in population only to Chivilcoy and San Nicolas. The church, schools, and cabildo are remarkably fine, the last-named having a ball-room 100 feet long. There is also a Convent of Mercy built by the Irish of Buenos Ayres, as well as a branch of the Provincial Bank, an Irish school for boys, a small theatre, and a mill on the north side of the town. The outskirts are composed of chacras and plantations. Mercedes was a frontier outpost in the last century, as Guardia de Luxan. It is three and a half hours by rail from Buenos Ayres. The schools are attended by 550 children. The shop of Messrs. Torroba is an Irish rendezvous.

*Suipacha*, 26 leagues W. of Buenos Ayres, is a new department not yet properly organized, there being no village or centre of population. It comprehends part of Mercedes, being 6 leagues W. of that town. The lands are watered by the Leones and other streams.

*Chivilcoy* has 300,000 acres under tillage, comprised in 1600 chacras, cultivated mostly by Italians and Basques. This thriving colony was begun by Mr. Sarmiento (after President) in 1854, the first settler being Mr. Kranse, a German. The splendid estancia of Mr. White may be regarded as a model-farm; it runs 4 leagues to the Salado. The Terrero family have a still larger territory, but only under sheep; and midway from Chivilcoy to Mercedes is the Gorostiaga estancia. There is a large number of Irish sheep-farmers. Stock: 200,000 cows, 60,000 horses, and 2,000,000 sheep. Chivilcoy is a thriving town of 6338 inhabitants, wide streets, fine shops, new church and schools, club-house, free library, theatre, printing office, hotel, &c. It is 31 leagues from Buenos Ayres, the train taking

six hours. Coliqueo's friendly Indians often come here. The railway is being pushed on to Bragado, 30 miles farther west. The schools count 510 children. Strangers should inquire for Mr. Michael Hearne's general camp-store.

#### SOUTH-WESTERN DISTRICTS.

##### *Cañuelas to Tapalquen.*

*Cañuelas*, a district long famous for its "cabañas" of prize sheep, but now rapidly changing into agricultural farms. The camps are well watered, and their proximity to town induced the first English sheep-farmers forty years ago to settle here. The estancias of White and McClymont are among the finest in the country, and celebrated for their superior breeds of imported cows, horses, and sheep. The Scotch pastor holds religious service once a month at McClymont's, there being numerous Scotch neighbours. The Irish farmers belong to Father Curran's district of Lobos. Among the principal estancias are those of Alfaro, Villegas, Acosta, Castro, Ball, Thompson, Dickson, Hanlon, and Harilaos. Stock: 20,000 cows, 25,000 horses, 1,000,000 sheep. The population, of natives and foreigners, is about equal. The village of Cañuelas, 11 leagues S.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 1052 inhabitants, handsome church and schools, several good shops, brick factories, &c. It is pleasantly situated, 5 leagues from San Vicente railway station, and there is a project of railway from the Lobos branch to Cañuelas. At Marcos Paz station is Mr. Forbes's meat-packing factory.

*Navarro*, comprising some of the best pastures in the province, has several first-class estancias, viz.—Norris, Gahan, Unzué, Casey, Maguire, Kenny, Costa, Almera, Diaz, Papsdorf, Maxwell, and Moll. The Irish farmers are numerous and wealthy. The lands are watered by streams falling into the Salado or into the great lake of Navarro. Stock: 40,000 cows, 25,000 horses, and 1,000,000 sheep. Land under tillage, 10,000 acres. Although heavily stocked these lands are always in good condition, never

running short of water. Half the adult population consists of foreigners. The village of Navarro, 17 leagues W.S.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 1426 inhabitants, church, schools, club, shops, &c. It is more than a century old, having been established as a frontier outpost in 1744, although the streets have still an unfinished look. There is an Irish Racing Club, which holds meetings at stated periods. A coach plies daily to Lobos Railway station (5 leagues), the journey to Buenos Ayres being made in six hours.

*Lobos*, a large, fertile, and prosperous district, with a numerous Irish population. Among the foreign estancias are Murphys, Caseys, O'Gormans, Moores, Livingstones, O'Neills, Geoghegans, Lawlers, &c., but the bulk of the lands still belongs to native proprietors, such as Carril, Urquiola, Acosta, Burgos, Viñales, Ruiz, Casavalle, Gutierrez, Arevalo, and Villoldo. The camps are generally fine, though in some places marshy. Besides the lake of Lobos there is a larger one called Cubú-cubú, covering about 10 square miles. The district is heavily stocked, with 30,000 cows, 25,000 horses, and 2,000,000 sheep. About half the inhabitants are Europeans, and agriculture has made much progress, there being several well-cultivated chacras. The town of Lobos, founded in 1803, has 1660 inhabitants, church, schools, bank, two English shops, English doctor, mill, and several fine houses and shops. The branch railway to Merlo brings Buenos Ayres within four hours by rail. The Irish chaplain is Rev. Mr. Curran.

*Guardia Monte*.—Half this department is held by three native proprietors, Terrero, Videla, and Urquiola. There are numerous English estancias, such as those of Dillon, McClymont, Boyd, Brady, Lyall, Malcom, White, Russell, Killimed, Hogan, Craig, Moran, McLoughlin, Muldowney, Kenny, and Martin. The camps are well watered and abound in peach-plantations. The poisonous weed, "romerilla," is common, but sheep of the district will not eat it. Stock: 40,000 cows, 30,000 horses, and 1,500,000 sheep. In this department the Dictator Rosas passed his early

years of gaucho life : the natives of Monte used to be considered lawless. There are 200 chacras under grain, the Municipality selling farm-lots at 2 hard dollars per acre. The village of Guardia Monte, with 884 inhabitants, has a church, school, prison, and 25 shops, including the camp-store of O'Gorman and Co. It was founded in 1774 as a frontier post: the new church of St. Michael was built chiefly by subscription, some of the wealthy Scotch farmers generously aiding the work. The coach goes daily to the Lobos Railway station.

*Saladillo*, a frontier department, extending S.W. from the river Saladillo to the Indian country. Being newly settled, it is chiefly held by native estancieros, and there are few English sheep-farmers. The largest establishments are those of Toledo, Carranza, Barrera, Decoud, Castro, Atucha, Acosta, Unzué, Albert, Hardoy, Bedoya, Cazon, and Justo. Among the English proprietors we find Connors, Cormacks, Butlers, Roberts, &c. Stock: 300,000 cows, 50,000 horses, and 2,000,000 sheep. Two-thirds of the inhabitants are natives; the number of English does not exceed 300. The lands are watered by numerous lagoons and arroyos, the largest of the former being Lakes Potrillo, Verdosa, and Ballimanca. Fort Ballimanca is on Unzué's estancia, and 5 leagues farther, in Indian territory, is the last settler, an Irishman. This is one of the most extensive districts in the province, and the population is only three to the square mile. The village of Saladillo, 33 leagues S.W. of Buenos Ayres, has 637 inhabitants, there being four men to three women. The school is attended by 209 children. The department counts 7341 souls.

*Las Flores*, a large department beyond the Salado, now rapidly improving by reason of the Southern Railway connecting it with town. The principal foreign settlers are Musgrave, Gebbie, White, Robson, Kelly, Manson, Mason, Beckford, Foster, Brown, Litcher, Seeber, Muller, Schmarsow, Van Praet, and Weymeyer. Land is comparatively cheap, say 3000*l.* to 5000*l.* per league. Some of the native estancias are of great extent, the finest being

those of Chas, Ramirez, Paz, Rosas, Elizalde, Solanet, Peredo, Rojas, and Amadeo. The Southern Railway has a station at the Chas estancia. The village of Carmen de Flores, with 970 inhabitants, was only founded in 1857. Eight leagues beyond the Salado and 130 miles from Buenos Ayres there are 20 shops, 3 hotels, 2 mills, and schools attended by 110 children. The Municipality has marked out chacra lots of 100 acres all round the town; these may be bought for about 3 hard dollars per acre. The department is well stocked, counting 200,000 cows, 100,000 horses, and 3,000,000 sheep. About half the population are foreigners. The journey to Buenos Ayres by train takes seven hours, *viâ* Altamirano junction. Coaches for Azul and Bahia Blanca start from Las Flores.

*Tapalquen* is still one-half Indian territory, and takes its name from the river so called by the Indians. It extends some 80 miles in a S.W. direction to the mountain range of Quillanquen, 200 miles distant from Buenos Ayres. On the Silva estancia is the old Indian settlement called Tapera de Tapalquen, but the new town is 4 leagues farther north, on Balcarce's estancia, near Fort Estomba. It has 1026 inhabitants, sundry shops, but as yet neither schools nor church, the place being newly marked out, and much retarded by the dread of Indians. It is midway from Buenos Ayres to Bahia Blanca, about 70 leagues from either. An area of 30,000 acres around the town has been set apart for agriculture, and some hundred chacras are under cultivation. Population of the department, 2394, being one to the square mile: fully one-fourth are Indians. The principal estancias are those of Balcarce, Peña, Casares, Sheridan, Lezama, Silva, Belgrano, Portugues, Jurado, Pereyra, Barriovno, Rosas, Spigno, &c. Stock: 250,000 cows, 30,000 horses, and 600,000 sheep. About one-tenth the inhabitants are Europeans. Land is worth 1000ℓ. per league.

## SOUTHERN DISTRICTS.

*Barracas to Dolores.*

*Barracas del Sud* is separated from North Barracas, one of the city suburbs, by the Arroyo del Riachuelo. It was formerly the seat of the saladero business, but these establishments were removed to Ensenada after the yellow fever of 1871, and since then Barracas has lost its importance. The slaughter used to exceed 500,000 head of cattle each season. The village is still a place of some bustle, being the terminus of the City of Buenos Ayres tramways, and also traversed by the railways to Ensenada and Chascomus. It has a fine church, theatre, shops, schools, &c., and is surrounded by 300 chacras, belonging to Demarchi, Nuñez, Torres, Mackinlay, Sanders, Suarez, Luñiza, &c. The land is low and swampy, but good for pasture. Population, 5645, mostly Basques and Italians.

*Lomas de Zamora*, one of the favourite summer resorts of merchants and others, is a small rural department traversed by the Southern Railway. Its green lanes, breezy slopes, thick plantations, and numerous country-seats, combine to make it one of the most charming of our suburbs. The finest residences are those of Green, Temperley, Livingston, Glover, Brown, Jacobs, Drysdale, Bell, Lanus.

The village of Lomas, with a few hundred inhabitants, is 3 leagues S. of Buenos Ayres, has a handsome church, schools attended by 80 children, also a Protestant chapel near Mr. Green's, an English hotel, several shops and hack-coaches, with a municipal council of four members. The famous estates of Monte Grande and Santa Catalina are over a league west of the village, and were originally founded by Mr. Robertson's colony in 1826. Monte Grande now belongs to Mr. Fair. Santa Catalina for many years belonged to Mr. Bookey, and is now a Government model farm; the plantations comprise 2,000,000 trees. This district is almost entirely agricultural, and land has

of late risen to exorbitant values. At the Lanus chacra there is a station of the Southern Railway, also a race-course.

*San Vicente* is partly agricultural, partly pastoral; some of the first sheep-farms having been established here forty years ago. It is now thickly studded with Bells, Robsons, Dalys, Kennys, Browns, McGaws, Nelsons, Smiths, Buchanans, Wilkies, Gowlands, Fergussons, Sordans, Glews, Harratts, McFarquhars, Faulkes, Williams, Freers, Donselaars, and other English and German farmers. The camps are low but good for sheep, and watered by affluents of the Sanborombon. Stock: 10,000 cows, 20,000 horses, and 1,500,000 sheep. The only native proprietors of any note are Llanos, Lopez, Udaquiola, Peña, Casco, and Merlo. The Scotch farmers have a chapel near the Robson estancia; the Irish belong to the district in charge of the resident priest at Chascomus. *San Vicente* is a poor hamlet of 563 souls, but maintains an omnibus in connection with the Southern Railway station, where people sometimes alight for shooting. It is 10 leagues S. of Buenos Ayres, has a church, 7 shops, 42 houses, and a school of 60 children.

*Ranchos*, the cradle of sheep-farming; it was in this partido that Sheridan, Harratt, and Hannah made their beginning half-a-century ago. The first died in 1844, the second in 1849, the third sold his estancia and went home to Scotland in 1869. Among the present foreign estancieros we find Shennan, Krabbe, Welchman, Lowry, Gibbings, Harratt, Thorp, Thwaites, Glennon, Hunt, Millar, Cowan, Purvis, Jeppener, Pettigrew. The only large native estancias are those of Alegre, Videla, Villanueva, and Lopez: at the first there is a railway station, between Altamirano and Ranchos. The camps are mostly low, often flooded, but never exposed to drought, the lagoons being numerous and permanent. The district is heavily stocked: 33,000 cows, 28,000 horses, and 1,000,000 sheep. Agriculture is in a backward state. There are fine gardens and plantations at the Gibbings and Shennan estancias; the latter was the property of



Mr. Hannah, who obtained a silver medal at Paris for Negretti wool. Ranchos is a village of 910 inhabitants, and much improved by the railway. It has a fine new church, schools attended by 220 children, and several shops. It is 22 leagues S. of Buenos Ayres.

*Chascomus* is a large and thickly-settled district, comprising numerous Scotch farmers. The chief estancias are those of Miguens, Newton, Gandara, Fair, Bell, Plowes, Calderon, Sheddon, Brown, Casalins, Wallace, Wilde, Wilson, Kuffman, Shiel, Coe, Fernandez, Buchanan, Dodds, Green, Girado, Mul-lady, Thwaites, Lacombe, Lezama, Huergo, Johnston, Nowell, Maxwell, Graham, Vivot, Anchorena, Frias, Alvarez, Ochoa, Alsina, Robson, and Burnet. The lands are fertile and well watered. Besides the rivers Sanborombon and Salado there are a dozen large lakes, such as the Encadenadas, Chis-chis, and Vitel; the estancia Espartillar, of Mr. Fair, is one of the finest in the province, comprising 42 sheep-stations or puestos; it was first settled sixty years ago by one Barati, who had two pieces of artillery mounted, that are still shown by Mr. Reid. The Newton estancia is another splendid establishment. There are two chapels for Scotch residents: one at Jeppener, another at Adela. Chascomus is one of the best rural towns, with 3316 inhabitants; it is beautifully situated on a large lake, from which the railway takes several tons of fish daily to Buenos Ayres, the distance being 73 miles. Irish pastor, Monsignor Carley; Scotch, Rev. Mr. Ferguson.

*Dolores* is a small and populous district, comprising some 200 estancias, of which the principal are those belonging to Anchorena, Parravicini, Diaz, Escribano, White, Almiron, Mada-riaga, Yates, and Aguero. There are numerous rivers and lagoons. The forest of Tordillo lies S.E. of Dolores town, covering an area of 100 square miles. Stock: 60,000 cows, 20,000 horses, and 600,000 sheep. Agriculture has made some progress, there being 250 small chacras with 30,000 acres under tillage. There are few English settlers, but the extension of the

Southern Railway, now completed, will give an impulse to the district. The town of Dolores, the best in the south, has 3123 inhabitants, church, bank, schools, theatre, town-hall, and plaza. It is about 7 leagues from the seaboard, the great Anchorena estancia intervening. About one-third of the population of the department is foreign, chiefly French or Basques. There are 75 tame Indians. Dolores is 40 leagues S. of Buenos Ayres.

## SOUTH COAST.

*Quilmes to Mar-Chiquita.*

*Quilmes*, one of the most delightful suburbs, is equally remarkable for its fine country-seats, picturesque scenery, thick plantations, and model-farms. Latham's cabaña of prize sheep and horses; Clark's chacra and woods of Bella Vista; Davidson's farm of Santo Domingo; and Pereyra's grand estate near Punta Lara, are in this district and make it famous. The Quilmes were a tribe of Indians brought captive from Tucuman by the Spaniards and settled here, the last descendant dying in 1869. Mr. John Clark, now deceased, was one of the earliest English settlers, his property extending for miles and being tastefully planted. The Pereyra estate, however, eclipses almost every other in the country. The village of Quilmes, overlooking the River Plate, boasts some charming quintas, and is surrounded by small farms; over 100,000 acres are under crops. The quintas of Bagley, Walker, Simpson, Bate, Casares, Bernal, Bilbao, &c., are of sumptuous taste. The village has 1586 inhabitants, elegant plaza, tramway, church, school of 220 children, and distant by rail only forty minutes from Buenos Ayres. English physician, Dr. Wilde. Among the foreign property holders are Brown, Robson, Yates, Black, Hudson, Young, Watson, Boyd, Barton, Thomson, Sandes, Wheatly, Westhoven, Graham, Roche.

*Ensenada* extends along the coast from Quilmes to Magda-

lena, the land being mostly low and marshy, but good for sheep. George Bell's estancia is the finest in the department; the others of note are those of Iraola, Piñero, Ponce, Arana, Merlo, Videla, Chaves, Taylor, Cooper, Mahon, Garaghan, Gilbert, &c. Near the Southern Railway is the large farm known as Oldendorff's, once famous for agriculture and improved breeds of cattle. Eusenada is chiefly important for its port, which the Spaniards used for two centuries. When the bar is dredged away and the piers are finished there will be ample accommodation for 1000 sea-going vessels: a temporary pier has been erected at Punta Lara, 2800 feet long. Mr. Wheelright's railway terminus is abreast of the old Spanish fort at Eusenada. There are several saladeros established here. The lazaretto station has been removed to Martin Garcia. The village is 36 miles from Buenos Ayres, and counts 575 inhabitants, including 73 school-children. Stock: 50,000 cows, 30,000 horses, and 1,000,000 sheep.

*Magdalena* has a coast-line of 22 leagues from Arroyo Pescado to the mouth of the Sanborombon, passing Point Indio, where there is a light-ship stationed. The coast is in many places lined with a thick plantation. The camps are in general low, but so well adapted for sheep-farming that wool from this district fetches the highest price. The principal estancias (including also the new department of Rivadavia) are those of Piñero, Miguens, Montes-de-Oca, Fernandez, Newton, Rebol, Escribano, Simons, Thompson, Romero, Malcolm, Fink, Hamilton, Martinez, Bavio, Otamendi, Plowes, Illescas, Chaves, Canal, Machado, Elizabe, Achaval, Lopez, Aguilera, Arze, Gomez, Moujan, Maciel, Molina, Cajaraville, Villarino, Mulchon. The lands are well watered by the Sanborombon and tributaries. Agriculture is very backward, except on a few estancias like Newton's. Stock: 80,000 cows, 95,000 horses, 600,000 sheep. Magdalena village, with 3000 inhabitants, has a school attended by 96 children: it is 20 leagues S.E. of Buenos Ayres, and runs a daily coach to Ferrari station, on the Southern Railway.

It is a league from the seaboard at Point Atalaya, where considerable saladero produce is shipped.

*Rivadavia*, a new partido, formed out of that portion of Magdalena known as Rincon de Noario, with an area of 68 square leagues, beginning at Miguen's estancia, near Point Indio, and taking in the coast-line as far as the mouth of Sanborombon. It comprehends the estancias of Piñero, Sisto Fernandez, Malcom, Chaves, Hamilton, Otamendi, Thompson, Molina, Escribano, and some others. Stock returns included in Magdalena. Population, 2253, or 3 to the square mile. There is no town or village. The Rincon is equidistant (12 leagues) from Magdalena and Chascomus; it affords capital shooting.

*Castelli*, another new partido, on the seaboard, formerly part of Tordillo. It has a coast-line of 10 leagues from Sanborombon to Vivoras, and an area of 76 square leagues, of which one-half is occupied by the great estates of Martinez-de-Hoz and Saenz-Valiente. The former is remarkable for its Moravian Negretti sheep, Durham cows, and blood horses, comprising 52 puestos with over 100,000 sheep. The Saenz-Valiente or Rincon de Lopez has thick woods called Riojanos. The Alzaga estancia at Postuera is also a fine establishment. Those of less note belong to Islar, Anchorena, Gonsalez, Tapia, Sacristi, Alvarez, Botet, Agüero, Mendoza, Sotelo, Pereyra, Almiron, and Reynoso. At the Martinez estancia there is an orphan asylum of 36 boys and girls.

*Tordillo*, with an area of 47 square leagues and only 704 inhabitants, comprises 16 estancias, viz. those of Anchorena, San Roman, Morete, Joseph Butler, Vallejo, William Thomson, Peter Crinigan, Madrid, Ramirez, Arance, Alday, Laferrière, Boer, John Hardy, Michael Hessiger, and Thomas Davis. The Anchorena estancia, 25 square leagues, occupies most of the department, and stretches along the coast from Vivoras to Ajó, low, marshy ground. The forest of Tordillo begins 5 leagues from the coast and extends up to Dolores. Stock: 100,000 cows, 50,000 horses, 300,000 sheep. There is no town or village.

*Ajó*, with a coast-line of 20 leagues, is well known for the Gibson and Gilmour estancias, besides those of Cobo, Pardo, Leloir, Suarez, George Bell, Patrick Moran, G. Palmer, Escobar, Campos, Falcon, Girardo, Diaz, Sanchez, Gorosito, Ibarra, Quinteros, Cordoba, Fernandez, Cabrera, Rodriguez, Alvarez, Mendez, Blanco, Bello. The country is wild, woody, and watered. The port of Tuyù, 2 leagues up the Ajó river, has vessels weekly to and from Buenos Ayres, 50 leagues distant.

*Tuyú* extends along the Atlantic from Montes Grandes to Mar-Chiquita, 12 leagues, with an average width of 8 leagues, comprising a dozen estancias and barely 700 inhabitants. It was formerly part of Monsalvo, and has no town or village, being wholly distinct from Ajó and the town of Tuyú. Land is worth \$300,000 m/c per league. The Alzaga and Anchorena properties cover 40 square leagues, the rest being divided between Aguirre, Leloir, Subiaurre, Lastra, Peña, Trelles, Sigismundo, Herrera, Serrantes, Gomez, and Villagos. The country is wild and thickly wooded, numerous lagoons, coast-line of sand-hills, and Montes Grandes famous for the best Creole horses. Tuyù department is over 60 leagues S. of Buenos Ayres.

*Mar-Chiquita*, with a coast-line of 9 leagues, derives its name from a gulf resembling an inland sea, 5 miles long, and comprises 14 estancias, viz. Anchorena, Aguirre, Gomez, Barbosa, Ibañez, Peralta, Ramos, Bernal, Torres, Ezeyza, Sosa, &c. The Anchorena estates are 600 square miles, including Loma de Gongora, where Dr. Holder and Mr. Reddy fatten cattle for Buenos Ayres. The inhabitants are mostly natives of Santiago, the proprietors rich men who reside in Buenos Ayres and visit the estancias rarely. Stock, 340,000 cows, 65,000 horses, 1,500,000 sheep. Distance from Buenos Ayres 75 leagues.

## THE FAR SOUTH.

*From the Salado to Patagones.*

*Pila* is separated from the Ranchos by the Salado, has an area of 141 square leagues, of which more than one-half belongs to the Anchorena family, the only other estancias of note being Stegmann, Miguens, Elizalde, Agüero, Girada, Casco, Senillosa, Aguilera, Marin, Izurrieta, Casalins, Gamboa, Scott, Barragan, Gallo, and Prado. The lands of Anchorena run 50 miles in a line to the Vecino. The estancia Stegmann, at Poronguitos, obtained a medal for Negretti wool at the Paris Exhibition. Camarones, the Agüero estate, is also a model sheep-farm. Land is worth \$300,000 per league. Stock: 220,000 cows, 90,000 horses, 200,000 sheep. About 35 leagues from Buenos Ayres.

*Vecino* takes its name from a river which floods the country for miles in wet seasons. The principal estancias are Ocampo, Agüero, Pinedo, Ponce, Rodriguez, Fresco, Castaño, Iturralde, Sosa, Olivares, Pizarro, Garcia, Puyol, Vasquez, Pereyra, Lara, Maldonado, Cepeda, and Newton. The lands are low, with numerous lagoons, but suitable for sheep. Stock: 100,000 cows, 25,000 horses, 200,000 sheep, the latter of inferior quality. About 50 leagues from Buenos Ayres. No town or village.

*Monsalvo* occupies a large stretch of country between Dolores and Mar-Chiquita, mostly low and swampy, but in part thickly wooded. The family of Ramos Mejia own half the department. The other proprietors are Alzaga, Peña, Lastra, Pereyra, Rodriguez, Areco, Diaz, Acosta, Gonsalez, Logan, Varela, Invaldi, Arosa, Centurion, and Soriano. The forest of Monsalvo is of great extent, about 8 leagues from the seaboard. Stock: 300,000 cows, 60,000 horses, 1,500,000 sheep. Distance from Buenos Ayres over 50 leagues. No town or village. There are 77 English residents.

*Ayacucho* lies between the Vecino and Tandil; it is a wild,

unsettled country with numerous lakes and streams, about midway between the Sierras of Tandil and the Atlantic, the nearest point being 13 leagues from the coast. The estancias belong to Castaño, Iraola, Girado, Basualdo, Subiaurre, Lezama, Monasterio, Ferreyra, Senillosa, Morales, Diaz, Lopez, Garay, Burgos, Fernandez, Mayol, Rebol, Mirò, Vignal, Gomez, Bargas, Bisuarra, Barrientos, Pereyra, Salinas, Henrique. Dolores may be reached on horseback in a day, and then by rail another day to Buenos Ayres. Statistics are included with Tandil.

*Arenales* another new partido, between Pila and Tandil, comprises 5 large estancias averaging nearly 200 square miles each, viz. Pereyra, Lezama, Diaz Velez, Rufino, and Vela. It is a wild, thinly-settled territory, well watered, and skirted on the south by the high road from Dolores to Tandil. Among the lesser estancias are Aroyo, Balbin, Iraola, Miguens, Godoy, Alvarez, Merlo, Corbera, Rodriguez, Dominguez, Pourtale, Palacios, Gonsalia, Rivas. Stock: 600,000 cows, 100,000 horses, 2,000,000 sheep. Distance from Buenos Ayres, 60 leagues. No town or village, There are 37 English residents.

*Rauch*, called after a valiant German officer who conquered all these territories from the Indians in 1822. It embraces a large tract between Las Flores and Tandil, and is well watered. Proprietors: Vela, Diaz Velez, Udaquiola, Casal, Basualdo, Portela, Centurion, Rojas, Echeverria, Silva, Licate, Moujan, Rodriguez, Alzaga, Martinez, Letamendi, Casalins, Serpa, Gonzalez, Genova, Chiclana, Medrano, Roldan, Nuñez. The statistics are included with Azul. There is no town or village. Distance from Buenos Ayres, 50 leagues.

*Azul*, a fertile, picturesque, and well-populated district, about 60 leagues from Buenos Ayres, with the following estancias: Anchorena, Acosta, Llavallol, Rosas, Leloir, Martinez, Pardo, Mancilla, Vidal, Botet, Iturralde, Dominguez, Ulloa, Lahitte, Alcantara, Luques, Planes, Miñana, Gomez, Alvarez, Barda, Roldan, Peñalba, Muñoz, Serrantes, Reynoso, Lawrie, Cox, Tucker, Gordon, Freres, Tenor, Grierson, &c. The frontier

runs S.E. along a range of hills from Sierra Quillalanquen to Sierra la Tinta at the Quequen Grande, about 25 leagues from the ocean. Land may be bought for \$200,000 to \$300,000 per league. Some Englishmen do a lucrative business in fattening cattle for the Buenos Ayres market. Agriculture has made much progress, there being 200 wheat-farms with 150,000 acres under tillage. A branch of the Southern Railway will shortly connect Azul with the metropolis. Stock: 1,300,000 cows, 100,000 horses, 3,000,000 sheep. One-third of the inhabitants are "tame Indians," and the district has a lawless reputation. The town of Azul, 21 leagues S.W. of Las Flores Railway terminus, is a thriving frontier post and garrison, with 162 houses, church, schools, bank, town-hall, prison, &c.; also some mills and fine quintas on the Azul river. A large Indian trade is done, including stolen hides.

*Tandil*, a hilly district on the verge of civilization, remarkable for its picturesque sierras and famous rocking-stone. The Sierra Tinta abounds in marble of the agate family, varying from 12 to 20 feet below the surface, especially on the Vela estancia: it assumes various colours according to depth, and is found about 10 leagues beyond the town of Tandil. The rocking-stone, about a league from the town, is a huge boulder so nicely poised that a gentle breeze moves it, but Rosas yoked 1000 horses to pull it down and failed. A superstition was attached to this stone a few years ago, when a gaucho fanatic assembled a band of 100 followers and murdered forty Europeans about Tandil. The sierras give birth to some fine streams, such as Huesos, Chapaleofú, Tandil, &c. The lands are coarse, and best suited for horned cattle; the usual price is \$300,000 per league. Large quantities of wheat are grown on the slopes of the sierras, and potatoes also do well, but maize often suffers from frosts. Tandil is situated in a pleasant valley lined by poplárs and willows. It has church, school, bank, hotel, mill, town-hall, and numerous inhabitants. The journey to Buenos Ayres takes three days *viá* Dolores or Las Flores. Estancias:



Miguens, Vela, Casares, Lumb, Gomez, Saenz-Valiente, Lopez, Solanet, Butler, Arana, Fugh, Hinde, Osgood, Crebbis, Goodfellow, Burnett, Guinness, Gebbie, McKinlay, Laurie, Leonard, McAusland, Harrow, Coony, James, Uriarte, Ramirez, Saavedra, Anchorena, Iraola, Machado, and Cordoba.

*Balcarce*, better known as Laguna de Los Padres, lies between the ocean and the Sierra Vulcan, with a seaboard of 15 leagues, including Cape Corrientes. The country is traversed by streams and hill-ranges, the latter being known as Los Padres and Vulcan. It is now perfectly secure from Indians, and large estancias of sheep and cattle are held, chiefly by natives. The coast abounds in seals. The estancias are Martinez-de-Hoz, Peña, Lezama, Baudrix, Peralto-Ramos, Pereyra, Auld, Subiaurre, Saenz - Valiente, Otamendi, Anchorena, Suarez, Trapani, Campos, Burgos, Vivot, Llanos, Reynoso, Sueldo, Deodria, Escobar, Castelli, Barragan, Nero, Luengo, Sanchez, Amarante, &c. The pastures are so rich that the whole district is a kind of fattening farm for the city markets. It is exactly midway between Buenos Ayres and Bahia Blanca, 75 leagues from each.

In 1747 the Jesuits founded a settlement on the lake which still preserves their name, situate 4 leagues inland in a N.W. course from Cape Corrientes. The site was well chosen, being suitable for an agricultural establishment, of easy access to the sea, and offering every facility for defence. The Fathers were unable to reduce the wild pampa tribes to habits of order and industry, and the establishment was abandoned after ten years of unavailing labour. Some remains of the buildings and the fruit trees planted by the Jesuits still remain. The lake covers about 2 square miles in extent, and is surrounded by thick plantations. About 3 leagues eastward, at the mouth of Arroyo Cardalito, near Loberia Chica, a site has been marked out for a town, and there is a port suitable for vessels of some size. Don Patricio Peralta Ramos has a *saladero* here with an iron pier, also a school, church, &c., and a town is being commenced.

*Necochea* stretches from the sierras of Tandil to the Atlantic, having a seaboard of 16 leagues between Quequen-Grande and Cristiano-Muerto, and extending inland 32 leagues to Fort Otamendi. The lands are watered by numerous streams tributary to the above two rivers. This district was formerly included in Loberia: there is not half an inhabitant to the square mile, the lands being held by wealthy proprietors. The Diaz Velez estancia covers 350 square miles, that of Nepomne Fernandez 300, and the other proprietors are Alzaga, Anchorena, Areco, Hornos, Lanuz, Prat, Ezeiza, Vela, Lopez, Iraola, Lastra, Echenegucia, Udaquiola, Herrera, Perez, Cobo, Fulco, Arze, Negretto, Olivera, Rico, Larriba, Chaves, Roque Perez, Viton, Santamaria, Rodriguez, Tobal, Lara, John Cornell, Canal, Echeverria, &c. It is proposed to build a town at Paso Otero on the Quequen-Grande, in front of Olivera's estancia house. This is 12 leagues from the mouth, and another ford half way down is Paso Galisteo.

*Loberia* a wild, thinly-settled district, watered by the Quequen, Moro, and other important streams, with a seaboard of 10 leagues lined with sand-hills. The pastures are excellent, raising the largest cattle in the province. Estancias: those of Guerrico, Saenz-Valiente, Diaz Velez, Martinez-de-Hoz, Gaynor, Lastra, Luro, Peredo, Saavedra, Cuestra, Cobo, Dasso, Castañera, Nep-Fernandez, Machado, Otamendi, Barbosa, Arruda, Alegre, Torres, Casares, Pieres, Reynoso, Flores, Rico, Sabatté, Suarez, Gandara, Gainard, Arze, Diana, Galiano, Maldonado, Pita, Otero, Picado, Albarells, &c. Stock: 1,500,000 cows, 150,000 horses, 1,000,000 sheep, it being remarkable that in this department there are more cows than sheep. Land may be rented at \$20,000 per league, or bought at \$300,000. The Quequen-Grande is navigable for some leagues from its mouth, where it is proposed to dredge the bar and form a port for these remote camps, 88 leagues from Buenos Ayres and 60 from Bahia Blanca. Loberia derives its name from the seals or Lobos that abound on the coast.

*Tres Arroyos* comprises nearly 6000 square miles of almost uninhabited country, until lately held by the Indians, extending for 24 leagues along the Atlantic from Christiano Muerto to Sauce Grande, and traversed by the Tres Arroyos and Quequen Salado, which run parallel and fall into the ocean. The Sierra Pillahuincó is the boundary on the side of the Indian pampas, being some 20 leagues from the coast; farther south is the Sierra Ventana, the highest peak of which is fixed by Fitzroy at 3350 feet. Estancias: those of Vasquez, Soaje, Olabarria, Pereyra, Rohl, Elizalde, Macias, Baigorria, Dantes, Valdez, Aldao, Segui, Lefrançois, Moreno, Diaz, Sanders, Miró, Machaly, Rodriguez, Madero, Casas, Herrera, Jardin, Viton, Pintos, Subiaurre, Garcia, Letamendi, Anchorena, Miguens, Vela, Ochoa, Salas, Saravia, Chiclana, Arzac, Alvarez, Orejero, &c. At the confluence of the three streams which form Tres Arroyos river is the point known as Tres Horquetas, or "three-fork fort," and here a new town called Olabarria is being built, 100 leagues from Buenos Ayres, and nearly 40 from Bahia Blanca or Azul.

*Bahia Blanca*, situate 115 leagues S.W. of Buenos Ayres, may be said to have an area of 200 square leagues, taking its limits as the following: north, the Sierra Ventana; west, the River Sauce Chico; south, the bay of Bahia Blanca and the Atlantic Ocean; and east, the River Sauce Grande. This part of the country, though so remote and little known, offers many advantages to settlers. In the low grounds the soil is rich and alluvial, and well suited for agriculture: irrigation is easily obtained. All the quintas of the town are irrigated by a system of water-works constructed by Rosas in his expedition of 1833, and it still bears the name "Zanja de Rosas." The cultivation of wheat is attaining great dimensions. All kinds of fruits thrive here remarkably, especially grapes, and from these is made the Chocoli wine. Snow is seen at rare intervals, once in three or four years. The temperature is dry and windy, and it rains less than at Buenos Ayres. On the high camps the grasses are "pastos fuertes," which grows so wide apart that in

wet seasons a soft grass springs up between. The low grounds abound in soft grasses, viz.: alfilerillo, trefoil, trevo de olor, and gramilla.

Timber is indigenous; willows of the "sauce colorado" species are found on the banks of the Sauce Grande and Sauce Chico, suitable for building or firewood. Near Salina Chica, about 15 leagues W. of Bahia Blanca, there is an abundance of timber, the algarroba being much sought both for firewood and for making corral posts.

This district is one of the most favoured in the province as regards an abundance of watercourses. A number of fresh water streams flow from the Sierra Ventana through the low grounds, never running dry at any season. The salt bed of Salina Chica supplies excellent salt, which is gathered in summer.

The town of Bahia Blanca stands 2 leagues from the port. The entrance to the bay is easy. The steamer 'Patagones,' for which Aguirre and Murga receive a subvention, makes regular trips to and from Buenos Ayres. The garrison usually comprises 200 soldiers and 120 National Guards, besides which the "friendly Indians" form a company of 70 lances: these last are under the Cacique Francisco Ancalao, who ranks as a lieutenant-colonel. The Indians of Salinas Grandes frequently come to the town to barter their home-made ponchos and the skins of animals and ostrich feathers.

The history of Bahia Blanca is quite modern. In 1828 the fort was founded by Colonel Martiniano Rodriguez, who had already founded Tandil. The garrison suffered greatly from privation, sickness, and the Indians, till 1833, when Rosas came into power. The fort was soon changed into a town, a regular service of post-horses was established in all directions, the camps were speedily covered with cattle, and all the arable lands up to the Sauce Grande laid under grain. The fall of Rosas in 1852 was attended with a terrible change; the Indians everywhere spread desolation; they burned the ranchos, killed

the settlers, and carried off the cattle. It was only in 1863 that the first efforts were made to re-people the estancias around the town. The Naposta valley was the first place settled on, as it was suitable for sheep, and these offer little temptation to the Indians. Instead of ranchos the settlers built substantial brick houses with flat roof and a parapet all round, a ladder from within giving access thereto in case of danger.

The first sheep-farmers were Sigñor Caronti, a native of Como; Messrs. Heusser and Claraz, from Switzerland, who settled in 1864 in the Naposta valley, 4 miles from the town. In 1865 came Mr. Arnold, a North American, also in the Naposta. The present English settlers are Fred. E. Cobbold, John C. Sinclair, James Donner, M. J. Cobbold, Thomas W. Smith, C. S. Broadbend, C. Shuttle, William Lane, J. Hutchinson, Thomas G. Nicholson, G. Shuttle, John G. Walker, Enrique P. Cheeke, George E. Catley, Henry John Edwards, Arthur Mildred, Thomas E. Wood, John Mildred, H. Linwood, Percy Dobson, Brian Smith, H. A. Brackenbury, E. R. Hutchinson, J. E. Fawcas, Joseph Rushton, A. W. Parker, Philip H. Holmes, A. McLachlan. There are at present over 200,000 sheep in the district. The climate being dry the wools are light and not very greasy, but the increase of the flocks is something extraordinary.

There is at Bahia Blanca an unpretending inn, but Englishmen usually put up at the house of Mr. George Little, a North American, who has one of the best shops in the place. The Comandante, Colonel José Llano, is also very kind to strangers, as well as the Justice of Peace, Don Mariano Mendez, and Captain Coronti. The principal wholesale houses are those of Francisco Bozano, Mariano Mendez, Galvan and Co., Julian Calvente, Miranda, and B. Costa. Parties wanting wagons may apply to Santiago Bonfiglio or Manuel Echagues, the first a Lombard, the second a Basque: both are worthy of all confidence, and their charges are reasonable. There are no livery stables in the place, but if the stranger wish to make an

excursion he must look up Hypolito Bramajo, Cayetano Arze, or J. Bustos, who have always fine relays of horses at a reasonable charge: these men are experienced guides and most trustworthy. If the visitor wish to push his excursions some distance into the Indian country he will do well to hire an Indian guide, and the most trustworthy are Pedro Lucero and José Andres Milipil; the latter is brother-in-law to the Cacique Ancalao. These men also serve as guides in making the journey overland to Patagones, a distance of over 40 leagues. The traveller must be careful in hiring any other guide than the above named, unless well recommended by Mr. Little, Señor Coronti, or the Justice of Peace.

Bahia Blanca is only 115 leagues overland from Buenos Ayres, but the distance by sea is double. The land journey is tedious and difficult: there is a regular mail-coach service. The sea voyage varies according to the weather, and may be reckoned at five days.

The state-schools are attended by 54 boys and 42 girls. The port returns show 21 vessels, with 1665 tons burden.

*Patagones*, situate 160 leagues from Buenos Ayres, comprehends the tail-end of the South American continent, from the Rio Negro to the Straits of Magellan, between the 41st and 53rd degrees of south latitude, and 65 and 72 west longitude, the eastern boundary being the Atlantic, and the western a snowy range of mountains called Cordillera de Nieve, a prolongation of the Andes chain. This vast territory is about six times the extent of England: it is as yet for the most part unexplored.

The first impressions of the Rio Negro, as the traveller proceeds up the river towards the port of El Carmen, are highly agreeable: the bluffs on the north side are about 150 feet high, and the valley is about 2 leagues wide, the river winding its way picturesquely between the cuchillas of sandstone. Ascending the cuchilla we come upon a vast plain, in some places sandy, in others of argillaceous soil, and again

covered with small pebbles called "piedras chinas." The vegetation is mostly of "pastos fuertes" intermingled with "alfilerillo," and here and there a number of thorny shrubs, such as "chañar," "piquillin," "algarroba," "mata-perro," "uña de gato," "maqui de incienso": this last gives a resin which when burnt yields an odour like incense. These shrubs seldom grow higher than a man on horseback, although the "chañar" trees often give good spade and axe handles. The brushwood is no obstacle to horses or cows, but it tears the wool off sheep.

The soil in the valley is of rich alluvial deposits, sometimes a little salty, and is fertilized by the river, which has two annual floods, one in summer from the melting of the snows of the Andes, the second and greater one in winter from the rains in the same mountain ranges. Rain is rare, and the climate may be called dry.

It is a pity somebody does not project a joint-stock company for farming the beautiful island of Choelechoel, six days by steamer from Patagones, up the Rio Negro. Last April the National Government sent a steamer to explore, which ascended 390 miles, or 30 miles higher than any previous expedition, and the party reported this island to be 60 miles long, with an average width of 7 miles, the soil exceedingly rich, the woods in clumps on all sides, affording shelter to abundance of deer and ostriches. With a steamer of 4 feet draught for the Rio Negro, a settlement at Choelechoel of twenty well-armed Englishmen would have little to fear from Indians.

There is no part of the province where trees thrive so well as here, and the traveller is struck by the rows of poplars and fruit trees on all sides, especially in the islands of the river. The vine does remarkably well, and the Chocoli wine would be much better if more care were taken with this industry. The rivers and lagoons are lined with indigenous willows, called "Sauce colorado": the wood-cutters make "balsas" of this timber, which they sell at El Carmen, as it is very useful for

corral posts, building, &c. The river in winding through the valley forms a number of "rincones" of amazing fertility, which are easily fenced in for grazing and agricultural purposes.

Of all the settlements attempted by the old Spaniards on the shores of Patagonia, that of the Rio Negro or Patagones is the only one now existing. In 1833, when Rosas made his grand expedition to the desert, he gave a great impulse to Patagones; he distributed cattle and agricultural implements among the poor inhabitants, garrisoned the island of Choelechoel, and founded a new town called Guardia Constitucion. The place being thus protected, cattle multiplied amazingly, and the salt deposits were soon in full work. Salina del Ingles is situated near the coast, Salina de Piedra 8 leagues N. of the town, and Salina de Espuma 5 leagues W.N.W. of the town, about half a league from the river. At the same time the saladeros were in full play, wheat was sown on a large scale, and everything promised well. The fall of Rosas brought a vast change: the Indians devastated the whole country, and the Cacique Yanquetruz boasted that he would reduce the wretched inhabitants "to live on hares' flesh." He kept his word to the letter, for the poor people had actually to subsist for a time on hares. The present Comandante, Don Julian Murga, made peace with the Indians, built a fort called Guardia Mitre, about 15 leagues above Patagones, brought a stock of 60,000 sheep into the valleys, and encouraged settlers. The "salinas" of La Piedra and La Espuma are now in full work; and the wheat crop is even larger than at Bahia Blanca. Maize, zapallos, melons, potatoes, &c., do remarkably well. Sheep thrive notably. There is a group of seventeen Italian families on the south bank, opposite China Muerta: they make excellent hams and cheese.

There are but four English families, viz. Rev. Dr. Humble, wife and children; Mr. John Holmes (war steamer 'Rio Negro') and wife; W. Humphreys, Welsh carpenter, wife and four children, and a Welsh boatman, named Solomon, with his wife and son.



The shop of Mr. Bang, a German, is the Foreign Club of the place, and Mr. Bang keeps two vessels trading direct here from Hamburg, making two trips every year, which enables him to sell goods as cheap as in Buenos Ayres.

Another English resort is the inn of mine host Bartolo Bartolero, a worthy Italian, at whose house all new comers should put up. The charge is \$35 m/c per day, including English spoken, and capital accommodation.

Colonel Bernal, the Comandante, is most friendly to Englishmen, and Mr. Atkins will also give them any assistance in his power. The fare from Buenos Ayres by sailing vessel is \$500; by steamer \$800 m/c first-class, the latter making the trip in four days. The mail-coach from Las Flores, on the Southern Railway, takes the same time.

There are in Patagones two kinds of sheep; the pampas are large, robust, and long-wooled: they were brought hither by the Indians from Chile, and have some affinity to goats. The meat is very savoury. The ewes have often twin-lambs, which they rear without any difficulty. This race would answer well for crossing with smooth-wooled sheep, and Messrs. Kincaid are going to cross them with English breeds. The second kind of sheep in Patagones is the ordinary mestiza breed.

The best guide is Cochengo Piedra-Buena, but we can also recommend Ureño and Agustin Sosa. Wagons are difficult to obtain, unless at exorbitant rates: for the south side apply to Solano Alderete, San Javier, or the Italians in front of China-Muerta; most of the latter reside in the town. The Rio Negro divides Patagones into two distinct towns: the commercial and old town is on the north side, comprising the wholesale houses of Aguirre and Murga, Abate, Dasso, Mascarelo, &c. On the south side lived Mr. Sheiler, of the Falkland Islands, whose beautiful quinta now belongs to the English Missionary station, where Rev. Mr. Humble, M.D., has a chapel, school, and dispensary. Freight to Buenos Ayres is usually \$6 fts. per ton. State-school attended by 90 children.

The town of Carmen is so healthy that no doctor could get a living.

A recent visitor recommends Patagones to new immigrants in these words:—"Not only is land offered free to settlers without capital, but Messrs. Aguirre and Murga make all advances for twelve months of provisions, implements, &c., the only drawbacks being a scarcity of hands and the occasional risk of locusts."

The principal estancias are along the banks of the Negro, those on the north being English, on the south side native, situated at bends of the river, or "rincones," up to nearly 30 leagues from the town of Carmen. The river varies from 40 to 200 yards in width, the current running about 5 miles an hour. It is navigable for steamers drawing 4 feet, all the year, as high as Choelechoel, six days' journey up stream.

The farthest settlers are the four Welsh families who came hither five years since from Chupat. These families make butter and cheese, which they send by Kincaid's spring cart to Patagones, where the retail price of butter is \$12 m/c, or 2s. per lb.

The fine estancia of Balcleuther belongs to Messrs. Kincaid, the first English settlers on the Rio Negro, who came hither in 1866 with sheep from Azul, and may be considered the founders of this thriving little Colony. The estancia house is azotea, brick built, like an English farm-house, with all the appointments of farm-sheds, Howard's machinery, corrals made of willow and poplar, and some 7000 sheep. Farm-lots on the estancia, which is 2 square leagues or 13,000 acres in extent, are held by Captain McGregor (late 93rd Highlanders), the brothers Buckland, Mr. Adamson, and a Welsh family named Wilson, whose wheat crops this year will make up an aggregate of 600 fanegas. Some of these tenants are only three years established here.

Messrs. Kincaid's house is about 18 leagues from the town, at a bend of the river, and on the opposite or south bank they have

a Pulperia, or camp store for Indian trade : this is in charge of the Cacique Hernandez, who has an Indian family around him and keeps two boats for crossing over to the estancia, the river being here about 200 yards wide. The Indians come at intervals during nine months of the year, to barter their skins, the other three months being their hunting season. The land traffic is at present done by carts, which charge \$600 (5*l.* sterling) each trip, say 20 leagues. Even at this price it will be difficult this year to obtain carts and peons to bring the wheat to market, as the English have the heaviest crop yet known, fully 4000 bushels. Farm-labourers can always earn \$400 per month, besides board, but they are so scarce that many settlers are glad to do with tame Indians or gauchos, and on some farms one-fourth of the crop has been lost for want of hands.

The estancia of Messrs. Frazer, Greenstreet, and Greenfell is 3 leagues nearer town than that of Kincaid. Mr. Frazer is an Irish gentleman, who served as a lieutenant in the British army, and settled here shortly after Kincaid. The estancia San Andres, as it is called, covers 2 square leagues, and is stocked with 8000 sheep, besides having a wheat-farm that yields some 1500 bushels. It is little over four hours' ride from town, and 2 leagues inside the fort of Captain Moreno, who has a garrison of 40 men. Messrs. Frazer and Co. keep about a dozen men always employed, and have a fine azotea house, with a boat for crossing the river, which is here 200 yards wide.

On the south bank of the Rio Negro, about 9 leagues from town, is the estancia of two Caciques named Miguel and Manuel Linares, the former a colonel in the Argentine service, who has 100 Indians at his call to repel any inroad of marauders: this place is called San Gabriel, and the men raise much wheat. They are nominally Christians, and have their children baptized.

Aguirre and Murga, whose pasture and tillage farms are scattered over 40 leagues, have twenty English threshing-machines. They own also the steamer which plies to Buenos

Ayres, have the concession for working the Salinas and constructing a railway thither, and their saladero loads three or four ships every month. Mr. Hume and the other engineers began the surveys last November for the line to Salinas.

This railway will traverse 40 miles of level camp, on the north side of the river, almost uninhabited, as far as the Salinas.

The export of salt from Patagones varies from 100 to 500 tons monthly, chiefly for Buenos Ayres and Rio Grande. A bag of 150 lbs. salt costs in Patagones \$4 m/c, or 8*d.* English.

Don Domingo Oro's mill, a league nearer than Salina Chica, is unable to grind enough flour for local wants. Most of the wheat is bought by Aguirre and others, who ship it to Buenos Ayres.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## SANTA FÉ.

SANTA FÉ was first colonized by Cabot, who founded a little settlement in 1527, under the name of Sancti-Spiritus, on an island at the mouth of the Corondá river. The territory of the province extends from 29 to  $33\frac{1}{2}$  degrees S. lat., having an area of 36,500 square miles. The boundaries are—

North, the Arroyo del Rey, which flows through the Gran Chaco, and debouches into the Paraná, in front of Goya.

South, the so Arroyo del Medio, which separates the province from Buenos Ayres.

East, the river Paraná.

West, the Rio Salado on the side of Santiago del Estero, the Quebracho valley and Tortugas stream on the side of Cordoba.

When the navigator Cabot ascended the river to Paraguay the fort of Sancti-Spiritus soon fell into the hands of the Timbù and Quiloaza Indians, descendants of the Guaranis; but some years later, Garay made a second settlement, some of his men intermarrying with the Indians. In this manner the city of S<sup>ta</sup> Fé was founded in 1573.

The province comprises four departments:

	Sq. Miles.	Public Lands.	Priv. Prop.
Santa Fé .. ..	22,000	12,600	9,400
San José .. ..	2,100	..	2,100
San Gerouimo ..	5,000	40	4,860
Rosario .. ..	7,400	1,100	6,300

The first is almost entirely in the Chaco, on which side the frontier is every day advancing with new settlements. Until very recently the northern line of limits was supposed to start from San Javier, the Californian colony in front of La Paz, on

the Paraná, and run almost due west by the following forts:—Palo-labrado, Cayasta-vieja, Mortero, Chañar, Cerrito, Biscachera, Nanducito, Canibara, and Monigotes; crossing the old Sunchales route from S<sup>ta</sup> Fé to Santiago, about 7 leagues N. of the colony of Sunchales, which latter was 18 leagues from S<sup>ta</sup> Fé city.

Inside the frontier the camps for the most part are low and flat; those stretching from the Carcarañá to the north are in many places swampy. At present the land mostly settled on are those from the Pavon to the Carcarañá, and thereabouts it is difficult to obtain estancias, but a little farther out estancia lands, well watered, and even in some places with wood, can be purchased at from 500*l.* to 750*l.* sterling per square league, say two shillings an acre. Not far from Rosario lands bought in 1867 for \$2000 are now fetching from \$40,000 to \$50,000 per square league. Yet the public lands still held by Government cover 15,000 square miles.

The land laws of S<sup>ta</sup> Fé are very liberal, the Government using every exertion to invite foreign settlers. By a law passed in 1866 all the territory north of the Salado and west of the Paraná, as far inland as the Saladillo Grande, is set apart for immigration purposes. Suertes of estancia, 4500 acres in extent, will be sold for the trifling sum of 40*l.*; if the settler be an agriculturist he will receive a grant of 83 acres in fee. Another law gives a suerte gratis to any settler who will put \$1000 worth of cattle on the ground, make a well, and build a rancho and wooden fort. On the Arroyo San Antonio (12 leagues N. of Esperanza) if twenty families club together to settle there they will receive a free grant, each, of 1600 acres. All the above are in the Gran Chaco. The tariff prices of public lands in the province of S<sup>ta</sup> Fé proper is as follows, per square league:

	\$
Department of Rosario, within 8 leagues of the Paraná ..	3000
Department of Rosario bordering on the Carcarañá, Pavon, or Arroyo Medio .. .. .	2000
Department of Rosario, in any other part .. .. .	1500

Department of Corondá, within 8 leagues of the Corondá	\$
and 4 leagues of the Carcarañá .. .. .	2000
Department of Corondá, in any other part .. .. .	1500
S <sup>ta</sup> Fé and San José, within 8 leagues of S <sup>ta</sup> Fé, on either	
side of Salado .. .. .	1200
S <sup>ta</sup> Fé and San José, in any other part .. .. .	800

The usual mode of payment is, one-third cash, one-third at six months, and one-third at twelve months.

Attempts are being made to restore the old settlement of El Rey, opposite the port of Goya on the Paraná, which was a Jesuit mission in the last century, surrounded with fertile lands that produce cotton, tobacco, &c. The territory westward of El Rey for 300 miles, in the direction of Santiago del Estero, is mostly thick forest, interspersed with swamps, and in many places open prairies. The chief watercourses are the Salado and Saladillo; on the banks of the former, above Esquino Grande, are the ruined missions of San Pedro and Espin; 70 leagues W. of the last-named place is Lake Porongos, where the provinces of Cordoba and Santiago meet.

The province of Santa Fé was until recently the poorest and most thinly populated in the Republic, but has sprung into great importance from its flourishing Swiss colonies and numerous English settlers, at the same time that the rising commerce of Rosario and the Central Argentine Railway have tended still further to develop the resources of this part of the country. An idea of the importance of agricultural interests may be formed from the fact that Santa Fé with her thirty colonies has 433,680 acres under tillage, cultivated by 12,000 able-bodied Europeans, and producing 825,000 bushels of wheat, without counting maize, vegetables, &c. These colonies are increasing at the rate of 2000 new settlers yearly, who pay from \$5 to \$30 per cuadra, say five to thirty shillings per acre. Farming lands for pasture are of course much cheaper; 200*l.* per square league near the frontier to ten or twenty times that figure in more favoured districts.

The following list of estancias, in the various districts, is

prepared from an official map just published (1873) by Mr. Chapeaurouge, of the province of S<sup>ta</sup> Fé; it will be seen that Mr. Armstrong of Buenos Ayres is one of the largest proprietors.

*Arroyo del Medio.*—The limit between Buenos Ayres and Santa Fé is the Arroyo del Medio, after crossing which we meet the Palacios and Armstrong estancias, the former near the battle-field of Pavon, the latter extending from Fort Melincue eastward, the fort being at the point where the three provinces of Buenos Ayres, Cordoba, and Santa Fé meet. The principal property holders in this part of the province are :

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Armstrong .. ..	30	Paz .. ..	6
Zubelzu .. ..	25	Palacios .. ..	3
Urquiza .. ..	22	Chavarri .. ..	9
Clark .. ..	10		

*Below the Saladillo.*—Before reaching the Saladillo we meet another large estancia of Armstrong's. The extent of the chief properties is as follows :

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Sotomayor .. ..	30	Pereyra Frias .. ..	12
Santa Cruz .. ..	25	Armstrong .. ..	20
Saa-Pereyra .. ..	15	Cullen .. ..	5
Valdez Casco .. ..	10		

*Above the Saladillo.*—The various estancias between the Saladillo and the Carcarañá are as follows :

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Urquiza .. ..	10	London Bank .. ..	3
Castellanos .. ..	5	Colman .. ..	2
Leguizamon .. ..	4	Vidal .. ..	1
Sotomayor .. ..	4	Correa .. ..	4
Casado .. ..	4	Blyth .. ..	1

*Carcarañá and Cañada Gomez.*—The district north of Carcarañá is bisected by the Central Argentine Railway, adja-



cent to which are colonies of Bernstadt, Cañada Gomez, &c. The best land is said to be in Cañada Gomez, where Mr. Paul Krell has also a magnificent model-farm with steam-ploughs and all improvements. The estancias north of Carcarañá are as follow :

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Armstrong .. ..	16	Casado .. ..	6
Otero .. ..	16	Peralta .. ..	4
Areosa .. ..	12	Bayo .. ..	
Frias .. ..	7	Medina .. ..	3
Oliva .. ..	5	Videla Luna .. ..	6
Correa .. ..	7	Hue .. ..	3

*San Lorenzo.*—Near San Lorenzo we find half-a-dozen estancias, the most remarkable being that of the Jesus Maria colony, belonging to Mr. Cullen, well situated on the banks of the Paraná :

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Zubelzu .. .	6	Palacios .. ..	3
Cullen .. ..	4	Irigoyen .. ..	2
Andino .. ..	5	Latorre .. ..	1½

*San Geronimo.*—San Geronimo is a large district with 50 estancias, of which nearly one-half belongs to English settlers.

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Lafone .. ..	32	Frutos .. ..	5
Zubelzu .. ..	12	Peyton .. ..	1
Gowland .. ..	10	Parfait .. ..	4
Chavarri .. ..	10	Ledesma .. ..	6
Verdat .. ..	12	Scharff .. ..	4
Vernet and Wilken	10	Monroe .. ..	2
Soares and Pax ..	15	Cookson .. ..	2
Brant .. ..	8	Congreve .. ..	2
Talbot .. ..	7	Aldao .. ..	6
Winthrop .. ..	5	L. Fernandez .. ..	6
Bollaert .. ..	4	Trail .. ..	2
Thomas .. ..	4	Devoto .. ..	4
Colman .. ..	2	Simpson .. ..	4
Arzac .. ..	4		

*Corondá.*—This district comprises :

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Newton .. ..	20	Madariaga .. ..	6
Armstrong .. ..	8	Cullen .. ..	4
Freyre .. ..	8	Irigoyen .. ..	4
Bergara .. ..	8	Oroño .. ..	3
Torres .. ..	6	Fraga .. ..	6

*Santa Fé.*—The department of the capital is chiefly remarkable for the agricultural colonies of Franco-Swiss and German settlers. There are also 40 estancias, the largest being—

	Sq. Leagues.		Sq. Leagues.
Aldao .. ..	20	McDonald .. ..	2
Saavedra .. ..	18	Brant .. ..	2
Zubelzu .. ..	18	Peterson .. ..	2
Navarro .. ..	10	Lubary .. ..	2
Saa-Pereyra .. ..	10	Lopez .. ..	7
Rodriguez .. ..	12	Benitez .. ..	4
Cabal .. ..	10	Nouguier .. ..	4
Beck Herzog .. ..	8	Coqueteaux .. ..	4
Marin Salas .. ..	8	Casado .. ..	7
Palacios .. ..	8	Oroño .. ..	3
Foster .. ..	3		

This takes us up to the limits of the Gran Chaco.

Santa Fé took the following prizes at the Cordoba Exhibition 1872:

- W. Wheelwright, furniture, &c. : two gold medals.
- W. Perkins, Rosario: grand gold medal.
- Provincial Committee, skins, honey, &c. : one gold, and one bronze medal.
- L. Gazzo, macaroni: gold medal.
- Devoto and Scala, cabinet-work: silver medal.
- G. Caccia, seal-engraving: silver medal.
- J. Caballero, maps: silver medal.
- San Carlos Colony, flour: two silver medals.
- J. Berney, tanned hides: bronze medal.
- J. Jardel, tiles: bronze medal.
- Mme. Videla, lacework: bronze medal.
- H. Ross, machinery: two bronze medals.

The medal to Mr. Perkins was for his labours in promoting agricultural colonies.

In 1873 a railway was conceded to Mr. Henry Zimmermann, 46 miles, to connect the Swiss colonies with the port of Santa Fé, but the death of the concessionnaire stopped the works, which had been begun by Messrs. Waring Brothers of London. Another concession, for a railway from Rosario to the said colonies and then across the Gran Chaco to Santiago del Estero, has also been granted, but not yet commenced.

The province of Santa Fé raised a loan for 300,000*l.* in London, early in 1874, to establish a Provincial Bank.

The province is well watered, by the rivers Salado and Carcarañá and a number of Arroyos. The Rio Salado rises in the snow-clad range of Acay in the Cordilleras, flows through the province of Salta, under the name of Juramento or Pasaje, and after receiving numerous affluents from the Sierra Lumbreiras passes the ruined town of Esteco and the sites of the old Jesuit missions of Miraflores, Ortega, Balbuena, Pitos, and Macapilla, where some estancieros have now established themselves; after traversing salt plains near Miraflores the water becomes so brackish that the river takes its name of Salado. In many places the river bed at some seasons remains almost dry, the current being lost in swamps, and in the 29th degree of latitude at the Boquerones there are channels supposed to communicate with El Rey, but this part of the Chaco is unexplored, being held by untamed Indians. At certain seasons also the overflowing of Lake Viboras and the Arroyo Palmares forms a connection between the Salado and Rey, the latter of which falls into the Paraná in front of Goya. The mouth of the Salado is close to Santa Fé city, and the bluff on which the latter stands is being gradually eaten away by the current. Attempts have been made to render the Salado navigable, in which the late Estevan Rams Rupert vainly spent enormous sums of money: large concessions of land have been offered by Government, with the hope of opening up the trade of Rioja, Catamarca, Salta, Tucuman, and Santiago, but the difficulties seem insuperable. In 1862 an

expedition was made along the Salado by land, in which Mr. Consul Hutchinson, Mr. Coghlan, and others took part, the whole company suffering much from want of water. It is remarkable that most of the lagoons and arroyos which have their origin in the Chaco are salty or brackish, the banks being covered with a white salt of bitter flavour. The principal lagoons are Viboras, Cristal, and Setubal, the last named pressing close on S<sup>ta</sup> Fé city. The Arroyos Malabrigo, Colastine, San Javier, and Rey fall into the Paraná.

The Carcarañá or Tercero rises in the mountains of Cordoba, passes the town of Villa Nueva, and after traversing the camps of Santa Fé falls into the Paraná above Rosario. It is highest in summer from the melting of snows in the sierras, and is at all times navigable as high as Saladillo (province of Cordoba), where it receives a tributary of that name which gives a brackish taste to its waters. Flat-bottomed boats of 2 feet draught can ascend to Frayle Muerto and even Villa Nueva; but the navigation of this river would be much improved by canalizing a bad pass some 40 miles from the mouth. The Arroyo Tortugas, boundary between this province and Cordoba, falls into the Carcarañá near Cruz Alta. Among the minor streams are the Cululú, which falls into the Salado not far from Esperanza colony; the San Lorenzo, with a village of the same name at its confluence with the Paraná; the Saladillo, which turns two flour-mills about a league south of Rosario and then desembogues in the Paraná; the Pavon and Medio, which fall into the same river, the first remarkable for the battle-field of September, 1861, the second forming the boundary with Buenos Ayres.

Santa Fé has no mountains, but on the borders of Santiago del Estero there is a range of hills called Los Altos, separating the waters of Lake Porongos from the Salado. The river-bank of the Paraná is about 70 feet high all the way from Rosario down to the Arroyo Medio. There are splendid forests in the Chaco, suitable for ship-building or cabinet work, and in the

branches of the trees is a kind of spider which produces excellent silk; wild honey is also found in large quantities among the thickets of the Paraná: the islands are chiefly useful for firewood, in which a great traffic is carried on, besides charcoal, most of the wood-cutters and charcoal-burners being Italians. These islands are sometimes the refuge of deserters from the army or fugitives from justice; and at intervals tigers are seen that have come down from Corrientes or the Chaco on the floating islands, called Camelotes, which the stream forms of trees, rushes, &c.

Before the Spanish conquest the inhabitants consisted of three Guarani tribes of Indians, viz. Timbú, Quiloaza, and Chana. In the time of the Jesuits there were some flourishing Missions, which fell away on the banishment of the Fathers (1765) so rapidly that in 1797 the five Missions of Inispin, Cayastá, San Pedro, San Javier, and San Geronimo counted only 3130 reduced Indians; near the ruins of San Javier, which was the largest, are now settled a dozen Californian families, who have raised some thriving farms, in spite of annoyance from Indians and other drawbacks. At the close of the last century the province may be said to have consisted of three districts, the population of which was put down by Azara as follows: Santa Fé 4000; Rosario 3500; Coronda 2000; total 9500. In 1825 it had risen to 15,000, but the long and wasteful civil wars of thirty years prevented much increase: in 1857 General Urquiza made a census of the Republic, and found this province to contain 41,261 inhabitants, of whom 4304 were foreigners. Judging the population by the parochial registers it would appear that between the years 1839-49 there was a decline of 14 per cent., but during the last twenty years there has been a steady increase of 10 or 12 per cent. annually. There are 81 schools attended by 4208 children, and according to Post Office returns this province represents 14 per cent. of the intellect and commerce of the Republic, or as much as 10 per cent. of the other provinces.

The census of 1869 gives the following returns:—

Department of Santa Fé .. .. .	21,392
„ San Geronimo .. .. .	11,448
„ San José .. . . .	6,785
„ Rosario .. .. .	49,492
	<hr/>
Total .. .. .	89,117
	<hr/>

This number includes 13,939 foreigners, of whom one-third are Italians, one-third Swiss or Germans: among the remainder are 766 English.

The first department includes the capital of the province, most of the Swiss colonies, and that part of the Chaco territory watered by the Salado and its tributaries.

The quaint old city of Santa Fé, 32 leagues above Rosario, is situated at the confluence of the Salado and Paraná: although now in ruins, it is venerable from its old associations,—ecclesiastical and historical. The original city of Santa Fé de la Vera Cruz was founded in 1573 by Don Juan de Garay. The old Jesuit chapel in the Plaza here was erected in A.D. 1654. Connected with it is one of the best arranged and most numerously attended of the Jesuit colleges in the Argentine Confederation. In the Plaza we find likewise the Matriz church. The other chapels here are those of San Francisco and Santo Domingo. On the side of the Plaza, opposite the Matriz, is the Cabildo or government house.

A Convention of all the provinces was held here in 1852, and again in 1859.

The census gives this city a population of 10,670, including 1192 foreigners, of whom 18 are English, the Italians, French, and Spaniards predominating.

The port of Santa Fé, which is the outlet of the colonies, shows that the value of exported produce in 1871 was \$830,821, the tonnage representing an aggregate of 39,698 tons; and the Customs receipts \$91,788, or 50 per cent. over the year 1870.

The revenue of the province is put down at \$325,000, or

nearly three times what it was in 1863 (\$116,000). One-half is derived from property-tax and patentees or licences, the rest from stamps, matadero tax, &c.

The total valuation of the province is as follows:—

Twenty million acres at \$1½	.. ..	\$	25 millions.
Town property	.. ..	12½	„
Cattle	.. ..	4	„
Various	.. ..	4½	„
		<hr/>	
		46	

*San Geronimo.*—The department of San Geronimo may be reached from Santa Fé, coming southwards by a road crossing the Salado over a wooden bridge erected by Messrs. Forster and Co. in 1856. At 8 leagues from the capital we meet the village of Coronda, which, in olden times, produced cotton of a superior quality. This village has 1245 inhabitants, including 200 foreigners, mostly Italians, only two English. About 10 leagues farther south, at the mouth of the Colastiné river, are the ruins of Fort Sancti-Spiritus, just where the Carcarañá empties its waters into the Paraná.

*San José.*—Northward from Santa Fé lies the department of San José, along the swampy margin of the Paraná, as high as El Rey, 70 leagues N. of the capital, and extending inland to the Saladillo Amargo, in the heart of the Gran Chaco. This department includes the colonies of Calchines, Cayastá, Helvetia, California, Alexandra, and many others; besides the settlement of Mbocovy Indians at San Javier, which was founded by Colonel Beron in 1856, and now numbers a thousand red-skin inhabitants, dealers in skins, wax, and honey with the opposite townfolk of La Paz, in Entre Rios, for whom also they cut timber in the Chaco.

*Rosario.*—The department of Rosario, surpassing all the rest of the province in population and importance, occupies the southern part, from the Carcarañá to the frontier of Buenos

Ayres, and comprises the city of Rosario and towns of San Lorenzo and Las Piedras.

*San Lorenzo*, on the bank of the Paraná, about 7 leagues above Rosario, is a village of 1367 inhabitants, including 190 foreigners, mostly Italians, and not a single Englishman : it is chiefly remarkable for its ancient convent and a brisk trade in water-melons, of which it exports one and a half million yearly. The traveller should not fail to visit the old convent of San Carlos, built by the king of Spain in 1791 ; it is so large that General Mansilla on one occasion quartered 4000 men within its walls. Close by is a monument erected by General San Martin to his servant Cabral, who saved the General's life at the cost of his own. There are at present some 20 Franciscan friars, mostly Italians.

*Los Piedras*, otherwise called Villa Constitucion, which has often been proposed for the seat of the Federal Government, is a village on the Paraná bank, near the boundary line of Buenos Ayres ; it has a population of 610 souls, including 37 foreigners, mostly Italians and Spaniards, but not a single Englishman. A few leagues off is the battle-field of Pavon, where General Mitre, the Governor of Buenos Ayres, beat the army of the Argentine Confederation under General Urquiza (Sept. 17th, 1861) and reconstituted the Republic, overthrowing President Derqui. He removed the Argentine seat of Government from Paraná to Buenos Ayres, and was elected unanimously by all the provinces as first President of the remodelled Republic.

Rosario, the great outlet of the trade of the interior, is a city of 22,437 inhabitants, coming next after Buenos Ayres and Cordoba in population. It is said to derive its origin from some Calchaqui Indians brought hither in 1725 by Don Francisco Godoy, but it continued an obscure village (not mentioned by Sir W. Parish in 1852) till General Urquiza made it the port of the upper provinces in 1854, since when its growth has been rapid. Steamers from Liverpool and other transatlantic ports maintain an active commerce ; vessels drawing 18 feet can



come up to the river-bank and discharge their cargo. The town stands 65 feet above the beach, and is built as usual in chess-board fashion; the gas, paving, &c., giving an European aspect. There are several banks and newspapers; among the former the London and River Plate, Mauà and Co., and the Argentine. The Protestant community have chapel, school, and cemetery for themselves. The mills and saladeros employ both steam and water power. The Hotels de La Paz and Universal are first-class establishments. The church and other public buildings are not remarkable. Consuls reside here for all the European powers. The railway to Buenos Ayres when finished will reduce the distance to ten hours, or half the present time by steamer. The proposal to move the capital hither from Buenos Ayres passed Congress last year, but was vetoed by the President.

The growth of Rosario is on a par with the increase of the province in other respects; the Customs returns show that the amount of duties recovered in the province has doubled in four, and trebled in seven years, viz. :—

	\$
1863 .. .. .	539,852
1867 .. .. .	1,244,450
1870 .. .. .	1,502,529

The port of Rosario stands for \$1,408,575 or 93 per cent. of the trade of the province; the commerce in transit, at Rosario, with the upper provinces, is estimated at \$3,170,438. The total trade of the port represents—

	\$
Imports, 1870 .. .. .	9,814,682
Exports, ,, .. .. .	5,680,841

This shows an increase of 15 per cent. over the trade of 1869.

The tonnage of Rosario, between arrivals and sailings, thus—

	Vessels.	Tons.
1868 .. .. .	1,817	155,525
1869 .. .. .	2,205	233,627
1870 .. .. .	2,651	335,928
1871 .. .. .	2,889	386,817

The countries with which the trade is carried on, in proportion of tonnage, are as follows:—

Coasting traffic .. .. .	62
England .. .. .	8
Paraguay .. .. .	14
Banda Oriental .. .. .	6
United States .. .. .	3
France .. .. .	3
Italy, Germany, and Brazil .. .. .	4
	<hr/>
	100
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Rosario possesses numerous schools besides those directed by the Sisters of Charity and those attached to the English and American chapels. It has also German, Italian, Swiss, French, and Spanish beneficent societies. There is daily communication by steamer with the river-ports of the Republic, and by railway with Cordoba and Rio Cuarto.

The Central Argentine Railway is the greatest work ever completed in the Republic, and a lasting monument of its constructor, the late Mr. William Wheelwright: this distinguished American (friend and townsman of Mr. Peabody) was the first to introduce railways and steam-navigation on the West Coast. In 1853 he obtained a concession from General Urquiza, President of the Republic, for the proposed line, but civil wars intervening, it lay in abeyance till 1862, when Congress gave a new concession, viz. 7 per cent. guarantee for forty years on 6400*l.* per mile as cost of construction; a free grant of a league of land on either side of the line for its entire length (say 1,600,000 acres); the line to be finished in six and a half years. Messrs. Brassey, Wythes, and Wheelwright took up or disposed of most of the shares in London, the capital being 1,600,000*l.* in 20*l.* shares. The Argentine Government took 3500 shares, General Urquiza 1000, and the leading foreign residents of Buenos Ayres about 5000 more. The first sod was turned at Rosario in April, 1863, and in spite of the Paraguayan war and numberless difficulties the line was opened to public traffic all

the way to Cordoba in May, 1870; it gives over 5 per cent. per annum on the capital, after deducting working expenses. The length is 247 miles, trains leaving Rosario at 6 A.M. and reaching Cordoba at 9 P.M., which places the latter city within thirty-six hours of Buenos Ayres. The first-class carriages are fitted up with every comfort requisite on so long a journey, and excellent restaurants are established at Bell-Villé and Villa Maria, where the train halts half-an-hour for refreshments. The country traversed by the Central Argentine is for the most part uninteresting, a level plain of grass, until the algarrobo woods of Cordoba begin, near Frayle Muerto. The line after leaving Rosario passes a number of country-houses, one of the prettiest being that of Captain Thompson. Approaching Roldan, the Swiss colonies of the "Central Argentine" begin; they are managed by Mr. Perkins and count about 3000 settlers, who have great tracts of lands under tillage. The next place worth notice is Cañada Gomez, where Mr. Krell's model-farm shows a vast expenditure of money and labour. Some 10 leagues north of the station is the estancia of Captain Kemmis, at Las Rosas, famous for prize cattle. Tortugas is the boundary between Santa Fé and Cordoba; these camps, before the railway, were Indian hunting-grounds, and we see little or no cattle or habitations till we reach Frayle Muerto, now called Bell-Ville in honour of the first Englishman who settled here some ten years ago; there are now about 100 English settlers. Villa Maria, in the midst of vast woods and swamps, is the junction with the Rio Cuarto line (82 miles in length) for travellers going towards Mendoza. If we keep on the main line for Cordoba we cross the Rio Segundo by a magnificent iron bridge 1300 feet long, in thirty-two spans; this river is generally shallow, and now we begin to have a fine view of the sierras of Cordoba. The city is in a valley and only seen a few minutes before reaching it, but the panorama is exceedingly picturesque.

## CHAPTER IX.

## CORDOBA.

CORDOBA, the heart of the Republic, and one of the most important of the Argentine provinces by reason of its extent, population, and undeveloped resources, is making great progress of late years. The Central Argentine Railway brought it into connection with the seaboard in 1870, and the National Exhibition in the following year caused a renewed activity. Nevertheless the Post Office returns show the province of Santa Fé, with less than half the population of Cordoba, stands for three times as much intellectual activity. This province is bounded on the north by Santiago and Catamarca, on the east by Santa Fé, on the south by the pampas of Buenos Ayres, and on the west by San Luis and Rioja.

The western portion is traversed by a sierra which runs over 200 miles from north to south, with an average width of 20 to 25 miles. These mountains are of granitic formation, and contain veins of gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, marble, chalk, &c. The rest of the province is level and may be described as one-half wood, one-half pampa: the subsoil is argillaceous, the vegetable loam varying from 10 to 20 inches in depth. The climate is temperate, in general excessively dry, partly owing to the distance inland and relative height over the sea, partly to want of rivers or lakes. Drought frequently occurs, but the rainy season usually begins in September, and again in March. The driest time is about mid-winter (June), when fogs are common. Humboldt accounts for this by supposing that the sea vapours dissolve into rain near the coast in winter, and come inland to the mountain heights in summer.

There are four principal rivers—Primero, Segundo, Tercero,

and Cuarto, with numberless arroyos, which are so many torrents in the rainy season, and if the water were collected by means of canals it would serve to irrigate and utilize vast tracts now of no value. The irrigation system at the old Jesuit mission of Santa Catalina in the sierras may serve as a model for the rest of the province.

The *fauna* of Cordoba comprise all the useful animals of Europe imported by the Spaniards, which multiplied exceedingly, but degenerated in kind, being suffered to run wild in the pampas, for the climate is so benignant that they need neither housing nor attention.

Cordoba counts several million goats and sheep: the former will prove highly valuable when crossed with Angoras; as regards sheep they are much neglected. Swine would suit admirably if attended to, as they could be fed in peach plantations, which would give their flesh a fine flavour. Horses are so numerous that droves of mares are exported annually to Peru: the breed, especially in the sierras, is small. Sportsmen would find abundance of game; tigers, wild boars, wild cats, foxes, hares, rabbits, weasels, polecats, wild goats, guanacos, ostriches, deer, lions, ant-eaters, hurones, ampalaguas, aguaraces, corzuelos, &c.

Agriculture is destined to be the great wealth of Cordoba, but hitherto it has been disregarded, notwithstanding the favourable soil and climate; a little maize and wheat are raised, but most of the flour used is brought from San Juan and Mendoza. The yield of maize is prodigious, often three hundredfold, but as the grain is so cheap and bulky as not to be worth exporting it would suit to fatten pigs as they do in North America. Tobacco, linseed, flax, sweet potato, and "mani" thrive amazingly. From linseed and "mani" may be extracted superior oil, the second being equal to best olive. Sweet potato can be used for producing sugar, and the husks fatten swine.

Fruits of every kind thrive in various places: the peach only misses about once in eight years; the apple, pear, fig, cherry,

plum, damson, quince, walnut, yield abundantly, as well as grapes of different classes, and a fruit called "nopal," from which molasses and brandy are made. Figs dried and badly put up are exported to the seaboard.

The forest wealth of Cordoba is considerable, comprising such valuable woods as algarroho, quebracho, moye piquillin, albaricoque, chañar, mistol, tintita coguyacan, and coco. The moye and algarrobo barks are good for tanning.

Among the establishments most calculated to attract the traveller's notice is the great Angora goat-farm of Messrs. Barker and Co., at Las Peñas, 7 leagues from Totoral station, on the Rio Cuarto Railway, and 20 north of the town of Rio Cuarto, within a day's journey of the port of Rosario. Mr. Barker arrived from Cape of Good Hope in 1864, with 360<sup>0</sup> goats of the Angora breed, of which 20 died on the road to Las Peñas. None of the original goats now remain, but there are 800 descendants as pure as the first, besides 2000 of various crosses. The hair is twice as valuable as wool, realizing 21 pence per lb., at Bradford, each fleece averaging 2 lbs. Native goats are bought at a Bolivian dollar each, three shillings; herds are paid six dollars a month. The estancia covers 230,000 acres in a valley 30 miles wide, and comprises ten puestos or stations, besides the estancia house. There are 10,000 acres walled in, and 120 under crops. The Peñas and Leones streams afford permanent water, besides some lagoons that are full only in the rainy season, which is summer. The climate is healthy, generally tempered with breezes, but sometimes up to 100° Fahr. in the shade. Wood and horned cattle abound, and the proprietors offer land and goats on halves to settlers. Messrs. Barker and Kaulen obtained a gold medal and 40*l.* at the Cordoba Exhibition. Not far from Las Peñas is the estancia of Barnett and Winterbotham, where there is capital shooting of big game.

The eastern part of the province is at first a sandy plain, with a few salt lakes; then come pampas, interspersed with clumps of algarrobos; next a zone of hilly ground, thickly

wooded, after which we reach the first sierra, culminating in a sharp ridge, with steep descent on its western side. The sierras run almost due north, under the general name Sierra de Cordoba, but may be said to form five distinct chains consecutively, viz. those of Lutis, San Xavier, Achalas, Punilla, and Ischilin. They vary in character, some being barren and precipitous, others ascending in verdant slopes to the summit; as a rule the lower part of the range is thickly wooded, the upper covered with good pasture. The beautiful valley of Punilla, sometimes called Cosquin, is of great length and about 20 miles wide, watered by the San Francisco and other tributaries of the Rios Primero and Segundo. Beyond this the Grand Sierra separates us from the Pocho valley, and on the western side of this is the last mountain chain on the side of Rioja. These mountains present a most interesting field for the geologist: they were much explored by the late Dr. Gordon during a residence of forty years, but his researches and manuscripts have not been given to the world. The samples of white and variegated marble are equal to Carrara, the minerals are abundant but little worked. In some places we see indications of a volcanic nature. The climate varies according to elevation or locality, from that of Sicily to one resembling northern latitudes. Persons with pulmonary affections find the air of the sierras most salutary, and even European physicians have sent patients hither; but it is difficult to obtain good accommodation in the mountains. The Rio Primero, which waters the city and suburbs of Cordoba, is not navigable, although rapid and dangerous in flood seasons, and after a course of nearly 100 miles it loses itself in the desert, near the salt lakes of Mar-Chiquita. The Segundo runs parallel with the Primero, about 30 miles apart, is wide and shallow till lost near the salt lagoons above mentioned. The Tercero has a course of 300 miles, passing the towns of Villa Nueva and Frayle Muerto, receiving the waters of Rio Cuarto at Saladillo, entering the province of Santa Fé at Cruz Alta, and then taking the name of Carcarañá, till it disem-

bogues in the Paraná above San Lorenzo. The Tercero might be made navigable for small vessels. The Cuarto, after watering the town of Rio Cuarto, runs through the desert till apparently lost in lagoons, then reappears as the Saladillo, and falls into the Tercero. The Quinto is more properly a river of San Luis, although finally lost in the Indian country, south of Cordoba. The salt lakes of Porongos and Mar-Chiquita, in the north-east of the province, receive the Rio Dulce and minor streams, but have no outlet.

The province comprises 21 departments, viz. :—

	Sq. Miles.	Inhabitants.
Cordoba .. .. .	300	34,458
Anejos .. .. .	2,500	12,596
Calamuchita .. .. .	1,800	9,193
San Alberto .. .. .	1,680	10,082
San Xavier .. .. .	1,260	13,041
Pocho .. .. .	1,000	6,168
Minas .. .. .	800	8,109
Punilla .. .. .	1,400	6,823
Cruz del Eje . . . .	2,100	12,252
Rio Primero .. .. .	1,800	14,884
Rio Segundo .. .. .	1,400	11,289
San Justo .. .. .	3,000	5,156
Rio Tercero (Upper) ..	1,920	5,226
Villa Nueva .. .. .	1,800	6,573
Frayle Muerto .. .. .	6,960	5,041
Rio Cuarto .. .. .	24,000	10,995
Rio Seco .. .. .	3,080	4,989
Sobremonte .. .. .	2,400	6,110
Total .. .. .	3,840	6,981
Tulumba .. .. .	2,400	7,085
Ischilin .. .. .	4,200	13,457
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	69,640	210,508

The census of 1869 shows only 1 per cent. foreigners ; including 396 Italians, 262 French, 174 English, 84 Germans, 19 Americans, and 802 others. The population is about three to the square mile, there being a preponderance of women, viz. 478 males to 522 females. One-fifth of the inhabitants can



read, and 10,030 children attend 76 schools. The Post Office returns give Cordoba the fourth place, or 5 per cent. of the intellectual activity of the Republic.

#### CITY OF CORDOBA.

This quaint old cathedral city was founded in 1573, by a Spanish expedition from Peru, under Luis Geronimo de Cabrera, and is thus seven years older than Buenos Ayres. For nearly a century it suffered periodical inundations from the Rio Primero, until in 1671 a "rampla" was built for its protection. The city preserves a mediæval appearance, although much change is observable since the opening of the railway in 1870. It is the only place in the Republic with venerable associations, having been for two centuries the seat of learning and headquarters of the Jesuits. It pertained to the viceroyalty of Peru until 1776, when it was transferred to the dominion of Buenos Ayres. Dean Funes writes flatteringly of the schools of Latin and Philosophy in the University of San Carlos, founded here by Bishop Trejo in 1613, and subsequently approved by Pope Gregory and Philip III. The adjacent college of Monserrat, founded in 1686, was another Jesuit institution, and after the expulsion of the Fathers, in 1764, by Governor Campero, the splendour of these establishments passed away. At the time of the expulsion the Jesuits are said to have numbered 135 Fathers, and possessed 370 slaves, besides valuable farms at Alta Gracia and other parts in the sierras. Most of the men of note, from the tyrant Francia down to the senators of the present day, have studied in Cordoba, even in its period of eclipse, but President Sarmiento has infused new life into the University by bringing out some eminent German professors to teach applied sciences and modern languages. Monserrat is now the National College, a branch of the University. From the azotea is obtained a fine view of the sierras. The cathedral is a Moorish structure in the Plaza, on the same side as the Cabildo, which is also of antique style. The new church of

Santo Domingo is in the boulevard of Calle Ancha, attached to an old Dominican convent, where there are a dozen friars, including Father Burke, the only English priest in this part of the Republic. There are ten other churches or chapels, mostly attached to convents or charitable institutions. The Carmelite orphanage, founded by Bishop San Alberto in 1780, is attended by Carmelite nuns and kept in good order, the children making beautiful work in embroidery. The orange trees in some of these convents are of wonderful size and production. The traveller should not omit to visit the library attached to the University, where some books in Quichua, Guarani, and other Indian languages, printed by the Jesuits, are still preserved, although a large portion of the works has been stolen from time to time, and the late Dr. Gordon rescued some valuable ones from the chandlers and grocers of the city.

The old people relate that there are numerous subterranean passages which cannot be explored, owing to the mephitic vapours. The architecture of the old buildings is exceedingly massive, especially the Jesuit college and church; the latter was closed for a century, but the ceiling of carved wood is beautiful as ever. The glory of Cordoba is its Alameda, called after the Viceroy Sobremonte, who laid it out. An artificial lake of 4 acres, which is used as a city reservoir, is surrounded by trees, under whose shade the Cordobeses loiter on summer evenings or by moonlight, when this place has peculiar charms. The water-supply is drawn from here by means of "acequias" or small canals, which flow through the middle of each street. The cholera of 1868 was dreadful in its ravages, as was believed, owing to the fact that the Municipality had made a new cemetery above the town, just where the water is drawn from the Rio Primero: this is now partly remedied. The city is subject to most intense heat in summer, when most of the families retire to the sierras. Physicians complain that heart-disease is very prevalent, which they ascribe in some manner to the numerous revolutions, and also to the want of vegetable diet

and the inactive habits of the people. A foreigner who resided here many years thus describes the Cordobeses: "The character of the people is different from that of any other part of the Republic. They are more primitive in their customs, more difficult of access, but their acquaintance once formed they are generous and obliging. The better class of families are as intelligent, liberal people as anyone would wish to be acquainted with; but the lower class, which is far too much in the majority, is very ignorant and superstitious."

The National Observatory, under the direction of the distinguished Professor Gould, from Massachusetts, is on the heights overlooking the park, where the Exhibition of 1871 was held; the Observatory was established three years ago, and Mr. Gould is at present making a map of the Argentine heavens, for which the clear atmosphere of this city offers special facilities; he reports 7200 stars visible to the naked eye, against 6000 in the northern hemisphere. The Uranometria Argentina will soon be completed: it will comprise 1700 maps, of 50 stars each, say 85,000 stars, one-third being hitherto unknown to the astronomical world.

The census of 1869 gave the city a population of 28,523, which entitles it to rank next after Buenos Ayres: there were 4 women to 3 men, and education seemed pretty general, 13,456 persons being able to read, and 3344 children attending school. There were 626 foreigners, including 159 French, 124 Italians, and 28 English. There is daily communication with Rosario by railway, and the first section of the line to Tucuman was opened to Jesus-Maria (30 miles) in March, 1874. Travellers going to Mendoza can proceed to Villa Maria by train, and there take the branch line to Rio Cuarto, which is being prolonged towards San Luis. A number of pleasant excursions can be made on horseback or in carriage from Cordoba. Saldan, at the foot of the sierras, is charmingly situated on an affluent of the Primero; it is the residence of Señor Allende, and has a walnut tree under whose shade some hundreds of people could sit down. The

sportsman will find pumas in these hills. Crossing the Cosquin range, in the San Francisco valley, we find Mr. Gordon's estancia. Higher up in the sierras are Tauticuche and Sinsacate, resorted to by people with weak lungs. The Jesuit ruins of Santa Catalina, Alta Gracia, and Jesus-Maria are also worth visiting, and show what advanced industry the Fathers kept up in these remote regions. Calera is a pretty bathing village, about 12 miles from the city, and a railway is projected: an English hotel was built here in 1871. The Tablada, close to the city, is a table-land on which two battles have been fought. The view from here is unrivalled: on one side, the church-spires and turrets of the city; on the other, the grandly diversified range of the sierras, often capped with snow. A little above the city is a village of primitive Indians, called El Pueblito, the inhabitants of which are now Christians. Cordoba is the residence of the Governor, Bishop, and other chief authorities. There are 4 hotels, the best being Hotel La Paz in the Calle Ancha, and that of Paris in the plaza. The distance by rail from Rosario is 246 miles, Cordoba being almost equidistant from the Atlantic and Pacific, and 436 miles from Buenos Ayres. Travellers will find the manager of the London and River Plate Bank ready and able to give them advice on all matters. Mr. Bouquet, proprietor of the great flour and saw mills, is also very obliging.

#### *Anejos*

Forms properly two departments, near the capital. North Anejos comprises Calera, Ceballos, San Vicente, and Cañas, the first-named district deriving its name from excellent lime quarries, in a picturesque locality, where there is also an English hotel for summer visitors in quest of bathing or shooting. South Anejos extends from the suburbs of Cordoba to Alta Gracia and Rio Segundo, along the slope of the sierra and taking in a part of the pampa. It comprises Carela, Molinos, Alta Gracia, Potrero de Garay, Tagunilla, San Antonio, San Cosene, and San Isidro. In the lower districts traversed by Rio

Primero we find cattle-farms; in the upper parts are numerous woods and tilled grounds. The Jesuits had a fine establishment at Alta Gracia. The department extends as far north as the Arroyo Ascochingas, where D. Miguel Agüero's model-farm is supplied with the best agricultural implements.

#### *Calamuchita*

Is watered by the Segundo and Tercero, and takes in a part of the sierras with the table-land of Lutis. This department comprises the well-known copper mines of Tio, Minotauro, and Tacurú, as also the establishments for refining the metal. Wooded hills and fertile valleys render it one of the most charming districts in Córdoba.

#### *San Alberto*

Comprehends the hilly country on the western slopes of the Sierra de Córdoba, as far as the boundary of San Luis, taking in the plain of San Pedro, the Nono table-land, and sundry populous and well-cultivated valleys of charming scenery, especially those of Chaquinchuna, Ambul, and Panaolmo. This department, until recently, formed part of the adjoining one of San Xavier. The village of San Pedro, on the Arroyo de la Cañada, is 1700 feet above sea-level, and 15 leagues S.W. of Córdoba; the intervening sierra rises in some places to 7700 feet.

#### *San Xavier*

Is only separated from San Alberto by the Arroyo Cañada, and takes its name from a hamlet on the western side of the sierra, 2700 feet over sea-level. The principal place of the department is Dolores, a village opposite San Pedro. The inhabitants follow both pastoral and agricultural pursuits.

#### *Pocho*

Consists of a table-land between the sierras of Córdoba and Rioja, overlooking the desert which marks the frontier between

these two provinces. Northwards extends the hill-range of Guasa-pampa, including the extinct volcanoes of Yerba Buena, Agua Tala, Cienaga, and Salsacate, with a medium height of 3000 feet. In many places abound marble, copper, and lead; iron is also said to exist. Some of the inhabitants raise cattle, others are occupied in the mines; in the vicinity of the latter are always found small plantations. The climate in the hills is mild and healthy. Pocho is a village with a chapel and school, 20 leagues due west of Cordoba.

#### *Minas,*

Until recently, formed part of the department of Pocho, and is only remarkable for its mining industry, at Argentino and San Carlos.

#### *Punilla*

Occupies the Dolores valley between the Cosquin and Punilla ranges, north-west from Cordoba. Orchards and small farms abound where the mountain sides have been cleared; including the districts of San Roque, San Antonio, Alejos Wood, and Rosario. Mr. Gordon's estancia is in this valley, which is famous for fruits and wild parrots.

#### *Cruz del Eje*

Comprises the valleys on the north-western side of the Punilla range, which produce much wheat and a variety of fruits. Southward is Guayco, where mines of lead and silver exist. Candelaria, a ruined Jesuit establishment, is in the wildest part of the mountains, surrounded by rich marble quarries. The hamlets of Pichana and Higuera also belong to this department. The village of Cruz del Eje is 30 leagues N.W. of Cordoba, by a mountain-path only practicable for mules. In the centre of the village is a large wooden cross, which formerly marked the spot where the Viceroy Liniers was murdered.

*Rio Primero*

Takes its name from the river which flows through the capital, and comprises fine pasture lands till reaching the large salt-lake of Porongos or Mar-Chiquita, which covers nearly 3000 square miles, forming the boundary between Cordoba, Santiago and Santa Fé. The town of Santa Rosa or Rio Primero has 2869 inhabitants, and is 20 leagues N.E. of Cordoba.

*Rio Segundo*

Includes all the country between the Segundo and Tercero rivers from the town of Rosario to the limits of Santa Fé. It is a populous department, the inhabitants dividing their attention between cattle-farming and agriculture. The town of Rosario or Rio Segundo has 1181 inhabitants, there being 6 women to 5 men. It is 15 leagues E. of Cordoba, on the old coach-road for Santa Fé. The railway bridge over the Rio Segundo is 1300 feet long, built of iron, in 32 spans, resting on iron pillars 14 inches in diameter, the minimum height being 25 feet.

*San Justo,*

Better known as El Tio, lies along the Rio Segundo, south of Lake Porongos, comprising several cattle-farms and some little agriculture. The village of El Tio, otherwise called Fort Concepcion, is 30 leagues E. of Cordoba, and about half that distance from Fort Sunchales on the Santa Fé frontier. Arroyito and San Francisco on the Rio Segundo belong to this department.

*Upper Tercero*

Takes in the slopes of the sierra in which the Tercero takes its rise, and comprises the villages of Salto, Pampayaste, and Capilla de Rodriguez, which are met with between Villa Nueva and the Sierra de Cordoba.

## VILLA NUEVA,

Sometimes called Tercero Abajo, is an extensive department, the inhabitants dividing their labours between cattle-farming and wood-cutting. The Central Argentine Company have an establishment for cutting and sawing lumber at Yucat. The Indians sometimes carry off much horned cattle, which checks the business, although the pastures are good. There are few sheep, and of inferior quality. The soil would do well for agriculture, but the inhabitants are too apathetic for such pursuits. The women are industrious, making soap, candles, and preserves. Water is found on digging a few feet, but generally brackish.

*Villa Maria*, the half-way station on the railway between Rosario and Cordoba, is a straggling village with three wooden hotels and numerous ranchos, surrounded by dense woods and perennial swamps. It suffers from a lack of good water, and the cholera of 1868 carried off most of the inhabitants. The heat in summer is excessive, the woods allowing no ventilation. This place was fixed on by Congress in 1870 as the capital of the Argentine Republic, but President Sarmiento vetoed the bill.

*Villa Nueva*, on the other side of Rio Tercero, is an important town of 3345 inhabitants, being the third in the province, and seat of a considerable trade. Its exports in hides, wool, timber, cattle, and preserved fruits are estimated at 60,000*l.* sterling per annum, and its imports almost as much in European goods. There are 30 wholesale shops, besides several carpenters', blacksmiths', bakers', &c., and one inn; sometimes there is no doctor. The Indians used to make inroads so close as to be visible from the roof of the church, but not since the commencement of the Rio Cuarto Railway in 1870. The town has a poor appearance, as most of the houses are built of adobes or mud, with straw roofs; the river is generally low, but in flood time often threatens the town. It is



about half-a-league hence to Villa Maria, an iron bridge having recently been put over the Tercero.

The railway for Rio Cuarto and Mercedes starts from Villa Maria, branching off the Central Argentine. The journey to Rio Cuarto takes about five hours.

### *Frayle Muerte,*

Sometimes called Union, or San Geronimo, was formerly included in the department of Villa Nueva, and covers a vast extent of country, for the most part exposed to Indians. The soil is equally suitable for pasture or agriculture, and a number of English farmers have formed a settlement within a few leagues of the town of Frayle Muerto, which is officially called Bell-ville in honour of the first settler, Mr. Bell. The town is built on the Rio Tercero, and has a population of 2754 souls. It is one of the principal stations of the Central Argentine Railway, being about five hours' journey from Rosario. The department includes also the dependencies of Ballesteros, Saladillo, and Cruz Alta, three wretched hamlets on the Rio Tercero, very much exposed to Indians, especially the last-named, which is on the Santa Fé border, at that place where the Tercero changes its name, and becomes the river Carcarañá. Cruz Alta is about 15 leagues N. of Fort Melincué, the point where the provinces of Cordoba, Buenos Ayres, and Santa Fé meet. The whole of this department was, until recently, no better than Indian territory; the present population is less than one to the square mile. The English settlers number 109 men and 14 women. President Sarmiento paid a visit to the English colony in 1870, accompanied by several of the Corps Diplomatique.

### *Rio Cuarto*

Occupies an immense area of the pampas, between the rivers Cuarto and Quinto. It forms nearly half the province, this department being almost as large as Ireland. A project was

started by Señor Echegaray, in 1863, to bring out 10,000 families to settle here, the Government having granted him 650,000 acres. The country suffers much from Indians, who have more than once besieged the town of Rio Cuarto, and obliged the women to remain for some days shut up in the church; but since the Quinto frontier is better guarded and the railway pushed forward, we hear less of their inroads.

Rio Cuarto, otherwise Concepcion, is the second town in the province, and contains 5414 inhabitants, of whom there are 4 women to 3 men. The situation is picturesque, on the river of the same name, from which canals are drawn to irrigate the suburbs. A garrison is maintained here, as also at Achiras, the southern point of the sierra. The town of Rio Cuarto is 40 leagues S. of Cordoba, and by railway within a day's journey of the port of Rosario.

#### *Rio Seco,*

The most northern department of Cordoba, touches the frontiers of Catamarca and Santiago, and derives its name from the aridity of its soil, except in the vicinity of Lake Porongos, where there are fine pastures. The village of Rio Seco, otherwise Santa Maria, has 452 inhabitants, there being 3 women to 2 men.

#### *Sobre Monte.*

Formerly part of Rio Seco, near the Santiago frontier, along the eastern base of the Sierra de Cordoba, mostly covered with fine pastures. The village of San Francisco del Chañar is 30 leagues N. of Cordoba on the high road to Santiago, standing 2400 feet over sea-level. The hamlet of Caminiaga, on the west side of the sierra, also belongs to this department.

#### *Totoral,*

On the eastern side of the sierra, includes some fine valleys and lowland, the district of Sinsacate being admirably cultivated.

The village of Totoral counts 779 inhabitants, with 3 women to 2 men, and is nearly 20 leagues N. of Cordoba. A district called Macha, another Candelaria, are both in this department.

### *Tulumba*

Embraces a large range of hill country, composed of five districts, in which the inhabitants devote themselves to the care of cattle. The village of Tulumba has 1140 souls, and farther north, on the high road to Santiago, are those of San Pedro and Santa Cruz, the latter at an elevation of 3000 feet. Southward of Tulumba are the ruins of Santa Catalina and Jesus-Maria, where the Jesuits had fine establishments. The Tucuman railway passes through Jesus-Maria and Tulumba.

There is a Government property called Estancia de Caroya, with a massive building, to which is attached an estate of 50 square leagues (or 334,000 acres), situate about 10 leagues from Cordoba, on the route of the railway to Tucuman; its value is about \$100,000. This would be an admirable place for the establishment of a School of Agriculture; it has water-power to turn a mill, besides wood and pasture, and poor natives who might be employed as peons.

### *Ischilin.*

Another extensive and mountainous department, between Cruz del Eje and Tulumba, suitable for cattle-farming, and thickly inhabited. The village of Ischilin is 5 leagues W. of Tulumba and 15 N. of Cordoba. The districts of Copacabana, Rio Pinto, and Quilino belong to this department. The number of persons over 100 years in Ischilin and Tulumba is remarkable, being respectively 7 and 4 out of 23 in the whole province. The hill range from Ischilin to Cruz del Eje and Soto is apparently rich in minerals. In 1871 an English company at Soto got a crushing-machine from Ransome and Simms, but the yield of gold was too small to pay expenses, viz., 38 oz. from 45 tons of quartz.

The prizes taken by this province at the National Exhibition of 1872 were 13 gold, 13 silver, and 12 bronze medals :—

- Genaro Perez, oil painting : gold medal.  
 Female Orphanage, embroidery : one gold and one bronze medal.  
 Rosario Alba, needlework : gold medal.  
 Ledesma Brothers, Angora goats and hair : two gold medals.  
 F. Crespo, dyed fabrics : gold medal.  
 Messrs. Stow, farming implements : gold medal.  
 M. Arguello, butter, and Durham bull : one gold, one silver, and one bronze medal.  
 F. Cordero, native wines : gold medal.  
 B. Broussaint, tanned goat skins : gold medal.  
 Barker, Kaulen, and Co., Angora goats and hair : two gold and two silver.  
 James Temple and Co., machinery : one gold and one bronze medal.  
 Mdlle. Velez, embroidery : silver medal.  
 M. Taspair, starch : silver medal.  
 M. Vasquez, cheese : silver medal.  
 G. Allio, marble ornaments : silver medal.  
 C. Rocco, landscapes : silver medal.  
 Dr. Oster, medicinal herbs : silver medal.  
 M. Echenique, fine arts : silver medal.  
 Tulumba rugs, marble samples, &c. : three silver medals.  
 Mme. Benites, embroidery : bronze medal.  
 Mme. Martinez, silk ditto : bronze medal.  
 Mme. Benavides, needlework : bronze medal.  
 M. Peña, poultry : bronze medal.  
 M. Castellano, native wine : bronze medal.  
 M. Jaudin, engraving : bronze medal.  
 E. Bedat, terra-cotta figures : bronze medal.  
 N. Podesta, liqueurs : bronze medal.  
 H. Poerzler, cabinet-work : bronze medal.

showing that Cordoba came next after Buenos Ayres in industrial development.

## CHAPTER X.

## SAN LUIS.

THIS province ranks twelfth in point of population, and is in a very backward condition. Its area is put down at 40,000 square miles, which includes a large portion of pampa territory occupied by Ranqueles, Pehuenches, and other Indian tribes. It is a wild, mountainous, and, in some parts, a wooded country, between the 32nd and 35th parallels of south latitude, and enjoys a delightful climate. It is bounded on the north by the Salinas desert, which forms the boundary with Rioja and Cordoba; on the west, by the Desaguadero river, on the side of Mendoza and the Quijadas lakes towards San Juan; on the south, by the Rio Quinto and the Pampas; on the east, by the Sierra Estanzuela branch of the Cordobese Sierras.

San Luis formed a part of the old Spanish province of Cuyo, but separated from Mendoza in 1820, at the same time as San Juan: all this country had belonged to the jurisdiction of Chile until 1776, when Cuyo was passed over to the Viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres. Ever since the Independence this province has suffered from civil wars and Indian forays, but for which its cattle-farms would have proved highly profitable. The only river of any importance is the Quinto, which takes its rise in the Sierra Pancanta, 6500 feet; but the want of streams is compensated by frequent rains. Lake Bebedero, which receives the Desaguadero, is famous alike for its fish and for the salt which is used throughout the province. The Sierra de San Luis is like a branch of the Cordoba system, the highest points, such as San Francisco, Pancanta, Monigote, and Tomalasta varying from

5000 to 7400 feet. Pasture and timber abound in the valleys and table-lands. Gold is found at Carolina and other places; also copper, lead, and antimony. The heat in summer is excessive, but the rest of the year is agreeable. All European fruits thrive, especially grapes. The poverty of the inhabitants appears from the return of only 120 houses (other than mud ranchos) in the city and province. As a general rule the natives are well formed, robust, healthy, intelligent, and of a brave and generous disposition. The women are pretty, amiable, and virtuous, and of a careful, thrifty, and laborious disposition; they generally make excellent wives and mothers. In the towns they soon become corrupted and vitiated, but in the camps they are usually innocent and unassuming. The men are steady and intelligent, and many migrate in search of better employment. In the country they are simple and uncouth, but in the towns they are distinguished for their civility, and usually get on well in business.

Volcanic agencies are visible in Tomalasta and other peaks, and an earthquake shock was felt in San Luis, in 1849, so severely that some old houses fell down.

The province is so poor that the revenues hardly exceed \$40,000, and would be wholly inadequate but for the subsidy from the National Government. At the same time the public lands will prove of much value when European immigration gets so far inland.

Sportsmen will find pumas and guanacos on the mountain slopes.

The founder of this province was nephew of the famous founder of the Jesuit order, and, having been sent out as Viceroy of Chile, married the native princess Clara Beatriz Coya, daughter of the Inca Sayri-Tupac, and last descendant of that royal race. San Luis gave some of the best cavalry regiments in the War of Independence: in 1819 the Spanish officers taken prisoners at Maypu were massacred by the populace.

The province comprises 8 departments, viz. :—

	Population.	Sq. Miles.
San Luis .. .. .	7,049	6,400
Saladillo .. .. .	5,038	6,300
Morro .. .. .	4,000	5,900
Benca .. .. .	6,418	3,000
Santa Barbara .. .. .	7,891	3,100
Piedra Blanca .. .. .	8,126	5,300
San Francisco .. .. .	9,332	5,000
Nogoli .. .. .	5,440	5,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	53,294	40,000

The proportion of sexes is as 7 women to 6 men, probably owing to the wars, for which reason also we find only 128 Europeans in the whole province, but there are 380 Chilians. The number of persons that can read is returned at 7142; there are 3815 children attending 84 schools. The tables show that of 25,908 children there are 8780, or more than one-third, illegitimate. There are 627 adults unfit for labour by reason of wounds received in the wars, and 3703 orphans.

The province of San Luis is now connected with Rosario by the railway *viá* Rio Cuarto and Villa Maria, which is being actively pushed forward by Messrs. Rogers and Thomas to Mercedes, on the Rio Quinto. This will give a great impulse to the country by inducing Europeans to settle here. For sheep-farmers and agriculturists the points which offer the most striking advantages are the Rio del Rosario, in the partido Cañada del Moro, which stretches for an immense distance across an almost unpopulated country. The Rio Quinto is by far the most picturesque stream in the province, its banks are of a rich and fertile soil. The Sierra de Varela has also its advantages, and here, on the bank of the river, might be established a small farming colony; at Plumerite also, a little to the south-east of Varela, a flourishing little agricultural town may be formed; the same may be said of the camps of Pantanillo or Punilla, as also those to the south-east of Morro, which are watered by

large streams, thus providing an easy conduct for all the produce of the surrounding country. A little capital judiciously employed here would produce great returns; besides this, steady active men will always find lucrative employment, such as blacksmiths, carpenters, turners, tailors, shoemakers, &c. The best meat only costs 4 rls. Bol. the arroba, a chicken 2 rls., and so on. Although now so thinly populated, San Luis, from its central position, must at no very distant day become a place of considerable importance.

The hill country is very suitable for invalids; a gentleman writes as follows:—

“I am living at present in the Carolina, in the Sierra de San Luis, in quest of a favourable climate for my complaint—lung disease—and I find this climate more suitable to my case than any I have tried yet.

“The Sierra forms a mountain region complete in itself, independent of the neighbouring sierras, and completely so of the Andes, extending about 60 leagues from south to north, and 10 leagues from east to west, nearly in the latitude of Santiago de Chile, and in the longitude of San Luis de la Punta.

“Carolina is situated 4903 feet above the sea, right at the foot of the Tomalasta, the biggest mountain in this sierra, which rises to a height of 6000 feet over the sea.

“Potatoes, milk, butter, cheese, and meat are cheap, as there are many little chacras with irrigation in the valleys, which might soon produce on a larger scale, if the men were not prevented from working by the illegal military service on the frontiers, which they dread more than joining the robber bands. So they hide away, and leave their chacras in charge of the women.

“There is not a tree or bush to be found in the whole sierra, except a few poplar trees near the house where I have rented my room.

“The temperature is very agreeable, varying between 60 and 70 degrees from morning to night, and after sunset it remains



warm for a long time, since the bare rocks deliver up the heat they received during the day from the sun."

San Luis took the following prizes at the Cordoba Exhibition, 1872:—

Hides, dye-woods, and cheese: two bronze medals.

This province occupies the lowest rank, all kinds of industry being in a backward condition.

### *City of San Luis,*

Founded in 1597 by Martin Garcia de Loyola in a locality then known as Punta de los Venados, or Deer Point, from which circumstance the natives have always borne the nickname of "Pointers," and in the civil wars the Puntanos invariably figure as excellent light cavalry. Nothing can be more picturesque than the situation of this city, at a height of 2550 feet, commanding a view of the whole province, and taking in the snow-capped summits of the Andes, one of which is supposed to be Aconcagua, 23,900 feet high, which is distant 216 geographical miles. Immediately over the city is the final point of the Sierra de San Luis, which has an elevation of 4550 feet. The stratum of rock or sand has invariably a layer of 3 feet of soil, watered by the Chorrillos stream, and all about the city you find gardens, where oranges, grapes, poplars, and willows grow in luxuriance. San Luis boasts a Governor, Ministers, Legislature, &c., but is a poor place, irregularly built, and having only 3748 inhabitants, of whom there are 4 women to 3 men. The municipal division consists of 4 wards, and the schools are attended by 558 children, one-half of the inhabitants being able to read. San Luis is in 33° 17' S. lat., 8 leagues from Mendoza, and 120 W. from Buenos Ayres. The railway now in construction will bring it into immediate connection with the rest of the Republic, and make it a halting-place for travellers from Buenos Ayres to the Andes. The suburban districts are called Chomillos, Chalante, and Chosines. At present San Luis is attracting some notice by its rumoured gold veins.

Carolina, Cañada Honda, Cerritos Blancos, and the other central parts of this province are rich in mineral wealth, which up to the present, for want of capital and the proper machinery, has been little worked. In the Cerros del Gigante and Quijadas, gold, silver, and lead are found in large quantities, but owing to want of experience among the native miners and the primitive tools with which they are provided, until now little trouble has been taken to turn to good account these natural advantages.

Last year was published an official report, drawn up by an engineer named Ramon de la Sierra for the Government of San Luis, in which the Sierra Carolina is thus described:—

“The Carolina mine is situated  $2\frac{1}{2}$  leagues W. of Cañada Honda, and tradition says that in former times immense quantities of gold have been taken out, the name or period of its first discoverer being lost. In the neighbouring hills are numerous mines that have been partly worked and then abandoned, the nature of the works showing how ignorant the miners were of geological science or the proper method of working. Buena Esperanza is still being developed by Messrs. Anton Schmidt and Co., who began last February and have invested a capital of 1600*l.* sterling in the works; they have sunk two shafts, piercing some very rich veins of metal; one shaft is 240 feet deep and 3 in diameter, and was begun some years ago by Sr. Puebla, who had to give it up for want of capital. The other is 165 feet deep, with much water, and was originally sunk by Sr. Piñero, who extracted much gold and went to Buenos Ayres to buy machinery, but was murdered in that city; this caused the works to be abandoned. It gives an average of 4 ounces gold to the “cajon” of quartz. The present owners are putting up sheds, machinery, &c., and the staff comprises the two proprietors, 12 miners, and 8 other employés. Claims have been made in the same hill range by Messrs. Frederic Euler, Henry Lapage, Alexander Olses, and German Lallement, who are about to start similar works.

“At Cerrillos, north of Carolina, Messrs. Robert Clark and Co. are about to recommence a mine which Don Juan Bravo abandoned two years ago. At Los Pajaros there is another important mine, west of Carolina, where D. Nemencio Guevara was working till 1868.

“At the Estancia hill, east of Carolina, D. Bonifacio Velasquez extracted gold, but gave up the works some six years ago, about the same time that Claudio Pereyra gave up his diggings in the same range. Eight years previous D. Baylon Jofrey was forced by the water to abandon a mine near that place from which he had taken gold quartz and galenas of a silver character. The latest worker in the Estancia hills was Sr. Zabala, who gave up gold digging so late as 1870.

“At Santa Rosa, south-west of Carolina, there is a mine which was worked with profit by Eusebio Lucero till 1856; and in the same hills D. Felix Valdivia worked till 1862. A friar named Thomas Parody, along with Liberato Miranda, carried on diggings until four years ago.

“To the north and south of Carolina there are numerous mines now abandoned, the owners of which I could not discover, the oldest neighbours being unable to tell me.”

### *Saladillo.*

This department is alike remarkable for its mineral, pastoral, and agricultural importance, and derives its name from a salty stream which falls into the Quinto. All the slope of the Sierra de San Luis, for 20 leagues, as far as Carolina, is pretty thickly settled, and the inhabitants raise grain which they grind at one of the old mining mills. The lower grounds afford excellent pasture for horses and cows. Two gold mines exist at Carolina, which have been worked at various intervals, and one is now in active operation under an American company: there are also a gold and a copper mine at Santa Barbara. The village of Saladillo has a school and 96 inhabitants.

*San José del Morro*

Lies between Saladillo and the Cordoba frontier : its northern part towards Renca is watered by the Quinto : its southern limit is lost in the pampas. At one period extensive cattle farms existed as far as Paso de Lechuzo, 15 leagues down the Quinto, on both sides, but the Indians devastated this country so often that now it is a wilderness, although wood, water, and pastures abound.

*San José del Morro*, seat of the local authorities, stands at an elevation of 3400 feet.

*Villa Mercedes*, sometimes called Fort Constitucion, the most important town in San Luis, although inferior in population to the capital and to Luxan, was founded in 1856, and promises to be the centre of the railway system in the Andine provinces. A wide-gauge railway is in construction from Rio Cuarto, to connect Mercedes with the port of Rosario ; and a narrow-gauge line from Buenos Ayres passes by here to Mendoza and San Juan. Mercedes has a church, schools, and 1596 inhabitants.

*Cuchate*, a hamlet of 373 inhabitants.

*Renca*

Comprises the fertile valley of Concaran, between the sierras of Cordoba and San Luis, from which descend many precious streams that are tributaries to the Quinto. There are two villages, Renca and Dolores, which do a good business in wool, wheat, maize, &c. Renca is in the centre of the department, and counts 904 inhabitants, who have fine plantations of fruit-trees. Dolores has 490 souls : both have public schools, attended by 289 children.

*Santa Barbara*

Lies west of Renca and south of Saladillo : it is a mountainous district, almost exclusively pastoral, though possessing mineral wealth. At the mouth of the defile of Santa Barbara

is the village of that name, with 228 inhabitants and a school of 74 children. There is another village called Rincon del Carmen, with a school of 67 children.

### *Piedra Blanca*

Occupies the north end of the Sierra de San Luis, and touches the provinces of Cordoba, Rioja, and San Juan. It is well wooded and watered, especially on the eastern slopes, where vegetation is luxuriant, and grains of gold are found in the river Quines. Some agriculture exists in the north-west. The village of Piedra Blanca has 821 inhabitants and a public school.

### *San Francisco*

Lies between the ranges of San Luis and Quijadas, and is famous for the gold deposits at Tomolasta. The town of Luxan, second in the province, counts 2334 inhabitants: and the village of San Francisco, at a height of 2600 feet, has a population of 1414, 3 leagues from the gold mines. Saladas is a district of cattle-farming.

### *Nogoli.*

A mountainous district between Gigante and Socoscora, well wooded, and irrigated by streams that descend from the Pancanta range.

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## CHAPTER XI.

## MENDOZA.

AT the foot of the Andes, this fertile and favoured province covers an undetermined area of about 50,000 square miles, being bounded on the north by San Juan and on the east by San Luis, but its southern limit is lost in the pampas of Patagonia. In population Mendoza ranks tenth among the provinces, the census of 1869 giving 65,413 inhabitants, including 6144 foreigners, mostly Chilians. The climate is mild and peculiarly adapted for persons suffering from pulmonary affections. Over 10,000 square miles of land are irrigated by the rivers Mendoza, Tunnyan, Desaguadero, and Diamante, the crops ranging from sixty to one hundredfold. Cereals and fruits are grown in some districts, while others are devoted to fattening cattle for the Chilian market. The white wine of Mendoza is well known: some years the yield of grapes is so abundant that the growers cannot afford to buy casks, but lose the vintage, there being no market, since the cost of freight to Buenos Ayres is enormous. Dried fruits are exported on mule-back to Chile. Flax is cultivated with success, as well as tobacco and silk. The first silkworms were introduced by Mr. Andrew Thorndyke in 1839, to the number of 874, and in less than six years their number increased to two millions. The first tobacco was planted a few years before by a Spanish prisoner from the battle of Maypú, to whom the authorities presented a gold medal and a life-pension for this service. Poplars are largely grown for general purposes, often reaching over 100 feet in height. The province has not prospered so much as it ought to have done: for many years it suffered prolonged civil wars, and when on the point of improvement, in 1861, it met with the

disastrous earthquake which ruined Mendoza city, destroying nine-tenths of the inhabitants.

Mendoza takes its name from the Viceroy of Chile, Garcia de Mendoza, in 1559, who having subdued the Araucanian tribes sent Captain Pedro Castillo over the Andes to annex the dominion, afterwards called Cuyo, to the colonies of the Spanish crown. The native tribe of Guarpes, unlike the warlike Calchaquies of Catamarca, was of a patient and industrious disposition, readily submitting to the conquerors on condition of being left undisturbed in the cultivation of their fields. After two centuries, in 1776, the province of Cuyo, of which Mendoza was capital, was transferred from the Viceroyalty of Chile to that of Buenos Ayres. Cuyo was one of the 13 United Provinces which proclaimed Independence in 1816, but four years later it was dismembered, San Juan and San Luis forming distinct provinces.

The Pehuenches Indians at present hold all the country south of the Diamante, Fort San Rafael being the farthest settlement on the side of the desert and about 60 leagues S. of Mendoza city. Governor Segura in 1854 projected a line of semi-military colonies by San Rafael, Punta Monte, Chacay, Malargüe, and Rio Grande, where wood and water abound, as well as rich pastures: the scheme might have been carried out but for the disaster of 1861. European immigration must necessarily be slow, as this territory is a thousand miles inland from Buenos Ayres: meantime the construction of a railroad across the Andes, as surveyed recently by Mr. Robert Crawford, over the Planchon pass, would bring these lands on the high road from Buenos Ayres to Chile. The melting of the snows contributes to fertilize the plains, and the head waters have rise here which go to form the rivers Negro and Colorado that flow across the continent into the Atlantic ocean.

The mineral wealth of the country is said to be varied and inexhaustible. A petroleum spring on the Planchon route, 70 leagues S. of Mendoza, gives 40 per cent. of pure kerosene, according to the statement of the census commissioners; there

are numerous apertures through which the liquid exudes, and under the action of a hot sun it runs over the ground and then hardens into a compact mass. A similar deposit of bituminous stuff, which is said to be kerosene, is met with at 10 leagues from Mendoza. Some of the mountains are extinct volcanoes, others abound in marble, lime, pumice stone, flint, quartz, agate, amethyst, cornelian, and sapphire; the discovery of coal-beds has often been reported, and mines of iron, lead, and copper are in many places, though few are working. The best known are the Paramillo mines, from which the Spaniards took large quantities of silver in the last century, situate 23 leagues westward of Mendoza, on the Uspallata road to Chile, about 10,000 feet above the level of the sea; in 1867 works were resumed here by Villanueva, an Argentine, and Del Canto, a Chilian miner, who use bituminous earth mixed with firewood in their furnaces and extract copper and silver. Valuable minerals are supposed to exist in the Indian country, some specimens of which are reported by Major Rickard to possess 70 per cent. of copper combined with antimony. The Paramillo range, a branch of the Andes, rises to 10,000 feet: behind this the valley of Uspallata is found, some 5500 feet over sea-level. The snowy peak of Tupungato reaches 21,000 feet of elevation, and of lesser height are the summits called Iglesia, Plata, Lion's Peak, Juncal, San Francisco, Arbola, Cruz de Piedra, Portillo, San Lorenzo, Mineros, Planchon, San José, Maypo, and Tinguiririca, some of which reach 17,000 feet.

In the far south are the ranges of Nevado and Payen; the former appears volcanic, from the lava on its sides and the smoke often observable around its peaks, as well as from reports like thunder heard by the inhabitants of San Rafael. The Payen range is much visited by miners, who also cultivate patches in the fertile valleys that look down on the river Chali-Lehu and the opening plains of the pampas. The Pehuenches Indians give much trouble by stealing cattle, which they drive across into Chile. Of the original Guarpe tribe which inter-married with the Spaniards not a trace remains.



The province comprises 12 departments, as follows:—

City and suburbs .. .. .	14,583 inhabitants.
Guaymallen .. .. .	8,128 ..
San Vicente .. .. .	4,439 ..
Maypu .. .. .	4,603 ..
Luxan .. .. .	4,960 ..
San Carlos .. .. .	3,824 ..
Junin .. .. .	7,495 ..
San Martin .. .. .	8,046 ..
Rosario .. .. .	2,060 ..
San Rafael .. .. .	1,361 ..
Tupungato .. .. .	2,357 ..
La Paz .. .. .	3,057 ..
	65,413 ..

One-sixth of this number can read, and there are 104 schools attended by 7485 children, of whom two-thirds are boys. The proportion of illegitimate children is 22 per cent. Goitre is so prevalent that 3 per cent. of the population suffer from it; malignant pustules are also common. Six persons have reached over 100 years, the oldest being Petrona Blanco of San Martin, aged 120. The earthquake of 1861 cost the province 15,000 lives; the previous census of 1857 gave a population of 47,478. At present nearly one-tenth of the inhabitants are natives of Chile. The total number of Europeans is only 283, of whom 36 are women. The area of cultivated land is 300,000 acres, of which nearly two-thirds are under alfalfa, for fattening cattle; the vineyards cover more than 10,000 acres. The trade with Chile averages 200,000*l.* yearly, of which nearly two-thirds are exports to that country.

The province of Mendoza took the following prizes at Cordoba:—

- F. Crespo, dried fruits: gold medal.
- C. Segovia, marble: silver medal.
- C. Calle, native cotton: silver medal.
- M. Videla, wines: silver medal.
- Mendoza Committee, coal, oil, &c.: two silver and one bronze medal.
- H. Lemaistre, hams: bronze medal.
- M. Lespinasse, brandy: bronze medal.
- D. Hudson, porcelain: bronze medal.

This province acquitted itself pretty fairly, considering how thinly it is populated.

Mr. Clark's proposed railway to Chile will pass through Mendoza, uniting Buenos Ayres with Valparaiso, and bringing them within 48 hours' journey. The estimated cost of the line is 6,000,000*l.* sterling, length 800 miles, steepest grade 1 in 25, with a tunnel 2 miles long at the Cumbre, 12,000 feet above sea-level.

#### *City of Mendoza.*

The present city was begun after the dreadful earthquake of March 20th, 1861, on almost the same site as the ruins of that which had been founded by Captain Pedro Castillo 300 years before, and which counted 15,000 souls previous to the catastrophe. The number of victims has never been ascertained, but probably exceeded 12,000, including the French geologist Bravard, who had predicted that before long the place would be destroyed in this manner. The loss of life was greater from the fact that the townspeople were assembled in the churches at the devotions of Lent when the earthquake occurred, at eight o'clock in the evening: the forty-eight blocks composing the city were instantly destroyed, but the suburbs, which extended some miles, partially escaped. Fires raged for eight days, and numbers of marauders from the country districts occupied themselves with plunder instead of rescuing survivors from the ruins. Don Domingo Oro and a few others were extricated from the ruins. So complete was the destruction that even the course of the streets could not be traced. The shock was felt at Buenos Ayres, a distance of 700 miles, the pendulums of some clocks being observed on the evening in question to stop for a few seconds.

Mendoza enjoys an admirable situation for trade with Chile, or for picturesque effect. Under the shadow of the Andes, close to the Uspallata pass, it was a favourite halting-place with travellers before steamers were established between Europe and Chile, and old writers tell us of pleasant evenings

on the Alameda with Mendozina beauties; or extol the grand panorama in which Tupungato with its eternal snows forms so striking an object. Few people now-a-days, unless for pleasure, cross the Andes, although the Uspallata pass is so easy that from November to May it may be effected even by ladies without much danger: the Argentine Government has erected huts of refuge along the route. When the Rio Cuarto Railway reaches Mendoza, bringing this place within three days by rail from Buenos Ayres, it is likely the journey over the Andes will again attract travellers. It usually takes four days from Mendoza to Santa Rosa in Chile, and mules may be hired for \$10: the scenery is of course unrivalled, the highest point of the pass being 12,956 feet over sea-level.

The approaches to Mendoza are much admired, the traveller passing through long avenues of poplars for many miles between irrigated farms and meadows. The Zanjon, sometimes called Guaymallen's canal from the Cacique of that name who ruled here at the time of the Spanish conquest, is a canal drawn from the river Mendoza near Luxan, and constructed by the Indians: it traverses the city, and small aqueducts branch off in all directions to water the houses and gardens, except in the higher suburbs on the western side, where a reservoir is kept, from which the neighbours draw their supplies. North-east of the city is the cemetery of El Rosario, surrounded by farms, and at a distance of 3 leagues from Mendoza we find a thermal spring called Borbollon, 26 degrees centigrade all the year round, from which flows a stream that waters the Carpinteria and Jocoli districts. There are sundry outlying hamlets, such as Chimba, Alto de Godoy, Plumerillo, Panqueja, Sapallar, and Algarrobal, the inhabitants living by agriculture. South of Mendoza is the pleasant suburb of San Nicolas, with country-houses. In summer time the citizens go to a bathing-place called Challao, in the mountains. There are excellent mineral waters at the defile of Villa Vicencio, 15 leagues from town, on the Uspallata route: these are close by a village and mines of

silver, lead, and copper, but the works have been abandoned since 1861. The still more famous baths of Puente del Inca are near a natural bridge called after the Incas, higher up the pass, and the waters are reputed of much efficacy. The villages lying eastward of Mendoza are Tortugas, Acequias de Gomez, Pedregal, Cruz, and Rodeo del Medio, the last-named being some miles in length: all irrigated from the river Mendoza and highly cultivated. South-east are the hamlets of Cruz de Piedra, Villa Seca, and Desagüe, also occupied by agricultural peasants. The department counts 14,583 souls, but the city has only 8124, there being 4 females to 3 males: the schools are attended by 553 children, and nearly one-fourth of the population can read or write. Mendoza is the seat of a Governor, Legislature, Federal Judge, &c., and is 700 miles W. of Buenos Ayres, communicating by telegraph with the capital, and also with Chile.

#### *San Vicente.*

This department lies southward from Mendoza, the village of San Vicente being in fact a suburb of the city, after you pass the hamlet of San Nicolas. Vineyards and fat pastures cover a large area, this district possessing excellent irrigation from the Guaymallen canal. Another farming district is the Chacras de Coria. Although the southern portions are sterile, they might easily be rendered productive if irrigated from the rivers Mendoza and Tunuyan. The village of San Vicente has 781 inhabitants.

#### *Luzan,*

The richest grazing department in the province, lies 4 leagues S. of San Vicente, on both banks of the river Mendoza. It is much frequented in the summer months, for its mild temperature and the bathing in the river. The districts of Compuerta, Vistalva, Paraiso, and Cruz de Piedra are well watered and cultivated, but the larger one of Sulunta, which stretches away to the Uco valley and the Andes, is poor and thinly settled.

*San Martin.*

The village which gives name to this department was founded by General San Martin, the hero of Independence: the site was unluckily so swampy that the village has not prospered, and counts only 541 inhabitants. The department is one of the most advanced in agriculture; the traveller passes along good roads lined with poplars, through the districts of Riojita, Isla, Retamo, Independencia, Monte Caseros, Santa Rosa, Mallea, and Dormida, all which are watered by means of canals drawn from the Tunuyan and Mendoza rivers. San Martin is eastward from Luxan and San Vicente.

*La Paz,*

Lying near the Desaguadero, on the San Luis frontier, is so favourably situated along the Tunuyan river that numberless canals serve to irrigate its well-cultivated lands, which are chiefly used for pasture. A canal 40 miles in length unites the Tunuyan and Desaguadero, which will permit all the intermediate country to be devoted to farming as soon as the Indians become less troublesome on the right bank of the Tunuyan. The village of La Paz, of recent date, promises to attain some importance, being exactly half-way between Mendoza and San Luis. The surrounding woods are used to pasture cattle. The districts of Chacarita, Barrial Grande, and Ramadita are likewise pastoral.

*Lagunas.*

The lagoons of Huanacache comprise a semicircular area from the river of Mendoza to the head waters of the Desaguadero, on the San Juan frontier. The inhabitants are descendants of the original Guarpe Indians, and avail themselves of the periodical overflow of these lakes to raise abundant crops, while they also devote much of their attention to fishing, making weirs for the purpose. At the same time a few herds of cattle subsist on the aquatic plants of the lagoons, and good drinking

water is always obtainable by digging wells a few feet deep. The village of Rosario, on the lake of that name, is the chief town of the department, and hamlets with chapels are also found at San Miguel, Ascencion, San Pedro, and Alto Grande. In the districts bordering on the Mendoza river the inhabitants draw canals thence to irrigate their lands, but the Indians prefer planting in the low grounds adjoining the lagoons.

#### *San Carlos,*

Along the slope of the Andes, between the rivers Tunuyan and Diamante, occupies half the Uco valley, and is luxuriantly watered, well cultivated, possessing a numerous population and considerable trade with Chile. The department takes the name from a fort built by the Spaniards in the last century, near the foot of the Portillo pass, which is open from November to March; but travellers to Chile prefer the Uspallata. The fort and village of San Carlos are 25 leagues S. from Luxan, and 30 from Mendoza, at the junction of two streams. A small settlement of Chilian immigrants, called Chilecito, is met 2 leagues S.W. of San Carlos. Sundry spurs of the Andes display rich marble, as yet undeveloped, and bituminous soil exists in the lower grounds. The districts of Carrizal, Arboleda, Melocoton, and Totoral pertain to this department, the total population of which is 3824, including 8 Europeans. There are 52 children attending the public school.

#### *San Rafael,*

The most southern department in the province, occupies the rest of the Uco valley, southward from the Diamante to the river Atuel. Fort San Rafael stands 60 leagues S. of Mendoza city, and is the last outpost of civilization, surrounded by some well-tilled chacras. The Pehuenches and Auca Indians often come hither to sell their skins and other wares, living on friendly terms with the Christians. A regular traffic is carried on, especially in stolen cattle, between the southern Indians and

the Chilian province of Arauco, by means of the low passes of Peteroa, Sazo, and Planchon, which hardly exceed 10,000 feet over sea-level, and are often open most of the year. The petroleum spring is 10 leagues S. of San Rafael. All the country below San Rafael is held by the Indians, but the nominal limit of the province is supposed to be the Rio Grande, afterwards called Colorado. A military expedition once reached Mount Limen-Mahuida ("whet-stone peak"), near Curra-Languen, or the "bitter lake." All these parts are flooded when the snows melt, and Lake Nahuel-Huapi is in the midst of fine scenery, where the Rio Negro of Patagonia takes its rise. About 3 leagues W. of Fort Rafael is found a greenish alabaster, and all the hilly country is said to abound in silver, especially at a place 10 leagues N. of the fort. The banks of the Tunuyan are thickly wooded: here tigers are found, and vicuñas and guanacos on the mountain slopes, as well as the majestic condor.

#### *Passes of the Andes.*

There are twenty-seven known passes over the Andes into Chile, but only two or three are much in use, the rest being either held by Indians or too difficult for travellers.

Nahuel-Huapi, the most southern, is used by Patagonian Indians going to Port Montt or Valdivia; the highest point, called Pedro Rosales, is reported by Messrs. Fonck and Hers as only 2770 feet over sea-level, and 30 leagues from Montt colony.

Arica, Rinihue, and Villarica, communicating with Araucania. The Indians say they are practicable all the year round, and the eastern slopes covered with apple-trees.

Peña-Blanca, Antuco, and Parqui-Tanquen, also used by Indians. Antuco is only 6900 feet high, and here Cruz passed in 1806, when he came from the Pacific to Buenos Ayres in 47 days. The Indians take cattle and salt by this route to Chile.

Planchon, used by Ranqueles cattle-lifters. Mr. Robert Crawford surveyed this pass in 1872, for a railway to Chile.

Highest point, 8225 feet; steepest gradients, 1 in 30 on Argentine, 1 in 20 on Chilian side; sharpest curve, 574 feet radius; 15 tunnels, in all 2200 yards long; 2 viaducts, the highest 190 feet high and 650 feet long. The summit is 830 miles from Buenos Ayres, and 59 from the nearest railway station in Chile.

Damas, Peteroa, and Cruz de Piedra, also Indian passes. The first was so called by Souillac in 1805, because, he said, ladies could cross at any season. Pissis states the Cruz pass to be 11,360 feet, but one of the shortest and best.

Portillo, described by Darwin and Dr. Gillies, is 13,240 feet high, difficult, and often shut with snows; it reduces the distance to 80 leagues from Mendoza to Santiago.

Uspallata, or Cumbre, 12,870 feet, is the usual overland route to Chile, and proposed by Mr. Clark for his Transandine railway. Couriers cross it all the year, but travellers only from November to April inclusive. The only dangerous part is the Cumbre, which should be passed before 10 A.M. to avoid the high wind. The journey can be made in three days, but is usually done in six, viz.: Mendoza to Villa-Vicencio, 15 leagues; to Uspallata, 15; to Punta Las Vacas, 15; to the Pie del Cumbre, 10; to Guardia Vieja, 12; to Santa Rosa, 13; in all, 80 leagues.

Potrero-Alto separates from the last at Punta Las Vacas, is shorter and more difficult.

Horcones, formerly used by smugglers.

Los Patos, by which General San Martin led his army into Chile in 1817, takes its name from the abundance of ducks, and is used by San Juan traders to Valparaiso, the distance being 128 leagues.

Calingasta, Tocota, Agua-Negra, Coconta, Colangué, Deidad, and Doña-Ana are passes between San Juan and the Chilian provinces of Aconcagua, Coquimbo, and Atacama, much used for the traffic of fat cattle into Chile, as well as by muleteers.

Three passes, called Pircas, Pulido, and Come-caballo, connect Copiapó with San Juan, and are much frequented in summer,



the distance being 200 leagues: they are high, and exposed to frequent storms.

From Salta to Copiapó there are the routes of Fiambulá, San Francisco, and Autofagasta, passing through much desert country; distance about 200 leagues, taking 15 days; height, 10,000 feet.

Despoblado, from Salta to Cobija across deserts, takes 20 days.

To Bolivia there are two excellent roads always practicable: the old high road from Salta to Peru, well supplied with mules, and the Humahuaca road, from Jujuy to Suipacha.

## CHAPTER XII.

## SAN JUAN.

THIS province ranks eleventh in the Confederation, having only 60,319 inhabitants, or 10,000 less than De Moussy's estimate in 1859. It is, however, the most progressive in the interior, and has for successive years earned the prize given by the Argentine Congress for the province which shows the largest relative number of children attending school. There are 62 schools, attended by 6907 children. It has also produced a variety of learned and distinguished men, including President Sarmiento, Dr. Rawson, and others. Its agricultural and mining industries are more advanced than in any other of the provinces. There are half-a-million acres under alfalfa pastures, where cattle are fattened for the Chilian market, and this occupation as well as the care of vineyards absorbs one-third of the entire population. The land artificially irrigated often gives crops a hundredfold, especially maize, wheat, and beans. But for the scarcity of capital much more land might be irrigated and brought under cultivation.

The only river of any importance is the Rio San Juan, which has its source in the Cordilleras, passes by the city and is lost in some lakes in the southern part of the province. The climate is healthy, dry in winter, and very hot in summer, with short rains occasionally. Grapes, oranges, and peaches thrive in great abundance, but the fig and olive have deteriorated. Foreign trees are acclimatized at the Government Quinta Normal, which is under the direction of a German. Timber for firewood is found all over the department. Coal exists at Marayes, and excellent samples were obtained by Mr. Klappenbach, but the locality is too remote to be of much use, and

Congress refused Mr. Klappenbach's application for the premium of discovery, as these coal-beds were certainly known before. Silver mines are so numerous that they are said to cover an area of 10,000 square miles; many of them are very rich, and as soon as the railway, now in construction, opens up this province, mining will form a principal industry. The best known mines are at Tontal, Jachal, Guayaguas, San Pedro, Iglesia, Marayes, Morado, Guachi, Gualilan, and Huerta; the works of the Anglo-Argentine Co., of London, are at Gualilan. The Tontal silver mines, 100 miles S.E. from the city, are reputed the richest. In other places are said to exist copper, iron, and marble.

The province may be said to consist of three great valleys—Tulan, in which the city of San Juan is situated; Jachal, with a town of the same name, and Valle Fertil. The census of 1869 gives the population as follows:—

San Juan	..	..	..	..	28,192
Jachal	..	..	..	..	12,040
Valle Fertil	..	..	..	..	2,055
Pozitos	..	..	..	..	4,158
Angaco	..	..	..	..	5,479
Caucete	..	..	..	..	3,221
San Martin	..	..	..	..	5,174
					<hr/>
					60,319

It is the only province which shows no increase of population during the last ten years, and this is owing to the incessant convulsions of which San Juan has been the scene. The aboriginal inhabitants were Guarpe Indians, as in Mendoza, who intermarried with their conquerors, and at present in many of the rural departments this mixed race is plainly observable, but not in the city. De Moussy gives the area at 33,000 square miles, but the San Juaninos claim 96,000; the province lies between the 30th and 32nd parallels of S. lat. on the eastern slope of the Andes.

*City of San Juan.*

It was founded in 1561 by Captains Castillo, Jofré, and Mallea, on the banks of the river which bears its name, and from its position on the northern extremity of the Cuyo territory was known as San Juan de la Frontera. In 1776 it received a Deputy-Governor from Mendoza, and continued even after the Independence to be considered as a part of the province of Cuyo, until 1820, when it declared itself a separate State. The city, which stood originally at the place now called Pueblo Viejo, about 4 miles northward, had to be removed owing to inundations from the river; its present population is 8353, there being 4 women to 3 men, and it counts 115 Europeans, of whom 9 are English, besides 319 Chilians. The town is watered by means of acequias or canals, one of which runs through each block. The principal square is nicely planted; the public buildings comprise a cathedral, 3 churches, and 7 schools, the most remarkable of the latter being the Sarmiento Model School, with Grecian façade and accommodation for 600 boys. Most of the houses are built of "adobes." An active trade is maintained with Chile, the leading merchants being Quiroga, Zavalla, Merlo, Carrié, Lloveras, Moreno, Rodriguez, and Aguiar. The journey to Chile takes five or six days by the Uspallata pass, which is open from 1st November to 1st May. The exports consist of fat cattle and dried fruits; the raisins are of superior quality, although the native-grown wines are badly prepared. The Governor and principal authorities reside at San Juan.

The suburbs comprise Concepcion, Desamparados, Santa Lucia, and Trinidad, with an aggregate population of 20,000 souls. The first occupies the site of the old capital, and offers a picture of superior cultivation. The second is on the Márquezado route, passing the Murallon or dyke of 1000 feet in length, to prevent inundation: the hills abound in marble of various colours, and this district counts numerous limekilns.

This road also leads to the picturesque watering-place of Zonda, in a valley watered by a river of that name, famous for its fruits, at a medium elevation of 3300 feet over sea-level: hither the principal families repair in the summer months. Santa Lucia is beautifully irrigated, and produces wheat, fruits, and alfalfa in abundance, as also the districts of Chacritas, Rincon, and Cercado. The village of Trinidad, on the Pozitos road, has country houses and gardens of charming appearance. The usual yield of wheat is twenty-five fold, but in some places it has given 100 for one.

The city of San Juan is 120 leagues from Cordoba, part of the way being desert. The new road passes over the Cordoba hills, through San Pedro, skirting the south point of the Llanos range, and by Guayaguas and Caucete to San Juan.

#### *Pozitos*

Is a populous and well-cultivated department, forming as it were a series of gardens, with rows of poplars between, and artificial irrigation. The Acequion and Paramillos valleys are specially remarkable for the well-cultivated farms known as Durazno, Barros, Acequion, Pedernal, and Quebrada de Montaño. The road to Uspallata passes here. Eastward along the slopes of the Zonda, on the Mendoza route, are Carpinteria, Cañada Honda, and Huanacache: the first is useless from lack of water, but the two others yield fine wheat and grapes. At Cerrillos and Cochagual the industry is pastoral. The village of Pozitos is 3 leagues S. from San Juan, and in 1861 a battle was fought here.

#### *Caucete,*

East of San Juan, extends from the foot of the Palo mountains to the lagoons of Huanacache and the sand-deserts which form the boundary with Rioja. In 1825 a company was formed to cultivate a part of this district, but the civil wars prevented any efforts for more than thirty years, till 1858, when canals were made, lands divided into farms of 40 cuadras each, and a

prosperous state of affairs inaugurated. Wheat, grapes, and poplars have enriched the first settlers, and the village of Cauçete, which is about 7 leagues from San Juan, on the eastern bank of the Rio San Juan, is now the centre of a flourishing region of farms, which extends even up the slopes of Sierra de Palo, overlooking the high road from San Juan to San Luis. The Sierra Guayaguas, on the borders of Rioja, has a silver mine and some grazing farms.

#### *Angaco,*

Sometimes called Salvador, lies N.E. from San Juan, between the Villicum and Pie de Palo ranges. A canal 20 miles long is drawn from the San Juan river to Punta del Monte, affording irrigation to the whole department, which is carefully cultivated. Angaco village, with a church and 808 inhabitants, is about 6 leagues N.E. of the city. The village of San Isidro is also in this department. Beyond Punta del Monte the high roads to Valle Fertil and Rioja are devoid of water for over 100 miles.

#### *San Martin*

Occupies a pleasant valley beyond the Rio San Juan, facing the city, having on one side the Sierra Villicum, and on the other that of Ullum; it also comprehends the Calingasta valley, which is traversed by an Andine stream that falls into the Rio San Juan. The village of San Martin, sometimes called Tapias, is near the last-mentioned river, and surrounded on all sides by smiling farms, as far as Tapiecitas, Barrial, and Pachaco. Five miles inland from the village, on the Villicum slopes, we find mineral waters of a sulphuric character.

#### *Valle Fertil*

Lies midway on the route from San Juan to Rioja, consisting, as its name indicates, of a fertile valley, cut off from the rest of the province by an uninhabited desert extending 100 miles in the direction of San Juan, and offering much difficulty to tra-

vellers. It is proposed to obviate this by establishing post-houses along the route, which is in places wooded and with pasture, up to a distance of 12 leagues from Valle Fertil, when the numerous cattle-farms of this fine valley commence. The village of Valle Fertil has only 467 inhabitants, but the district is populous on the eastern or Rioja side of the sierra, and a sub-delegate with two justices of peace reside in the village. The sierra abounds in mineral wealth, especially about La Huerta, where mines have been in working for many years. Coal is found at Marayes, of excellent quality. Wood for mining furnaces abounds.

### *Jachal.*

An extensive valley to the north-west: the lower or southern part is arid, but the upper is well watered, and numerous smaller valleys converge into that of Jachal, each irrigated by an Andine stream: these streams swell the Rio Jachal to a good volume of water, which fertilizes the country for miles. The town of Jachal, with 981 inhabitants, is pleasantly situated in a zone of gardens and plantations. It is the residence of a sub-delegate and the usual district authorities, and maintains a brisk trade with the Chilian ports of Coquimbo and Huasco, sending thither across the Cordillera large quantities of fat cattle, and receiving in exchange European manufactures. It has but little trade with San Juan, from which it is distant 150 miles N.W., a desert of nearly 40 miles intervening from Rio San Juan to the Jachal valley. Parallel with this last is the Pismanta valley, the lower part of which is desert, but the upper well cultivated and famous for its sulphur springs, as well as for its gold mines at Chilca, and those of silver at Antecristo. The Gualilan gold mines, belonging to a London company, are also in the Pismanta valley, at the foot of the Jachal range. Rodeo and Iglesia are two hamlets farther north, also in this department. In the mountainous country between the Jachal and Guandacol ranges are the mining districts of Pescado and Guachi-guaco. The desert and valley of Mogua lie south-east of Jachal; the valley

is irrigated by the Moquina river, along which numerous water-mills are met with, and agriculture is in an advanced condition. Close to the town of Jachal are establishments for extracting ore from the minerals.

If this province had peace and an influx of population it would rapidly assume great importance, both on account of its mineral wealth and its advantageous trade in fat cattle with Chile. A canal has been spoken of to connect San Juan and Mendoza, rendering cultivable a tract of 150 miles, now desert. The Rio San Juan, sometimes called Los Patos, from the defile of the Andes in which it takes rise, irrigates a large portion of country; its length is 300 miles, its width about 250 feet, and during the summer months the melting of Andine snows gives it such volume of water that it is navigable from Caucete to the lagoons of Portezuelo or Huanacache, in which it loses itself. An inundation in December, 1833, laid waste 10,000 acres of arable land, and even threatened the city; a dyke was then constructed, causing such floods to cover the opposite bank. The Huanacache lakes are formed by the rivers Mendoza and San Juan, and from them the Desaguadero takes its rise. In summer their level is much heightened, and the water almost potable; but in other seasons it is salty and brackish. The various mountain-ranges are spurs of the Andine system, their medium height being 15,000 feet, and the only remarkable peak Aconcagua; the ranges are rugged and bare, free from volcanoes, and in many places rich in minerals. The census commissioners report the actual number of mines working as 14 of gold, 10 of silver, 12 of lead and silver, 1 of copper; besides 2 smelting establishments for gold and 5 for silver.

The province of San Juan took the following prizes at Cordoba:—

- S. Klappenbach, minerals: gold medal.
- P. Sarmiento, embroidery: gold medal.
- M. Langa, wagon: silver medal.
- M. Rodriguez, dried fruits: silver medal.



M. Doncel, wines : silver medal.

M. Castro, mule : silver medal.

Prov. Committee, lace-work, &c : one silver and three bronze medals.

Gov. of Province, gold lace : bronze medal.

Videla Brothers, oil-paintings : two bronze medals.

M. Albarracin, poncho, &c. : two bronze medals.

This province came off fourth, being next after Tucuman.

## CHAPTER XIII.

## RIOJA.

THE thirteenth province in point of population, there being only one less (Jujuy) in the whole Confederation; it is also of small extent, its area not exceeding 35,000 square miles. It lies south of Catamarca, along the eastern slope of the Andes, between the 28th and 32nd parallels of south latitude, and bounded on the east and south by the Salinas desert, which separates it from Cordoba, San Luis, and San Juan. The mineral and agricultural resources are almost inexhaustible, but the country suffered so long from civil war that it was comparatively desolate until the pacification of 1863, and is even now only slowly recovering. The chain of the Andes averages here a medium height of 13,000 feet, some of the ancillary ranges being still higher; the most elevated point of the Sierra Famatina is Nevado, 20,600 feet, and Cerro Negro, in the same range, is 15,000 feet. The Sierra de Rioja, sometimes called Velazco, is about 10,000 feet; Jagüé and Vinchina are nearly as high. The valleys are exceedingly productive, famous for oranges and wine, which find their way to the lower provinces notwithstanding the want of roads.

The primitive inhabitants were the same as in Catamarca, of the brave tribes of Calchaquies, who fought against their Spanish conquerors from 1590 to 1655, when the former were at last subdued and this territory put under a Lieutenant-Governor subject to the Governor of Tucuman. About the close of the eighteenth century agriculture was commenced, the products being sent down to Cordoba and Buenos Ayres. Subsequently the mines of Famatina attracted still greater notice, until the civil wars, in which the tyrant Quiroga played such a part,

began in 1822 and lasted over forty years. General Peñaloza, nicknamed the Chacho, was an independent chief of the Llanos, who defied alike the tyrants and the laws, until his death in 1863. The inhabitants now seem intent on the arts of peace, and while public instruction is making great progress, there are no less flattering signs in the number of mining and other enterprises projected, besides the railway in construction to unite Rioja with Cordoba.

The Spanish census of Rioja territory in 1814 showed a total of 14,092 inhabitants, of whom one-third Creoles, one-fourth Indians, and the rest slaves or coloured people. Since then the census has been twice taken, in 1855 and 1869, the figures being as follow:—

	1855.		1869.
Rioja .. .. .	4,985	.. ..	5,632
Famatina .. .. .	8,579	.. ..	10,668
Upper Llanos .. .. .	6,531	.. ..	6,196
Lower Llanos .. .. .	4,084	.. ..	12,083
Guandacol .. .. .	1,777	.. ..	2,669
Vinchina .. .. .	2,789	.. ..	3,308
Arauco .. .. .	5,686	.. ..	8,190
	<u>34,431</u>		<u>48,746</u>

The last census shows the number of women to exceed that of men by 2155, or as 14 women to 11 men, of the adult population, doubtless owing to the incessant civil wars. Education is well attended to, there being 53 schools, attended by 4157 children. Of the adult population one-fourth can read and write.

About 27 per cent. of the children are enrolled as illegitimate, and the number of orphans under fourteen years reaches the astounding figure of 3422, or 16 per cent. of the total number. There are five persons over 100 years, the oldest being José M. Origaen, teacher, a native of Peru, aged 120; and Francisco Herrera, of Costa Alta, aged 114. The census of 1855 gave only 39 foreign residents, but now there are 253, of whom, however, only 35 are Europeans, the rest being mostly Chilians

engaged in mining. The mines in active working are 2 gold, 7 silver, and 2 copper; there are 11 smelting works between Chilecito and Famatina. At the foot of the Cordillera are found carbonate of soda, nitrate of potash, and various salts.

The province of Rioja took the following prizes at Cordoba in 1872:—

S. Garcia, minerals: silver medal.

M. Villafañe, native brandy: silver medal.

Rioja Committee, fruits and ponchos: two silver medals.

Mme. Reyes, woollen fabric: bronze medal.

Mme. Vega, vicuña shawl: bronze medal.

It was one of the lowest on the list.

#### RIOJA CITY.

The city of All Saints of New Rioja was founded in 1591, and stands at an elevation of 1780 feet, in 29° 20' of south latitude, 970 miles N.W. of Buenos Ayres, with which it is connected by telegraph. The suburbs are beautifully cultivated for an area of 9 or 10 square miles by means of artificial irrigation, and if the traveller proceed by the defile of Sanogasta to an Indian village in the mountains he will pass by numerous chacras, where grapes and wheat are successfully reared. Orange groves are also frequent. The white wine of Rioja, not unlike sherry, is known all over the Republic, and might be much improved by better attention to this industry. Among the woods that cover the slopes of Sierra Velazco are farms of cattle, horses, and sheep, but in some places water is so scarce that the only supply is obtained from wells.

The population of the city is 4489, there being an excess of 543 women. Only 141 persons can read, and the number of children at school is 179. The only Europeans are 3 Spaniards and 1 Frenchman.

#### FAMATINA.

This is by far the most important section of the province, and extends from Catamarca on the north to San Juan on the south,

forming a magnificent valley between the Nevado and Velazco ranges, and two smaller valleys at the Cerro Paiman. The latter are separated from the Famatina valley by the Aguadita pass, 9300 feet high, from which the traveller descends to the plain and chapel of Carrizal, before reaching Famatina, which is a continuous village 10 miles long, watered by the streams that fall from the Nevado. A ride of 40 miles takes us to Chilecito, otherwise Villa Argentina, which is chief town of the department, and a place of more commercial importance than the city of Rioja.

*Chilecito* has 1406 inhabitants, a school attended by 38 children, some good shops, and is connected with Buenos Ayres by telegraph. It stands at a height of 3700 feet, and the suburbs comprise plantations of olives, oranges, grapes, pomegranates, and cereals, watered by Nevado streams. Mines in this district produce silver, which is sent to Chile or Cordoba. The villages of Pituil and Tinimuquí are in a fine arable soil, but suffer from lack of water.

*Nonogasta*, famous for its wine, and *Bichigasta* at the mouth of the Guachin defile, are well situated; the second produces a confection of algarrobo in great request, and is on the high road to Vinchina across the Famatina range.

*Campanas*, a village in the valley of that name, near Sierra Paiman, takes its name from the metallic rocks hereabout, which when struck with a piece of iron give forth the sound of a bell; this valley is famous for its apples, and also produces cereals; its elevation is over 3000 feet.

*Angulo*, another agricultural village in a valley at the foot of Paiman.

#### LLANOS.

This wild, wooded, and uneven territory, whose name signifies "the plains," is intersected by hill ranges and valleys, where wood and water abound. Some few scattered hamlets are met at long intervals, the inhabitants raising fruits and vegetables, or tending cattle. Guayama and other notorious bandits infested

the Llanos for many years, and travellers usually go well armed and in company.

Upper Llanos are the western side; Costa Alta is a village of 684 inhabitants, with a school attended by 62 children.

Lower Llanos, or the eastern side, comprises Independencia, Belgrano, and San Martin, with small villages, which do some business in hides, tallow, wool, and cheese.

Mines of silver and copper have been found in the extremity of Sierra de los Llanos.

#### GUANDACOL.

This department occupies the elevated valleys south-west of Vinchina and bordering on San Juan. Some wheat is raised, but the chief industry is fattening cattle for the markets of Huasco and Copiapó.

The village of Guandacol counts 1303 inhabitants, almost pure Indians, one portion of whom spend most of the year hunting guanacos, vicuñas, and chinchillas, the other devoting themselves to agriculture and the care of large potreros for fattening cattle.

The principal plantations of grain are to be met with at Hornillos and Paso del Medio. In this department there are 4 schools, attended by 52 children.

#### VINCHINA.

Comprising three extensive valleys, viz. Hermoso, Jagüé, and Vinchina, between the Sierra Famatina and the Andes, all occupied in fattening cattle for the Chilian market. A stream, called the Bermejo (not that which crosses the Chaco), takes its rise at Nevado del Bonete, and waters these three valleys, the third of which is remarkable for its fine plantations of cereals and fruit-trees.

The only villages in this department are Burras and Sano-gasta, on the western slope of Sierra Famatina; and Jugüé at the foot of the Leoncito range. There is a school attended by 34 children.

## ARAUCO.

This department is remarkable for its plantations of olives, first begun under Governor Davila in 1822, and now a source of great wealth to the inhabitants. It comprises the slopes of Sierra Velazco, which look towards the Salinas desert of Catamarca. The valleys being well watered produce excellent grapes, cereals, and fruits.

Concepcion de Arauco is a town of 3237 inhabitants, there being 4 women to 3 men; there are 4 schools in the department, at which 568 children attend. The villages of little note are Sances, Mezan, Augallan, Michigasta, and Pasinche.

## CHAPTER XIV.

## CATAMARCA,

THE ninth province in order of population, is one of the largest in extent, for although De Moussy gives it only 35,000 square miles (and this is about the inhabited portion) the official registers take in a large area of mountain territory, making in all 7753 square leagues. It is an exceedingly rich and fertile country, irrigated by numerous small rivers: the physical aspect presents snow-capped mountains, luxuriant valleys, great plains, and extensive forests of varied and valuable timber. Peach plantations are so common as to be public property; most of the fruits of tropical and temperate climes are also found in abundance. On the plains the people gather annually large quantities of cochineal, and many of them cultivate saffron and aniseed. The climate varies according to locality, but in general the summer is hot, with frequent rains, and the winter is temperate. Intermittent fevers occur in some departments, ague prevails in certain wet districts, and small-pox is not unknown; but persons of careful habits find the climate most healthy, and travellers always speak in flattering terms of the people, soil, and temperature of Catamarca.

Its limits are: on the north Bolivia and the province of Salta, on the north-east Tucuman, on the east Santiago del Estero, on the south Rioja and Cordoba, and on the west the Andes. It measures 320 miles from north to south, and 300 from east to west. In the centre rises the peak of Aconquija, the summit of which is covered with perpetual snow, its height being 15,800 feet; the range of which it is the principal feature occupies two-fifths of the province. There are 12 departments, as follows:—



	Population.	Sq. Miles.
Catamarca .. .. .	5,718	8,500
Valle Viejo .. .. .	5,858	
Capallan .. .. .	4,974	5,000
Piedra Blanca .. .. .	8,916	
Alto .. .. .	9,449	6,000
Andalgalá .. .. .	7,035	11,250
Poman .. .. .	3,695	
Santa Maria .. .. .	5,390	11,780
Belen .. .. .	7,845	9,000
Tinogasta .. .. .	10,324	15,000
Ancaste .. .. .	5,508	11,000
San Pedro .. .. .	5,250	
	<u>79,962</u>	<u>77,530</u>

The mineral wealth of the Atajo mines is so great that the annual yield of bar copper from Mr. Lafone's "Restauradora" and Señor Carranza's "Rosario," amounts to several hundred tons yearly. The former was discovered in 1849 by Señor Espeche, in a locality known as Capillitas, but there are proofs of its having been worked by the Calchaquies and afterwards by the Jesuits; from the latter the tradition had doubtless been handed down to the old man who revealed the spot to Señor Espeche, and it has proved a fortune to many. Mr. Lafone employs here from 80 to 100 men, at an outlay of about 1000*l.* a month, the engineers and mechanics being English, and the establishment having a chapel and a general store attached. Besides copper, this mine yields some gold and silver. The Rosario belonging to Messrs. Carranza, Molina, and Co. is near the above, and employs about 70 men, the engineer, as usual, English, with commodious offices; the minerals are sent 25 leagues on mule-back to the establishment at Pipanaco. Mr. Lafone's "ingenio" is at Pilciao, 15 leagues by mule-back, from his mine. The winter in these regions is very severe. The Pilciao establishment is in a forest of algarrobos, 5 leagues S. of Andalgalá, with 555 inhabitants, between operatives and their families, covering an area of 20 acres: the houses and offices are well built, and the utmost order prevails; there are in

constant work 3000 mules, 220 oxen, and 290 asses, which are maintained partly on meadow grass, partly on the fruit of the algarrobo. The Pipanaco factory is almost equal to the Pilciao, standing at the foot of Mount Ambato, where wood abounds but water is scarce: it counts 311 hands, and has a large supply of mules and oxen; the yield is of course less than at Lafone's. There are 200 mines of less note in the province, mostly abandoned, such as the Ortiz, Santa Clara, Argentina, Catamargueña, Mejica, Esperanza, Bandera, Salvador, &c., but as soon as the new narrow-gauge railway reaches Catamarca, and places this province in communication with Cordoba and Rosario, we may expect to see a general revival of mining interests. Silver is found at Ambato and Tinogasta, gold at Santa Maria and Culampaja; also white and red marble at many places, and rock salt near Belen. Forests form a principal feature, covering more than 350 square miles, the largest being those of Ancati and Capellan, with cedar, quebracho, algarrobo, walnut, lapacho, poplar, &c. There is a desert of 400 square miles at Pozuelos.

Public instruction has made great progress of late years: in 1865 there were but 6 schools in the whole province, now there are over 70, attended by about 4000 children; the official returns for 1869 showing that 11,733 persons could read (or one-seventh of the population), and that 7531 children were assisting at 103 schools. The first Free Library was established at Catamarca in 1869 by Judge Quiroga, and another has since been opened at Bilismano.

The great drawback is the want of roads, coupled with its remote situation. The tables of 1869 show that 16 of the inhabitants were over 100 years of age, the oldest being Marcial Carpio, a mendicant, native of Rioja, aged 130, and Josefa Molina, seamstress, also of Rioja, aged 125.

The principal merchants in Catamarca are the Seguras, Molinas, Olmos, Navarros, Lobos, Correas, Canos, O'Mills, Gigenas, Maubecins, Alvarez, and Velazcos.

The province of Catamarca took the following prizes at Cordoba:—

M. Malbran, Vicuña shawls: gold medal.

Sam. Lafone, wines: gold medal.

Catamarca Committee, minerals, &c.: one gold and one silver medal.

Molina Brothers, embroidery: one silver and one bronze medal.

M. Angier, wines: two silver medals.

M. Figueroa, tanned hides, &c.: one silver and one bronze medal.

J. Tyrell, hams: bronze medal.

M. Nuñez, dried fruits: bronze medal.

The province came off fifth in the number of prizes.

#### CAPITAL AND SUBURBS.

San Fernando de Catamarca is situated in 28° 12' south latitude, on a table-land 1750 feet above sea-level, at the foot of Sierra Ambato. A spacious valley opens out to Sierra Ancaste, and the city has a picturesque appearance on the banks of the Tala, which waters the orange plantations and gardens all around. Although 200 years old, the city has a scanty population of 5718 inhabitants, the women being to the men as 4 to 3. The present city was founded by Governor Mendoza, from Tucuman, in 1680; but more than a century previous (1558), a Spanish officer, named Zarita, by order of Philip II., had founded a town called London, in honour of Queen Mary, of England. The Calchaquies, a tributary people of the Incas of Peru, disputed the Spanish sway for many years, and destroyed London, which was rebuilt sixty-two years later, and again destroyed. The native tribes were at last overcome in 1694, and the civilization of the country begun by the Franciscan friars. In 1776 Catamarca was annexed to Salta, under a Lieutenant-Governor, as part of the Viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres. It suffered dreadfully in the civil wars subsequent to the expulsion of the Spaniards, and the tyrant Quiroga left his mark here. The last revolution occurred in 1866, to overthrow Governor Maubecin, since which time things have begun to improve, under the Galindez-Figueroa administration.

At the west end of the city is the Alameda or public walk, around an artificial lake of 2 acres in extent, and 10 feet deep, where the waters of the Tala are kept for the supply of the city. The Cabildo, in the Plaza, is a two-story building of modern style, and contains all the public offices, such as Governor's quarters, prison, law-courts, and barrack. The Plaza is tastefully laid out with rows of orange trees, and on Sunday and Thursday evenings a band plays, when all the beauty and fashion of the place attend. The Matriz is a very fine church, with nave and aisles 220 feet long by 90 wide. The Orphan Asylum for little girls, under the charge of Carmelite nuns, was founded by Bishop Sanalberto, of Cordoba, in 1784; it covers an entire block, having a church attached, and has been richly endowed, possessing some farms at Paclin.

The convent of St. Francis, now counting a dozen friars who keep a public free school, was for nearly two centuries a kind of university where Latin and philosophy were taught; but its importance has diminished since the opening of the National College in 1868. The convent covers a block, and the church is being rebuilt; it is endowed with a well-stocked estancia. The National College was formerly a grammar-school, in the suppressed convent of Merced; the founder was Dr. Manuel Navarro, an agent of Rosas. The college covers half a block, having an upper, lower, and mining school, with good laboratory, library, and printing office: it possesses farms at Paclin, Andalgalá, and Ambato. Strangers will find two good hotels, a club, free library, two billiard rooms, two printing offices and book-stores; a local paper called 'La Voz del Pueblo;' five flour-mills, a tannery, sundry shops, and 985 houses, of which 258 are tile-roofed and 650 thatched. The ladies are famous for their embroidery and took several prizes at the Cordoba Exhibition. Catamarca is 962 miles N.W. from Buenos Ayres, and connected by electric telegraph. Mail-coaches ply weekly to Cordoba, with which city a narrow-gauge railway is in construction, to be finished by 1879. There are only 411

foreigners in the whole province, and 63 of these are in the city, including 2 English and 5 Germans.

*Cholla*, an Indian village about a mile north of the city, has an industrious population of Calchaqui descendants and half-breeds, who raise vegetables for the city market, and feed cows and goats on the slopes of Ambato. The houses are built of "adobes." Hard by is the city cemetery.

*Chacarita*, a mile west from town, is famous for its vineyards and gardens of figs and oranges, surrounded by poplars and willows. This charming district is watered by the Rio del Valle, and supplies alfalfa and barley.

*Angali*, half a league southwards, produces fine crops of wheat, being irrigated by the Tala.

*La Toma* in like manner yields an abundance of fruit and cereals; it lies westward, and the traveller may go on to the chapel and farm of the Franciscans, or to Ojo de Agua and Los Angeles.

#### CAPALLAN.

Area 3250 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Valle Viejo and the suburbs of Catamarca; on the east by Ancasti; on the west by Sanjil; and on the south by a desert plain in the direction of Cordoba. This district comprises the greater portion of the Valley of Catamarca, 20 leagues from north to south, and 15 from east to west. Its great fertility enables it to export flour to Tucuman, besides maintaining vast meadows for the troops of Rioja mules. It takes in the eastern slopes of Ambato, from which descend numerous streams, and vineyards form a leading branch of industry. The population of the department is 4974 souls, distributed among 730 houses, chiefly tile-roofed. There are roads practicable for vehicles to Cordoba and Rioja, but most of the traffic is on mule-back. The only road westward is by the Cébila, between Ambato and Mosan; some farming establishments in the Ambato are almost inaccessible. Los Pozos is the name given to a portion of the desert southwards, because for a stretch of 28 leagues

wells have been dug at stated distances along the coach-road to Cordoba.

*Villa Prima*, chief town of this department, has 1945 inhabitants, including 1 Frenchman. It is the seat of the local authorities, at the foot of the Ambato, most of the people being engaged in agriculture.

*Capallan*, a village with church and school.

*Coneta*, only 4 leagues S. of Catamarca, has a number of "adobe" houses around the Plaza, in which stands a chapel; and the outskirts consist of grain farms as far as Miraflores, a league farther south.

*San Pedro*, a village with chapel and school.

*Concepcion*, a pretty farming hamlet at the mouth of the pass of the same name.

*San Pablo*, a group of farm-houses 1 league E. of Concepcion.

*Chumbicha*, 21 leagues S. of Catamarca, is on the Rioja frontier; fresh water is scarce.

The eastern side of this valley is formed by the slopes of Ancasti, where the only water is that obtained from wells. Zancas, the farm of D. Francisco Acuña, is worthy of notice, and distant 5 leagues S. from Catamarca city.

#### VALLE VIEJO.

This department is sometimes considered an appendage of the capital, and embraces a portion of the beautiful valley which is formed by the Sierra Ancaste on the east and the range of Ambato on the west, and is watered by the Rio del Valle, a stream of trifling note in dry seasons, but which at times overflows its banks and causes such inundations that the city of Catamarca had to be moved in the seventeenth century to its present higher ground.

*Valle Viejo*, a well-built town of 2687 inhabitants, has schools attended by 344 children, and one-half of the population can read or write. There are three villages, called San Isidro,

Sumalado, and Porco, near the banks of the Rio del Valle; three others, Santa Rosa, Guaycamos, and Santa Cruz, at the foot of the Sierra Ancaste; and the hamlet of Portezuelo at the entrance to the valley of Paclin.

#### PIEDRA BLANCA.

A productive district of 500 square leagues, comprising two valleys, which are designated by the Mexican term of "cañon," owing to their precipitous sides. The Cañon de Piedra Blanca is formed by the Sierra Gracian on the east and the Ambato on the west: the Cañon of Paclin runs nearly parallel, between the Sierra Gracian and the Totoral.

Piedra Blanca valley is more properly two; the first part, 5 leagues long and barely a league wide, stops at Quebrada de la Puerta, after which the valley widens a little and terminates 14 leagues higher up at the peak known as Narvaez. Nothing can exceed the fertility of the soil, which produces cereals, wine, cotton, and tobacco: the second part of this valley, generally called Cañon de Pucarilla, is famous for its rich pastures, irrigated by the Nacimiento, Guañomil, and Ambato streams. The farmers do a lucrative business by fattening cattle in the "alfalfares" at \$3 to \$4 a head per month.

Paclin is sometimes considered a distinct department: the valley begins at Portezuelo, close to Catamarca, and terminates at Malpaso on the Tucuman frontier, being watered by the rivers Paclin and Balcosna. The products are the same as above enumerated, besides cochineal, and the timber in this valley is so suitable for cabinet-work that large quantities are cut and sent to Catamarca. The women are clever at weaving cotton and woollen fabrics, also vicuña ponchos. The cotton has been pronounced in England equal to Sea Island, but the cultivation has declined since English cotton goods have been imported cheaper than home manufacture. The sportsman will find pumas in the mountains.

*San José de Piedra Blanca*, 4 leagues N. of Catamarca, has

3474 inhabitants, a church, school, two hotels, sugar-factory, flour-mills, and several good shops. It exports tons of dried figs yearly to Tucuman and Santiago, and large quantities of oranges to Cordoba. Its suburbs comprise Old San José,  $\frac{1}{2}$  league N., with church and gardens; Collagasta,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  league N.W., with chapel and flour-mill; Hospicio, eastward, with pretty country-houses; and San Antonio, a league S., with school and shops.

*Amadores*, 8 leagues N. of Catamarca, is the only village in the valley of Paclin.

#### ALTO,

Bounded on the north by Tucuman, on the east by Santiago, on the south by Ancasti, and on the west by Piedra Blanca. It produces fruits, cereals, and tobacco: also sugar-cane on a small scale. The inhabitants are very industrious. Cochineal is collected in some places. Tigers and pumas frequent the woods. The want of roads is much felt, especially over the Santa Cruz mountains to the city of Catamarca, 15 leagues westward, whither the farmers have to convey their oranges, figs, and sweet potatoes.

*Alto* is a town of 2022 inhabitants, of whom 2 are North Americans. One-half can read or write, but the public school is only attended by 42 boys and 26 girls. In the Plaza are the church, town-hall, coffee-house, and principal shops: the largest dealer is Señor Segura, and sugar is imported from Cordoba, because that which is produced at Aligilan is not enough for the local consumption. The town is surrounded with gardens and well supplied with water. It is on the route for Santiago del Estero, and distant 15 leagues from Catamarca.

*Bilismano*, 6 leagues from Alto, is midway to the town of Ancaste, and possesses a chapel, school, and several houses, on the banks of the Arroyo Bilismano, in the mountain district.

*Guayamba*, also in the hilly country, has an important tannery and two mills. Gold has been lately discovered here, but no serious mining efforts have been made.



*Caños*, a village on the mail-coach road, in the midst of a fertile plain, is a convenient resting place where the traveller may obtain supplies.

*Alijilan*, famous for its sugar factory, also produces wheat, tobacco, and fruits.

At distances varying from 5 to 7 leagues from Alto are found minor villages, such as Manantial, Quebrada, Quimilpa, and Abanto, all productive and well-watered districts.

#### AMBATO.

This is a new department, formed out of a slice of Piedra Blanca, extending from the Valley of Paclin on the east to Fort Andalgalá on the west, and as far north as the Tucuman frontier. The principal industry is fattening cattle and exporting dried fruits. The village of La Puerta sends out yearly \$15,000 worth of dried figs. The road over the Singuil mountain is dangerous for travellers, being very slippery after rains and exposed to violent gusts of wind; the frequent rains render ague common. After crossing the picturesque valley of Pucarilla, you can cross the Sierra Ambato by Carrizo, 5 miles, or by Chilca, 3 miles; the first is the better. At the foot is the pretty village of Chilca, 40 leagues from Catamarca and 6 from Fort Andalgalá. Mules can easily be obtained. Farmers suffer some injury from the condors and pumas.

*Puerta*, a village of 1300 souls, is the seat of the local authorities, and has a church, a public school for boys, a private one for girls, a mill, several shops, and well-built houses on either side of the river which flows through the place. Vines, fig-trees, and plantations of apples and oranges give a very pleasant aspect.

*Singuil*, 22 leagues N. of Catamarca, possesses a valuable farm belonging to Messrs. Molina and Navarro, for fattening cattle; it is well fenced and watered. Tobacco and grain are also produced, and there is a flour-mill on the premises, besides a well-built house and ranges of peons' huts.

*Rodeo*, a village 3 leagues from *Puerta*, is much frequented in summer by wealthy families from *Catamarca*, being famous for its pure mountain air, its peaches, and potatoes.

#### FORT ANDALGALÁ.

This department derives its name from a fort constructed here by the Spaniards, to repel the attacks of the *Andalgalas*, one of the most warlike tribes of the *Calchaqui* Indians. It comprehends a large tract of country between the southern slope of *Aconquija* and the desert of *Salinas*; the valley of *Atajo* being equally remarkable for its mineral resources and advanced state of agriculture. The *Salinas* desert covers 4000 square miles, and is surrounded by mountains, with an opening at *Quebradillos*, 1150 feet high, on the side of *Rioja*. The mines of *Bisbis*, *Amanao*, and *Cholla* produce large quantities of copper; in fact, this department is probably the richest in minerals of all the Argentine Republic. Mules and asses are exported to *Peru* and *Bolivia*; hides, wine, and dried fruits to *Tucuman*. Most of the traffic is on mule-back, the mountain tracks being so difficult; each mule carries 300 lbs. weight. The women make fine *vicuña* ponchos, bed-quilts, &c. Sportsmen will find tigers, pumas, guanacos, hares, foxes, and ostriches. In the valley are wood-cuttings of *algarrobo* and *chañar*. The natives are mostly rough, but laborious. The winter is cold and dry, the summer only hot in the valley. Many places are so badly off for water that it is proposed to make *Artesian* wells. At *Poman*, on the western slopes of *Ambato*, cattle are fattened on *algarrobo* leaves.

*Fort Andalgala* and the country around present a most striking picture at the foot of *Aconquija*, whose peak is crowned with perpetual snow, giving origin to numerous streams that irrigate the valley. The soil is found very suitable for grapes. The town is the largest after *Catamarca*, having a population of 4450, and covering nearly a league of ground, including the gardens of the outskirts. The barrack in the centre is spacious;

the church is being rebuilt, but most of the buildings are of "adobe." Over 300 children attend the schools. There are sundry shops, an hotel, and billiard-room. West of the town, near the cemetery, is a tannery. The trade of the town keeps 5000 mules in constant traffic.

*Pucará*, at the foot of Sierra Chilca, preserves the remains of an Indian fortification.

*Poman*, chief town of a new department, has 1595 inhabitants.

*Amanao*, 7 leagues from Port Andalgalá, is a pastoral village.

*Chaquiago*, 1 league north, has chapel and schools. Not far from hence is Guazan, famous for its vineyards; and Choya, 3 leagues west, is inhabited by people who work at intervals in the mines.

#### SANTA MARIA.

Bounded by Bolivia on the west and north, by Salta and Tucuman on the east, and by the departments of Andalgalá and Belen on the south. Area, nearly 12,000 square miles, of which one-third is in the mountainous region, and two-thirds consisting of two valleys almost parallel. The first valley is 43 leagues in length from north to south, between the Aconquija range and the Andes, but is thinly inhabited. Some estancias exist, and the gauchos are much given to duels with the knife. The second valley, 26 leagues long, is famous for its cold, dry atmosphere, so favourable for consumptive people that many, especially from Tucuman, come hither, and go away cured. This valley is thickly populated for about 20 miles along the banks of the Santa Maria river. The naturalist and botanist will find plenty of interest in the hill ranges, as also the sportsman. Medicinal herbs and dye-woods abound; gold has been found in many places; marble crops up plentifully, as also rock-salt; of the latter you may cut blocks as big as a mule can carry. Among wild animals are the vicuña and guanaco; there is a large species of snake, and a spider about the size of a tortoise. Sugar and articles of import are obtained from Tucuman, in return for cereals, dried fruits, and aniseed. Fat cattle are sent

to Chile, mules to Bolivia, and cheese and rock-salt to other places. Hunting parties go out every Easter to kill vicuñas, the skins whereof are a valuable article of export. The mines have been abandoned for the last fifteen years, and the smelting works of Mr. Lafone, of Montevideo, which were situate 3 leagues S. of Santa Maria town, have been removed to Capillitas. The sandy desert of Pozuelos, 50 miles across, intervenes southward on the road to Belen; the rest of the department is very fertile, producing wheat, maize, potatoes, apples, pears, and superior pasture for cattle.

*Santa Maria*, 80 leagues N. from Catamarca city, by way of Andalgalá, is a town of 1877 inhabitants, surrounded by quintas and gardens; it has a church and school, most of the houses being of "adobes." Fuerte Quemado, Puesto, and Caspinchango are agricultural villages near. The coach-road to Salta is 80 leagues; that to Belen, 40 leagues.

*San José*, 4 leagues S. of Santa Maria, on the banks of the same river, with church, school, and amateur band, is remarkable for the politeness of its inhabitants. The Balastro smelting-works are 6 leagues southward, and here the first copper mines were opened. Two villages, named Cajunchango and Ampajango, are at the foot of the mountains.

#### BELEN,

Equally remarkable for its favoured soil and climate, the industry of its inhabitants, its picturesque scenery, valuable productions and numerous gold-veins, is bounded by Bolivia on the north, the Andes on the west, Tinogasta on the south, and Andalgalá on the east. The Blanca valley is occupied by men who tend cattle and hunt guanacos. The other districts, such as Gualfin, London, and Cienaga, are partly agricultural, partly pastoral. A large business is done in buying mules from Santiago, Rioja, and Cordoba, fattening them afterwards for exportation to Bolivia. The women weave handsome ponchos of vicuña wool, besides producing dyes in large quantity, and a

certain home-made cloth called "cordillate de Belen." Cereals are exported, also dried fruits, and native wines find a market in Bolivia. Gold-bearing quartz is so common at Culampajá and Santa Catalina that the country people often go to the foot of the sierra, pick up pieces of stone and take them home to break and extract gold in small quantities to meet their daily wants. Señor Espeche's mine is one of the richest. Flocks of llamas and goats are met with in places; the chinchilla, guanaco, and vicuña feed on the mountain pastures. The woods contain many valuable kinds of timber, suitable for upholstery. Some trade is done with Copiapó, in Chile, in fat cattle and ponchos.

*Belen*, a town of 3822 inhabitants, is 70 leagues W. of Catamarca city, with which communication is kept up by a weekly courier-à-cheval, by way of Fort Andalgalá: there is a fortnightly one from Salta, passing through to Chile. The town is situated on the bend of a river, at the foot of a lofty mountain, and surrounded by quintas and vineyards with fences of poplar, willow, or rose-trees. The church is being rebuilt: there are 2 schools, one attended by 170 boys; also 3 mills, several distilleries, a coffee-house, and club.

*London*, 3 leagues S. of Belen, is an insignificant village, but was founded by order of Philip II. and so called in honour of his wife, Queen Mary: the original walls are still seen. The upper village has a handsome church built by the Rivas family: the lower village has also its Plaza, church, and school.

*San Fernando*, 9 leagues N. of Belen, on the Culampajá river, with church, shops, and mill.

*Gualfin*, 3 leagues N. of San Fernando, is a village only remarkable for its mineral springs.

*Corral-Quemado*, 2 leagues farther north, is close to Espeche's smelting-works.

#### TINOGASTA,

The largest department in the province of Catamarca, stretches along the foot of the Andes and maintains a brisk trade with Chile: its population exceeds that of any other division of

the province, and owing to contact with Chile the inhabitants are more industrious and progressive than elsewhere. Some mines are owned by Chilean speculators, but the chief business is raising fat cattle for Copiapó and other Chilean markets. The department also exports yearly 2000 bushels of grain, of which Andalgalá takes one-half. In the numerous fertile valleys it is calculated that 5000 cows and 3000 sheep are yearly fattened, besides mules for Bolivia. Roads are much wanted: there are hardly any but mule-paths. Imported goods come mostly from Chile. The inhabitants use clothes made by the women of the country. The northern district of Singuil borders on Bolivia, and is a prey to the Zonda wind, which prevails during winter until November, destroying the crops and pulling up trees. The inhabitants are fond of hunting guanaco and vicuña; the flesh forms a principal part of their food, and the skins are exported. Copper and silver abound in the hills: the Hoyada silver mine was worked for some time successfully. There are two main high-roads to Chile, by Barrancas Blancas and San Francisco.

*Tinogasta*, the second town in the province, has 4568 inhabitants, church, schools, hotel, shops, and dwell-built houses: it is rapidly improving, thanks to the active, enterprising spirit of the townfolk, and lies 62 leagues W. of Catamarca city. The distance to Copiapó, in Chile, is 133 leagues by the most frequented of all the Andine passes. The road by Fiambalá is the shortest to Bolivia, but very difficult. The new road over Zapata to Belén is 22 leagues, but if you want to go on wheels the lower road, is 34 leagues.

*Fiambalá*, a village famous for thermal springs, is north of Tinogasta.

*Copacabana*, 3 leagues S. of Tinogasta, has school and shops: also some establishments for fattening cattle, especially that of Señor Villegos.

*San José*, a hamlet and chapel, on the route to Chile.

*Cerro-Negro*, 9 leagues E. of Copacabana, is an Indian village,

whose inhabitants raise donkeys, collect algarroba, and go to work at seasons at Belen.

The minor villages are Costa Reyes, Colorado, Puesto, Cachiyuyo, Santa Cruz, Barrial, Arana, Puntilla, Carrizal, and Singuil.

#### ANCASTE.

Bounded on the north by Alto, on the east by Buen Retiro, on the west by the Catamarca hills, and on the south by the frontier of Cordoba. Its mineral wealth will prove considerable, as soon as the roads begin to offer facilities for mining establishments. The face of the country is highly diversified: lofty peaks, ranges of hills, low grounds covered with brushwood, the latter producing añibullo, an excellent substitute for indigo. Some districts are so moist that ague is common. At the foot of Sierra Ancaste is a plain about 100 miles long by 30 wide, here and there studded with woods of quebracho, chañar, and a shrub called Sebil, very useful for tanning. Large numbers of mules, cows, sheep, and goats are met with in the luxuriant pastures. The inhabitants are represented as rather uncouth and wild, but they are good tanners, and also occupy themselves in plaiting bridles and weaving ponchos; they import dried fruits from Piedra Blanca in exchange for fat cattle, which go as high as 20 hard dollars a head. More than 1000*l.* sterling worth of lime is exported from Ancaste yearly. The minerals are silver and copper.

*Ancaste*, the chief town, is 14 leagues E. from Catamarca city, and has a church, schools, tanneries, shops, &c. It sends 8000 tanned hides yearly to Cordoba and San Juan, exports 5000 fat cattle to Chile, and supplies Catamarca with cheese similar to that made at Tafi in the province of Tucuman.

Within 2 leagues of town are met the villages of Anquin-cila, Episca, Tunas, and Totoral, some famous for tanning; and at farther distance, on the lower mountain slopes, are Rosario and San Vicente.

Lower down in the plain are the agricultural hamlets of Divisadero, Jumial, Aguadita, Peñas, Icaño, Angulio, and Toma.

## BUEN RETIRO.

San Pedro del Buen Retiro was formerly a dependency of Ancaste, forming the eastern portion of the territory which lies between the south-eastern spurs of Aconquija and the frontiers of Cordoba and Santiago. The principal business is fattening cattle, and a considerable trade is done with Cordoba. Rain-water is kept in lagoons, to compensate for the lack of rivers. The climate is so healthy that no epidemic has ever been known, except the cholera of 1868.

The town of San Pedro has only 574 inhabitants, but possesses a church, schools attended by 34 children, and some shops where the traveller will do well to procure necessaries before beginning the journey across the plains. It is situated on the great northern high road of the Republic, and will probably be connected by rail with Cordoba in three or four years.

The minor villages of Santo Domingo, Quiros, Esquina, Liebres, Palmitas, and Ramblones are of no importance.

The value of the annual productions of the province appears by a recent return as follows:—

	Quantity.	Value. \$ f.
Wheat .. . . . almudes	261,010	67,672
Indian corn .. .. . „	313,500	70,422
Tobacco .. .. . „ arrobes	19,500	15,600
Wine .. .. . „	90,320	74,656
Spirits .. .. . „	29,410	46,930
Fruits .. .. . „	..	13,280
Dried fruits .. .. . „	208,490	83,040
Cheese .. .. . ..	11,700	24,920
Horses .. .. . ..	3,030	8,600
Mules .. .. . ..	3,160	14,352
Asses .. .. . ..	5,460	2,424
Horned cattle .. .. .	45,040	73,000
Goats and sheep .. ..	62,525	26,809
Wool .. .. . .. arrobes	3,500	4,200
Tanned hides .. .. .	7,750	15,800
Copper .. .. . .. quintals	16,800	247,800
Carried forward .. ..	..	790,505



	Quantity.	Value. \$ f.
Brought forward .. ..	..	790,505
Gold contained in the copper ounces	2,500	25,200
Silver contained in the copper ..	134,400	80,640
Other articles .. .. .	..	68,400
Fattening cattle for export .. ..	..	193,760
Total .. .. .	..	<u>1,158,505</u>

The live-stock comprises the following:—

Horned cattle .. .. .	182,122
Horses .. .. .	37,457
Mules .. .. .	14,217
Asses .. .. .	24,205
Sheep .. .. .	75,300
Goats .. .. .	120,530
Hogs .. .. .	2,470
Llamas .. .. .	392

## CHAPTER XV.

## JUJUY.

THIS is the least of the Argentine provinces as regards population, and also one of the smallest in area, while it is the most remote from Buenos Ayres, being on the frontier of Bolivia. The original inhabitants were a warlike tribe called Humahuacas, who valiantly opposed the Spaniards from the first invasion in 1592 until the middle of the seventeenth century, when their conquerors transported them to Rioja, bringing in their stead reduced Indians of Famatina to people the valleys of Jujuy. In this manner the Spaniards secured free communication between La Plata and Peru, this being the only practicable high road, and for the same reason, when the War of Independence broke out Jujuy became the scene of many hard-fought battles between the Spanish and the Patriot armies. In 1824 peace dawned on Jujuy, and ten years later it was admitted as one of the 14 Argentine provinces, having before formed part of Salta.

The trade with Bolivia and the Pacific is considerable, mostly in fat cattle, gold dust, vicuña and chinchilla skins, wool, soap, potash, and salt; besides which the province produces tobacco, sugar-cane, petroleum, silver, copper, and a variety of timber suitable for cabinet-work. The roads are merely mule-paths, viz. by Despoblado to the port of Cobija, by San Francisco to Copiapó, by Puna to the interior of Bolivia, and by Cortaderos to Potosi and Peru: llamas are principally used for conveying merchandise, the whole system of the country, except the plain of Puna, being a portion of the Bolivian Andes. Herds of guanacos and vicuñas abound, as also the chinchilla, and there is some idea of breeding and taming in the Zenta valleys large

numbers of alpacas and vicuñas, the wool whereof is so valuable. The San Francisco, sometimes called Rio Grande, waters the province for nearly 400 miles, describing a half-moon, and receiving 18 affluents from the mountain ranges, after which it debouches into the Rio Bermejo: the affluents are named Humahuaca, Carmen, San Antonio, Calilegua, Yacoraité, Parmamarca, Tumbaya, Leon, Yala, Reyes, Cianso, Alisos, Lavayen, Negro, Ledesma, San Lorenzo, Sara, and Piedras, all which become impetuous torrents in the wet season.

The soil is fertile, the climate healthy but tropical, the mineral wealth considerable, and only means of communication are wanting to raise Jujuy to relative importance. The inhabitants are reputed industrious, and raise cereals and fruits: among the latter the banana, orange, olive, apple, pear, peach, and chirimoya or custard-apple grow in profusion.

The exact area is unknown, De Moussy stating it at 30,000 square miles, and the local authorities claiming 44,000. The province is separated from Bolivia on the north by the Bermejo river, the Despoblado range, and the eastern spurs of the Andes; on the south, and east it is bounded by Salta; and on the west by the Andes.

Official returns of the population are as follow:—

Jujuy .. .. .	7,629
Ledesma .. .. .	5,248
San Pedro .. .. .	3,228
Perico Carmen .. .. .	3,170
San Antonio .. .. .	976
Tumbaya .. .. .	1,643
Tilcara .. .. .	2,157
Valle Grande .. .. .	1,403
Humahuaca .. .. .	3,590
Puna .. .. .	12,335
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	40,379

Nearly one-tenth of the inhabitants are Bolivians, who come here either for purposes of trade or to escape the civil wars in

their own country. There are only 28 Europeans in the whole province, 2 being Germans, and no English. There are 38 schools, attended by 1600 boys and girls.

The annual export of salt exceeds 2000 tons. An effort to work the petroleum springs was made in 1866, but without success. Before the opening of the Cordoba railway the price of freight from Jujuy to Rosario was 200 silver dollars per ton, the journey taking four months. If the navigation of the Bermejo be carried out it will give a great impulse to this province. The value of exports is as follows :—

	Quantity.	Value. \$ f.
Horned cattle .. .. .	10,136	41,440
Horses .. .. .	703	5,624
Mules .. .. .	3,933	47,196
Asses .. .. .	4,476	22,380
Goats and sheep .. .. .	2,300	2,902
Hides .. .. .	..	1,382
Spirits—mule loads .. .. .	80	3,213
Grain, fruits, &c. .. .. .	10,400	3,222
Other articles .. .. .	3,163	6,373
		133,732

CITY OF JUJUY.

San Salvador de Jujuy, 1077 miles N. from Buenos Ayres, was founded by Juan Ramirez de Velazco in 1592, and although nearly three centuries old its population seems never to have reached 5000 souls; the census of 1869 gives 3072, including 19 Europeans, of whom 9 are Italians. The city is pleasantly situated on the right bank of the San Francisco (24° 20' S. lat.), 4000 feet above sea-level, and safe from the inundations that often occur in the valley. There are 4 churches, 3 schools, and a large Plaza where weekly fairs are held, to which the Bolivian dealers come in numbers; in the churches are some good paintings by Indian neophytes from Lima in the last century. The town comprises 33 blocks; most of the artisans are Indians or cross-breeds, who display much skill, and are so fond of chicha

that one of the chief products is maize, used in fermenting this liquor. The Jujeños also export chicha to Bolivia and Peru. The Governor, Legislature, Federal Judge, and other authorities of the province reside in this city, which is connected with Buenos Ayres by telegraph (nearly 1500 miles), and a narrow-gauge railway is being constructed to Cordoba. The distances by road, or rather mule-track, are as follow:—To Salta, 18 leagues; to Quiaca on the Potosi route, 74; to the nearest point of Bolivia, 54; to Oran, 75; to the port of Rosario, 392 leagues. The outskirts of Jujuy are highly picturesque, comprising ranges of wooded hills, well-watered valleys, and cultivated farms, especially in the localities of Reyes, Yala, Saucos, and Leon. Cattle, sheep, and horses are tended in the mountains. At Quebrada de Reyes there is a thermal spring of great efficacy in curing chronic rheumatism.

The mineral wealth of the province is remarkable, including gold-washings at Puma, Rinconada, and Cochinoca, silver, copper, lead, iron, antimony, marble, jasper, rock-crystal, &c., besides the inexhaustible salt-fields of Casabindo, and the bitumen or petroleum near Rio Negro. Extinct volcanoes are evident in some places, and a shock of earthquake was felt in 1858. According to Dr. Zegada, as much as \$54,000 in gold-dust is exported in a year from Jujuy city. Most of the inhabitants still speak the Quichua language of the aborigines, and Spanish is not much understood outside the city.

#### *Ledesma.*

A rich and productive department, bordering on Salta, Oran, and the Gran Chaco: it is watered by the San Francisco and numerous tributary streams that fall from the Calilegua mountains. The woods on these mountains abound in valuable timber for upholstery, as also the yerba-maté tree, Peruvian balsam, dragon-wood, &c. The Mataco Indians are very useful in clearing the forests to make room for plantations of rice, tobacco, coffee, sugar-cane, coca, and cotton, all which are raised

with great success: large sugar establishments give constant employment to numbers of the Chaco Indians. Tropical fruits are found to thrive, the summer being always very rainy, autumn and winter dry, and frost almost unknown. Cattle-farms are met with at Santa Barbara and east of San Francisco. Bitumen and petroleum exist in the foot of the sierra; besides lead, copper, and iron, as yet unexplored. The traveller ought to visit the sugar plantations of San Pedro, Rio Negro, Reduccion, Ledesma, San Lorenzo, and Las Piedras.

The town of Ledesma is the largest in the province, having 3149 inhabitants, or 77 more than the city of Jujuy; it counts 367 Bolivians and 3 Europeans: the sexes are ill-proportioned, there being 4 males to 3 females. Nearly one-tenth of the townfolk can read or write, and there are 2 schools attended by 71 children. It was founded in 1628 by Martin Ledesma, Governor of Salta. In the vicinity is Mr. Ovejero's establishment, which employs 350 Mataco and Chiriguano Indians, covers 200 acres, and produces 100 tons of sugar and 800 barrels of caña yearly. San Lorenzo, belonging to the Villar family, also employs a large number of Indians, chiefly Chiriguanos. Las Piedras, founded in 1857, is another great establishment; as well as San Ignacio, where the Jesuits had a Reduction, and the church is still standing. Of late years the establishment begun by Soria and his companions, before descending the Bermejo, in 1826, has been revived. The Araoz family have a fine sugar plantation at St. Pedro, 20 leagues from Jujuy, employing a great number of Mataco Indians.

### *Puna.*

This irregular plain, comprising four departments, Cochinoca, Rinconada, Santa Catalina, and Yavi, is broken here and there by hills that are often covered with snow, such as the Zenta and Castillo. It contains two great lakes, Casabindo in the north and Toro in the south, the first being an inexhaustible salt mine, which supplies most of the surrounding provinces and part of

Bolivia : the salt is conveyed in blocks on mule-back and llamas. All the inhabitants of these plains are Indians, who mix little with the rest of the world, but tend flocks of sheep, goats, llamas, and vicuñas, near the four villages that give name to the above departments. They also pick up gold-dust at Rinconada, about 3000 ounces annually. Cangrejillos, near Yavi, is a village on the high road to Peru. There are some fine farms at Puestos de Marquez.

The other departments have nothing of interest. Humahuaca, with 460 inhabitants, is the last Argentine town which the traveller passes through *en route* for Bolivia or Peru. Perico Carmen, population 550, is the centre of an agricultural district on the river Lavayen, sugar plantations being found as high as 3000 feet. Valle Grande, with the hamlet of San Lucas, occupies a portion of the San Francisco valley at the foot of the Zenta. San Antonio has grazing farms in the high lands of Castillo and Rio Negro, which average 6000 feet. Tumbaya has an extinct volcano called Pedregal del Volcan: the soil is too salty for agriculture, but supports cows, sheep, and llamas. Tilcara, with a village of 450 souls, is well watered, and produces fine crops of cereals. San Pedro is a place of 480 inhabitants. Each of these villages has 2 public schools.

The province of Jujuy took the following prizes at Cordoba, in 1872:—

- L. Pizarro, alpacas: two gold medals.
- Prov. Committee, vicuñas: silver medal.
- M. Ansoateguy, sugar: bronze medal.

Mr. Pizarro was awarded a grand gold medal for the introduction and acclimatization of the alpaca breed from Bolivia.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## SALTA.

THIS is one of the northern provinces bordering on Bolivia, and formerly included Jujuy, from which it is now separated by tributaries of the San Francisco. It is bounded on the east by the Bermejo; on the south by the Rio Las Piedras, which separates it from Tucuman; and on the west by a lower range of the Cordillera, called Santa Barbara. The first inhabitants were Calchaqui Indians, who spoke the Quichua tongue, and intermarried with their Spanish conquerors; but at present the only traces of mixed blood are to be found in the remote and mountainous districts, the people of the towns being mostly white. The Argentine Congress of 1825 estimated the population of this province at 40,000, and the census of 1869 gave 88,933, or nearly 2 to the square mile.

	Population.
Salta .. .. .	16,877
Caldera .. .. .	1,627
Cerrillos .. .. .	4,270
Rosario de Lerma .. .. .	5,973
Chicoana .. .. .	3,304
Guachipas .. .. .	5,588
Cachi .. .. .	2,694
Payogasta .. .. .	3,325
Molinos .. .. .	5,409
San Carlos .. .. .	5,565
Cafayate .. .. .	3,711
San José .. .. .	4,146
Rosario de Frontera .. .. .	5,014
Candelaria .. .. .	1,809
Anta .. .. .	4,228
Campo Santo .. .. .	3,233
Rivadavia .. .. .	1,622
Oran .. .. .	10,538
	<hr/>
	88,933



The returns of farming stock are :—

Horned cattle	.. .. .	253,469
Horses	.. .. .	46,749
Mules	.. .. .	15,736
Asses	.. .. .	33,192
Sheep	.. .. .	147,510
Goats	.. .. .	93,582
Hogs	.. .. .	2,465

The province suffered much from civil wars, and still more from its isolated position, the population having apparently fallen off 13 per cent. in the last ten years. The Salteños are very industrious, and numbers of them leave home to seek their fortune in other provinces. The want of local capital and of means of communication is a fatal obstacle to development. Cotton and indigo grow wild; sugar is largely cultivated, the Mataco and other Indian tribes coming at certain seasons from the Gran Chaco to work, often to the number of 20,000, but these are not included in the last census as belonging to this province. The climate varies with locality; earthquakes occur at rare intervals. Oran has tropical heat, while the western mountain parts are intensely cold, some having an elevation of 9000 feet; but the central valleys enjoy an agreeable temperature, and here the bulk of the population is to be found. These valleys are, moreover, fertile, being watered by the mountain stream from which the Bermejo and Salado take their rise. Little attention is given to the sheep of Salta, although they are a remarkable breed, long-woolled, and the largest in South America, a fleece averaging 12 lbs., or more than double what is usual in Buenos Ayres.

One of the most interesting establishments in the province is the factory of Mr. Palacios at Las Piedras; in 1864 he began cotton planting, and two years later got an Englishman, named Whittaker, to put up a watermill, which ginned 50 lbs. daily. Since then the establishment has steadily progressed, notwithstanding a plague of caterpillars in 1867. The proprietor,

having visited England, obtained machinery of 30-horse power from Ernest Reuss of Manchester, which he has put up at a cost of 4000*l*. The mill employs 40 hands, and has no steam power, as the Rio Piedras never runs dry. It turns out 250 lbs. of manufactured woollen or cotton textures daily, besides the finest vicuña ponchos, which are sold as low as 20 silver dollars. The mill is 240 miles north of Tucuman and 108 south of Salta. Mr. Stuar, an old German resident, reports the soil and climate peculiarly adapted to cotton, which is largely cultivated by the Indians, about 40 leagues below Oran, on the Bermejo, the shrub averaging 5 feet in height.

Education is beginning to make progress, there being 85 schools, attended by 4063 children.

The province of Salta took the following prizes at the Cordoba Exhibition:—

- M. Larran, tanned hides: gold medal.
- M. Palacios, home-made cotton: gold medal.
- M. Rennedi, native wines: gold medal.
- M. Guaymari, ponchos: silver medal.
- Salta Committee, blankets, coffee, &c.: one silver and five bronze medals.
- M. Echeverria, tanned hides: silver medal.
- S. Brachery, dried fruits: silver medal.
- M. Cornejo, sugar: silver medal.
- M. Ojeda, lace-work: bronze medal.

This province was among those that came off creditably, although its remoteness is a great bar to industry.

There are mines of gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, and other metals. Those in best repute, but not working for want of hands and capital, are the copper mines of San Antonio. There are also silver mines at Poma, gold-washings on the banks of the Acay, copper mines at Cafayate, lead and silver in the defiles of Guachipas, copper and silver in the Cerro de Lumbrera. From Oran we have some beautiful samples of silver. In Iruya and Victoria there are minerals of gold and silver. Captain Lavarello discovered some silver deposits at Santa Rufina, 10 leagues distant from Salta city. A kind of natural pitch

suitable for ship-building is found in large quantities on the right bank of the Rio Grande and at the confluence of this river with the Bermejo. Salt of a good quality exists in many places in abundance.

The annual value of products is set down as follows:—

	Quantity.	Value. \$ f.
Wheat .. .. . fanegas	60,140	288,672
Indian corn .. .. . „	134,274	268,548
Rice .. .. . arrobes	8,000	6,000
Potatoes, &c. .. .. . „	146,000	73,000
Cheese .. .. . „	15,000	37,500
Tobacco .. .. . „	35,000	143,000
Wool .. .. . „	30,000	72,000
Sugar .. .. . „	14,000	39,000
Spirits .. .. . barrels	2,200	24,200
Wine .. .. . „	6,300	47,500
Fruits, &c. .. .. . ..	..	34,000
Total .. .. .	..	<u>1,033,620</u>

### *City of Salta.*

The first settlement was made here by a Spanish officer, named Abreu, in 1582, who called the place San Clemente of New Seville, but the site was ill-chosen, and two years later Hernando de Lerma founded the present city, under the name of San Felipe de Lerma, in the pleasant valley of the same name, which it takes from the above captain, who, however, called the city after his master, Philip of Spain. Subsequently it took the name of Salta, and exercised jurisdiction over Jujuy, Tarija, and Oran. The Bolivians in the period of independence sent General O'Connor to occupy Tarija, and never afterwards gave it back. Jujuy became a distinct province in 1834. Oran still remains a dependency of Salta, being under the rule of a Lieutenant-Governor, appointed every two years by the Governor of the province.

Salta is a neat town, of 11,716 inhabitants, including the

Governor, Bishop, Federal Judge, and other principal authorities; the census shows 2 men to 3 women. The Government House, cathedral, and other buildings form the principal square. The situation is considered unhealthy, the Arias and Silleta streams sometimes inundating the suburbs, causing marshy exhalations which breed intermittent fevers. Goitrous swellings are very common. There are 900 Bolivian residents, chiefly persons escaped from the civil wars of their own country; also 110 foreigners, including 2 English. The traveller should inquire for Mr. Fleming, an Irish gentleman long resident here. Salta is 1000 miles north-east from Buenos Ayres, 60 south of Jujuy, and 200 from the nearest point of the Bolivian frontier. It was the scene of a victory over the Spaniards in 1812, the Patriot army being led by General Belgrano. The city is 3700 feet above sea-level. The Arias, which waters the suburbs, threatens a portion of the city unless embankments be constructed; it falls into the Silleta 5 miles lower down; and the latter, in the year 1830, left its old channel and opened a new one much nearer to the city. The department has an area of 250 square miles, including the picturesque suburbs of Buena Vista, Velarde, La Cruz, Costas, and Lagunilla. The canals or tagaretas around the city are pestilential. The city possesses, among other institutions, a good female orphanage. It is 1026 miles from Buenos Ayres, and connected by telegraph.

*Caldera* occupies the upper part of the Lerma valley, beyond the Rio Vaquero, adjoining the Jujuy frontier. Agriculture is much attended to, and at Getemani is found a species of clay, called Kaolin, suitable for making porcelain. This department abounds in wood, water, and cattle, but is thinly populated. The village of Caldera, with 168 inhabitants, is the residence of the local authorities, and has six dependent districts, the area of the department being 600 square miles. The village stands 4600 feet above sea-level and is watered by the river Vaquero, which afterwards changes its name to Mojotoro, one of the affluents of the Bermejo.

*Cerillos*, in the same valley of Lerma, but south of the city, has an area of 600 square miles, and takes its name from numerous hills, whose medium elevation is little over 3000 feet. The inhabitants mostly devote themselves to agriculture, especially raising sugar, although this crop often suffers from frosts. There are numerous lime-quarries in the hills: and some considerable estancias of horned cattle. San José de Cerrillos is a place of 912 inhabitants, carrying on a brisk trade, about 5 leagues S.W. of Salta, 3700 feet above sea-level. The village of San Augustin is a dependency of this department.

*Rosario de Lerma* is an extensive department watered by the Rio Toro, taking in the Tastil and Toro ranges, which form the boundary with Jujuy. It is thickly settled, with cattle-farms in the hills and agriculture in the lowlands, irrigated by means of canals drawn from the Carbajal and Silleta. Rosario is a town of 1132 inhabitants, 5 leagues W. of Cerrillos and 10 from Salta.

*Chicoana* is a plain of 700 square miles, taking its name from a village of 782 inhabitants on the Escoipe stream. It also comprehends the agricultural hamlets of Pedregal, Osma, and Sumalao, the surrounding hills having several cattle-farms; and copper ore is so abundant that in 1858 nine mines were opened and profitably worked, until political troubles closed them. Tobacco is much cultivated in the lowlands. The village of Escoipe in the defile of the same name, at an elevation of 6000 feet, is remarkable for the production of woods much used for cabinet-work and building.

*Guachipas* is an extensive valley of 1000 square miles, south of the foregoing departments, producing excellent grapes, and all the fruits of the temperate zone. It is watered by the Rio Guachipas, which takes the name of Juramento after leaving this valley, and subsequently is known as the great river Salado. The village of La Viña derives its name from the numerous vineyards; it has 456 inhabitants, and is the capital of the department, there being also chapels and small groups of habitations at the estancias of Puerta de Diaz, Vichimi, and Tunal.

*Cachi*, sometimes called *Cachi-pampa*, is a table-land 10,000 feet over sea-level, separating the Chicoana plain from the Calchaquy valley. The snow-clad peaks of Cachi and Acay belong to the Bolivian Andes, lying on the route for Cobija or Oruro. The village of Cachi, chief of the department, has 413 inhabitants, two-thirds males, and is on a river of the same name, which washes a rich mineral country where silver and copper were for some time obtained; but the works have been abandoned, owing to a want of hands and the great severity of temperature. It is over 40 leagues W. of Salta. Mr. Ledger, the famous breeder of guanacos and alpacas, on his return from Australia in 1867, settled here with some merinos, and has a fine farm.

*Payogasta*, a wild, mountainous region north of Cachi, with two dependencies called Poma and San Antonio, where fruits and potatoes are cultivated. Payogasta is less elevated, and grows some wheat, the village having 981 inhabitants, and being about an hour's journey from Cachi.

*Molinos*, a populous and fertile district, south of Cachi, in the mountainous country between Salta and Chile, irrigated in many places for agriculture, and also containing cattle-farms in the Amaicha, Luracatao, and other valleys. The village of Molinos, 477 inhabitants, at an elevation of 6300 feet, is the entrepot of all trade between Salta and the Chilean port of Copiapó. The hamlet of Siclanta, also in this department, stands 400 feet higher than Molinos. The estancias of Ibarguren and Gomez are among the best.

*San Carlos*, in the lower part of the Calchaquy valley, is watered by the same river that traverses Cachi and Molinos. The village of San Carlos, 50 leagues S. W. of Salta, is surrounded by gardens and vineyards admirably irrigated; population, 456. Merced is another agricultural village, and the rest of the department is chiefly devoted to pasture, except Animana, famous for grapes.

*Cafayate*, celebrated for its native wines, occupies the embouchure of the Calchaquy valley, touching on the Tucuman

frontier at the foot of the snowy range of Los Quilmes, on the western side of which Mr. Ledger prepared his establishment of alpacas before exporting the breed to Australia. Goats and sheep thrive along the Calchaquy valley, especially on the slopes of Cachi-pampa: mules are also abundant for mountain travelling, and the wheat of the valley is of superior quality. From Cerro Acay at the head to Tolombon at the foot the valley is 250 miles long. Tolombon algarrobo forest borders with Tucuman. The village of Cafayate, 6 leagues S. of San Carlos, has 567 inhabitants, and is surrounded by vineyards.

*San José de Metán*, on the high road from Tucuman to Salta, is a village giving name to the department, which includes also Conches, Galpon, and Las Piedras. The village of San José has some agriculture, and is over 20 leagues S. of Salta. The cloth factory of Señor Palacios at Las Piedras is in this department: it is close to the ruins of Esteco, a village which was destroyed by an earthquake in 1692.

*Rosario de Frontera*, a populous, hilly department, watered by the affluents of the Juramento or Salado, and producing large quantities of sugar and tobacco, as well as cheese similar to that of Tafi, for which the adjoining province of Tucuman is so famous. The village of Rosario is remarkable for mineral springs, close to which a hospital has been erected by a grateful Salteño gentleman who recovered his health here. Two leagues distant are the ruins of Esteco.

*Candelaria*, south of Rosario river, adjoins the Tucuman frontier, taking in the plain of Mogotes and the Yarami hills. It produces sugar, tobacco, and cheese. The village of Candelaria is 30 leagues S. of Salta, close to the Tucuman frontier.

*Anta* is an extensive department, composed of ten districts, bordering on the Gran Chaco, between the Salado and Bermejo, with large cattle-farms, and a few scattered groups of huts around the chapels of the Missions of olden time, or the ruined forts that formerly protected the frontier. The chapels are still standing at Miraflores, Piquete, and Guanacos, the last-named

being the most southern settlement in the direction of the desert. The Indians come regularly to work at the estancias. The village of Anta is 30 leagues E. of Salta, at the foot of the Anta hills.

*Campo Santo*, a delightful country, separated from the suburbs of Salta by the affluents of the Lavayen, which water the whole department; and as the medium elevation does not exceed 2300 feet, all the fruits of temperate or tropical climates thrive abundantly. The coffee is said to be equal to that of Yungas in Bolivia, which latter is far superior to the finest Mocha or Brazilian ever grown. Sugar is largely cultivated, the Matacos Indians affording cheap labour at the required periods. Among the fruits are the chirimoya and coca, the latter being much used in Bolivia and other mountainous countries, where the natives chew the leaves when going a long journey. The village of Campo Santo, on the Lavayen river, is about 8 leagues E. of Salta. Another village, called Cobos, is on the high road to Peru. Cornejo's sugar plantation, at San Isidro, is a fine establishment.

*Rivadavia* is situate on the north-east bank of the Rio Vermejo, about 4 leagues below Esquina Grande, in the province of Salta, up to which point there are no impediments to navigation. It is bounded on the north by the grant belonging to the missionary Fathers, on the south and east by the Arroyo Teuco, and on the west by the Rio Vermejo. It covers a superficies of 200 square leagues (1,300,000 acres), extending 6 leagues in breadth from N.W. to S.E., and 40 in length. The soil is mostly alluvial, being periodically inundated by the Vermejo. The colony was established in December, 1862, and it counted 54 families with an aggregate of 550 souls. Since then, numerous "suertes" have been allotted to new settlers, and the colony is now much larger. Each family receives for ever a donation of a "suerte" of estancia, 2500 yards front by the same depth (about 1200 acres), between the rivers Vermejo and Teuco, or double that area if the lands have not frontage on the



above rivers ; also a building lot, 15 yards by 60, on the site of the proposed town ; and a chacra of 4 acres for cultivation. The chief industry of the colony is in horned cattle, the stock amounting to 20,000 head. The soil is fertile, and large plantations have been made of cotton and tobacco ; but at present the difficulty of transport seems insuperable. President Mitre's Government was authorized by Congress to expend all necessary sums for the construction of a road from Corrientes to Esquina Grande ; the project has been allowed to fall into oblivion ; but the road, when made, will pass through the colony and meet the high road of the northern provinces somewhere on the frontier of Salta and Tucuman. Most of the settlers are poor Bolivians from Tarija, or Santa Cruz de la Sierra, and they sometimes employ the Chaco Indians as peons. There is a fort here with three pieces of cannon, to protect the place against Indian foray. Mr. Roldan having established in 1874 a regular steamboat service on the Bermejo by means of light steamers built in the United States, these remote districts will make much progress. Esquina Grande is 40 leagues from Oran, and 100 from Salta city.

*Oran* is a dependency of the province of Salta, comprising three departments under the direction of a Vice-Governor, who is appointed by the Governor of Salta, out of three names proposed by the constituents, and holding power for the same term as the Governor. Its territory embraces both banks of the Bermejo, the limits being described by its founder the Marquis de Pizarro (in 1794) as—south, the Rio de Piedras ; west, the peaks of Humahuaca, in the Zenta chain ; east, the Gran Chaco ; and north, a line drawn from the Quiaca stream to the Tarija jurisdiction, which begins at 30 leagues from that city. The population of the three departments, according to the recent census, is as follows :—

Oran .. .. .	4,592
Iruya .. .. .	2,668
Victoria .. .. .	3,278
	<hr/>
	10,538

Along the banks of the Bermejo there are many valuable estancias and farms, besides some Indian Reductions, such as Inmaculada Concepcion, composed of some hundreds of half-civilized aborigines. Sugar-cane, tobacco, mandioca, maize, and bananas grow in many places, and the woods near the town of Oran yield excellent timber for ship-building or upholstery. The town, before the earthquake of November, 1871, contained 2345 inhabitants; the village of Iruya, 456, and Victoria, 480. The census report describes Oran (in 1869) as a new, well-built town, watered by canals from the Rio Zenta, and separated from the Bermejo by a forest of 10 miles; at a distance of 30 miles from the confluence of the San Francisco and Bermejo and 120 from Esquina Grande.

The chief importance of Oran is, that it is the key to all traffic between Bolivia and the Bermejo, being the highest point navigable on this river. Here it is customary for traders who descend the river to make rafts for floating down trunks of cedar, as José Arze and others have done in recent times, disposing of their merchandise at Corrientes. Oran is 240 miles from Salta, 200 from Jujuy, 150 from Tarija, 600 from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, and 100 from Humahuaca by the San Andres valley and gap of Zenta. The high road to Tarija follows the bank of the Bermejo, and is often impracticable in seasons of flood. The San Andres valley for 80 miles offers a scene of magnificent tropical vegetation, but as we ascend to the village of the same name, 5000 feet over sea-level, we enter on a region where snow rules supreme for a great portion of the year. The gap of Zenta is the highest part of the road leading to Humahuaca and Bolivia, being 15,000 feet above the sea.

The department of Iruya lies west of Oran proper, in the slopes of the Sierra Zenta, with an area of 186 square leagues, chiefly devoted to the raising of cows, sheep, goats, llamas, mules, and asses. The village of Iruya was formed into a parish in 1839, and counts 456 inhabitants; it is situated at a great elevation in the mountains, which are a ramification of the Andes.

The department of Victoria is north of Iruya, and bounds the Bolivian frontier ; it has an area of 80 square leagues, the lower part of which is watered by the Bermejo. The village of Victoria is on the Arroyo Pucará, where the natives obtain gold by washing the sands ; and in various places are found deposits of gold, silver, and copper. The village has a population of 480 souls. The ranges of Humahuaca and Zenta abound with beautiful crystallizations and calcareous stones of various colours.

## CHAPTER XVII.

## TUCUMAN,

THE Garden of South America, well deserves its name, whether we consider the richness and variety of its products, the genial climate, the charming scenery, or the many other natural gifts which make the province of Tucuman the most favoured spot in the Argentine Republic, or perhaps in the whole continent. The country is magnificently wooded and watered; fields of sugar-cane, wheat, rice, and tobacco alternate with orange-groves, aroma trees, and flowering plants in rich profusion, and the tall mountain peaks of the Andes form a prominent feature. Martin de Moussy found laurel trees measuring as much as 28 feet around the trunk, or 10 feet in diameter, which he considers older than the time of Columbus.

The area of the province is 28,350 square miles, and the population less than four to the square mile, the various districts being as follows:—

	Sq. Miles.	Population.
Tucuman .. .. .	3,600	37,559
Famayllá .. .. .	770	10,198
Monteros .. .. .	600	14,181
Chicligasta .. .. .	1,260	11,960
Río Chico .. .. .	1,400	8,687
Graneros .. .. .	2,640	8,534
Trancas .. .. .	13,600	3,670
Encalilla .. .. .		
Burru-Yacú .. .. .	2,800	5,500
Leales .. .. .	1,680	7,203
	<u>28,350</u>	<u>108,953</u>

The original inhabitants were the Lules and Calchaqui tribes, subject to the great Indian Emperors of Cuzco. They

resisted the Spaniards for nearly a century, but were finally overcome, the territories now known as Tucuman, Catamarca, and Salta being settled by adventurers from Peru, about the middle of the fifteenth century. The present boundaries of Tucuman are: the river Tala, separating it from Salta on the north; the Rio Salado and Gran Chaco on the east; the Rio Hondo or boundary-line with Santiago del Estero on the south; and the Aconquija and Ambato ranges on the western side, towards Catamarca.

The city of San Miguel de Tucuman was founded in 1564, by Diego de Villaroel, at the confluence of the rivers Salí and Monteros, but frequent inundations caused the inhabitants to remove to the present site in 1585. It stands on a table-land, commanding a wide prospect, and looks pleasing to the traveller, the houses being surrounded with orange-gardens: its height over the sea is 1430 feet, and it is about 25 feet over the river Salí, from which it is distant a mile, and about 4 miles from the foot of the Andes;  $26^{\circ} 52'$  south latitude, and  $68^{\circ} 20'$  west longitude. In population it is the fourth town of the Republic, coming next in order after Rosario, and having 17,438 inhabitants. The women are reputed handsome, the men active and intelligent; the disproportion of sexes is very great, there being 4 women to 3 men. The city is built in the same chess-board form, with narrow streets, as other Spanish towns; most of the houses are of brick, with spacious court-yards; a few have upper stories. The Cathedral and National College are the only public buildings; there are numerous schools, and the proportion (32 per cent.) of persons who can read or write is above the average. There are only 207 foreigners in the town, mostly French, Italian, or Bolivians, and but 2 Englishmen and 3 North Americans. Tucuman is called the Cradle of Independence, because the solemn declaration of the thirteen States of La Plata throwing off the Spanish yoke was published here on July 9th, 1816. It will be the terminus of the Grand Trunk Railway, Messrs. Telfener and Lumb being

at present constructing a line from Cordoba to this city, which may be regarded as the continuation of the Central Argentine. Within a radius of 10 miles around Tucuman city may be counted over 40 sugar establishments, which turn out annually 30,000 barrels of aguardiente, and 1000 tons of sugar, representing a value of more than 100,000*l.* sterling. De Moussy says that the sugar-cane was introduced about seventy years ago from Peru into Oran, and a priest named Colombres was the first, in 1820, to try its cultivation in Tucuman, which proved most successful. During the civil war of 1841 many of the sugar-fields and factories were destroyed, but of late years increased attention is devoted to this industry. The old mills moved by oxen have, in many places, given way to modern machinery, such as at San Francisco, Las Piedras, Ledemas, &c.; the sugar mills brought out from Liverpool, and conveyed a thousand miles overland in bullock-carts have, in many instances, cost 800*l.* or more, but they effect a gain of 25 per cent. more juice extracted, besides working so much quicker and better. At San Javier, 15 miles from town, you can enjoy the frigid zone; in the suburbs you can raise excellent wheat, and a few miles farther, coffee, sugar, and tobacco, proper to hot climates.

The city of Tucuman is 822 miles N.W. of Buenos Ayres, according to the telegraph route, whereas the distance by the old coach-road was reckoned 358 leagues, or nearly 1100 miles; and the journey was one of several weeks, the bullock-carts usually taking a year in the round trip to and from Rosario. At present the traveller can easily proceed from Buenos Ayres to Tucuman in seven days, and the railway when completed will reduce the journey to four days. Telegraphic communication exists not only with Buenos Ayres, but also with the remote provinces of Catamarca, Rioja, Salta, and Jujuy.

Tucuman furnished a large contingent to General San Martin's army before crossing the Andes, and some of her

best citizens died on the victorious fields of Maypú and Chacabuco. A monument at the Ciudadela, one mile from town, marks the spot where another distinguished General, Belgrano, beat the Spaniards under General Tristan, on September 24th, 1812. But for the constant civil wars of half a century, and utter isolation of this beautiful province, its advancement would have been more in ratio with its splendid natural endowments. Nevertheless the people are kindly and hospitable, with a keen appreciation of the value of European improvements. The Mamelucho, or gaucho of the plains, still follows the pastoral life of his ancestors; he is generally good-humoured, with few wants; his wife makes his clothing; his cattle are the finest in the Republic; and the soil gives him for the slightest labour a bountiful return of grain, fruit, &c. The mineral resources of the country are almost untouched, although Parish says the Aconquija range abounds in veins of gold, silver, copper, and lead; these peaks rise to a height of 15,000 feet, and are covered with perpetual snows.

*Famayllá*, including Lules, is a picturesque department south of the city, abounding in rich pastures watered by numerous mountain streams, forests of valuable timber which give occupation to numerous woodcutters, and fields of maize, rice, sugarcane, wheat, tobacco, &c. The village of *Famayllá* has 228 inhabitants; besides the hamlet of Lules, at the foot of the mountains. The gigantic laurels mentioned by De Moussy, as 70 feet high, are found at Fronterita, in this department. Señor Posse has a great sugar factory at Lules.

*Monteros* is separated from *Famayllá* by the river Aranilla, and is famous for its numerous water-mills, chiefly used for sawing timber. There are also several tanneries, sugar establishments, and distilleries, and a good deal of household furniture and cabinet-work is made here. Fat cattle are exported to the markets of Chile, Catamarca, Rioja, and San Juan. The soil produces, besides the staples common to the

province, a fine quality of cotton, which the women weave into embroidered cloths. The hill-range known as Sierra de Quilmes reveals layers of silver, copper, and iron. The town of Monteros, next after the capital in population, has 1432 inhabitants, the women exceeding the men by one-third: it is a station on the Tucuman and Catamarca line of telegraph.

*Rio Chico* adjoins Monteros, and comprises a large but thinly-settled department. It is considered the most picturesque part of the province, taking in the slopes of the mountains, with valleys, rivers, waterfalls, forests, and country-houses. The establishments of the Molino and Iltico families, in the valley of Arcadia, are worth a visit from the traveller, who may then push on through the wood-clad hills and spurs of Aconquija which intervene on the route to Andalgalá, the frontier post of Catamarca. Cedar, quebracho, walnut, laurel, guayacan, &c., are found in endless variety. Agricultural and pastoral pursuits occupy most of the inhabitants. There is no village with even 100 inhabitants, but five small hamlets at the various churches of Quiasca, Naschi, Medinas, Rio Chico, and Nio-gasta.

*Chicligasta*, south of Rio Chico, resembles that department, but has more extensive plains. The sugar is the best in the province, and large quantities are exported through the village of Medina, besides dry hides and tobacco. Santiago also receives oranges from here, and a good business is done in cart-wheels, for which the wood of the district is most suitable. The Hondo and Arcadia rivers are famous for fish. The hamlet of Chicligasta stands on the Rio Salí. The women are remarkable for their industry, making fine needlework and ponchos, which they dye with native roots. There is a telegraph station at Medina.

*Graneros*, the most southern department, borders on the province of Santiago, from which it is separated by the San Francisco river. The town of Graneros, the third in the



province, has 1006 inhabitants, and is situate on the Rio Maropá, with some patches of agriculture around. Higher up, near the mountains, is the district of La Cocha, where the soil is richer, and timber abounds.

*Leales* lies farther east, on the Rio Salí, comprising a level country, suitable for flocks and herds. On the banks of the river the facilities for irrigation have given rise to several grain farms. The hamlet of Leales has less than 100 inhabitants.

*Trancas* occupies a vast extent of hilly country in the north-west, taking in also the districts of Vipos and Tala. The inhabitants are thinly scattered and very poor, only able to eke out a subsistence as squatters or labourers, and less in number than De Moussy's estimate showed in 1863. The village of Trancas has a good church and 684 inhabitants: it is a telegraph station. The hamlet of Colalao adjoins the chapel of that name.

*Burru-Yacú*, a northern department adjoining Salta and Santiago del Estero, is traversed for much of its length by low hill-ranges, such as Medina, Campo, Ramada, and Remate, which alternate with numerous limpid streams. The southern part consists of rich pastures, famous for fat cattle. Salt springs are found in one place which yield enough salt for the country round, and give occupation to 200 persons. Marble, chalk, and limestone abound in a hill-range 60 miles long. Among the various kinds of timber are some the bark of which is used for tanning. This department includes Timbó. The village of Burru-Yacú is a small place on a stream called Urueña.

*Encalilla*, a south-western department of vast extent and small population, is only remarkable for the Tafi cheeses which have a South American reputation. The hamlets of Encalilla and Tafi have parish churches. The country is very broken and irregular.

The estancias of the Laguna and Silva families, in the

charming vale of Taffi, dispatch yearly to Buenos Ayres about 8000 arrobes, say 100 tons, of this exquisite cheese. The other products of this fertile province are estimated as follows :—

	Value.
	\$
150,000 arrobes sugar .. .. .	370,000
25,000 barrels rum .. .. .	350,000
200,000 arrobes tobacco .. .. .	300,000
50,000 tanned hides .. .. .	280,000
12,000 dry hides .. .. .	50,000
100,000 arrobes rice .. .. .	80,000
10,000 saddle-cloths .. .. .	50,000
	<hr/>
	\$1,480,000

To the above must be added at least as much more, for timber, maize, wheat, oranges, &c., of which no returns have been made out. The tanned hides are preferred in foreign markets to those of Salta or Paraguay. The mountain-sides are clad in timber of the richest varieties, as high as 8000 feet. Mulberry abounds in many places, and the experiments for raising silk-worms have proved most successful. Although large quantities of produce are exported to Chile and Bolivia the trade of the country is incapable of much development until better roads be made. The Aconquija passes to Taffi, Colalao, Santa Maria, and Andalgalá are only practicable to mules. The road to the western provinces of Catamarca, Rioja, San Juan, and Mendoza is pretty good, except in the part known as Totoral. Volcanic agency is perceptible in some places, and this province was visited by an earthquake in 1844, which shook very much the city of Tucuman. The animal and mineral kingdoms are among the richest in the Republic: the sportsman will find lions, condors, guanacos, &c., in the hilly parts. The traveller ought to visit Posse's indigo establishment, which was founded in 1865 and covers several acres; the indigo is found wild through extensive tracts in the neighbourhood, and is

reported equal to that of Central America. The returns of live stock in the province are as follows:—

Horned cattle	.. .. .	269,715
Horses	.. .. .	82,300
Mules	.. .. .	11,870
Asses	.. .. .	6,430
Sheep	.. .. .	88,450
Goats	.. .. .	24,200
Hogs	.. .. .	12,900

The prizes awarded to this province at the Cordoba Exhibition were as follow:—

- Garcia, sugar: gold medal.
- Teran, tanned hides: gold medal.
- Lopez, embroidery: gold medal.
- Erdman, sugar: gold medal.
- Tucuman ladies, silk banner: silver medal.
- Posse, indigo: silver medal.
- Araoz, sugar: silver medal.
- Marañon, rice: silver medal.
- Rodriguez, samples of wood: silver medal.
- Avellaneda, ponchos: bronze medal.
- Garcia, brandy: bronze medal.

besides 11 medals awarded to the Committee of the province for tobacco, starch, embroidery, walnut furniture, &c. The total prize list of Tucuman showed 5 gold, 9 silver, and 6 bronze medals, putting this province third on the scale, coming next after Cordoba.

In soil and climate Tucuman possesses such advantages as are destined to raise this province to much importance: at present it holds sixth place in the Confederation, coming next after Corrientes. Its population has nearly doubled in twenty-three years, Dr. Gondra's census of 1845 showing 57,876, and that of 1869 giving 108,953, inhabitants. Intermittent fevers are very common, and 602 persons are reported as suffering from goître: otherwise the climate is exceedingly healthy. There are very few foreigners in the province, the total number in

1869 being only 351, chiefly French, Bolivians, or Chilians, and some few Italians. There are eight persons living whose age exceeds 100 years; all natives, and two of these have reached the age of 115. The number of those who can read or write is returned at 12,800, or one-eighth of the population, and there are 6317 children attending 101 schools. The census of 1869 gave five deputies to this province, instead of three, the previous number. Among many eminent men this province produced the famous historian Dean Funes, and Dr. Avellaneda.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

## SANTIAGO.

THIS is the fourth of the Argentine provinces, having a population of 132,898, and coming next in order after Entre Rios. It is situated on an extensive plain, between the 26th and 30th degrees of latitude, and has an area, according to De Moussy, of 35,000 square miles, all thickly populated, showing an average of four persons to the square mile. The province, however, also claims nearly 70,000 miles of Chaco territory, at present uninhabited.

It is generally called Santiago del Estero, from a large swamp near the capital, and the boundaries of the province may be described thus. On the north, Tucuman and Salta; on the east, the Gran Chaco; on the south, Santa Fé and Cordoba; on the south-west and west, Catamarca and Rioja. The chief rivers are the Dulce and Salado. The soil is productive, famous for its wheat, which often gives eightyfold; also for its fat pastures, and for its abundant yield of cochineal, algarroba, muscatel grapes, melons, figs, and prickly pears. The climate is so healthy that fevers are unknown, the temperature being mild in winter, but excessively hot in summer, sometimes going up to 103 in the shade. A liquor called chicha, distilled from the algarroba, is much in request among the inhabitants, who are usually very indolent, and pass most of their time sleeping on the ground or smoking native tobacco. The women, it should be said, are industrious and make good ponchos, which fetch five or six silver dollars each. The ancient Quichua language is widely spoken; the Jesuits of Peru published a grammar and dictionary of it, now very rare. This province has fallen away since the time of the Jesuits, when it exported cochineal and

cotton on a great scale; cattle farms now occupy the site of vast cotton plantations in the last century. The sheep are remarkable for their long wool. Cattle and horses are far from plentiful. The native cotton-tree is perennial, yielding in abundance for ten years, but now the industry is almost abandoned since the introduction of cheap cotton goods from England. Various kinds of timber abound, suitable for cabinet-work, also dye-woods, gums, wild honey, indigo, carbonate of soda, and a soap made from a bark called Jume. The inhabitants are of pure Indian blood, except in the towns, where there is a cross of Spanish. There are only 95 Europeans in the province; there are 68 schools, attended by 3812 children. Ophthalmia prevails in some districts.

The Rio Salado, which traverses a portion of the Gran Chaco, waters a great part of this province, although it is generally known by the name of Juramento, taking its rise in the snow peak of Acay, among the Andes of Salta. All efforts to render it navigable from Santa Fé through the Chaco have proved fruitless. The Rio Dulce is formed of a number of streams descending from the Sierra de Aconquija, receiving the Riarte, otherwise Tala, at the point where this river marks the frontier between Salta and Tucuman; passing through the latter province, where it receives six affluents, and under the name of Rio Hondo indicating the limit between Tucuman and Santiago. In the plains below Santiago city it loses its rapidity, and its waters, having left their old bed in 1825, now get lost in the Salinas marshes, the only outlet whereof, the Saladillo, overflows annually. This stream is so impregnated with chlorure of soda that if a man falls into the water he cannot sink. From Paso Mistol the Dulce resumes its course, by Abipones, to the Porongos and Mar-Chiquita lakes, and returns to its old bed at Salavina. The bed now dry, above alluded to, shows 190 feet in width by 10 in depth. Northward is a small river called Horcones, which rises in the hills of Tucuman, and in wet seasons is tributary to the Salado.

The province comprises the following departments :—

Santiago .. .. .	8,498 inhabitants.
Banda .. .. .	4,903 ..
Robles .. .. .	4,597 ..
Silipica .. .. .	9,695 ..
Loreto .. .. .	13,152 ..
Soconcho .. .. .	6,348 ..
Salavina .. .. .	10,164 ..
Sumampa .. .. .	9,088 ..
Matará .. .. .	19,963 ..
Gimenez .. .. .	17,496 ..
Gnasayan .. .. .	3,072 ..
Choya .. .. .	4,212 ..
Rio Hondo .. .. .	8,260 ..
Copo .. .. .	15,450 ..
	<hr/>
	134,898 ..

#### *City of Santiago.*

Santiago del Estero was founded by Francisco de Aguirre in 1553, on the right bank of the Dulce, in 27° 47' south latitude, at a height of 520 feet over sea-level, although in flood-times the city is often seriously menaced. In dry weather the river is about 300 feet wide and 3 feet deep. Exuberant vegetation is maintained by channels drawn from the river, called "acequias," for which a tax is levied of two dollars on each garden per annum, giving to the city and outskirts an abundance of oranges, wheat, maize, sugar-cane, grapes, and other fruits. There are fig-trees of 10 inches diameter; peaches and pomegranates also thrive. The city has 7775 inhabitants, 4 women to 3 men, and presents an aspect of decay, with deserted houses, silent streets, and only an occasional movement at the arrival or departure of a train of bullock-carts. The trade of cotton and cochineal having died out, the principal products now-a-days are ponchos and wooden stirrups. There is a well-built Government House of bricks, with spacious apartments, one of which is hung with the portraits of distinguished Argentines. There are 3 churches and 2 schools, attended by 653 children. Most of

the houses and one of the churches are built of "tapia," or sun-dried bricks, several feet long by two or three in thickness, which crumble away in time by the action of saltpetre.

Santiago is 728 miles from Buenos Ayres, with which it is connected by telegraph. The old Jesuit church and college are falling to decay. There is an orphanage for girls, founded in 1840 by a charitable lady, named Taboada. In the convent of San Francisco is shown the cell of St. Francis Solano, apostle of Tucuman and Paraguay, who drew the Indians to him by his skill in playing the violin, as represented by his statue in the church.

The province of Santiago took the following prizes at Cordoba:—

- Ramases and Parody, tanned hides: gold medal.
- Governor of province, indigo: silver medal.
- L. Didier, counterpanes: bronze medal.
- P. Sanjonus, flour: bronze medal.

Except San Luis, this was the province which made the poorest figure.

#### *Banda.*

A department of little note, on the left bank of the Dulce, with sundry wheat plantations, and fine pastures where the natives fatten cattle. There are four hamlets: Rincon, Maravilla, Quiroga, and Velez.

#### *Matará.*

Famous for sixtyfold wheat, raised in the low grounds bordering on the Salado or Juramento, after the periodical overflow and retiring of the waters. Thick forests abound, especially on the left bank of the Salado, which is infested by Mocovi Indians, and these often cross the river, making incursions on the peaceful inhabitants. Many fords are known to the Indians and hunters of wild honey. Fort Bracho is an important frontier outpost, founded by the late General Taboada; a road hence leads to Campo del Cielo in the Gran Chaco, where there is a prodigious mass of meteoric iron.



*Copo.*

Another department periodically flooded by the Salado, and remarkable for its fertility: the soil is undulating, and alike suited for pasture or agriculture. Many farms occur on the right bank of the river, in a rich vegetable soil. This department borders on Salta. The inhabitants are tame Indians, descended from those converted by the Franciscans in the last century.

*Gimenez.*

A wooded district bordering on Tucuman, with cattle farms where water is so scarce that the herds depend on wells for their supply. The villages of Gimenez, Tipiro, and Remes are surrounded with small grain farms.

*Guasayan.*

A mountainous district, where the inhabitants subsist on some scattered flocks of sheep and goats.

*Rio Hondo*

Takes its name, "deep river," from that portion of the Rio Dulce which is unfordable, where it receives the Maropá from the Aconquija mountains. It is eminently agricultural, producing wheat and maize, besides having good pastures northward. The village of Rio Hondo has 684 inhabitants and a school of 52 children. There is a hamlet called Sotelillos, famous for its sulphur springs, which are much frequented.

*Choya*

Lies between Salinas and Catamarca; it is in parts wooded, near the spurs of the Ancaste and Aconquija ranges, and has numerous rivulets running down from the hills, especially the Albigasta, which is the frontier line between Santiago and Catamarca. A village at the southern extremity of the Sierra Guasayan goes by the name of La Punta. Another is called Guaptayan; both insignificant.

*Robles,*

East of Santiago city, on the banks of the Dulce, is famous for its sugar plantations, but most of the department is covered with dense woods (the name Robles signifying oak), which have to be cleared for agriculture. The sugar factory of Mr. Luis Frias is one of the finest in the province.

*Silipica.*

South-east of Robles, and along the Dulce: the lands near the river are devoted to agriculture, the more distant to pastoral industry. The village of Silipica has a chapel; so have the hamlets of Tuama and Sumamas; with schools counting 77 children.

*Loreto*

Is met with still descending the Dulce, where wonderful wheat crops are raised every year after the waters retire. The more remote lands are so scarce of water that cattle are supplied from wells, but even these are so brackish that the villagers cannot use the water for drinking purposes. The town of Loreto, with 1368 inhabitants, was a place of some importance in the last century, being on the high road from Buenos Ayres to Peru: at that time the Dulce passed close by, but now the townfolk have to keep a canal from the river to supply their wants. It does some trade in wool.

*Soconcho*

Produces excellent wool, and rears a fine breed of long-woolled sheep. Wood and water are scarce, the soil being in many places salty. The village of Soconcho has a chapel, school, and 1325 inhabitants. A smaller place called Atamisqui, on the road to Peru, derives its name, "sweet village," from the abundance of wild honey.

*Salavina.*

This department closely resembles Loreto in every particular. The town of Salavina is the largest in the province, having 8352

inhabitants, or nearly 600 more than Santiago city. The sheep-breeding establishments of Chilquita and Salinas are worth the traveller's notice: the flocks are pastured on plains covered with the Jume soap-tree. San Cristobal is a village at the confluence of the Dulce and Saladillo: the water here is brackish, except at flood-times.

*Sumampa*

Lies southward, bordering on Cordoba, the inhabitants devoting themselves to sheep, goats, and agriculture at the foot of the sierras, and horned cattle in the plains. The villages of Sumampa, Ojo de Agua, and Quebrachos are near the Rio Dulce.

## CHAPTER XIX.

## CORRIENTES.

THIS is the fifth province in point of population, and it holds the sixth rank in reference to the proportion of foreign settlers, who form about 7 per cent. of the inhabitants, or half as numerous as in Entre Rios. The boundaries are: north and west, the Paraná; south, the Guayquiraró and Mocoretá, which mark the Entre Rios frontier; east, the Upper Uruguay and Misiones. The aboriginal inhabitants were of the Caracará, Dagalasta, Jaunete, Frenton, and Ebiraya tribes, of the great Guarani family. The first Spanish settlement was made by Capt. Hector Rodriguez and eighteen followers, in 1588. They came down from Paraguay and landed at Arezati, nearly half a league below the present city of Corrientes. Some pretend that this city was founded by Juan de Vera, who gave it the name of San Juan de las Siete Corrientes, from the seven currents here formed in the river by as many projecting bluffs of solid rock, 25 to 30 feet high, plainly visible from the landing place. The Guarani Indians fought the invaders with implacable fury, until an event, which the former accepted as supernatural, induced them to lay down their arms, 6000 of them becoming Christians. The scene of this occurrence is a little outside the city, where the eighty Spanish invaders had erected a cross in the midst of their palisade. The Indians kindled an immense fire, which consumed the palisade, the cross still standing; and when the savages made a rush to cut it down, a volley from the arquebusiers seemed like a thunderbolt, laying several of them lifeless, whereupon they came with their wives and children to submit, their Caciques, Canindeyn, Payaguary, and Aguará-Coemba, making obedience to the Spanish commander, Alonzo de Vera,

nephew of the Governor of Paraguay, in whose name the settlement was made. Since then the two races have been so blended, that Spanish is less spoken than Guarani, and three-fourths of the inhabitants reveal an admixture of Indian blood. The only pure-blooded Guaranis may be seen crossing from the Chaco in canoes laden with grass or firewood, a squalid and wretched-looking people, that we can hardly believe to be the descendants of the valiant tribes of 300 years ago.

The province of Corrientes has suffered so continuously by civil wars, that of the natives there are 113 women for 100 men, whereas in the neighbouring province of Entre Rios there are 2 per cent. more males than females. In point of public instruction, Corrientes ranks sixth among the provinces, having half the proportion of literate persons that Buenos Ayres shows per 100 inhabitants, and twice as many as Santiago. Owing to the unsettled state and other causes, the proportion of illegitimates is larger than in any other province, being 29 per cent., whereas the general average of the Republic is 21, or little more than one-fifth of the total births. The proportion of deaf, dumb, blind, &c., is very high, being over 1 per cent., while orphans represent 5 per cent., and invalids from war and accident nearly 1 per cent. of the population. The total number of foreigners is 8825, including 3823 Brazilians, 1473 Paraguayans, 1513 Italians, 462 French, 432 Spaniards, 245 Germans and Swiss, 100 English, 13 North Americans, and the rest refugees from Banda Oriental, &c. The Brazilians are mostly in Misiones, the Italians at Corrientes and Goya, the French on the Upper Uruguay, the English and Germans at Goya; Paraguayans are found in all the departments. The population doubles in less than thirty years, the increase being nearly 3 per cent. per annum. Azara's estimate of 1797 shows 9228 inhabitants; the census of 1854 gave 84,570, including Misiones; the national census of 1869 returned 129,023, without counting some 3000 woodcutters employed in the Gran Chaco. There were 24 persons whose ages varied from 101 to 130, all natives of the province, except 1.

Paraguayan, 1 Brazilian, and 1 negro. The oldest was Doña Felipa Ojeda, of Lomas. One-sixth of the entire population can read or write, and 6569 children attend 125 schools. There are 6 inhabitants to each house, the proportion of straw ranchos being as 2 to 1 with wooden or brick buildings. Of the foreign residents 19 out of 20 are males. Taking 100 inhabitants, we find 45 are children, 20 married persons, 5 widowed, and 30 unmarried adults. The number of children attending school should be more than five times what it is. Of every 100 children 34 are illegitimate.

This province abounds in wood and water, the forest of Pay-Ubre being a continuation of that of Montiel in Entre Rios, and stretching up to Misiones. Groves of tall palm trees are met with frequently, and in many places orange trees are raised in thousands, yielding one of the staple crops of the country. Black laurel, lapacho, algarrobo, yvarirá, urunday, peterivi, and yverapuitá afford excellent timber for ship-building; while red quebracho, tatané, cedar, ñandubay, and timbó are more suitable for rafters or door-frames; and the most beautiful cabinet-work can be made of guayivi, rosewood, mulberry, ñangapirú, iguavirá, guayabo, ivariré-piró, aguai-guazú, peterivi, and white quebracho. It is worthy of note that the names given by the Indians to indigenous trees convey the chief quality or character of each. The palms are divided into four families: coronday, pindó, yatay, and bocoyá. The first flourishes in marshy ground, and the bark is used for tiles in roofing huts. The pindó is a kind of date tree, yielding a savoury yellow fruit, called by the Indians "iba-pitá": this tree only grows in the midst of thick foliage, as it cannot stand the hot sun. The yatay seldom grows as tall as the others, being usually found in a sandy soil, with a thick trunk and bluish leaves; the fruit is good for fattening cattle, and produces also a kind of brandy, the kernels yielding oil. The bocoyá is only remarkable for a fruit that is much in favour.

The sportsman will find a great variety of game and wild

beasts: the jaguar or Mexican tiger, the carayás or monkeys, which abound on the banks of the Paraná; the nutria or quiyá, the anguyátutú, a kind of mole; the wild boar, the carpincho or river-hog, the ant-eater, the aguará-guazú or red fox, deer of many varieties, the yacaré or cayman, the lagarto, a kind of immense lizard. The only deadly reptile is the "vivora de la Cruz," not much bigger than an adder, with a cross on its head, and called by the Indians "mbucuruzú." Ostriches are very numerous, also the tuyuyu, a bird with a black head, standing 5 feet in height, and the yabirá, so called because at a distance he looks like an Indian fishing. Birds of prey are common near lagoons, and in the woods D'Orbigny speaks of birds that have a peculiar mournful chant at night.

Lake Iberá is the most remarkable feature in the province, having an area of 2000 square miles. The word in Guarani signifies "glittering water." It comprises a number of lakes, islands, marshes, &c., and gives rise to the rivers Corrientes, Batel, Santa Lucia, Ambrosio, San Lorenzo, and Miriñay, all of which fall into the Paraná, except the Miriñay, which is tributary to the Uruguay. The interior of Iberá has never been explored, owing to the difficulty of penetrating the swamps and brushwood; but there are fairy tales of a race of diminutive creatures, no other it seems than ants, whose dwellings are about 3 feet high. The tacuara, a kind of bamboo cane, grows to a height of 30 feet, and the banks are infested with the yacaré or South American crocodile, while the thickets shelter tigers. The islands are said to be full of wild horned cattle. In one place a man named Mantilla has established an estancia. Besides Lake Iberá, there is a remarkable chain of swamps, to which the name of Las Maloyas is given, having an area of fully 100 square miles, in the department of San Luis del Palmar.

Travelling is at times rendered very difficult in rainy seasons, by reason of the rivers having, with one or two exceptions, no bridges. The Rio Corrientes traverses the country for 120 miles before falling into the Paraná, and is noted for its floods, but

in ordinary seasons is easy to ford ; the Indian name is Aruhai, or " water of the brave," because the valiant Charricas tribe used to dwell on its banks. The Batel is another considerable water-course, debouching near Goya. The Guayguiraró serves as frontier with Entre Rios, separating Esquina from La Paz : the name signifies " house of the fat boy." The Mocoretá is the boundary on the side of the Uruguay, and the word is interpreted " home of the Mocobis." Another affluent of the Uruguay is the Miriñay, " our little water." The Misiones territory is watered by the Aguapey, " river of floating islands."

The territory of Misiones is often treated as if distinct from Corrientes, but in reality forms part of this province, the authorities residing in Santo Tomé being appointed by the Governor of Corrientes to look after the whole of that rich and beautiful country, now nearly uninhabited. The Jesuits had 33 flourishing missions here, the most notable being Candelaria, Santo Tomé, San Javier, Concepcion, Santa Maria Mayor, Martires, San José, San Carlos, Apostoles, Santa Lucia, San Miguel, Itati, &c. The advanced condition of those settlements is attested by the Spanish and Guarani books still extant, that were printed there, and for more than a century and a half they excited by turns the jealousy and admiration of Spanish statesmen, till the Jesuits were finally expelled in 1767. The Jesuit Governor used to reside at Candelaria with two assistants, and each mission was under the immediate care of two Fathers, who were aided by a local council of a corregidor, 2 alcaldes, and several regidores, in directing the estancias, plantations, factories, and general industry. Each village had schools for reading, writing, dancing, music, and for the various callings of carpenter, cabinet-maker, blacksmith, silversmith, watchmaker, turner, shoemaker, and tailor. Every morning at sunrise all the villagers, preceded by the Cabildo or council, assisted at Mass. At nightfall the bell again summoned them for the Rosary and evening prayer, and the Cabildo kept a list of such as were not present, who afterwards expiated their fault by fasting or con-



finement. Twice a day the Christian doctrine was explained to children, who sang the same through the streets. All goods were in common, except the little plot of land for each family. The Jesuits had large warehouses for receiving yerba, tobacco, and other products, which they sent down in their own boats to Buenos Ayres, receiving European imports in return. Each mission had a well-armed militia, which went through drill on Sunday and holiday afternoons, having to be constantly on the alert against the savage Paulistas of Brazil. Even so the Jesuits had to abandon some settlements near the Guayra Falls, owing to the implacable Paulistas.

The late eminent French botanist, Amadée Bompland, endeavoured to induce the Government of Corrientes to restore the mission of San Javier under his management, with the view of cultivating the yerba-maté, as he remarked that the yield of the deserted plantations of the Jesuits was superior in quality to that of the wild yerbales of Nyuguazú, Piquiry-guazú and San Antonio Guazú, near the frontier line of Brazil. He only asked for 15 Guayano Indians, two canoes, and a supply of provisions and implements to establish a model-farm at San Xavier. Some years after Bompland's death his project was taken up, in 1864, by a number of English and other merchants at Buenos Ayres, but the enterprise was not successful, and the Paraguayan war, in 1865, may have been one of the causes. A good deal of yerba now comes from there, being of medium quality between Paraguayan and Brazilian: the want of a proper system of cultivation, such as with tea in China, is much to be deplored. Whenever the Upper Paraná can be rendered navigable, Misiones will offer a splendid country for immigration, possessing such advantages of soil and climate as no other part of the Republic (except perhaps Tucuman) can rival; but at present the falls of Apipé are a great obstacle.

The Eastern Argentine Railway, now in construction, from Concordia to Mercedes, will open up some fine districts suitable for European settlers of either pastoral or agricultural pursuits.

Land is comparatively of so little value that the native estancieros will gladly give settlers small farms for tillage, with a few cows and all necessaries for the first year, the tenant giving in return half his crop.

Corrientes took the following prizes at the Cordoba Exhibition, 1872:

- M. Daggorret, tanned hides: silver medal.
- M. Echevarria, marble, &c.: two silver medals.
- M. Roibon, wood samples: silver medal.
- Prov. Committee, various products: bronze medal.

This province was one of the lowest, taking only 5 medals out of more than 200.

The province lies between 27° and 30½° south latitude, and 59° and 62° west longitude, having an area of 42,000 square miles. It comprises 22 departments, viz.:

	Sq. Miles.	Population.
Corrientes .. .. .	20	11,218
Lomas .. .. .	400	3,230
Empedrado .. .. .	1,400	5,300
Bella Vista .. .. .	1,000	5,462
Lavalle .. .. .	600	4,277
Goya .. .. .	2,000	10,907
Esquina .. .. .	3,000	8,028
Curuzú-Cuatiá .. .. .	4,250	10,386
Monte Caseros .. .. .	1,400	3,731
Paso de Los Libres .. .. .	1,500	5,974
La Cruz .. .. .	2,800	3,463
Santo Tomé .. .. .	10,000	5,278
Itati .. .. .	700	2,229
San Cosme .. .. .	400	3,620
San Luis .. .. .	1,750	6,765
Caá-Caati .. .. .	1,500	8,211
San Miguel .. .. .	2,200	3,326
Yaguarete Corá .. .. .	1,200	3,766
Mburucuyá .. .. .	450	4,155
Saladas .. .. .	750	4,444
Mercedes .. .. .	3,500	9,912
San Roque .. .. .	1,000	5,341
	<u>41,820</u>	<u>129,023</u>

## CORRIENTES.

The city of Corrientes, including the suburbs, has a population of 11,218 souls, and is the sixth in the Republic. The Indians gave it the name of Taraguy, expressive of the abundance of lizards. The town has a very ancient look, most of the houses having corridors on the exterior to keep off the sun's rays; the streets, drawn in the usual chess-board plan, are about a mile long. At sunrise the market-place presents an animated spectacle: women of various complexions seated on the ground, all smoking and talking Guarani, some selling their wares, others suckling infants, others singing strange melodies; their feet, arms, and bosoms bare, except a piece of native lacework over the breast: the Placita is also at that hour the rendezvous of Guaycuru Indians who have come over from the Chaco with grass. The Matriz church, as its name indicates, is the oldest in the city, and seems to date as far back as the memorable 1588: the belfry and town-clock stands apart; the interior and exterior of the church are equally devoid of interest or beauty. The Merced is a small chapel at the corner of the Plaza. The convent church of San Francisco is the only one of merit, and possesses a fine organ, made by one of the friars; the bell-tower commands a splendid view of the country around, the Paraná, and dark fringe of timber which marks the Chaco outline on the far side of the river, here over 2 miles wide; the city itself has a strange and beautiful aspect, from the thick grouping of houses and orange-groves. The Cabildo was built in 1812 by Governor Luzuriaga at cost of the citizens. The Government House was the old Jesuit College, well built on a commanding position, with spacious quadrangle and court-yard. The National College was for some years directed by the late Dr. Fitzsimons, whose son is the present Rector. The favourite promenade of the citizens is known as La Bateria, a mile north of the town, at a point where a battery formerly commanded the river; the view is charming, and the site is surrounded on the

land side by dense thickets. This place was the scene of a hard fight, in 1865, between Paraguayans and Argentines: there is a barrack contiguous.

The traveller should not omit to visit the beautiful quinta of Mr. Billingham, about 3 miles from town. There is a grove of 10,000 orange trees. Going thither, one passes close to the Cruz del Milargo, erected in 1828, on the spot where tradition says the Spaniards planted the Cross in 1588. The column is 26 feet high, surmounted by a globe: on one side of the pedestal is the inscription—"The people of Corrientes, in gratitude to the Almighty for His wonderful protection of the first settlers, on the memorable 3rd of April, 1588." On the western side is read—"To the memory of our 28 illustrious ancestors of April, 1588." From this point there is an extended and picturesque view, and the obelisk of the Cross is the first object seen by the traveller as he approaches Corrientes, ascending the Paraná. A small chapel has been built hard by, and in former times the anniversary was celebrated by a kind of fair in the Plaza in front. The Government and Municipal Council still go in procession on that day to the chapel. In a gap of the river-bank, marked by a large tree, is shown the spot where the first Spaniards under Vera or Rodriguez landed. In 1854 Monsieur Bompland undertook to form a museum, having made a collection of 3000 plants for the purpose. This eminent botanist, who had been gardener to Josephine at Malmaison, came to this country in 1816, and had resided here nearly half a century at his death. Corrientes is 658 miles N. of Buenos Ayres. A railway has been conceded to Messrs. Furness and Co., to connect Corrientes with Mercedes, where the East Argentine from Concordia will terminate.

#### *Lomas.*

This department is remarkable for the French colony established here, in 1855, by Dr. Brougues, under the auspices of Governor Pujol, at a distance of 20 miles from the capital.

Some of the colonists still remain, but the land ceded to them was too small to allow of their thriving; they eke out a living by taking firewood and vegetables to Corrientes. The soil is rich and produces sugar-cane, tobacco, maize, mandioca, sweet potato, &c. Cotton was successfully grown here in 1863, but the difficulty of gathering it was too great. Oranges and other fruits are found in great profusion. There is no village or hamlet in this department. One-tenth of the inhabitants are foreigners, chiefly Brazilians or Paraguayans. Only 7 per cent. of the population can read or write, besides 154 children attending school. The district abounds in wood and water, Lake Brava being noted for its beauty.

### *Empedrado,*

On the banks of the Paraná, lies between Corrientes and Bella Vista, and has a port for small vessels at the mouth of the arroyo from which the department takes its name. The inhabitants occupy themselves as woodcutters or cultivators of small chacras, in which maize and tobacco are the chief products. There are only 126 foreigners, mostly Italians or Brazilians. The village of Empedrado, sometimes called Capilla del Señor, has 1157 inhabitants. The river-bank between here and Corrientes is about 50 feet high: abreast of the Riachuelo was fought the great naval battle of June 11th, 1865, in which the Paraguayan fleet was almost annihilated by the Brazilian, after a combat of twelve hours, the Paraguayans exhibiting the most heroic bravery: over 2000 men perished in the fight. Empedrado is 14 leagues from Corrientes, and the same distance from Balla Vista. The schools are attended by 352 children; and the people of the department are so well instructed, that 18 per cent. can read or write. There are eight arroyos which debouch into the Paraná, from the Sombrero, 5 leagues below Corrientes, to the San Lorenzo, which separates this department from Bella Vista

*Bella Vista*

Takes its name from the picturesque village founded by General Ferré, 30 leagues S. of Corrientes, on a hill-side, which rises to a height of 100 feet, overlooking a wide bend of the Paraná. It is a port of some traffic, being the outlet of four departments, San Roque, Mourucuyá, Saladas, and Caa-caati. The village has 1984 inhabitants, there being 5 women to 4 men, and the latter sometimes acting as woodcutters in the Chaco. Boating traffic employs 12 sailing vessels. There are 355 children attending school, and one-seventh (896) of the population of the department can read or write. One-sixth of the inhabitants are illegitimate, and the proportion of insane, blind, and dumb persons is nearly 1 per cent., or double the ratio of the rest of the province. It seems the first settlers at Bella Vista, in 1826, were convicts, though now many respectable people are found here. Foreigners number 289, about 5 per cent., being mostly Italians and Paraguayans. Mr. Henry Hall's orange plantation is a couple of miles below the town, on the river bluff. General Ferré tried a coffee plantation in this department, but failed; and a little above Bella Vista are the remains of an American cotton farm. Captain Page says this place is 688 miles up the river from Buenos Ayres and 87 below Corrientes. The islands and coast of the Chaco are frequented by tigers and alligators.

*Lavalle.*

\* Better known as Santa Lucia, from the old Jesuit Mission which existed here, and of which a fine church, built of stone, and a hamlet of 545 inhabitants still remain. The department runs inland from the Paraná, being bounded by Bella Vista on the north and Goya on the south. It is one of the most favoured parts of the province, and has 7 inhabitants to the square mile, being double the average; foreigners are only 2 per cent., or 81 in number, mostly Italians and Paraguayans. The old hamlet of Santa Lucia is on the river of that name, 3 leagues

from its mouth on the Paraná; it exports some hard-wood rafters and cheese. The department returns show that one-eighth of the inhabitants can read or write, and 163 children attend school. It is proposed to found a town, called Lavalle, on the bank of the Paraná, near Rincon de Soto, where an excellent port might be formed. In 1864 the Government offered this site as a settlement for distressed Manchester operatives, but the offer was not accepted.

### Goya,

Famous for cheese, is the most important district in the province, its inhabitants being reputed very wealthy, and generally industrious. The town of Goya takes its name from a woman of that name, who had a farmhouse here at the close of the last century, and dates its foundation from 1807, the present population being 4233 souls. The place has been ill-selected, for in wet seasons the surrounding country is under water, the Batel, Corrientes, and Santa Lucia rivers debouching into the Paraná within short distances. The trade of the town is declining of late years, owing to the difficulty of navigating the Riacho of Goya, which leads from the Paraná up to the town; and the deep water channel of the Paraná runs about 5 miles lower down than the old port of Goya. Passengers by steamer get out at the Riacho, where a *casilla* or Custom House is built on piles; and here a boat comes from Goya to meet the steamer. The town is well built, the new church having cost 30,000*l.*, and many houses are of two stories; the schools are four in number, attended by 419 children. The local trade employs 3 steamboats and 24 sailing vessels, in the aggregate 2630 tons.

The population of the whole department is 10,907, or  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to the square mile, the proportion of foreigners being 7 per cent., and these mostly are Italians, with a sprinkling of French and Spaniards, besides 42 Germans and 35 English. One-sixth of the population can read or write. This department is remark-

able for the graceful Yatay palms. Land may be bought at \$4000 per square league, the Government valuation being about \$2400. The usual price of stock is \$1 each for sheep and \$4 for cows.

The town of Goya is 126 miles S. of Corrientes; steamers touch here almost daily, this place being little more than half-way from Buenos Ayres to Asuncion, and about two days' voyage to either. Some English families have recently settled down as sheep-farmers on the banks of the Batel, 20 leagues inland. Goya is 532 miles from Buenos Ayres.

### *Esquina.*

A frontier department, only separated from La Paz, in Entre Rios, by the Guayquiraró stream; it extends inland from the Paraná, and is one of the largest divisions of the province, but thinly inhabited. It is separated from Goya by the river Corrientes. The land is good, and some Germans have begun cattle-farming; but the drawback to frontier departments is that they are usually infested with "matreros" or bush-rangers. The population of the department is under 3 to the square mile: there are 215 foreigners, chiefly Italians, Paraguayans, or Brazilians. Over 11 per cent. of the inhabitants can read or write, and 423 children attend school. The principal occupation of the inhabitants is cattle-farming: wages average \$10 a month.

The town of Esquina, with 1794 inhabitants, is well built on an eminence overlooking the confluence of the Rio Corrientes with the Paraná. All the steamers usually touch here, the approach to the town being pretty much as at Goya. Strangers will obtain any information from Mr. Daniel Hayes, an American resident.

### *Curuzú-Cuatíá.*

The name of this district signifies in Guarani "a painted cross," a souvenir of the old Jesuit missions. It lies inland from Esquina, and comes down to the frontier of Entre Rios at the Mocoretá, having Mercedes on the north, and the Miriñay and



Uruguay on the east. The camps are famed for rich pastures, and the cattle fetch superior prices at the saladeros of Concordia, Goya, &c. It is the largest department (except Santo Tomé) in the province, but thinly settled: only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inhabitants to the square mile. This part of the country is high, and free from lagoons; it will be traversed by the Eastern Argentine Railway.

There are in this department only 364 foreigners, or 3 per cent. of the population. About 14 per cent. of the inhabitants can read or write, and 392 children attend school. The town of Curuzú-Cuatiá has 1824 inhabitants.

#### *Monte Caseros,*

On the Uruguay, takes its name from the battle-field near Buenos Ayres where the Dictator Rosas was overthrown, this being a newly-formed department. It possesses rich pastures like those of Curuzú-Cuatiá, and is in many places thickly wooded and well watered. It exports timber from the port of Monte Caseros, a village of 672 inhabitants, abreast of the town of Santa Rosa, in Banda Oriental.

The department counts 282 foreign residents, chiefly Brazilians or refugees from Banda Oriental. The schools are attended by 370 children. The East Argentine Railway is being prolonged hither from Federacion.

#### *Paso de Los Libres,*

Another riverine department, is better known as Restauracion, from the village of that name, founded in 1844, in front of the Brazilian town of Uruguayana, on the other side of the Uruguay. The lands are high and well suited for cattle, being intersected by numerous rivers, and the scenery is rendered picturesque by the graceful Yatay palms which form so prominent a feature. The battle of Yatay was fought here in 1865, between the Paraguayans and the Allies. There is a brisk trade in live cattle *viá* Restauracion for the Pelotas saladeros, in Brazil, every head paying a dollar export duty to the Argentine customs.

At the same time a considerable coasting traffic with Misiones is carried on by small boats, which bring down yerba-maté, wood, and oranges. The population of Restauracion amounts to 1806: that of the whole department to 5974, including 924 foreigners, mostly Brazilians, Paraguayans, or Italians. One-fifth of the inhabitants can read or write, and there are 181 children at school.

#### *La Cruz.*

This is perhaps the only one of the old Jesuit Missions that remains in its integrity. The stone buildings of the last century are still inhabited by an indigenous population, on the same spot where the Jesuits made the settlement in 1657, at the foot of three peaks which overlook the Uruguay. It is about 14 leagues higher up than Paso de Los Libres, and exactly in front of the Brazilian town of Itaquy. The town of La Cruz has 1711 inhabitants, and in this department we also find the old Jesuit settlement of Yapeyú, where Gen. San Martin was born. Until recently the house was standing, with a palm tree in the court-yard, where the hero first saw the light, whose sword liberated three of the present Spano-American Republics. The department counts 3463 inhabitants, including 237 foreigners. Near Yapeyú a French colony was established in 1860, which counts, by the census of 1869, 70 adults (44 men and 26 women) besides children. There are several Brazilians and Paraguayans in this department. About 12 per cent. of the inhabitants can read or write, and 273 children attend school.

#### *Itati.*

An old Indian settlement on the Upper Paraná, dating its origin from 1588, when Spaniards and aborigines mingled, but their descendants retain more of the Indian type. The inhabitants are famous for the manufacture of earthen vessels, and some business is also carried on in timber, such as lapacho, quebracho, palm, &c. The country is mostly low and swampy, especially near the Maloya marshes on the south, but the soil is

so rich as to yield abundant crops of sugar, maize, tobacco, mandioca, and oranges. Local records say that the present village of San Antonio de Itati was founded on December 7th, 1615, and the church built three years later by Padre Luis Bolaños; it was rebuilt in 1853. The population of the village is 1306, that of the department 2229, including 59 foreigners. About 8 per cent. of the inhabitants can read, and 56 children attend school.

#### *San Cosme.*

This department is often called Ensenadas, and comprehends a charming tract of country from the banks of the Paraná to the suburban district of Lomas, near the city of Corrientes. It is interspersed with woods, lakes, farms, orange-groves, sugar plantations, &c., and is the most favoured and thickly populated district in the province, having 9 persons to the square mile. About 10 miles from Corrientes is a group of French colonists, where a settlement was made some years ago called San Juan, but most of the settlers moved to La Cruz or elsewhere: it was adjoining the hamlet of Guacaras, or Santa Ana, where a Mission was founded in 1633 by Padres Pedro Romero and Cristobal de Mendoza. The village of San Cosme is delightfully situated, and dates from 1760; it commands lovely panoramic views. Population, 1014. There are only 163 foreigners in the department, or less than 5 per cent. of the inhabitants. There are 5 schools, attended by 263 children, and the grade of public instruction is very high, nearly one-fourth of the population being able to read or write.

#### *San Luis.*

San Luis del Palmar is famous for the swamps and lagoons called Las Maloyas, which cover a great portion of its area. The soil produces oranges, sugar-cane, tobacco, and mandioca, besides which woodcutting occupies a number of the inhabitants. This department lies south of Ensenadas and Itati; there are only 89 foreigners, or little more than 1 per cent. of the

population. One-eighth of the inhabitants can read, and 284 children attend school. Seven leagues from the city of Corrientes stands the village from which the department takes its name. Population, 705.

### *Caa-Caati.*

Agriculture is more advanced here than in any other part of the province, the inhabitants raising large quantities of maize, tobacco, sugar-cane, honey, and aguardiente. The country is beautifully diversified with wood and water, the traveller meeting sometimes a chain of continuous lakes, or anon a belt of luxuriant timber or cluster of Yatay palms; the fruit of the latter is good for cattle. In this part of the country drought is unknown. The town of Caa-Caati, which has 2722 inhabitants, and received municipal charter in October, 1852, is situate about 10 leagues from the banks of the Paraná, the intermediate country being mostly swamps. This department is twice as thickly populated as the rest of the province, showing nearly 6 inhabitants per square mile; the only foreigners are a few Italians, Paraguayans, and Brazilians, in all 96. One-seventh of the inhabitants can read, and 427 children attend school.

### *San Miguel,*

Situate between the Paraná, Tranquera de Loreto, and Lake Iberá, is very thinly populated, most of its area being swamps or marshes, which, however, are not entirely unprofitable for pasturing cattle. The territory of Misiones may be said to begin at the Tranquera de Loreto, running N.E. along the upper Paraná; the Paraguayans had command of this pass before the recent war, and prevented the Correntinos from penetrating into Misiones to cut rosewood, morosebó, tatané, urunday, cedar, quebracho, and other valuable timber with which the country abounds, and which must soon form an important trade. The village of San Miguel, founded in 1667, counts

807 inhabitants. The department has only 48 foreigners. One-tenth of the inhabitants can read, and 84 children attend school.

#### *Yaguarete-Corá*

Takes its name from the abundance of tigers or jaguars infesting the woods and swamps of the Iberá and Batel, which cover so large a portion of the department. This may be termed the heart of the province. The village of Yaguarete-Corá is 50 leagues from the city of Corrientes, the population not exceeding 423 souls, of whom nearly two-thirds are women. There are some very expert tiger-slayers, who carry on a business in the skins of these animals. Most of the inhabitants (3766) of the department occupy themselves in tending cattle, and droves of fat kine are dispatched two or three times a year to the saladeros of Corrientes and Entre Rios. There are only 48 foreigners, chiefly Paraguayans, with a sprinkling of French. One-sixth of the inhabitants can read, and 244 children attend school.

#### *Mburucuyá.*

San Antonio de Mburucuyá is a small and thickly-settled district, with 9 inhabitants to the square mile, lying between the rivers Ambrosio and Santa Lucia. The country is well wooded and watered, and on the banks of the Ambrosio the Caranday palm grows in abundance, the bark serving for a roof like shingles. The soil is well suited for agriculture, and no fewer than 635 families have patches of land under cultivation. The tobacco is considered the best in the province. There are 50 foreigners, chiefly Italians or Paraguayans. The village of Mburucuyá has 495 inhabitants, and a school attended by 226 children.

#### *Salados*

Is another thickly settled department, touching the banks of the Paraná below Empedrado, and stretching out inland between Mburucuyá and the river Santa Lucia. It is traversed from

north to west by the Ambrosio, and in the parts bordering on the Paraná the country is impassable with swamps and thickets. It is the most picturesque part of the province, and seems to enjoy a perpetual spring. Fruits and cereals rotate with endless variety; besides the usual products, such as maize, mandioca, sugar-cane, potatoes, and tobacco, there have been excellent samples of cotton grown here. The town of Salados is charmingly situated amid groves of never-failing orange trees, about 25 leagues from Corrientes; it has 2032 inhabitants, the population of the department being 4444, including 56 French, Italians, &c. The schools are attended by 246 children.

#### *Mercedes.*

A large department in the centre of the province, chiefly famous for the forest of Pay-Ubre, which abounds in tigers, leopards, carpinchos, and formidable reptiles, and seems a continuation of the Montiel forest of Entre Rios: this belt of timber also traverses Misiones, till lost in the territory of Brazil. This department touches northward on the swamps and lagoons of Iberá, but the rest of its area consists of high ground, good for pasture or agriculture, and watered by numerous "arroyos." Large quantities of hides and tallow are conveyed by bullock-carts to the port of Concordia, but the Eastern Argentine Railway will soon be ready for this traffic. The agricultural products are sugar-cane, tobacco, maize, and mandioca. Population 9912, including 328 foreigners, but of these latter only 95 are Europeans, the rest being Paraguayans or Brazilians. The town of Mercedes or Pay-Ubre is 60 leagues from Corrientes, and has 1950 inhabitants; the schools are attended by 761 children.

#### *San Roque.*

Another central department, more thickly settled than the average, lying between the rivers Santa Lucia and Corrientes, and traversed by the Batel. Pastoral is almost the sole occupa-

tion of the inhabitants, who send troops of fat cattle several times yearly to the Entre Rios saladeros. Population, 5341, including 60 foreigners, of whom 13 are Europeans. The village of San Roque has 1076 inhabitants, and is distant 30 leagues from Corrientes, standing on the steep bank of the Santa Lucia, which river is sometimes navigable for small craft from Goya and the Paraná. The schools are attended by 211 children.

#### *Santo Tomé.*

The vast territory forms one-fourth of the province, embracing nearly the whole of that portion of Misiones which belongs to the Argentine Republic. Here were many of those flourishing Jesuit settlements of the last century, the wonder and admiration of all who have visited or studied them. The ruined churches or rare books in the Guarani tongue are all that remain. The expulsion of the Jesuits by order of the King of Spain took place in 1767, and since then Misiones has become a desert, the Indians have relapsed into barbarism, and the labours of the Jesuits have been frustrated. The present entire population of a country as large as some kingdoms in Europe is only 5278, made up in this way:—Natives, 2921; Brazilians, 1939; Paraguayans, 259; Orientals, 47; Spaniards, 29; Germans, 26; French, 26; Italians, 18; various, 13. One-eighth of the inhabitants can read; their chief occupation is cutting timber or gathering yerba-maté. The village of Santo Tomé, with 1188 inhabitants, is situate on the bank of the Upper Uruguay, abreast of the Brazilian town of San Borja; it is the residence of the authorities of Misiones, and has a school, at which 90 children attend. The hills of Aguapey, inland, are famous for an inroad made here by the Paraguayans in 1846, when the whole country was devastated.

## CHAPTER XX.

## ENTRE RIOS.

THIS province takes its name from the fact that it lies "between the rivers" Uruguay and Paraná. Its area is 40,000 square miles, about the size of the kingdom of Portugal, and in population it stands third among the Argentine provinces, coming next after Cordoba. It lies between  $30^{\circ} 30'$  and  $34^{\circ}$  S. lat., and is separated from Corrientes on the north by the Guayquiraró, which falls into the Paraná, and the Mocoretá, which disembogues in the Uruguay.

Its first inhabitants were the Minuan, Chaná, and Charrua Indians. The earliest Spanish settlers crossed over from Santa Fé in 1728, being descendants of those adventurers of Fort Sancti Spiritus who had intermarried with the natives; they routed the allied Indian forces at Matanza (now Victoria) and secured this fine country for farming purposes. The river Guauguay, which falls into the Paraná, divides Entre Rios into two almost equal parts: the eastern was a dependency of Buenos Ayres, the western of Santa Fé, until 1814, when the province of Entre Rios was created. The Director Posadas made Concepcion the capital, but in 1821 General Mansilla succeeded Ramirez in power and removed the seat of Government to Paraná, formerly called La Bajada, which was moreover capital of the Argentine Confederation under General Urquiza, until the battle of Pavon, in 1861, removed the metropolis to Buenos Ayres, and left Concepcion again capital of Entre Rios.

The growth of this province of late years has been amazing. At the close of the last century Azara estimated the population at 11,600, and in 1825 Nuñez put it down at 30,000. The first census was taken by General Urquiza, Governor of the province,



in 1849, and showed 47,631 inhabitants. In a term of twenty years the population trebled, the national census of 1869 giving 134,271 souls, of which number 18,304 were foreigners. The number of those who could read or write, or were attending school, comprised 62,327, almost half the population. There are 104 schools, attended by 5077 children. Among natives there are 1515 more men than women, and among foreigners 7276, showing a total of 8791 males over females. Entre Rios contracted a London loan for 200,000*l.* in 1871.

Entre Rios is divided into twelve departments, which, with the date of their foundation and number of inhabitants are as follow :

	Department.	A.D.	Population.
Paraná	.. .. .	1730	18,649
Concepcion de Uruguay	.. .. .	1778	11,307
Gualeguay	.. .. .	1783	15,158
Gualeguaychú	.. .. .	1783	18,397
Nogoyá	.. .. .	1793	9,006
Victoria	.. .. .	1810	10,515
Concordia	.. .. .	1831	17,262
Diamante	.. .. .	1836	3,875
La Paz	.. .. .	1836	11,614
Tala or Rosario	.. .. .	1865	5,568
Villaguay	.. .. .	1865	8,172
Colon	.. .. .	1869	4,748

These departments may be classed in the following three groups :

- 1st. Paraná, La Paz, Diamante, Victoria, and Gualeguay; on the river Paraná.
- 2nd. Concepcion, Gualeguaychú, Colon, and Concordia; on the Uruguay.
- 3rd. Nogoyá, Tala, and Villaguay; in the centre of the province.

#### *Paraná.*

This department has an area of 4000 square miles, between the Arroyos Hernandarias and Paracao, and extending inland from the banks of the Paraná to the hills of Nogoyá and Villaguay. The river-bank is famous for its lime, which is exported to Buenos Ayres, and higher up is also found an excellent kind of chalk. The clay of the "barancas" or bluffs

is often of a peculiar consistency, and answers admirably for soap. Marine shells and fossils have been discovered in many of the lime-beds; some ten years ago the editors of the 'Standard,' with permission of Government, sent two vertebral fossil remains of a whale (which when alive must have measured close on 100 feet) as a present to the Irish Academy of Science: they were discovered many feet below the surface, 600 miles from the sea.

The department comprises nine districts: Paracao, Manga, Espinillo, Quebracho, Conchas, Tala, Maria Grande, Antonio Tomas, and Yeso, in all of which the chief occupation is cattle-farming, except in the agricultural colony of Villa Urquiza, founded in 1853, on the banks of the Arroyo Conchas.

The woods abound in valuable timber, such as ñandubay, tala, espinillo, willow, laurel, guayabo, mistol, and ceibo, the bark of the last-named being useful for tanning purposes. Indigo and cochineal are indigenous, and cotton was found to thrive so well that small quantities were raised and exported in 1864-5, but the industry died out from the dearness or scarcity of hands. Tobacco also does well; but the chief articles of agriculture are wheat and maize. Good land varies in price from 4000 to 10,000 Bolivian dollars per square league, say 2s. to 5s. per acre.

Paraná has still some traces of her former grandeur, when capital of the Argentine Confederation, and the Plaza is very elegant. The old Government House, Legislative Chambers, and President's Palace still remain. There are two good churches and some schools. The population is 10,098, this being the largest town in the province: it is 315 miles from Buenos Ayres by the line of Government telegraph, which has a cable across the river from Santa Fé.

#### *Concepcion,*

Sometimes called Uruguay, and in former times Arroyo de la China, has an area of 2000 square miles, watered by eight streams, which give name to as many districts, viz.—Molino,

Tala, Potrero, Sauce, Genacito, Gená, Calá, and Moscas. This department is bounded on the north by Colon, on the south by Gualeguaychú, on the east by the river Uruguay, and on the west by Villaguay. One-fifth of the population is composed of foreigners, including 78 English. In the time of the late General Urquiza most travellers visited this department, for the purpose of seeing the palace of San José, and experiencing the hospitality of its princely owner, or taking part in some of those periodical fêtes which attracted hundreds of guests. Here General Urquiza was murdered in March, 1870, since which time the palace has been deserted. He used to say that he had expended 400,000*l.* on the place; he imported fruit trees from France at considerable cost, and used to send 10,000 plants yearly to his friends out of his extensive gardens. More than 200 men were engaged for some years in making the artificial lake hard by, and he had a number of servants engaged in caring for the aviaries, fish-ponds, wild beasts, steam machinery, farmhouse, bee-house, &c. Madame Urquiza used to send wax candles, 40 lbs. weight, made by herself and daughters, to the principal churches as presents. The court-yards have frescoes of Urquiza's battles, and at the grand entrance was the family chapel, with cupola painted in oil, marble floor, and finely carved wood-work: the altar and vestments cost 3000*l.*: the vestry contained a christening font of Carrara marble, elegantly designed. The General's estates were said to be about the area of the kingdom of Belgium, the stock much exceeding 1,000,000 head, between cows and sheep; and ostriches were very abundant, as the General preserved the breed.

Concepcion is the capital of the province, and has 6513 inhabitants. Steamers up and down the Uruguay ply almost daily. The saladero of Santa Candida is one of the finest in the country, and was built by Urquiza. There are several schools and a National College, but the most remarkable building is the Matriz church. It is 514 miles from Buenos Ayres by the telegraph line.

*Gualeguay.*

Area, 1200 square miles; between Nogoyá and Tala on the north, Gualeguaychú on the east, Victoria on the west, and the river Paranacito on the south. The camps are admirably suited for sheep and cattle; the department comprises eight districts: Capilla Vieja, Punta del Monte, Rincon Nogoyá, Costa Nogoyá, Viscachas, Cuchillas, Medanos, and Albardon. In population this is one of the most important departments; the foreign residents number 1807, or nearly one-eighth, being chiefly Italians and Spaniards, with a sprinkling of French and English.

The town of Gualeguay is the third in the province, coming even before the capital, and having 7235 inhabitants; it is built on the Gualeguay river, 7 miles from Port Ruiz, with which it is connected by railway. The saladeros kill over 100,000 head of cattle yearly, and a considerable commerce is kept up by steamers and sea-going ships. Besides the churches, schools, and Government offices, the town possesses a club, a theatre, three soap factories, a tannery, two banks, several hotels and coffee-houses, a steam flour and cloth mill, two cemeteries (one being for Protestants), a free library, and sundry billiard-rooms. Westward is the river Clé, famous for the splendid estancias in the vicinity, especially Las Cabezas, of Mr. James Black; La Llave, of Messrs. Ogilvy; Isabel, formerly belonging to Baron Mauá, San Guillermo, the property of an English joint-stock company; San Henrique, of Haymes and Thompson; James McDougall, and Hugh McDougall, on the banks of the Clé; Calderon Brothers, at Santa Rosa; Leonardo Millan, at Las Flores; Duportal, Benites, Crespo, &c. Mr. Duportal's father took a silver medal for wool at the Paris Exhibition. Most of these estancias have "graserias" for boiling down surplus sheep. Land varies from 1200*l.* to 3000*l.* sterling per square league.

*Gualeguaychú.*

Area, 6000 square miles, of which more than half is swamp, including the low grounds bordering on Paranacito, Tinta, Palmas, Ibicuy, and other streams which make up the delta of the Paraná, where woodcutters and charcoal-burners are the sole occupants, and at intervals gather the bitter orange and wild peach, which are so abundant. There is also a tract of about 1000 square miles of profitable swamp between the rivers Nancay, Paranacito, Gualeguay, and Ibicuy, where the rank pasture is good for fattening horses or horned cattle, but not for sheep; here the farmers often put stock in the winter months, but as heavy floods occur some years they are then obliged to drive the cattle to the nearest high grounds, and in this manner much loss occurs. The high grounds are well suited for either pasture or agriculture, the valleys being watered by arroyos, fringed with tala, espinillo, algarrobo, ñandubay, and other woods. This department is famous for its bees, and exports large quantities of honey and wax to Buenos Ayres and Montevideo. Among natural products may be mentioned limestone, which is found in many places; chalk, on the banks of the Gualeyancito; and argillaceous loam, on the Paranacito and Ibicuy. There are eleven districts: Sarandi, Costa Uruguay, Dos Hermanas, Alarcon, Cuchilla Redonda, Talitas, San Antonio, Peguajó, Perdices, Ceibas, and Ibicuy. The population exceeds that of any other department except La Paz, and more than one-fourth are foreigners, including a number of English estancieros.

The town of Gualeguaychú is the second in the province, and counts 9776 inhabitants; it dates from the last century, being built on a tributary of the Uruguay, and distant 150 miles from Buenos Ayres, with which there is communication three times a week by means of first-class steamers. It is a very thriving place, with a large provincial and foreign trade, the principal importers being Galbino, Piaggio, Mañasco, Pratt, and Tirado. There is a bar at the mouth of the Arroyo, which obliges sea-

going vessels to load or discharge 20 miles below, abreast of Fray Bentos, by means of barges. Mr. Benites has a large saladero and Extractum-carnis factory; the paper-money of his bank circulates freely through the province. The late Mr. Timothy O'Brien, in 1863, was the first of a number of English settlers in this department, whose number in a couple of years rose to fifty, including Messrs. Arbuthnot, Burr, Barker, Golding, Bookey, Clode, Dalglish, Edminston, McDougall, MacNamara, Shand, Forrest, Browning, O'Dwyer, Taylor, Beckwith, Belles, Bowring, Chapman, Byrne, Campbell, England, Elliott, Ferguson, Gow, Grierson, Gilchrist, Gregory, Halliburton, Hughes, Haywood, King, Lindsay, Lacombe, Moon, Massey, O'Shaughnessy, Peart, Reid, Reeves, Risdon, Stevenson, Wesley, White, &c., who maintained for some years a first-rate racing-club, under the patronage of the late General Urquiza. There are hardly a dozen of the above gentlemen now remaining. One of the oldest English estancias hereabout was that of the late Mr. Appleyard. The English Vice-Consul at Gualaguaychú is Dr. Wells. Before the recent Entre Rios war the price of land in this department averaged 1500*l.* to 2000*l.* per square league.

### *Nogoyá.*

Area, 2000 square miles. This department is in the centre of the province, and derives its name from the Arroyo Nogoyá, which rises in the forest of Montiel, and after a course of 90 miles falls into the Paranacito. There are numerous valuable farms, stocked with cattle and sheep, spread over the six districts of Algarrobitas, Don Cristobal, Crucesitas, Chiqueros, Sauce, and Montoya, there being everywhere abundance of excellent water. Besides the Nogoyá river there are smaller streams: the Arroyo Medio, or Durazno, for 20 miles marks the boundary with Villaguay on the north, and has two tributaries, called Piedras and Tunas; the Don Cristobal rises in the Cuchilla Grande and falls into the Nogoyá; the Obispo marks the

limit with Tala, and falls into Arroyo Chiqueros. The census gives 314 foreigners in this department.

The town of Nogoyá dates from the last century, and counts 2118 inhabitants, the proportion being almost 4 women to 3 men; in the whole department there are 300 more females than males, which disproportion is not found in any other part of Entre Rios, although often met with in Cordoba and other provinces that have suffered from civil wars.

### *Victoria.*

Area, 1300 square miles; between Diamante, Nogoyá, Gualeguay, and the swamps bordering the Paraná. This department was the first occupied by the Spaniards, who defeated the Indians with great slaughter (1728), and hence the place obtained the name of Matanza (until a few years ago it was changed to Victoria): the Charrua tribe was driven across the Uruguay into the Banda Oriental, and the less warlike Minuanes conformed to the rule of the conquerors and intermarried with them. The town of Victoria, built in 1810 on the Paranacito, a northern branch of the delta of Paraná, is chiefly remarkable for the exportation of lime, the river being navigable for steamers and sailing vessels: it has a population of 4650, including the usual local authorities. The department comprises seven districts: Rincon Nogoyá, Laguna Pescado, Corrales, Quebrachitos, Pajonal, Rincon Doll, Montoya. The soil, like the rest of the province, is rich and fertile, but agriculture is very limited, the chief occupation being pastoral. Of the entire population one-tenth are foreigners (1124), and one-half of these are Italians.

### *Concordia.*

Area, 6000 square miles; bounded on the north by the Mocoreta Arroyo, which is the frontier with Corrientes; on the south by the Arroyo Grande; on the east by the river Uruguay; and on the west by the stream Feliciano, which separates this department from La Paz. There are thirteen districts: Ayuy, Yuquery,

Yerna, Compas, Moreira, Federal, Diego Lopez, Alencio, Feliciano, Federacion, Tatuty, Mandisoby, and Gualaguaycito.

Concordia is a thriving town of 5498 inhabitants, the men being 15 per cent. more numerous than the women. It is a port of the Uruguay nearly opposite Salto, and has much trade, notwithstanding a dangerous reef of rocks called Corralitos. The old port of Concordia was a league lower down. The local traffic of Concordia is represented by 6 steamboats and 13 sailing vessels, in the aggregate 1774 tons, being greater than any other port in the province except La Paz. The general traffic is so great that a railway, called the East Argentine, is now in construction to facilitate the commerce of the Upper Uruguay and interior of Corrientes, which seeks outlet at Concordia for the produce of about 120,000 inhabitants. The first section to Federacion was opened to traffic (34 miles) in March, 1874. It is hoped this line will be the means of bringing immigration into the fine territories bordering on the Uruguay. The second section, to Caseros, will be 63 miles long.

Federacion is a village of 1656 inhabitants, males 20 per cent. over females; it is on the Upper Uruguay, near the Mandisoby hills and almost in front of the village of Constitucion in the Oriental Republic.

The department is thinly populated (17,262), and shows 3037 foreigners, including some English estancieros, especially Messrs. Philips, of Estancia Philippi.

#### *Diamante.*

Area, 1500 square miles; situate on the Paraná bank between Arroyo Paracao on the north and the embouchure of the Doll on the south, and extending inland till the Cuchilla Grande marks the limit with Nogoyá. The village of Diamante stands on Punta Gorda, a bluff 250 feet over the Paraná; it is the residence of a Gefe Politico, Justice of Peace, Receiver of Customs, Commander of National Guard, and 882 other inhabitants. The department comprises four districts: Salto, Palmar, Costa



Grande, and Isletas. In population (3875) this department is the lowest of the twelve composing the province, and counts only 75 Europeans.

### *La Paz.*

This frontier department is separated from Corrientes by the Guayquiraró; its area is 5000 square miles, including a large portion of the forest of Montiel, and it is watered by the Feliciano, Guayquiraró, Hernandarias, and Alcaraz, all tributaries of the Paraná. Cattle-farming is the sole occupation, and the country is sparsely settled, the districts bordering on the frontier being at times infested by matreros, or vagabonds who hide in the woods.

There are eleven police districts, viz. Tacuaras, Feliciano, Alcaraz, Yeso, Hernandarias, Estacas, Banderas, Basualdo, Manantiales, Chañar, and Mulas; the first seven depending from the Gefatura of La Paz, the others from San Feliciano.

In 1836 the village of Caballú-Cuatiá was founded about a quarter of a mile from where the town of La Paz, begun ten years later, now stands on the bank of the Paraná. This is a river port of some importance, where the steamers call almost daily, going up or down, and for its own immediate traffic it maintains 3 steamboats and 15 sailing vessels, in the aggregate 3219 tons.

The population counts 3438, or one-third of the whole department, which latter includes 696 adult foreigners. The large cattle-farm of Mr. Haycroft, called Esperanza, with an area of 22 square leagues, is in this department. Agriculture is almost unknown. Cochineal, indigo, and quinine are spontaneous, as also "granadillo," from the leaves of which the poorer people obtain a kind of tea.

The village of San José de Feliciano has 552 inhabitants. Limestone and chalk are abundant, as well as varieties of excellent timber.

*Tala,*

Otherwise called Rosario, has an area of 1600 square miles, in the heart of the province, comprising four districts, viz. Tala, Clé, Raices, and Sauce, which take their names from arroyos flowing through them. The river Gualeguay, which forms the eastern boundary, is fringed with ñandubay, algarrobo, red willow, &c. This department and the adjacent one of Villaguay are of recent formation. The camps are in much request for grazing-farms. The village of Tala has 1197 inhabitants. The department is one of the smallest in population, and counts only 288 foreigners.

*Villaguay.*

Area, 5000 square miles, between La Paz on the north, Concepción on the south, Concordia on the east, and Tala on the west. This is the thinnest populated part of the province, less than 2 inhabitants per square mile; it includes a great portion of the Forest of Montiel, which covers 7000 square miles, or nearly one-fifth of the entire province. The houses are nearly all ranchos with thatched roof. There are only 184 foreigners, chiefly Italians and French, in the department, which comprises six districts, viz. Bergara, Lucas, Sauce, Luna, Mojones, and Raices; these are watered by numerous streams, such as San Gregorio, Curupy, Raices, Ortiz, and Adivinos. The village of Santa Rosa de Villaguay contains 1061 inhabitants, and is the residence of the departmental authorities: it stands on the left bank of the Arroyo Villaguay.

*Colon,*

Area, 1100 square miles, lies north of Concepción and south of Concordia, and comprises five districts, viz. San José, Arroyo Grande, Pospos, Puntas Gualeguaychú, and Arroyo Urquiza. This department was formed so late as 1869, on account of the growing importance of the San José colony, founded by General

Urquiza in 1856, on the bank of the Uruguay opposite Paysandú, in a picturesque locality, embracing 30 square miles of a settlement, where the village of Port Colón now stands, with 702 inhabitants.

The population of the department is 4748, of which nearly one-half is made up of Swiss, French, and Italian colonists.

Entre Rios took the following prizes at the Cordoba Exhibition :—

- M. Duportal, wool: gold medal.
- Benites and Co., meat extract: gold medal.
- A. Biraben, meat extract: gold medal.
- M. Tahier, tanned hides: silver medal.
- A. Peyret, potatoes: bronze medal.

M. Duportal obtained a medal at the Paris Exhibition, 1867, for wool.

## CHAPTER XXI.

## TERRITORIES OF CHACO, MISIONES, PAMPAS, AND PATAGONIA.

*Gran Chaco* covers an area of 150,000 square miles, and the scattered Indian tribes are put down for a population of 50,000 souls, which is probably above the reality. It extends from the confines of Bolivia to the province of Santa Fé, along the western bank of the Paraná and Paraguay rivers, and is watered by the Pilcomayo, Bermejo, Salado, and minor streams. It is a diversified country of forests and prairies, mostly fine land except in the swamps along the Paraná, and has been so little explored that much uncertainty prevails as to its natural features and inhabitants. In 1863 the Argentine Government commissioned Mr. P. C. Bliss to make a journey through the Chaco, and this gentleman reported five Indian nations, distinct in language, but alike in habits and physical appearance: the Mocovis and Abipones frequent the frontiers of Santiago del Estero and Santa Fé, while the Tobas, Ocoles, and Matacos inhabit the valleys of the Bermejo and Pilcomayo. The three last tribes are said to number 20,000 souls. The Matacos are very industrious, being the best peons on the frontier estancias of Salta, and in the sugar-fields of Salta and Jujuy. During much of the year the Indians live on the fruit of the algarroba and the "yuchan," or palo-boracho; fish also supplies them with food. They have no agricultural or farming implements. Formerly most of the tribes had cattle and sheep, but the animals seem to have been carried off by a pestilence. The Indians suffer great mortality from want of clothing and proper habitations: they are very superstitious, have a great fear of the Gualiche (or evil spirit), and some confused idea of a future life. Their barter trade is very limited: they sometimes

bring to the frontier settlements a few skins of pumas, jaguars, foxes, otters, &c., but they collect wild honey in considerable quantities, as also ostrich feathers and the resin of "palo-santo." The Matacos and Ocoles could easily be domesticated, if they were furnished with farming implements, seeds, and a few head of cattle.

Remains of the Jesuit settlements are found at San Xavier in front of La Paz, San Geronimo in front of Goya, Concepcion on the Bermejo, and other places, where ruined churches and cotton or sugar plantations attest the advancement of the Indians in the eighteenth century. There are still five small Missions under the charge of a vicar paid by Government, the inhabitants being "tame Indians," of whom Padre Rossi reports unfavourably: they are Santa Rosa, Cayatá, San Javier, San Pedro, and San Geronimo, each having about 600 inhabitants.

Villa Occidental, the residence of the Governor of the Chaco, is above the Pilcomayo mouth on the Paraguay river, some 6 miles higher than the Asuncion, and contains 500 inhabitants. It has been annexed by the Argentine Republic since the late war, having been originally settled by Lopez as a French colony in 1853, under the name of New Bordeaux, when many of the colonists died in the woods, attempting to escape. There are at present 12 tillage "chacras," belonging to 5 Italians, 4 Spaniards, 1 Brazilian, 1 Argentine, and 1 Paraguayan, in the aggregate 1200 acres, under oranges, mandioca, tobacco, sugar-cane, &c. Messrs. Gaebeler have a large steam saw-mill. The garrison comprises 80 men. There are two good shops, but no church or school.

*Misiones* is a small, fertile, and thinly-inhabited country of 10,000 square miles, between the Upper Paraná and Upper Uruguay, and is usually included in the province of Corrientes. It has been proposed to break it up into 100,000 farm lots of 60 acres each, to be given free to immigrants, as the soil, climate, and riverine facilities peculiarly fit it for settlers. The census shows 5278 inhabitants, including 1178 in the village of Santa

Tomé, the seat of Government. Only two-thirds are natives, there being 1940 Brazilians and 112 Europeans. The soil abundantly produces cotton, tobacco, mandioca, potatoes, oranges, &c. The woods in places are so thick that it is necessary to burn them several days when making a clearance. Yerba-maté grows wild. The only drawback is that parrots are so numerous they often eat up a whole plantation. The sportsman will find plenty of carpinchos, wild boars, wood-turkeys, mulitas, tatús, and sometimes a tiger. There is an unpleasant number of snakes and crocodiles, besides regiments of monkeys. The Jesuit copper mine of Candelaria is abandoned, as well as their quarries of tabatinga cement and ferruginous stone. Agate is plentiful. The Jesuits used to raise excellent wine, and D. Juan Perego has an Italian model-farm where grapes are largely grown. Santo Tomé is on the Upper Uruguay, 200 miles overland from Corrientes city.

*The Pampas* form an unbroken plain in the centre of the Republic, covering an area of 150,000 square miles, from Rio Quinto on the Cordobese frontier to Rio Negro in Patagonia, and from the western camps of Buenos Ayres to the limits of Mendoza. They are the undisputed hunting ground of numerous Indian tribes, which often devastate the frontier farms, these tribes being supposed to number 30,000 souls—an exaggerated figure. Some of the tribes are employed as auxiliaries, and there are at present seventeen Caciques on the Pampa or Patagonian frontiers drawing subsidies from the Argentine Government. The Cacique usually ranks and dresses as a colonel, and the supplies quarterly for his tribe comprise so many hundred live cattle or mares, so many quintals of sugar, rice, tobacco, &c. Coliqueo's tribe near Bragado have some agriculture, and the Government has a church and two schools for the Indians near Azul. As the tide of settlers and civilization proceeds westwards from Buenos Ayres towards Mendoza the Pampas will gradually be converted into cattle and sheep farms. The pasture is coarse and water is scarce, but wells are

easily made. In the last century the Pampas included all the western camps now so thickly settled with Irish sheep-farmers.

*Patagonia* includes all the territory south of Rio Negro, from the Atlantic to the Andes, as far as the Straits of Magellan. Its area is roughly estimated at 300,000 square miles, and the supposed population of 20,000 Indians is over the mark. The Chilians claim that part south of Santa Cruz river along the Atlantic to the Straits of Magellan.

The whole coast-line is a wilderness, swept by powerful winds in every month of the year. The farthest settlement of Buenos Ayres is Carmen de Patagones, at the mouth of the Rio Negro, in  $41^{\circ}$  south latitude, 400 miles south of Buenos Ayres city. Going south 100 miles farther, we reach the site of the colony of La Piedra, founded by the Spaniards in 1779.

The Welsh colony, founded in 1865 on the river Chubut, sometimes called Chupat, received lands from the National Government. This place is nearly 300 miles from Carmen.

At  $48^{\circ}$  is Port Desire, visited by Viedma in 1780; this officer built a fort at San Julian, 70 miles farther south, and in the same year (1781) made an expedition inland to Lake Capar, now better known as Lake Viedma, 300 miles from the seaboard. Old maps erroneously trace the river Gallegos as taking its source here, but the Santa Cruz certainly seems an outlet from this lake.

The Santa Cruz river was ascended by the officers of H.M.S. 'Beagle' for 245 miles in 1834, but they do not seem to have reached the lake discovered last Christmas by Lieutenant Feilberg, 300 miles above Rouqueaud's fish-oil factory. This is apparently the same we have already alluded to as Lake Capar or Viedma, and the river which Viedma took to be the Gallegos was, doubtless, the Santa Cruz. Lieutenant Fielberg tells us a steam-boat can ascend at all seasons to this lake. This territory would prove of great importance, if the rumoured coal-beds and gold-dust be realities.

Captain Piedra Buena had for some years a fort on an island in Santa Cruz river, where he traded with Indians for skins.

The mouth of the Santa Cruz is in  $50^{\circ}$  south latitude, and so far back as 1864 the Chilians laid claim to all parts of Patagonia between this river and the Straits of Magellan. The late Captain Smyly, of the Falkland Islands, knew the country well, and considered it rich in minerals, with easy approaches by the Andes to the Pacific.

Gallegos debouches near Cape Fairweather, in  $51\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, or 70 miles N. of Cape Virgin, which is the Atlantic entrance to the Magellan Straits.

Serious efforts at colonization must always fail in these regions.

Patagonia will probably be unpopulated for centuries.



## CHAPTER XXII.

## THE REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY.

THE Republic of Uruguay, more generally known as the Banda Oriental, is the smallest independent State in South America, and at the same time one of the most favoured in point of climate, soil, and geographical position. It is situated between the 30th and 35th degrees of S. lat., and 52nd and 58th degrees of W. long.; its boundaries are as follows: E., the Atlantic Ocean; S., the River Plate; W., the River Uruguay; N., the River Cuareim, the Cuchilla de Santa Ana, the Yaguaron, Lake Merim, and the River Chuy, which falls into the Atlantic.

The population has undergone a steady and rapid increase since the period of Independence; in 1826 it was estimated at 60,000; in 1852 the census gave 131,969; in 1860, 221,248; and at present it is generally supposed to exceed the returns given below. These last show an average of 60 inhabitants to the square league, a proportion surpassed by no other country but Chile on this continent.

The Banda Oriental comprises an area of 7036 square leagues, or more than double the extent of Ireland, and is divided into thirteen departments, viz.:

Departments.	Sq. Leagues.	Population.
Montevideo .. .. .	25	127,704
Canelones .. .. .	178	48,000
Florida .. .. .	458	19,900
San José .. .. .	432	20,115
Colonia .. .. .	211	22,508
Soriano .. .. .	347	21,403
Carried forward ..	1651	259,630

Departments.	Sq. Leagues.	Population.
Brought forward..	1651 .. ..	259,630
Durazno .. .. .	539 .. ..	16,281
Minas .. .. .	554 .. ..	27,163
Maldonado .. .. .	572 .. ..	18,750
Salto .. .. .	903 .. ..	32,602
Paysandú .. .. .	818 .. ..	33,052
Cerro Largo .. .. .	837 .. ..	33,000
Tacuarembó .. .. .	1162 .. ..	34,000
	<hr/>	
	7036 .. ..	<hr/> 454,478 <hr/>

The physical outlines of the country present a varied and agreeable aspect, in contrast with the flat uninteresting pampas of the Argentine Republic. Mountains, forests, and rivers abound, and the unfailing supply of wood and water is a great advantage to settlers, both for sheep-farming and agricultural purposes. The principal mountain chain is the Cuchilla Grande, which comes from the interior of Brazil and runs almost due south; the ranges of Carapey and Castillos traverse the departments of Maldonado and Minas; those of Yermal, Guazunambi, and Palmas are close to the Cerro Largo; and between this last and the great Santa Ana chain there are several smaller ranges in the vicinity of Tacuarembó. These mountains temper the force of winds and contribute to the mildness of the climate. The fact also that the country is bounded on three sides by the ocean, the River Plate, and the Uruguay, accounts for the prevalence of sea-breezes which moderate the intense heat of summer. The Atlantic coast-line, from mouth of the Chuy to Montevideo, is exactly 200 miles; the seaboard on the River Plate up to Point Gorda is 155 miles; and that of the river Uruguay up to Santa Rosa is 270 miles; making in all a coast-line of 625 miles; while the land frontier, from Santa Rosa to Santa Ana, Lake Merim, and the Atlantic, has a length of 450 miles. The land frontier is the border line between the Banda Oriental and the Brazilian province of Rio Grande do Sul.

The river Uruguay, which gives its name to the Republic, is 1020 miles long, and has its origin in the Sierra do Mar, a range of mountains in Brazil to the west of the province of Santa Catalina.

Its course is at first from east to west through the territory of Rio Grande, passing the towns of Santo Tomé, Uruguayana, Itaqui, and Yapayú, and it receives numerous large tributaries till reaching the Cordillera de Misiones; here it is only 50 miles apart from the Upper Paraná, opposite the Paraguayan village of Itapua. The Misiones mountain range of Santa Maria diverts the course of the river, which now takes a southerly direction, and emancipating itself from a series of hill-ranges and forests, pours forth its stream in a broad bosom of 600 yards from side to side, just before receiving the waters of the Ibicuy. The confluence of the Cuareim marks the limit between Brazil and Banda Oriental; it is in  $30^{\circ} 4' 15''$  south lat. The Uruguay has here a width of half a mile, broken by some woody islands which divide the river into two channels, the eastern having 15 feet, the western only 6 feet of water.

The Cuareim is 160 miles long; it is navigable for about 30 miles from its mouth, and celebrated for rich strata of porphyry and copper deposits.

After the confluence of the Cuareim, the Uruguay stretches out 1500 yards wide; the Corrientes shore is high, bold, and thickly wooded; that of Banda Oriental is varied and picturesque in the extreme. At the mouth of the Arroyo Tigre there is a reef of rocks, called Restinga de San Gregorio, where troops of cattle are often driven across the river.

The island of San Gregorio, a little lower down, is never inundated.

The islands of Ceibal and Vacas are not far from the ruined town of Belen. Another great tributary is the Arapey; it has a winding course of 140 miles, and empties its waters in front of the mouth of the Mocoretá, which is the boundary between Corrientes and Entre Rios; the Uruguay is there a mile wide.

The confluence of the Arapey gives rise to numerous charming islands ; this river is navigable for 20 miles.

A few miles lower down are the high and wooded islands of Herreros, where we already get some indication of the approach to the great cataract, by the impetuous currents and distant roar of waters. The Salto Grande, while presenting a fine picture for the artist, offers an insuperable obstacle to the navigation of the Upper Uruguay. The noise of the fall can be heard at a distance of 10 miles, and the effect of the sun's rays on the cataract is very picturesque ; when the spray clears off there is a charming vista of woods and islands of surpassing verdure and beauty. In the time of the Spaniards, it was projected either to cut a channel through the porphyrite ledge of rocks that forms the cascade, or else to make a canal inland (on the eastern bank) which would communicate with the Arroyo San Antonio below the falls. This would throw open 300 miles of the Upper Uruguay to vessels drawing 8 or 10 feet of water. Near the confluence of the San Antonio there is a smaller fall, called Salto Chico, and below this is the flourishing town of Salto.

The Dayman has a course of about 100 miles, being navigable 18 miles from its mouth, and falls into the Uruguay near the Herridero reef and the remarkable table-land of Mesa de Artigas.

Two banks are formed at the confluence, but the channels give a depth of 25 and 30 feet for vessels.

As we pass the Arroyos Chapicuy, Capibary, and Guabiyú, we find numerous wooded islands. Before reaching Paysandú is the confluence of the Queguay, a river 150 miles in length, and navigable for 30 miles from its mouth. Here there are islands of some extent, but mostly under high-water level. Below Paysandú is the important Arroyo Negro, which discharges itself nearly opposite the town of Concepcion. The Uruguay offers a beautiful perspective, its broad breast of waters extending like an inland sea ; soundings, 20 to 30 feet. Following the shore of Entre Rios, we meet more islands, and pass the Arroyos Isletas

and Roman, where there are numerous islands. Gualeguaychú river gives a large contingent of waters, and next comes the port of Fray Bentos on the Oriental coast.

A little lower down is the mouth of the Rio Negro, the last and one of the largest tributaries of the Uruguay.

Passing the villages of Soriano and San Salvador, the Punta de Chaparro, and mouths of the Guazú, the waters of the Uruguay unfold themselves majestically to the gaze of the traveller, and unite themselves with those of the Paraná to form the magnificent estuary of the Rio de la Plata. The ordinary currents of the Uruguay run  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile per hour; but when the south wind has blown for some time, driving the waters back, the reactionary current is often 4 and even 6 miles an hour. The season of floods is irregular, but usually follows the rainy season in the tropics, that is between July and November, the water then rises 15 or 20 feet, and steamboats can even pass over the Salto Grande.

The Republic is divided into two unequal portions by the Rio Negro, which runs from east to west a course of 270 miles. The departments north of the Rio Negro are Paysandú, Salto, and Tacuarembó. The important river Yi forms a confluence with the Rio Negro about 20 leagues above Mercedes; the department of Durazno occupies all the intermediate territory between the Yi and Negro.

Between Rio Negro and the River Plate we find the departments of Soriano, Colonia, and San José, watered by numerous streams, such as the San Salvador, San José, &c. The department of Florida lies between the Yi and the Santa Lucia, and south of latter river are Canelones and Montevideo. Eastward of the head waters of Rio Negro, and following the Brazilian frontier and the river Yaguaron as far east as Lake Merim, is the large department of Cerro Largo.

Coming south we meet Minas, watered by the Cebollati and its affluents. Finally, Maldonado lies along the Atlantic coast, taking in the (bañados) or swamps of India Muerta. The only

lake of any extent in the country is Lake Merim, which is about 30 leagues long by 2 to 5 in width; it is neutral territory between Banda Oriental and Brazil. The width of the River Plate from Montevideo to Point Las Piedras, on the Argentine shore, is 53 miles.

The soil is invariably rich and fertile, yielding with little labour abundant crops of grain, fruits, vegetables, &c. Being irrigated by a thousand streams of permanent water, and mostly unencumbered with timber or brushwood, the husbandman has only to till the virgin soil and await the harvest-time, without fear of drought, locusts, dust storms, or the like; the departments chiefly devoted to agriculture are Montevideo, Canelones, San José, and Maldonado. In the time of the Spaniards the country produced neither wheat, rye, nor barley. At present corn is raised in such quantities as to keep 100 steam, wind, and water mills in constant work, besides a large exportation of grain to Buenos Ayres. In the departments of Canelones and San José we meet sundry colonies of natives of the Canary Islands, all occupied in raising wheat and other cereals. On the banks of the Uruguay, above the Rio Negro, experiments have been successfully made for the growth of yerba-maté and tobacco, and it is even thought that the climate and soil are suitable for the production of tea and indigo. Cotton has been grown in Salto and elsewhere, while the plantain and sugarcane may be cultivated in many parts, and the Eucalyptus Globulus, or Australian gum-tree, thrives in a wonderful manner.

Fruits of all kinds proper to the temperate zone grow in rich and varied profusion; medicinal herbs are also found near the banks of the rivers and in the islands of the Uruguay. The Rio Negro, especially, is famed for its medicinal qualities, owing to the quantity of sarsaparilla growing along its banks.

The departments most thickly wooded are Salto, Paysandú, Cerro Largo, Soriano, Minas, and Maldonado. Of the trees generally known in Europe there are in this country the follow-

ing:—walnut, willow, white cedar, myrtle, mulberry, black laurel, orange, lemon, olive, fig, pomegranate, apple, pear, almond, peach, plum, cherry, and many others. The wood proper to the country are the guava and lapacho, suitable for carpenter's work and general uses; the ñandubay, invaluable for corrals and fences; the ombú, of which the ashes are turned to account; the quebracho, an exceedingly useful tree, both for its timber and its bark; the *lignum vitæ* and taruman, for rafters and coarse work; and the urunday, zocará, juga, and viraró, all very hard and durable woods. The quebracho and scarlet willow furnish excellent dyes; and nearly all the kinds of timber above mentioned are suitable for building vessels.

Among the medicinal plants we may enumerate the poppy, wormwood, gentian, balsam, coriander, camomile, liquorice, marsh-mallow, rosemary, elder, and sarsaparilla. The mineral resources of the country are not yet developed; but it is clear that at no distant date this branch of national wealth will cause general attention. The supply of stone for building and paving purposes is unlimited, and the marble quarries are numerous, varied, and abundant; the pillars of the new English bank at Montevideo are of native marble, from the departments of Canelones and Maldonado. No less remarkable are the large and beautiful agate stones found in such profusion, especially in the departments of Salto and Tacuarembó, at Cerro Catalanes, and other places. These agates have found their way to Europe, and a couple of years ago a German lapidary came hither, made a large collection in the interior, and unfortunately died of fever on his way down to Salto. At times, however, we still find agate figuring in the list of exports. The crystallizations and petrifications are also exceedingly beautiful.

Alabaster is met with in the western districts, and limestone in many places: the latter is, moreover, largely exported to Buenos Ayres.

Although, as a general rule, the discovery of precious metals

in South America has tended little to the advancement or wealth of the nation, there is, nevertheless, reason to hope that the Banda Oriental will soon derive profit from the gold mines of Cuñapiru, in the department of the Tacuarembó. About ten years ago there was some talk of gold washings in the Rio San Francisco, department of Minas. Samples were exhibited by Chacon and Bonilla, with an average of 22 carats, but they failed to enlist public notice. It is, however, quite certain that in the middle of the last century the Spaniards found grains of gold, and veins of iron, silver, and lead in the hill-ranges of Penitentes, Campanero, Arquito, and Marnicho: the nuggets, on being assayed at Madrid, gave a result of 19 to 21 carats gold. The town of Minas takes its name from a mine of sulphuret of lead, worked at that period by the Spaniards under the impression that it was silver; on finding their mistake they abandoned the works.

The gold-fields of Cuñapiru and Arecuá are situated in the department of Tacuarembó, between the 31st and 33rd parallels of southern latitude, and extend over the boundary line far into Brazil.

For many years past the existence of the precious metal has been known to those residing in the neighbourhood, who have at various times devoted themselves to breaking up the lumps of quartz that lie scattered upon the surface, and picking out those pieces in which the gold was visible to the naked eye, then burning the stone to reduce it more easily, and subsequently washing the dust with quicksilver in a wooden bowl. In this rude way considerable quantities of gold have found their way into the Montevideo and Brazilian markets. Exceedingly rich alluvial washings have also been found, and some years ago a Brazilian, named Suarez, washed out in a very short time over 50 lbs. of gold. There is at all times abundance of water in the rivers, enabling the gold seeker to use either puddling machines or sluices; but notwithstanding all this, no



systematic working has ever been carried on, either by single individuals or companies, to ascertain the value of these mines. In 1867 Mr. Hubert Bankart, who had spent many years in nearly all the gold regions of the world, came to examine personally the extent and value of these auriferous deposits, and to see what the probability was of obtaining good results. Next year he was sent to England for operatives and machinery, but after his return difficulties arose with the directors, and the machinery was not long since lying on the beach at Salto.

Mr. Bankart announced that he also discovered large masses of magnetic iron in the same department, containing over 70 per cent. of pure iron.

In the department of Salto, district of Catalanes, besides agates of a very beautiful order, there is an abundance of fine amethysts. Copper abounds in the vicinity of the Arapey river. In the departments of Minas and Maldonado are mines of copper and galena, worked imperfectly many years ago. The country around abounds in marbles of every colour, besides flagstones superior to those from Hamburg, and within 40 miles of the city. In this district there is an abundance of soapstone.

Silver has been known since the time of the Jesuits to exist in many parts of the state, and Mr. Lettsom, the late British Chargé d'Affaires, states that he has in his possession some ore obtained from a vein running more than a mile in length. Coal apparently exists both in Maldonado and Cerro Largo, joining the Condiota coal-fields in Brazil. The great wealth of the country consists in its pastoral resources and countless herds of cattle. The absence of Indians favours this industry in a remarkable manner, and hence we find horned cattle comparatively more numerous than in Buenos Ayres. Sheep-farming is in its infancy; nor can there be much progress in this particular, until an increased tide of English and Irish settlers set in for this side of the River Plate. The cattle and horses, so numerous

on the north side of the Rio Negro, are descended from those first introduced by the Spaniards into Paraguay, and from those which the Jesuits constantly reared in their Missions. In the time of the Charrua Indians there was a Reduction called Santo Domingo, where the village of Soriano now stands; this was plundered by the citizens of Buenos Ayres, who then established cattle-farms with the stock taken from the Indians, and thence the cows and horses descended which are found south of the Rio Negro.

The first sheep introduced into the country were those distributed by the Spanish authorities among the early inhabitants of Montevideo. In recent years the English estancieros have largely imported sheep from Buenos Ayres. Asses, goats, and swine were introduced in like manner by the early settlers: the present breed of mules is much valued, and numbers are exported to Mauritius, Bourbon, and the Cape of Good Hope. The swine of the country are like those in Buenos Ayres, of little value, the meat being coarse and ill-flavoured.

Estancias combining both sheep and cattle are found mostly in the departments of Colonia, Soriano, Paysandú, Florida, and Durazno, where there are several first-class English and German establishments. The northern and eastern departments are almost exclusively devoted to horned cattle, and all along the Cuareim, Arapey, Yaguaron, and Chuy, the leading estancieros are Brazilian settlers, who own over 2000 square leagues of land stocked with 2,000,000 cows and horses. Much attention has been paid by English and German farmers to the improvement of the breed of sheep, by importing Negretti, Rambouillet, Leicester, and Lincolnshire rams.

Mr. Hughes and others have also introduced Durham cows and bulls with great success; and Baron Mauá has essayed a similar improvement in the horses of the country, by bringing out some pure-blood Arabian sires. The Banda Oriental is the richest country of the world in farming stock, there being to

each inhabitant an average of 15 cows, 3 horses, and 40 sheep. The approximate numbers are:—

Departments.	Cattle.	Horses.	Sheep.
Montevideo .. .. .	4,000	3,000	6,000
Canelones .. .. .	70,000	10,000	340,000
Florida .. .. .	800,000	130,000	5,000,000
San José .. .. .	450,000	50,000	1,500,000
Colonia .. .. .	370,000	130,000	2,500,000
Soriano .. .. .	440,000	114,000	3,000,000
Salto .. .. .	710,000	330,000	1,500,000
Paysandú .. .. .	500,000	60,000	2,500,000
Minas .. .. .	360,000	90,000	200,000
Maldonado .. .. .	450,000	70,000	250,000
Tacuarembó .. .. .	1,300,000	125,000	136,000
Cerro Largo .. .. .	1,280,000	300,000	560,000
Durazno .. .. .	450,000	45,000	560,000
	7,184,000	1,457,000	18,052,000

The country is comparatively free from wild beasts and venomous reptiles. Tigers are sometimes seen in the islands of the Uruguay, and among the thickets of the mainland bordering the same river, but they never cause much annoyance to the farmers. Pumas, or native lions, have been found at rare intervals in the forests of the Rio Negro: they sometimes do much destruction in the sheepfolds, on which account the estancieros hunt them down.

The carpincho or sea-hog is also found in the Rio Negro: the flesh is fat and unfit for the table. Deer and ostriches are in some places very numerous, and the smaller kinds of game are abundant, viz. partridge, wild duck, parrots, plovers, &c. There are no biscachos on this side of the River Plate, but instead is a little animal resembling a mole, which burrows underground, and often exposes the traveller to an ugly fall: it is called the *tuku-tuku*, from a noise which it makes nearly of the same sound. *Mulitos* and *peludos* are also found. Toads and frogs are everywhere met with: snails were unknown until imported from Cuba by Padre Solano of Paysandú. Dogs, as

in Buenos Ayres, are so numerous as to be a nuisance, and of a very inferior breed, while the cats are generally large and handsome.

The cattle and sheep are much the same as in the Argentine Republic, but the beef of Montevideo is esteemed much superior to that of Buenos Ayres. A considerable trade is carried on in seal-fishing: these seals are sometimes called sea-wolves, and may be considered amphibious: the principal fishery is near the island of Lobos. Montevideo and Maldonado are especially famous for their many kinds of superior fish, such as the brotula, pejery, sargo, buriqueta, pescadillo del rey, anchoa, palometa, corbina, eongrio, cazon, raya, bagre, sardines, camerones, oysters, &c., all which are cheap and abundant.

The agricultural returns show that the crops since 1870 average:

	Value.
	\$
Wheat .. .. .	2,905,000
Maize .. .. .	752,000
	<hr/>
	\$3,657,000

equal to \$8 worth per head of the population. The mills of Montevideo alone produced last year 62,000,000 lbs. of flour, or 150 lbs. for each inhabitant.

The population of the Republic is set down, as before stated, at 454,000, and may be classified as follows:

Oriental .. .. .	250,000	Brazilian .. .. .	20,000
Italians .. .. .	60,000	Argentines .. .. .	10,000
Basques .. .. .	30,000	English and German	10,000
Spaniards .. .. .	30,000	Portuguese .. .. .	2,000
French .. .. .	30,000	Africans, &c. .. ..	12,000

The increase in late years has been wonderful, in spite of the civil wars:

	Inhabitants.
Census of 1852 .. .. .	131,969
„ 1860 .. .. .	221,248
Estimates in 1873 .. .. .	458,000

This shows over seven persons to the square mile, about the same as Buenos Ayres, and twice as much as in any of the other Argentine provinces.

In the city and suburbs of Montevideo the foreign element constitutes fully two-thirds, including of course the children of foreign residents, who are, however, by law citizens of the Republic. Italians, French, English, Germans, and Basques make up the bulk of the foreign community of the capital. Brazilians are very numerous in the departments of Salto, Cerro Largo, and Tacuarembó, where the natives barely figure for half the population; the districts in which native Orientals have a large majority are Minas, San José, Florida, and Durazno, the proportion being about two-thirds. Paysandú, Soriano, Colonia, and Maldonado, the proportion is about three Orientals to two Europeans. On the whole it will be seen the numbers are about equal.

The general statistics of the thirteen departments which compose the Republic show 3052 marriages in a year, the proportion in the city being as 20 foreigners to 10 natives, and in the departments 22 natives to 17 foreigners.

	Foreigners.	Natives.
Husbands .. ..	1919	1133.
Wives .. ..	1232	1820

Which shows that 3 native women marry for 2 native men.

Public instruction is backward in the departments, but advanced in Montevideo, the returns showing :

	Schools.	Pupils.
City, public .. ..	58	6,688
„ private .. ..	54	3,360
Country, public .. ..	74	6,738
„ private .. ..	59	
	<u>245</u>	<u>16,786</u>

The number of immigrants averages 20,000. The proportion is as follows :

Italians .. .. .	9000	Brazilian .. .. .	3000
Spaniards .. .. .	3000	Germans .. .. .	1000
French and Basques..	2000	English and others ..	2000

Of the total number only 3 per cent. apply at the Emigrant Office for lodging and employment, the rest finding instant occupation on landing. Wages and the cost of living are much the same as in Buenos Ayres, and it follows that an industrious man can readily save a little money to improve his condition and make a start in life as a shopkeeper or the like. The most respectable class of shopkeepers in Montevideo is composed of French residents, who exhibit much taste in the selection of their wares and display of same. The only thing that shocks the stranger is the total disregard of the Sabbath, all the shops being kept open as on week-days, at least until the hour approaches for the bull-fight at the Union Circus. The wholesale merchants are almost exclusively English or German, who always close their houses on Sundays and keep the day just as at home.

The Italians are found in almost every scale of society, both in the capital and the chief towns of the departments. In a word, the country depends on foreign immigration for the active business of every-day life.

The Government offices, law-courts, medical and military professions offer occupation to the native Orientals, many of whom are also distinguished for literary talents, or remarkable as wealthy capitalists and estancieros. In character and tastes the Orientals are exactly like Argentines: the religion and language are also the same.

The first inhabitants of the country were the Indian tribes called Charruas, Chanas, Minuanes, and others. From the time of discovery by D. Juan Diaz de Solis the Banda Oriental became a Spanish colony, and formed part of the Viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres. The Portuguese, however, made frequent efforts to annex it to their possessions, and in 1679 founded the city of Colonia in front of Buenos Ayres, making themselves masters

of this part of the coast of La Plata : Colonia changed masters several times, till it was ultimately lost to Portugal in 1778. The Portuguese had likewise established themselves on the ground where Montevideo now stands, which they evacuated in 1724. The country remained united to the Spanish Crown till the struggle for Independence in 1811.

With the aid of Buenos Ayres the Spanish power was overthrown, and the garrison of Montevideo forced to capitulate in 1814. Then was formed the Oriental province, which constituted one of the united provinces of La Plata till 1815, when Montevideo seceded and formed a Republic on her own account. It was of very brief duration, for the Portuguese invaded the country, took Montevideo, and forced the Oriental Congress of 1821 to decree the annexation of Banda Oriental to the kingdom of Portugal and Brazil. In the same year Brazil became an independent empire, and annexed this country under the title of Provincia Cis-Platina. In 1825 an expedition of thirty-three Oriental patriots from Buenos Ayres raised a revolution ; and again, with the aid of the Argentines, the liberty of the country was recovered. The Brazilians sustained a decisive defeat at Ituzaingo in 1827, and a treaty was shortly afterwards concluded at Rio Janeiro guaranteeing the Banda Oriental as a free and independent State. Brazil, however, remained in possession of that part of Misiones belonging to the territory of Uruguay. A republican constitution was formed and adopted in 1830, with the title of Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

The country began to make rapid progress till troubles arose with Buenos Ayres in 1839 : soon after, the Argentine army invaded the country, and the siege of Montevideo, which lasted nine years, reduced the state to ruin and desolation. At last Urquiza's revolution against Rosas, in 1851, restored the Banda Oriental to tranquillity for some years.

The Flores revolution in 1865 resulted in Brazilian intervention, and the expulsion of President Aguirre, events quickly followed by the long and sanguinary war in Paraguay. On the

assassination of General Flores, in 1868, he was succeeded in power by General Battle. The country is now beginning, under Dr. Ellauri's Government, to recover from these disastrous and unprofitable commotions.

The capital of the Republic, Montevideo, is indisputably the cleanest, handsomest, and healthiest city in the continent. Its population is estimated at 100,000, and the other principal towns are as follows :

Salto .. .. .	10,000	Durazno .. .. .	2,000
Paysandú .. .. .	10,000	Pando .. .. .	1,500
Colonia .. .. .	2,000	Porongos .. .. .	1,000
San José .. .. .	4,000	Artigas .. .. .	1,000
Maldonado .. .. .	1,000	Carmelo .. .. .	1,000
Union .. .. .	5,000	Melo .. .. .	5,000
Mercedes .. .. .	4,000	Santa Rosa .. .. .	1,000
Fray Bentos .. .. .	2,000	Canelones .. .. .	3,000
Higueritas .. .. .	1,500	Tacuarembó .. .. .	3,000
Minas .. .. .	2,000	Rocha .. .. .	2,000
Piedras .. .. .	2,000	Rosario .. .. .	2,000
Santa Lucia .. .. .	1,000	Treinta Tres .. .. .	2,000
Florida .. .. .	2,000		

Besides these there are ten villages, viz. Soriano, San Salvador, San Carlos, San Juan Bautista, Tala, San Ramon, Belen, Constitucion, Cuareim, and Sarandi, which have a few hundred inhabitants each. Salto and Paysandú are thriving towns and river-ports on the Uruguay; they have a large local and inland traffic, besides an active and bustling steam-boat trade with Buenos Ayres and Montevideo.

The best inland town is Mercedes, on the Rio Negro, much frequented in summer for the medicinal virtue of the water. Colonia is mostly in ruins, and only remarkable for its historic associations and Manton's dry dock.

San José, on a river of the same name, is a telegraph station, midway between Montevideo and Colonia; Fray Bentos is the seat of the Extractum Carnis Liebig factory, the most important in the country, or indeed in the River Plate; it is situated



on the Uruguay, as are also the minor ports of Higuera and Carmelo.

The seaport of Maldonado is at the mouth of the River Plate, or rather on the Atlantic. Artigas, on the Brazilian frontier, does some trade in beef and hides for exportation *via* Rio Grande. Florida and Durazno are central towns connected with the capital by the Central Uruguay Railway.

Union is a suburb of Montevideo, and Las Piedras and Santa Lucia are pleasant summer residences within easy distance of the city.

The property returns for Contribucion Directa show in the city 200%, and in country 140% sterling for each inhabitant, viz.:

	\$
Old city .. .. .	42,355,335
New city .. .. .	34,352,254
Suburbs .. .. .	34,503,411
Country .. .. .	250,000,000
	\$361,211,000

There are four banks, which show collectively:

	\$
Capital .. .. .	6,038,452
Cash .. .. .	5,362,694
Emission .. .. .	4,731,370

There are 9989 houses of business in the Republic, of which 5663 are in Montevideo, the latter including 3 steam saw-mills, 8 foundries, 93 factories, 13 tanyards, 52 brick-kilns, 7 steam flour-mills, 9 saladeros, &c.

The trade returns for three years were:

	Imports.		Exports.
	\$		\$
1870 .. .. .	15,003,342	.. .. .	12,779,051
1871 .. .. .	14,864,247	.. .. .	13,334,224
1872 .. .. .	18,859,724	.. .. .	15,489,532

This shows an increase in two years of 26 per cent. in imports

and 22 per cent. in exports, the balance of trade being better than in the Argentine Republic, viz.:

	Imports to Exports.
Argentine Republic .. .. .	100 to 75
Uruguay .. .. .	100 to 81

The exports amount to 8*l.* sterling per head, which is nearly 5 per cent. higher than in Great Britain, and nearly double the ratio of the Argentine Republic, but not equal to Buenos Ayres singly. The trade of the Oriental Republic doubles in nine years. The exports in 1870 and 1871 chiefly consisted of:

	1870.		1871.
Cow hides .. .. .	1,087,834	.. ..	1,278,173
Wool .. .. . lbs.	51,842,000	.. ..	67,368,000
Jerked beef .. .. cwt.	341,725	.. ..	..
Tallow .. .. pipes	17,473	.. ..	..
Sheepskins .. .. bales	9,844	.. ..	..
Sealskins .. .. .	5,749	.. ..	..

The value of exports does not include live cattle driven over the frontier into Brazil for the Pelotas saladeros. The increase in the Customs revenue is remarkable:

	§
1870 .. .. .	4,538,353
1871 .. .. .	5,312,317
1872 .. .. .	7,207,907

The total public debt is \$41,481,235, the amount redeemed since the first debt in 1869 being \$19,542,924.

Most of the London loan of 1871 went to redeem the paper money. A second 6 per cent. loan is proposed, to redeem these local debts of 9 or 12 per cent. interest, which will save 1¼ million dollars yearly.

The port of Montevideo is now one of the largest tonnage, the arrivals and sailings make up:

	Ships.		Tonnage.
1869 .. .. .	2,610	.. ..	967,057
1871 .. .. .	2,876	.. ..	1,424,577

This does not include 306,183 tons for river steamers, nor 3601 coasting vessels of light tonnage. The gross returns are about equal to Buenos Ayres.

The tonnage of the various flags is in this ratio :

	Tons.	Per Cent.
English .. .. .	643,885	45
French .. .. .	253,540	18
Italian .. .. .	141,353	10
Spanish .. .. .	113,635	8
Brazilian .. .. .	71,959	5
German .. .. .	68,359	5
United States .. .. .	57,163	4
Swedish .. .. .	35,315	2
Various .. .. .	39,368	3
	<u>1,424,577</u>	<u>100</u>

In 1872 the tonnage rose to 1,652,073 tons.

The bulk of the import and export trade is with England and France, which are nearly equal, and together make up 50 per cent. of the gross returns. From England are received coal, cotton, cloth goods, hardware, and beer; giving in return salted hides, tallow, and wool. From France wine, fancy goods, hats, silks, boots, hardware, and sugar; giving in return salted and dry hides, wool, tallow, hair, and sheepskins. The balance of trade with England is in the ratio of—imports, 8; exports, 5; the trade with France is even. Brazil stands third on the list, figuring for about one-eighth of imports and exports; the former consists of sugar, yerba, tobacco, timber, caña, coffee, and fariña; the exports to Brazil comprise jerked beef, live cattle, and a few small items. Next come the United States, representing an equal amount of imports and exports; the imports consist chiefly of pine and kerosene, for which are sent in return dry hides and wool.

Spain and Italy occupy about the same rank: the former supplies wine, salt, oil, and preserved fruits, taking in exchange about one-fourth of the value in dry hides. Italy gives oil, wine, rice, and macaroni; and takes about three-fourths the amount in dry and salted hides. The Argentine Republic stands for about 5 per cent. of the whole trade returns; the imports from Buenos Ayres are mostly tanned hides, yerba, and

articles of European manufacture; the exports are corn and flour. Belgium takes a considerable quantity of wool and salted and dry hides, while imports from Antwerp are not worth mentioning. From Hamburg, liquors, fabrics, fancy goods, and furniture, and nothing in return. The trade with Havana consists of jerked beef exported thither, for which about two-thirds the amount is returned in sugar, cigars, and caña. Small business is done with Holland, Portugal, India, the Mauritius, and Chile. Taking a general view of the import tables we find that wine figures for 12 per cent., cotton and woollen fabrics 16, sugar 6, yerba 3, hardware 4, beer 1, coal 2, and lumber 2 per cent. of the gross total. The exports consist chiefly of hides and wool, jerked beef and tallow: among minor articles we find 1,000,000 eggs exported annually, and about 100 tons of agate stone. The shipping returns are more than those of Buenos Ayres, which is accounted for by the fact that almost all vessels entering the River Plate touch at Montevideo, and usually discharge a part of their cargo there, which is also the great port of call for ships going to or coming from the west coast.

The revenue of the Republic amounts to about \$6,000,000, of which seven-eighths proceed from the Custom House, the duties being nearly 30 per cent. on the total import and export values. The average taxation is about \$15 to each inhabitant, which is 50 per cent. over that of the Argentine Republic, and double the average of European States. The budget for 1874 was:

	INCOME.	\$
Custom House .. .. .		3,520,000
Stamps and Post Office .. .. .		319,000
Contribution direct (city) .. .. .		450,000
"    "    " (departments) .. .. .		330,000
Rural taxes .. .. .		200,000
Municipal rates .. .. .		566,796
Market rents .. .. .		106,000
Monte-pio .. .. .		62,900
Balance in Public Credit .. .. .		150,000
		\$5,704,696

	EXPENDITURE.	\$
War Office .. .. .	.. .. .	2,229,986
Finance department .. .. .	.. .. .	1,359,498
Interest Pacification debt .. .. .	.. .. .	900,000
" other debts .. .. .	.. .. .	668,550
" for Brazilian debt .. .. .	.. .. .	469,886
" for Italian debt .. .. .	.. .. .	72,000
Junta of Montevideo .. .. .	.. .. .	686,782
Departments .. .. .	.. .. .	1,777,174
Foreign affairs .. .. .	.. .. .	48,000
Government office .. .. .	.. .. .	72,101
		<hr/>
		\$8,283,977

There are 26 newspapers published, the greater part in Montevideo, with a gross circulation of 18,000 copies daily. Besides a public library with 8000 volumes, there is a University for the upper branches of instruction. The Post Office returns for 1872 show 754,185 letters and 818,081 papers: the postal receipts amounted to \$86,530.

The police and army of the Republic comprise 833 officers and 9170 men. There are 47 Catholic and 3 Protestant churches in the Republic: the Right Rev. Bishop Vera is assisted by 101 priests: there are 4 convents, also various charitable institutions directed by Sisters of Charity.

The form of Government is republican, the constitution affording equal rights to all men and prohibiting slavery. Freedom of the press and liberty of conscience are also guaranteed, and foreign settlers enjoy the same rights and privileges as native citizens, besides being exempt from military service. The President is elected for four years, and has a salary of 12,000 silver dollars per annum; he has a cabinet of four Ministers, who have a salary of \$4000 each. The Legislature is composed of 13 Senators (one for each department), and 40 Deputies, the former sitting for six, the latter for three, years.

The Law Courts comprise:—1st, the Supreme Tribunal, of five judges, each with a salary of \$4000; 2nd, the two Cri-

minal Courts; 3rd, the two Civil Judges; 4th, the Tribunal of Commerce; and 5th, the minor judicial authorities proper to each district, for hearing of all petty cases. The ecclesiastical authorities consist of a Bishop, whose salary is \$3200, and a Provisor-General. There is a Board of Works, the director having \$3000 per annum, and a staff of 28 engineers, assistants, and inspectors. The municipal boards of Montevideo and the principal provincial towns are styled Juntas, which have special charge of the roads, markets, and free schools. The Juntas have laboured unceasingly to make roads through the country, especially in the vicinity of the capital; in this they were much favoured by the abundance of stone on all sides.

There is only one railroad completed in the Republic, and that is 130 miles long, to Durazno; a branch is being made by Waring Brothers, from Santa Lucia to Higueritas and Colonia. The North-Western line from Salto to Santa Rosa is being constructed; as also Mr. Pealer's line from Montevideo to Pando. There are four tramways from the city to the suburbs of Union, Reducto, Paso Molino, and Punta Carretas. Mail-coaches run to the various inland departments. The steam-boat service affords daily communication with Buenos Ayres and the ports of the Paraná and Uruguay. Steam-packets to and from Europe arrive almost daily, the various lines from England, France, Germany, Italy, and Spain, making up twenty-four steamers monthly to and from Europe. It is also proposed to establish a branch between Rio Janeiro and the River Plate of steam-packets for the United States and Brazilian Mail Company. The electric telegraph from Montevideo to Buenos Ayres is of immense utility to commerce, and the wires now extend to Chile. The Mauá cable, which has just been laid, places us in immediate contact with Europe. Montevideo has numberless advantages over any and every other city in the continent, both as regards climate and position; it is admirably situated as a place of call, and may be considered the only safe port in the River Plate.

There are eight lighthouses in Oriental waters, between Cape St. Mary and Martín García, besides eight in Argentine waters.

There are three dry docks; that of Mauá, at Montevideo, admits vessels 275 feet long, 45 beam, and 12 draught of water. That of Gounouilhou is smaller. Captain Manton's, at Colonia, takes vessels 1000 tons, up to 250 feet in length.

The language spoken in Banda Oriental is Spanish; the President of the Republic, Dr. Ellauri, is elected for four years (1873-1877). The decimal and metrical system has been used since 1864.





# NUEVO PLANO DE MONTEVIDEO



- A Plaza de la Constitución
- B id. de la Independencia
- C Universidad
- D Mercado Principal
- E id. Chico
- F id. Nuevo
- H Iglesia Matriz
- J Administración de Correos
- K Capilla de la Caridad
- L id. de los Ejercicios

- EXPLICACION.**
- LL Capilla de los Vascos
  - M Cemento / Capilla de los Sales
  - N Templo protestante
  - O Casa Fuerte de Gobierno
  - P Teatro de Seda
  - Q id. de San Felipe / Santiago
  - R Asamblea Nacional y Prisión
  - S Aduana
  - T Fuente de S<sup>ta</sup> Jose
  - U Hospital de Caridad
  - V id. de los Italianos

- X Mont<sup>a</sup> Administrativa
- Y Plaza del Oro
- Z Club de Estrangeros
- a Banco Maua
- b id. Comercial
- c Cuartel de Dragones
- d Recoba antigua / Pasava
- e Casa de la Sr<sup>a</sup> Filantropica
- f Sala de Comercio y Baya Mar<sup>a</sup>
- g Muelle antiguo
- h Puñilla del Puerto



## CHAPTER XXIII.

## MONTEVIDEO.

THE Cerro, or Mount which has given its name to the city, is descried by the voyager at a great distance, forming a prominent feature in the landscape, as the coast-line and suburbs of the city break upon the view. The old town stands upon a tongue of land jutting into the bay, and many splendid buildings are seen here and there, while the towers of the Matriz church rise above all. The Hospital de Caridad, and Custom House are near the water's edge, and close to the former is Fort San José, mounting twenty pieces of cannon. The bay presents a lively aspect with its numerous merchantmen, steamers, and war-vessels, the average clearances from the port being 1,000,000 tons. Over towards the Cerro is Rat Island, or Isla de Libertad, and at the head of the bay the eye ranges over the delightful suburbs of Paso Molino, Miguelete, &c., the background being formed by the Cerrito, on the summit of which are still visible the earthworks thrown up by General Oribe during the nine years' siege of Montevideo (1842-51). The saladeros, at the base of the Cerro, kill over 300,000 head of cattle yearly, and when the wind blows from the west the odour is unpleasant. The bay is more than a mile wide at its mouth, from Rompe Olas, near Fort San José, to the foot of the Cerro; its shape is that of a horse-shoe, and it can accommodate 500 vessels drawing 15 feet or under.

The depth of water has diminished 5 feet during the last seventy years, and the bay will certainly fill up unless dredging be put in practice. The old city comprises 124 blocks, bounded by the ocean on the south and east, by the bay on the west, and

separated from the new town on the north by the Calle de la Ciudadela and Old Market, where the wall of the city is still visible in parts. The new town comprises 186 blocks, of the same size as in the old town (100 varas square = 2 acres English); thus the total area of the city may be put down at 620 acres, or one-third that of Buenos Ayres.

Montevideo was founded in 1717, under the protection of the Apostles SS. Philip and James, by the Viceroy Lavala, but it was merely a military post till 1726, when the first settlers were brought from the Canary Islands by D. Francisco Alzeibar. It was declared a port by the Royal decree in 1778, and a census three years later showed its population to amount to 6466 souls. So rapid was its commercial growth, that in 1792 its imports amounted to \$2,993,267, and its exports to \$4,150,523, its population having risen to about 15,000. Since the epoch of Independence it has been a constant prey to civil wars, and yet its trade and population have gone on increasing in a wonderful degree, as shown in the subjoined table:—

			Population.		Tonnage.		Immigrants.
1836	..	..	23,404	..	61,148	..	5,000
1858	..	..	60,230	..	182,773	..	8,359
1868	..	..	95,856	..	783,926	..	17,381
1872	..	..	105,296	..	1,652,073	..	20,000

The estimate of population embraces only the city and suburbs; the whole department amounts to 127,704. The tonnage does not include coasting or river traffic, which represents 300,000 tons extra. The number of immigrants is probably exaggerated, including a large proportion that afterwards go on to Buenos Ayres. The city can boast several handsome public buildings, such as the Bolsa, Post Office, Museum, English and Italian Banks, Hospital, Solis Theatre, Custom House, Matriz Church, new markets, &c. The hotels are also very fine, especially the Oriental, which is not surpassed in the continent.

The city and suburbs contain 7164 houses, of which 2528 are lit with gas, besides 2292 street gas-lamps, the piping extending

54 miles, and the total number of burners being 20,000. The water supply, laid down by Lezica, Lanus, and Fynn, is brought from Santa Lucia, a distance of 34 miles, and the length of piping in use is over 95 miles. The meat supply for the city markets averages 92,377 horned cattle, and 67,775 sheep per annum, being exactly 1 lb. of meat daily per inhabitant. The city mortality averages 29 per mil, which is about the average of European cities, and 9 per mil more than London; the deaths are 3 males to 2 females, and 93 whites to 7 coloured. Such is the mortality among infants, that 42 deaths in every 100 are of children under two years.

The first place in all Spanish towns to attract the traveller's notice is the Plaza, or principal square; that in Montevideo goes by the name of Plaza Constitucion, with an area of 2 acres, nicely planted, and ornamented with seats and a magnificent fountain. On the south side stands the Matriz church, consecrated on October 21st, 1804, by Bishop Lué, of Buenos Ayres; the exterior is grand and imposing, the turrets rising to a height of 133 feet from the ground, or 225 feet over the level of the bay; the façade was restored in 1858. On the north side is the Cabildo, which serves for the triple purpose of law-courts, senate-house, and prison. At the north-west comes in the English club, where strangers can be presented by any of the members and get visitors' tickets for one month.

The *Fort* or *Government House*, at the junction of Calles Solis and Rincon squares, south of the Plaza, is a shabby-looking building, and in 1868 it narrowly escaped being blown up by a modern Guy Fawkes.

The *Old Market*, formerly the Citadel, is a most interesting relic of the Spaniards: it was built by 2000 Guarani Indians, who were seven years at the work and received no pay. This massive work had formerly a city wall running east and west, forming a complete rampart on the land side, and flanked by Bovedas, or bomb-proof batteries, on the water side at either end. The Bovedas were removed a few years ago to improve the

city, and it was found necessary to use a good deal of blasting powder in the operation. The Calle Ciudadela marks the route of the former city wall. The Old Market is a complete fortress in itself, with quaint stone gateways, north and south: the former now opens into the splendid boulevard of "18 de Julio." From 1835 to 1868 it was the chief market place of the city, but now it is a kind of bazaar, except when temporarily converted into a barrack during revolution.

*Fort San José*, at the south-west extremity of the old town, near Point Rompe Olas, at the mouth of the bay, is another relic of the old *régime*, now used for firing salutes. It has about twenty guns *en barbette*.

The *Hospital de Caridad*, in Calle 25 de Mayo, close to Fort San José, is one of the finest institutions of its kind, and managed by Sisters of Charity. It has a street frontage of 100 yards, covering  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acre English. It is three stories high, and nothing can exceed the neatness of the sick wards, which are long, spacious, and well ventilated. The medical attendant is Dr. Fleury, M.D., of Dublin. English physicians who have visited this hospital say it has few rivals in Europe.

The average number of patients under treatment at a time is 300, the number admitted last year was 4655, of whom 3990 were cured, 338 died, and 327 remained under treatment. The revenues are derived from the Beneficencia Lottery and other municipal sources. The hospital was founded by D. Francisco A. Maiul in 1825. It was handed over to the care of the Sisters of Charity on new year's day, 1856. Attached to the hospital is a chapel, where English sermons are often preached on Sundays. And the Catholic sailors of the English and American war-vessels usually attend Mass at 11 A.M. on Sundays and church holidays.

The *British Hospital* was first established in 1857, but the present airy and commodious building was not erected till 1867, at the corner of Calles Patagones and Buenos Ayres, the funds being provided by private subscriptions. The cost was 7200*l*.

It has sixty beds, distributed among five wards. The visiting physician is Dr. Mullins.

The *Custom House* is a fine new building, three stories high, with a frontage of 300 yards by 100 in depth; it has about 15 acres of flooring for the storage of goods, besides large sheds in front of the three wharves for landing merchandise.

There are steam cranes for hoisting heavy bales, and trucks running on tramways up to the Custom House. The trade of the port is considerable, the aggregate of imports and exports in 1873 being valued at \$30,000,000 (say 6,000,000*l.* sterling), the duties of the same amounting to \$6,000,000, equal to 20 per cent. ad valorem.

Passengers arriving from Europe will find the officials very polite in the examination of luggage. Carts are always in waiting outside the gate for the conveyance of baggage to the hotels. It would be well in landing to beware of the holes with which these moles abound. Besides those of the Custom House there are many other moles, such as Capurros, Gowland's, &c., and these are a favourite promenade on summer evenings. Boats may be hired at any time for a row in the Bay. Attached to the Custom House is the *Capitania del Puerto*, where the Port Captain and his officials may be found. The Port Captain visits ships before leaving port, to prevent people running away from their creditors.

The *Post Office*, situated in Calle Sarandi, two squares south of the Plaza, is a handsome edifice, finished by the late General Flores in 1866, with ample accommodation for all purposes. On presenting your card or passport your letters will be given you without any difficulty.

The Postmaster-General is Mr. Thales Rucker, who has introduced many improvements.

About 2,000,000 letters and papers pass through this office yearly. Mails are dispatched daily to Buenos Ayres and two or three times a week to Europe.

The *Museum and Library* are in front of the Post Office. The

Museum contains 76 mammiferi, 654 stuffed birds, 152 fishes, 154 reptiles, some *lusus naturæ* in bottles, several cases of insects and plants, 1540 classified specimens of minerals, petrifactions, crystallizations, and shells, 118 fossils, 14 skeletons, 16 skulls, sundry nests, skins, arrows, muskets, lances, swords, banners, and a collection of coins, a nugget from the Cuñapirú gold-fields, and 69 medals commemorative of public events. The Library comprises 3653 volumes on science, legislation, history, travels, and general literature. It is open on week days. The Museum is only open on Sundays and Thursdays. The Library was founded in 1830 by Dr. José Manuel Perez Castellano, and opened to the public in 1833, and the Museum by Dr. Teodoro Vilardebo.

The *Bolsa* or *Exchange*, one of the finest public buildings in South America, cost 32,000*l.*, and is situate at the corner of Calles Zavala and Las Piedras. It is almost a counterpart of the Bourse at Bordeaux. The exterior is very ornamental, with a handsome clock-turret: the interior reveals a splendid hall, with the flags of all nations emblazoned on the escutcheons, forming the four sides of the frieze. A marble staircase leads up to the reading-room and Chamber of Commerce.

The *Commercial Rooms*, at the corner of Calles Piedras and Solis, one square from the Bolsa, are a favourite rendezvous of merchants. The reading-room is well stocked with papers, and Señor Buela is indefatigable in getting the latest news by every steamer that comes in. He publishes the 'Telegrafo Maritimo' every evening, with all shipping and commercial intelligence. For ship-captains a more general place of resort is *Evans's Stores*, close to the Custom House, at the foot of Calle Colon, Mr. Evans being purveyor to most of the steamers and war-vessels that call at this port.

The *Electric Telegraph Office*, Mr. John Oldham, manager, is near the Bolsa. The clerks speak English, French, and Spanish, and receive messages from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M. on week days, and for an hour in the morning and another in the evening



on Sundays or holidays. The cable to Buenos Ayres was laid in October, 1866, and the dividend for some years has been 20 per cent.

The *Solis Theatre* or *Opera House*, built in 1856 at a cost of 53,000*l.*, is one square from the Old Market. It is a very elegant structure in the Doric style, with a handsome colonnade forming a vestibule, from which marble staircases lead up to the various parts of the house. On gala nights the house presents a dazzling appearance, with tier over tier of boxes full of the fashion and beauty of the city, for the Oriental ladies are remarkably handsome. There is a suite of ball-rooms over the entrance, which are also thrown open during the bals masqués of the Carnival. On some occasions as many as 4000 tickets have been sold, but the theatre will barely accommodate 3000 persons. The exterior of the building is seen to much advantage, as there is an open square. There is generally an opera company, or Spanish drama, all the year round, and performances are usually on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. The San Felipe, situate between the Government House and Calle 25 de Mayo, is an old, ill-ventilated theatre, of small dimensions, where Spanish zarzuela or French bouffes play in turns. There are two other theatres, viz. that of Mr. Cibils, at the corner of Calles Piedras and Ituzaingo, newly built, capable of holding some 1200 persons, and the Alcazar in Calle Treintatres (opposite Bate's photographic studio), a kind of French dancing saloon.

There are several clubs in the city, to any of which the stranger can easily procure admission. The English club, at the corner of the Plaza, is supplied with the leading European and South American journals, besides having a small library, and some good billiard-tables; from the roof is obtained a fine view. Visitors can have a free ticket for thirty days. Foreign clergymen, diplomatists, and naval officers are honorary members. The Board consists of seven members, including a secretary. Entrance fee, \$10; subscription, \$4 per month.

The *Club Libertad*, at the corner of 25 de Mayo and Treintatres, is the most fashionable in town, comprising the "hautton," both native and foreign; it is celebrated for its brilliant soirées and masked balls, and has a fine suite of saloons in the upper story.

The *German Club "Frohsinn,"* or "gaiety," consisting of 120 members, is of a musical and social character, and has very nice club-rooms close to the corner of Calles Solis and Washington. The reading-room, billiard-room, and conversation hall are well arranged.

The Italians have a club of their nationality, partaking also of the nature of a Mutual Charitable Association.

The *Café Oriental*, in Calle 25 de Mayo, is the best coffee-house in the city, fitted up in magnificent style, and crowded every evening.

The *London and River Plate Bank*, situated in Calle Cerrito within one square of the Bolsa, is one of the handsomest buildings in Montevideo, and cost about 30,000*l*. The pilasters of the façade are of native marble, from Maldonado. The notes of this bank have a large circulation. The head house is in London, the chief branch being in Buenos Ayres, and there are also branch banks in Rosario and Cordoba.

The *Mauá Bank*, at the corner of Calles Cerrito and Treintatres, established in 1857, is the head house from which depend the various Mauá banks in all the chief towns of the River Plate, viz. Buenos Ayres, Rosario, Paysandú, Mercedes, Salto, &c. Here Baron Mauá often resides.

The *Commercial Bank*, at the corner of Cerrito and Zavala, is another edifice of ornament and taste, and cost 12,000*l*. Some of the wealthiest men in town are shareholders, and this bank has always maintained a high name. It was established in 1858 with a capital of 400,000*l*., in 100*l*. shares.

The *Italian Bank*, now the Public Credit Office, is a classic structure with marble portico and steps, and finished in the best Grecian style: it was built in 1864 at a cost of 18,000*l*.

The *Navia* and *German Banks* are also to be noted.

*Maritime Insurance Agency*, 149, Calle Piedras. Don Javier Alvarez is agent for several foreign and local marine insurance companies, and keeps a complete list of wrecks, disasters, &c.

*Mensajerias*, or *Mail Coaches*, 447, Calle 25 de Mayo, run to all parts of the Republic, carrying the mails. Each-coach holds a dozen passengers. It is often necessary to order a seat some days beforehand.

*Markets*.—There are four, of which the best is the new market, close to the Solis Theatre, built in 1867 by Mr. Havers for the Municipal Junta at a cost of 80,000*l.* It covers 2 acres, is well supplied with meat, vegetables, game, fruit, fish, flowers, poultry, butter, &c. The usual prices may be stated thus: meat per lb., 4 cents; potatoes, 3 cents; butter, \$1; fish, 5 cents; eggs per dozen, 25 cents; partridges per pair, 20 cents; ducks do., 40 cents; chickens do., 60 cents; turkeys, \$2; pears per dozen, 30 cents. The pears are admittedly the finest in the world, and often weigh 1 lb. each,

The *Port Market*, adjacent to the Custom House, was built by a joint-stock company for benefit of the shipping. The cost was 55,320*l.*

*Mercado Chico*, at the corner of Calles Sarandi and Perez Castellano, with an area of half an acre, serves to supply the S.E. quarter of the city.

*Abundancia Market*, near the English cemetery, is intended to supply the suburb of the Cordon.

*Gas Works*, at the foot of Calle Andes on the sea-shore: the buildings cover 2 acres, and are protected by strong walls from the sea. Much blasting was done here, and the front of the building is of cut stone. The works are under the direction of Mr. Cock, C.E.

*Junta Economica*, composed of nine town councillors elected by the various wards or sections, maintains a number of free schools, keeps the streets and roads in repair, and attends to charitable institutions and the various other duties of a municipal character.

*Immigrants' Asylum*, 79, Calle Colon, was established by Government in 1864 for the protection of distressed immigrants. Last year there were thousands provided with employment through this office, but the number of estancieros and others seeking for farm or general servants at the Asylum was much larger.

*University*, corner of Calles Washington and Maciel, was opened June 18th, 1849 (during the siege of Oribe). It has a Rector, Vice-rector, and sixteen Professors, with classes of Jurisprudence, Political Economy, Philosophy, Mathematics, History, Geography, Latin, English, French, and Drawing. Attached to the University is the Faculty of Medicine, which gives degrees or passes graduates of foreign universities.

The *Institute of Public Instruction* is a kind of volunteer committee for the diffusion of useful knowledge, established in 1847: there are 32 barristers, and a host of attorneys, &c.

The *Banda Oriental* used to form part of the diocese of Buenos Ayres, but is now governed by a Vicar Apostolic, Dr. Jacinto Vera, who is Bishop *in partibus*, taking his title from Megæra, some ancient see of Asia Minor. The interior of the Matriz is not in keeping with its noble exterior. It is gloomy and ill-ventilated, but there is a fine new organ by Telford of Dublin. The tomb of the unfortunate General Flores is in the right aisle.

The *Concepcion*, or *Basque Church*, in the new town, has been built almost entirely by the contributions of the Basque residents; the first stone was laid in October 1858.

*Los Ejercicios*: this is an old chapel adjoining the University at the corner of Calles Sarandi and Maciel.

In every Spanish city we find an establishment called *Ejercicios*, intended for the correction of refractory women or female convicts.

The *Salesas Chapel*, attached to the convent of the same name, in Calle Canelones, is lofty, well proportioned, and decorated with the richest marbles. One of the side altars has been

put up by the Jackson family, and the altar-piece came from Rome. The convent consists chiefly of foreign religieuses, including one Irish lady. The building is large and well situated, commanding a splendid view of the sea. It dates from December 8th, 1856, and has a first-class boarding school for young ladies.

The *Sisters of Charity* convent and chapel, at the corner of San José and Dayman, form a handsome building: this is the head house of the Order of Charity in the River Plate, branches of which are found at Buenos Ayres, Cordoba, Mendoza, Sta Fé, &c. These admirable ladies have charge of all the charitable institutions in the country: they comprise Sisters of Charity and Daughters of Charity, the former mostly French, the latter mostly Italian, with a sprinkling of natives, &c. The Caridad Hospital and chapel, at the corner of Calles Maciel and Washington, have been already described.

*San Francisco* is a church in course of construction, begun in 1863, at the corner of Solis and Cerrito. The old church of San Francisco occupied the site where the Exchange now stands.

The *English Church*, situated at the Cabo del Sur on the water's edge, in Calle Santa Theresa, was built by the British residents, the first stone having been laid by Commodore Sir John Purvis, on new year's day, 1845, on the site of a battery taken in the assault of the city, in 1807, by Sir Samuel Auchmuty's naval forces. The front is a plain Grecian style, with the Ten Commandments (in Spanish) over the entrance. Mr. Lafone, one of the benefactors of the church, erected a stained-glass window in memory of his wife. It is proposed to build a school-house in the ground attached to the church overlooking the sea. Divine service and an English sermon every Sunday at 11 o'clock. For many years the Germans have also been allowed use of the church on Sundays.

The *Methodist Chapel*, formerly a music hall, in Calle 33, close to the English church, has been recently established under the

direction of an American clergyman, whose congregation counts several seceders from the English Church. Controversial sermons in Spanish are preached here every Sunday.

The *Campo Santo*, or *City cemetery*, is at the N.E. extremity of the new town, close to the water's edge. It has an area of 8 acres and contains some showy monuments and mausoleums, those of the victims of Quinteros and the heroes of Paysandú being the most remarkable. The grounds are ornamented with trees and gravel-walks, but the place is much too small for the requirements of a population of 100,000 souls. In the centre is a chapel with frescoes by Verazzú.

A new cemetery is being made at the Buceo, with tramway from town. The mortality of the city averages 8 persons daily; say 30 per mil yearly, the London average being only 20 per mil.

The city was visited by yellow fever in 1857, when over 3000 persons were carried off and by cholera in 1868, but the mortality on the latter occasion was not so great. Yellow fever in a mild form returned in 1873.

The *British Cemetery*, at the end of Calle 18 de Julio, in the suburb of the Cordon, has an area of 4 acres. The grounds are nicely planted, with a charming view of the sea.

The *Mauá Dry-dock*, close to the gas-works, was commenced by Mr. Cock in 1869, and took four years in construction. It admits vessels of 275 feet keel, 45 beam, and 12 draught. The depth at entrance is 17 feet, there being great hydraulic power capable of pumping it dry in four hours. Among the vessels overhauled here in 1873 were a Brazilian ironclad, a Spanish war-steamer, and an English gun-boat.

*Gounouilhou's Dry-dock*, at the foot of Calle 25 de Mayo and entrance of the port, was opened in 1870, the proprietor being an old French resident; it extends out some 300 feet and is constantly busy.

Besides the hospitals there are other charitable institutions, under the direction of the Sisters of Charity. The orphan

asylum has 286 children; the refuge for poor, 156 persons; and the lunatic asylum, 181 patients.

The suburbs of Paso Molino, Figurita, Cerrito, and Union, form a delightful zone of quintas and country-houses, picturesquely situated, and ornamented with fine timber, covering all the stretch of country from the head of the bay to the little fishing port of Buceo on the seaboard. There are four tramways, running trains half-hourly, which traverse the greater part of these suburbs.

The Union tramway passes through Cordon, a suburb of fighting celebrity during the sieges. There is a fine view from here over the coast-line of the Buceo and also inwards towards Paso Molino.

As we approach Union we pass some very pretty quintas. The village consists chiefly of a long, wide street and several shops. The place may be said to date its existence from the nine years' siege of 1843-51, by General Oribe, whose remains are interred in the little church of San Augustin, with a flattering inscription on the monumental slab. Close to the church is the Asylum for paupers; there is a lofty mirador from which a panoramic view is obtained; the number of windmills is remarkable, and Union is also famous for pretty girls.

The *Bull-ring* is outside the village, and here bull-fights take place every Sunday, which are attended by thousands of people of every class. The bull-fighters are Spaniards. About a mile hence is the English race-course, where meetings come off twice a year. Between the Union and Tres Cruces is the English cricket-ground.

The Paso Molino tramway runs down Calle 25 de Mayo to the Aguada, which is a thriving outlet that derives its name from the fresh-water springs where the shipping formerly took in their supply. Ascending the hill called Bella Vista, we obtain a splendid view of the city and bay, and here are the workshops of the Central Uruguay Railway, which is open as far as the town of Durazno (135 miles). Yonder, on the edge of the bay,

is the *Matadero*, where cattle are killed for city use; it is kept very clean. There is a breakwater across the bay which serves as a viaduct for the railway, and Messrs. Lezica, Lanus, and Fynn have bought from Government all the land that is hereby reclaimed from the water. This breakwater was begun in March, 1868, being 674 feet thick, 11 high, and its length from Calle Rio Negro to the *Matadero*, 2000 yards. The cost was 120,000*l.*, but the land reclaimed, comprising 60 acres, will more than cover this amount. The road to Paso Molino passes the elegant country-houses of Berro, Gomez, Fynn, and other wealthy citizens.

At Paso Molino there are, besides an hotel, coffee-houses, several shops, an old chapel, and a massive bridge. Crossing the latter we come upon the quintas of Mr. Richard Hughes, Barnett, and others; that of Mr. Castro is perhaps the finest near Montevideo, with lakes, bridges, lawns, plantations, &c., and open to visitors. The branch tramway to the Cerro starts from Paso Molino, crossing the railway, and the telegraph wires follow the old high road to Las Piedras.

*Buschenthal's Quinta*, now an hotel, is about half a mile from Paso Molino, in the direction of Cerrito. A magnificent avenue, with double rows of Eucalyptuses on either side, gives access to this delightful demesne, which covers some hundreds of acres. It is only a few years since Mr. Buschenthal died in London, while on a short visit to Europe. In his lifetime this quinta was the scene of continual and splendid hospitalities, attaining a world-wide reputation. He is supposed to have expended 200,000*l.* on the grounds.

In front of Buschenthal's is Mr. Lowry's elegant country-house, and near it is that of Mr. John Mackinnon. The country hereabouts is of a picturesque and undulating character till we approach the foot of the Cerrito. Atahualpa is the name given to an unfinished town of elegant design, not far from Jackson's new chapel.

The quinta and chapel of the Jackson family are remarkably fine, and surrounded by a large plantation.



The *Chapel* is in the style called "florid Gothic," and has attached a Female Orphanage of 60 children, maintained by the Jackson family, and under the management of Sisters of Charity. Mr. John Jackson is the son of an old English resident who amassed a colossal fortune, and the family is now reported one of the wealthiest in these parts of South America.

In returning to the city we may bid the coachman drive us round by Margat's famous nursery, where all kinds of fruit, flowers, vegetables, and shrubs are grown by the proprietor, who is a Frenchman, having devoted many years to bring this place into its present condition.

The *Buceo* is another pleasant excursion from town by coach or on horseback: it is a favourite bathing place, the sea water being more salt than near town. It is a shelving coast, but the surf at times is so high as to be dangerous even to good swimmers. Mr. Hoffman has built an hotel, where lodgings can be obtained, as well as in one or other of the dozen houses that make up the hamlet. It derives its present name from the circumstance that a Spanish merchantman (the 'Luz') was lost here in 1752 and a good deal of her cargo of bullion was recovered by diving (*buceando*). The view along the coast is very beautiful. On a clear day we can discern the Cerros de Maldonado, 850 to 900 feet high, and about 90 miles distant.

*Flores Island*, with its lighthouse 114 feet over the sea-level, is now used for a lazaretto.

*Playa Ramirez*, the favourite bathing place of Montevideo, is a fine smooth strand between the Buceo and town: at times there is a fearful current. Bathing boxes are to be had for a few coppers, and the tramway runs to and from town, in the season, every five minutes from sunrise to 8 A.M. There are coffee-houses on the beach.

Near the Playa Ramirez is the quinta of Mr. Evans, with a fine view of the sea, numerous rare plants and strange animals. It is on the line of tramway running to Punta de Carretas.

The *Cerro*, which rises to 505 feet in front of the city, is visible in clear weather from a distance of 12 miles, and this is

the best point from which to get a panoramic view of the city, coast, and country. The old castle on the summit, dating from the time of the Spaniards, is so strongly built that a dozen might hold it against an army. Nevertheless it was surprised and taken by 100 of "Bastarricas" infantry in November, 1870, although during the nine years' siege by Oribe it successfully resisted his whole army. The sides of the hill are steep and barren, but a few goats contrive to get a subsistence. On the top of the castle is a lighthouse, established in 1852, with a revolving light visible 25 miles. The garrison usually numbers half-a-dozen men, who have charge of fifteen guns mounted on the walls; the only access is by drawbridge. One of the garrison has a telescope, and signals to the Port Captain in Montevideo whatever vessels come in sight. At the foot of the hill are fifteen saladeros, and a town is rapidly springing up, to which a tramway is being laid down. The steam ferry-boats run to and from the city every two hours. The best time to ascend the Cerro is in the early morning. The view is the finest in the River Plate, taking in a great sweep of coast: looking seaward, we can see the peaks of Maldonado and numberless bays and headlands, within gunshot of the Buceo. Yonder, H.M.S. 'Bombay' was burnt in 1864, when ninety-six officers and men perished. The city and port are stretched out at our feet, and all the charming suburbs are seen to great advantage, while the Santa Lucia, like a fringe of silver, winds its course through the low-lying grounds and pours its waters into the River Plate near the Panilla Bank, so dreaded by navigators. If the Cerro were properly garrisoned and armed it would effectually protect Montevideo. Rat Island is also a strong position in the bay, and was formerly fortified, but is now used for political and other prisoners.

The stranger will find many other pleasant excursions to make in the neighbourhood of the city, by rail or tramway. The total number of passengers in 1872 carried by railway, tramways, and mail-coaches is returned as 1,636,551 persons, representing fares to the amount of 3,500,000 dollars.

Among the model-farms near town are those of Tomkinson, Duplessis, Juanico, and Esteves, where the finest fruit of every kind is grown in abundance and pears are in season all the year round. Another place worthy of notice is M. Lecocq's Cabaña for acclimatizing alpacas, guanacos, Angora goats, and other strange animals; it is unique of its kind, and the proprietor has spent twenty years in its formation. It is on the line of railway to Durazno, about 8 miles from town. On fine evenings, especially holidays, it is very pleasant to take a ride out by Union, Paso Molino, or the strand at the head of the bay, or if you prefer boating there are always safe and comfortable boats at the various wharves to take an hour's paséo in visiting one or other of the foreign war-vessels in port, or the mail-steamers which arrive almost daily from England, France, Italy, or the West Coast.

Among the thirteen departments of the Republic, that of Montevideo has an area of 25 square leagues and a population of 127,704. It is well wooded and watered, and the various quintas and farms about Paso Molino, Miguilite, Manga, Toledo, and other suburbs are in the highest state of cultivation. It returns a Senator and 12 Deputies to the Legislature.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

## RURAL DEPARTMENTS.

*Canelones, San José, Florida, Durazno, Minas, Maldonado, Cerro Largo, Tacuarembó, Salto, Paysandú, Soriano, and Colonia.*

## CANELONES.

THIS is the first rural department after leaving the capital: it has an area of 179 square leagues or 1,150,000 acres, being bounded on three sides by the River Plate and the Sta Lucia: population, 50,000. There are six towns, viz. Canelones, Santa Lucia, Pando, Piedras, Tala, and Sauce. It is the most agricultural department in the Republic, the land being admirably suited for tillage, and within short distance of the city markets. Large quantities of wheat, maize, potatoes, melons, vegetables, are raised, and even some tobacco, the cultivators being mostly foreigners, including several from the Canary Islands. The boundary line between Canelones and Montevideo is the Arroyo de las Piedras, near the town of that name, which is 11 miles by railway from Montevideo, and much frequented as a pleasure resort: it was founded in 1795; the houses are well built, and the surrounding country is picturesque and offers good shooting. Las Piedras, on the same line of railway, is also called San Isidro, and has a population of more than 2000: some sanguinary battles have been fought in its vicinity. Enormous boulders are seen here and there which give the place its name, and marble is found here. The town of Santa Lucia, otherwise San Juan Bautista, is charmingly situated on the left bank of the river of that name, which is navigable for small vessels, and has a current of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles an hour: this noble river has a course of 100 miles, through the most diversified scenery till it debouches in the River Plate. Santa Lucia presents a beautiful aspect with its numerous gardens and quintas. It is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  leagues

from the mouth of the Sta Lucia river, and 12 from Montevideo, being two hours' run by train. The Oriental Hotel offers splendid accommodation, and there are four other good inns. The quintas of Lacueva and Magariños are the finest. Sta Lucia dates from 1781, and has been for nearly a century a favourite summer residence. On the other side of the hills, which already take the name of Cuchilla Grande, is the town of Pando, a brisk little town of 1500 inhabitants, who live by grain farming: it lies 7 leagues N.E. of Montevideo, and is about 4 miles from the seaboard, the Arroyo of Pando falling into the sea at Playa Sta Rosa.

*Canelones*, otherwise Guadalupe, the chief town of the department, founded in 1781, has a population of 3000, and is situated about 2 leagues nearer to the capital than Sta Lucia. The Comandante and other local authorities reside here: the National Guards of the department number about 1700. The villages of Tala and Sauce are insignificant. The Cuchilla Grande, which begins in this department, is the backbone of the entire mountain system of the Republic. The Sta Lucia river drains a large extent of country, its principal affluents being Canelones, Tala, Vejiga, Casupá, Soldado, Chamizo, and Virgen: its banks are lined with timber, and in rainy seasons it is often impassable. Below its confluence with the San José river it has a width of several hundred yards: the confluence is about 12 miles from its mouth. The new water-supply of Montevideo is taken from Santa Lucia, and the water is exceedingly pure and salubrious. The official boundaries of the department are: N. and W., the Santa Lucia from Casupá to the River Plate, separating it from Florida and San José; E., the Arroyo Conchitas and Cuchilla Grande, on the side of Minas; and S., the Arroyo Las Piedras. The wheat-crop of this department is more than all the rest grown in the Republic. The farming stock of this department is estimated at 70,000 cows and 340,000 sheep. Canelones returns a Senator and 6 Deputies to the Legislative Assembly.

There are four trains daily to Canelones and Sta Lucia;

coaches to Pando start daily from Hotel Malakoff, Calle 18 de Julio. Pando will be the first station on Mr. Pealer's railway to Minas. Canelones has more public schools than any other department, viz. 13, attended by 598 pupils. There are 767 licensed traders. The property valuation amounts to 4,500,000; property tax, \$18,000; local revenue, \$63,000.

#### SAN JOSÉ.

This department is of much greater extent than the last, having an area of 432 square leagues or 2,764,000 acres: bounded on the N. by the Rio Yi from the confluence of the Maciel to the pass of Villaboas, separating it from Durazno; on the E. by Arroyo Maciel, Cuchilla de Pintado, and Arroyo de la Virgen, separating it from Florida; on the S. by the River Plate; and on the W. by Arroyo Cufre, on the side of Colonia. It is a fine rolling country, equally suitable for grazing or agriculture: its proximity to the capital and easy water communication are a great advantage. The whole department is watered by the tributary streams that take their rise in the Cuchilla Grande on the ranges of San José, Pintado, and Mahoma, and fall into the rivers Yi, San José, and Sta Lucia. There is a good deal of timber along the streams, and large and small game, such as ostriches, partridges, and ducks. The San José river is nearly 100 miles long from the source at the Puntas de Ojolmi to its confluence with the Sta Lucia, receiving in its course the following tributaries: Tapera, Bolas, Sauce, Guaycurí, Pintos, Caballero, San Gregorio, Guaybos, Mahoma, Coxonillo, Chamizo, Pachin, Baigorri, Sanjahonda, Caretta - Quemada, Valdez, and Flores.

Some of the finest estancias in the country are to be found in this department; about Porongos there is quite a colony of foreigners, mostly English, who hold race-meetings twice a year, and their sheep-farms are remarkably fine, showing a large investment of capital.

At the confluence of the San José and Sta Lucia rivers is the

estancia that belonged to the late Mr. Buschenthal, who had prize cattle, sheep, and fine plantations. On the other side of the river is the estancia Cerrillos, belonging to Señor Suarez: the rocks have a volcanic appearance, and there is a panoramic view from the top, with the Cerro of Montevideo in the distance. It is proposed to establish a new town here. There are numbers of Canary settlers hereabout who raise large quantities of wheat.

Between San José and Porongos are the fine estancias of Sienna, Herrera, Diehl, Holden, Roosen, Pilling, McEachen, &c. There are numerous other valuable estates in this department, such as those of Johnson, Jefferies, Higgins, Duplessis, Crompton, &c.

The town of San José, founded in 1783, and situated on a slope overlooking the river of that name, 25 miles from its confluence with the Sta Lucia, is the largest inland town in the Republic, having a population of 5000 inhabitants, a good hotel, a branch bank of Mauá and Co., a telegraph station, a handsome plaza, and 500 well-built houses. This department produces over 40,000 fanegas of wheat and 10,000 of maize. It returns a Senator and 2 Deputies. Stock: 1,500,000 sheep, 50,000 cows, 50,000 horses. The town suffered much during the civil wars, being a convenient rendezvous for Reds and Whites by turns. There is usually an English doctor resident here. San José is 50 miles from Montevideo, and is the centre of three mail-coach roads, to Mercedes, Porongos, and Colonia.

Porongos, also called Santissima Trinidad, is 60 miles N.N.W. of San José, in the midst of the Cuchilla Grande, with 1500 inhabitants. It was founded in 1803, and is built on very high ground, to the east of the Arroyo Porongos, an affluent of the Yi, and about a league distant from it.

#### FLORIDA.

This was formerly a portion of the department of San José, and has an actual area of 456 square leagues, or 3,000,000 acres, with a scanty population of 20,000 souls, but abundantly

stocked with sheep and cattle. It is bounded on the north by the Rio Yi, separating it from Durazno; on the south, by the Sta Lucia; on the east, by the Cuchilla Grande; on the west, by the department of San José. Nothing can exceed the fertility of the lands watered by the affluents of the Yi and the Sta Lucia. The former is a rapid river, 150 miles long, which drains a vast extent of country, receiving the following tributary streams: Molles, Pescado, Illescas, Monzon, Mansavillagra, Timote, Sarandi, Maciel, Porongos. The Rio Yi falls into the Rio Negro at an opening between the Cuchilla de Marincho and the Cuchilla del Yi, 80 miles above Mercedes.

The town of Florida, 52 miles from Montevideo, is situated on the Arroyo Pintado, an affluent of the Sta Lucia, and has a pretty appearance, surrounded by small chacras. It derives its name from the verdant foliage of the river-side, and has a population of 2000. It is about a mile distant from the Sta Lucia, which is deep and rapid, the banks on either side being precipitous. This town is also called San Fernando, and it was here that the first Legislative Assembly of the Oriental Republic was installed, on August 20th, 1825. In late years it has been the scene of constant military operations, which checked its growth. The Central Uruguay Railway passes through this town, *en route* for Durazno.

The farming stock of the department is put down at 5,000,000 sheep, 800,000 horned cattle, and 130,000 horses. It returns a Senator and 2 Deputies.

The Jackson estancias in this department run about 60 miles in length and 10 wide, and go by the names of Santa Clara, Cerro Colorado, Timote, Santa Amalia, and Talita; they have been for many years managed by Messrs. Ricketts and Leared, who have sometimes shorn over 300,000 sheep. The property was bought by Mr. Jackson's father about 1825, when land was worth about \$300 per suerte, say 4*d.* per acre. It is a fine rolling country, the estancia houses are well built; and Timote is only six hours' ride from the Florida railway station. Santa



Amalia, which is in charge of Mr. Cheevers MacDonnell, is even nearer. The Jackson family have also large estancias at Monson and Las Flores, near the Rio Negro.

## DURAZNO

Is bounded on the north and west by the Rio Negro, on the south by the Rio Yi, and on the east by the head-waters of the Yi, the Cuchilla Grande, and Arroyo Cordovez, on the side of Cerro Largo and Minas. Area, 539 square leagues, or 3,500,000 acres; population, 16,000. It is watered by the tributaries of the Yi, enumerated in the last chapter, and by the streams flowing from the north side of the Cuchilla Grande into the Rio Negro, viz. the Cordovez, Cañas, Chileno, Carpinteria, Conchas, &c. The range of the Cuchilla Grande bisects the department from east to west. The lands are very rich, but entirely devoted to grazing, the stock being estimated at 560,000 sheep, 450,000 horned cattle, and 45,000 horses. The department contains numerous iron mines.

The magnificent estate of San Jorge, situate on the Rio Negro at the "rincon" formed by the Arroyos Carpinteria and Chileno, is one of the finest in the Banda Oriental, belonging to the heirs of the late Mr. Thomas Fair of Edinburgh, for many years resident in the River Plate. It is 150 miles from Montevideo, and comprises 36 square leagues, or 235,000 acres, being larger than the counties of Huntingdon in England, or Carlow in Ireland. There are thick woods on the banks of the Rio Negro, which could easily be made navigable for many miles higher. The Negro and its tributaries abound with fish. Air-plants hang from the trees, wild flowers cover the ground, and the pastures are always rich. This estate was purchased by the late Mr. Fair in 1824, and every modern improvement in farming has been adopted. There are 50,000 head of horned cattle, some of them crosses of the best English breeds, and 100,000 sheep, refined from the rams of Silesia, Mecklenburg, and Spain, besides numbers of horses and mules. The Fair family have

other princely estates, viz. Espartillar and Monte Grande, in the province of Buenos Ayres.

The town of Durazno, 110 miles N.N.W. of Montevideo, is on the Rio Yi, near the mouth of the Arroyo Maciel, well built, on a slope of hills thickly wooded, and surrounded by quintas and small grain farms; it has a church, schools, Juzgado, and several shops; population, 1500. It is in the centre of the Republic, and occupies an admirable position for internal trade. The Central Uruguay Railway unites it with Montevideo. About the year 1828 a military colony, after the manner of the old Jesuit reductions, was formed here out of the inhabitants of that part of Misiones which bordered on Brazil, who abandoned their homes on the conclusion of the Brazilian war. The settlers, however, were not allowed to follow their agricultural pursuits, but were impressed as soldiers from time to time, in every successive revolution; a few succeeded in gaining their former Indian homes, and some stray survivors are also found scattered over the country. The late General Flores was one of the last of his people.

This department, although called "Durazno," has anything but an abundance of "peaches." It returns a Senator and 2 Deputies.

#### MINAS,

One of the new departments formed in June, 1837, has an area of 554 square leagues, or upwards of 3,500,000 acres; population, 26,000. It is a wild, mountainous territory, and the inhabitants are reputed very lawless. It is bounded on the north by the Olimar Grande, which falls into the Cebollaty, and forms the boundary with Cerro Largo; on the west, by the Cuchilla Grande and Arroyo Casupá, separating it from Florida and Durazno; on the east, by the Cebollaty and the Cerros de Carapé; on the south, by the last-mentioned range and the headwaters of the Sta Lucia. Agriculture is almost unknown, even sheep-farming has made little progress, and the mines of lead, silver, and copper lie idle, though many of them were worked

by the Spaniards. Azara was of opinion that diamond and topaz mines also existed, which Dean Funes seems to confirm, on the authority of the mineralogist Petivenil, sent out by the Spanish Government. Gold-beds have recently been spoken of, as also coal, but the latter proved merely a bituminous clay. The plant Yerba-máte is indigenous. The department is intersected by the Sierra de Minas, the ranges of Polanco, Carapé, Sepulturas, Aguila, Aiguá, Siete Hermanos, Penitentes, Perdidos, Maljabar, &c., some of which attain an elevation of 1500 to 2000 feet.

Among the few estancias of note is that of M. Bouvet, a French resident, whose establishment is close to the Barriga Negra, in the Sierra Polanco; it was begun in 1863, on 3 square leagues of land, and the proprietor has spent over 6000*l.* in importing rams from Germany.

The mountains form an amphitheatre around the town of Minas, which is regularly built, and counts 1700 inhabitants; it is 70 miles N.E. of Montevideo. The Cerro Pelado, or "bald peak," is 2050 feet over sea-level. The Penitentes and Perdidos have a picturesque appearance. The affluents of the Sta Lucia and Cebollaty take their rise in these hills; the surrounding country is fertile. About 30 miles N. of Minas begins the Sierra de Polanco, sometimes called Barriga Negra, a wild desolate range; numerous crosses are met with where people have been murdered. The Sierras de Illescas and Avarias are met with before reaching Olimar Grande.

The stock of this department comprises 200,000 sheep, 360,000 horned cattle, and 90,000 horses. Minas returns 1 Senator and 3 Deputies. It raises 55,000 fanegas of wheat and 5000 of maize. There is a mill at Minas belonging to a Frenchman.

#### MALDONADO.

This department is bounded on the north-east by Brazil, on the north and west by the Cebollaty and Sierras de Aiguá, on the south and east by the Atlantic. The frontier line with Brazil,

according to the treaty of October, 1851, starts from the mouth of the Chuy, then draws a straight line south of Fort San Miguel of the Arroyo Palmar until its confluence with the San Luis or India Muerta, and following the latter to its embouchure in Lake Merim or Mini. Area, 575 square leagues, or 3,700,000 acres; population, 20,000.

The soil is admirably suited for agriculture, as well as for the vine and olive, and large forests of date-trees are found to produce a spirit of good flavour and quality. Marble abounds, and samples of coal have been exhibited in Montevideo yielding gas. At the quinta of Aguilar, near Maldonado, a wine is grown equal to canary; Señor Fernandez, of Rocha, has manufactured excellent tobacco.

The sea-coast has productive fisheries, especially that of seals, so valuable for their oil and skin. Oyster-beds have also been discovered. The coast-line is low and sandy, with numbers of lagoons, and some miles from the shore high mountain peaks rise at intervals. The Arroyo Chuy was the original frontier line fixed in the last century between the Spanish and Portuguese possessions in  $33^{\circ} 45'$  S. lat. The Spaniards have put up a stone on the north side of the river, about 70 yards from its mouth, with the inscription "R. C. 1784; neutral ground as far as Tahin." The Portuguese landmark was 21 leagues farther north, on the sea-shore, in a line with Arroyo Fahin, thus leaving Lake Merim or Mini neutral territory. Fort San Miguel, at the foot of Sierra Carbonero, stands 10 miles from the shore, and is in ruins. The great fortress of Sta Teresa, also in ruins, is 1 mile from the sea-coast at Castillos Chicos; it stands on an elevation, and is a splendid piece of engineering; it was built of granite in 1753, to hold sixty pieces of cannon and 400 men. Fresh-water springs are found  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles N.E. The coast is very dangerous about Castillo Grande, so called from the resemblance of this island-rock to a feudal castle. About 30 miles S.W. we meet Cape St. Mary, usually considered the mouth of the River Plate; here the steamer 'Tacora' was lost in 1872; the corre-

sponding cape on the opposite side being Cape St. Anthony, on the Buenos Ayres coast, about 160 miles across. Cape St. Mary is 110 miles E. of Montevideo.

Numerous shipwrecks occur on the Maldonado coast owing to the removal of the lighthouses, which the fishermen said were injurious to the seal-fishing, as the light frightened the seals. The coast was greatly infested with wreckers. Among the most striking natural features are the Cerro de Defuntos, or Dead-men's peak, 25 miles S.W. of the mouth of the Chuy, and 10 miles from shore; the Cerro Chafalote, a triple peak in the midst of a plain, near Cape St. Mary; the Sugar-loaf, 1500 feet high, 5 miles from the coast; Sierra de las Animas, or Solis Grande, 1930 feet high and 4 miles from shore. There are several islands along the coast, the largest being those of Lobos and Gorriti. The first-named is 42 miles W.S.W. of Cape St. Mary and 4 miles from the mainland; it rises to a height of 93 feet and is visible from 12 to 15 miles, deriving its name from the number of "seals" that frequent its coasts; the only inhabitants are fishermen, the best fishing season being the months of May and June, when the seals are driven by the extreme cold from Tierra del Fuego, and come to these shores. The seal fishery dates from the year 1782, and the exports of the last century show an average of 2000 skins yearly sent to Spain, besides the oil. Nothing can be more nauseous than the smell that comes from the island; the seals also utter shrill cries. On Gorriti island we find the remains of some fortifications of the last century (1777), which were restored by the Brazilians in 1825, when they occupied Maldonado. There were four batteries, mounting twenty guns, and in the centre a building called Casa de la Compañia, where the skins and oil of seals were deposited. The British Admiralty wanted to rent this island as a naval depôt, but the Oriental Government refused. The island is low and sandy, and commands the entrance to Maldonado.

Maldonado city was formerly a place of some importance,

where the vessels from Spain sometimes entered instead of going to Montevideo; its present population does not exceed 1000. It is 30 leagues E. of Montevideo, 18 S.W. of Cape St. Mary, and is much recommended for salt-water bathing. It was founded in 1762, under the name of San Fernando, by D. Pedro Zeballos, who came with several families from Rio Grande, being forced to abandon their homes by the Portuguese war. In 1773 it was fortified, and eight years later a batch of 227 Gallegos arrived, but the Indians gave such trouble that most of the settlers removed to Montevideo, 1 mile from the shore and 273 feet over the sea-level. There is plenty of good shooting in the neighbourhood, and the British Vice-Consul is very attentive to visitors. The Aguilla quinta is well worth a visit.

San Carlos, or New Maldonado, about 6 miles inland, not far from Laguna de Potrero, was founded in 1768, and has about 900 inhabitants.

Rocha, the best town in the department, was founded in 1793; it is situate in the midst of rich and well-wooded pastures, on a river the same name 13 miles inland from Cape St. Mary, and close to Laguna de Rocha, a lake 10 miles long. It is 40 leagues E. of Montevideo and has a population of 2000.

Immense swamps, called Bañados de India Muerta, cover a superficies of nearly 1000 square miles between the mountain ranges near the coast and the northern frontier line of the Cebollaty and Lake Mini.

The stock of this department comprises 25,000 sheep, 450,000 cattle, and 70,000 horses. The crops average 100,000 fanegas of wheat, and 10,000 of maize. Maldonado returns 1 Senator and 3 Deputies. There are 6 public schools, attended by 403 children. Mail-coaches ply twice a week from Montevideo to San Carlos, Maldonado, Rocha, Solis Grande, Castillo, and Chuy. A steamer also plies to Maldonado. Mr. Vaillant obtained a concession in June, 1870, for a railway to Pando, Solis Grande, San Carlos, Maldonado, and Rocha, with a branch to Minas, in all 150 miles; but Mr. Pealer is now carrying out this

line of railway. This department sent 65,000 head of cattle last year to Montevideo. There are 289 licensed traders. Revenue, \$32,000; value of property, \$4,000,000; property tax, \$16,000.

## CERRO LARGO.

This department also borders on Brazil. The limits are: north, the Rio Yaguaron Cerros de Aceguá and head-waters of the Rio Negro; west, the Rio Negro and affluents of Olimar Grande; south, the Olimar and Cebollaty; and east, Lake Merim, or Mini, which is neutral territory between the Republic and Brazil. Area, 837 square leagues, or 5,500,000 acres; population, 33,000.

It is a fine rolling country, well wooded and watered, but almost in the same primeval state as when the Minuanos hunted over it before the Spanish conquest. The mountain ranges are bold and picturesque; the rivers Olimar, Cebollaty, and Facuari could easily be made navigable from Lake Mini; the lands are of extraordinary fertility; nothing is wanted but population to turn to advantage such a splendid territory. Wherever agriculture has been tried the results are almost fabulous, and all the products of the tropics may be raised in the open air. The woods abound in valuable timber of various kinds, and the palm-tree gracefully towers above all.

On the borders of Lake Mini is the Rincon de Ramirez, with an area of 99 suertes, or 500,000 acres. It was purchased at the close of the last century by an Andalusian, named José Ramirez (a shopkeeper in Montevideo), for the sum of 5000 hard dollars, and is now worth 200,000*l.* sterling. It suffered much during the war of Independence and campaigns of Artigas and Oribe. About forty years ago the place was so much infested with tigers that a famous hunter, named Yuca-Tigre, killed 105 in one year, for which he received \$3 a head. After the tigers came a plague of wild dogs, going about in packs and sometimes chasing men on horseback; they made great havoc among cattle till Señor Ramirez offered 25 cents a tail for them, and in two years (49-51) there were 5000 killed.

The joint-stock farming companies, called Cebollaty, Merinos, and Mini, bought large tracts of the Rincon. The total stock is returned as 160,000 sheep, 60,000 cows, 1500 horses, and 5000 tame mares. There is fine shooting and fishing, and a wayside inn is kept by Capt. Sagrera. About 8 leagues distant is the Mini joint-stock estancia, with a coast-line of 6 leagues on Lake Mini.

Lake Mini, or Merim, as the Brazilians call it, is one of the largest in the continent of South America, being 60 miles long and 10 wide. It communicates by the river San Gonzalo with Laguna dos Patos, another immense sheet of fresh water, which has outlet to the Atlantic by Rio Grande. The lake system of Rio Grande will be of immense utility to this part of the country when these waters are thrown open to steamboat traffic.

Villa Melo, the capital of the department, is 91 leagues N.E. of Montevideo, 52 W.S.W. of the port of Rio Grande, 15 E.S.E. of the Rio Negro, 65 N.E. of Durazno, and 44 S.E. of the Cuñapiru gold-fields. It was a large and important town under the Spaniards, who founded it in 1796, and kept here a frontier military station. Its present population is about 5000; there are some good shops, and a few years ago it boasted 4 banks. The civil wars, however, have visited it severely. Some handsome quintas surround the town; one of them belongs to Mr. John B. Lockett, who has 100 acres under wheat, maize, potatoes, beans, melons, &c., which he disposes of in the markets of Melo and Yaguaron. Land for agriculture is given by Government at a dollar per cuadra (2s. an acre), or can be purchased of private parties at \$3 per cuadra.

Artigas, 19 leagues E.S.E. of Melo, is marked on some maps as San Servando; it was founded in 1832, and stands exactly opposite the Brazilian town of Yaguaron, in the province of Rio Grande. Artigas takes its name from the General who fought against the Spaniards: it is a straggling place, with barely 400 inhabitants, on the south-west bank of the Yaguaron river, which sometimes overflows and obliges the townpeople to take to boats.



It was a great place for smuggling during the Oribe wars. A ferry-boat plies every half-hour to Yaguaron, which is a well-built town of 6000 inhabitants, doing a good trade with Rio Grande by steamers and sailing craft. The Yaguaron is 200 yards across, and navigable for vessels drawing 7 or 8 feet water. There is steam communication with Pelotas and Rio Grande once or twice a week, and the scenery is highly picturesque. The leading merchant of Artigas is D. Joaquín Mederos, who has a saladero, soap-factory, bakery, brick-kiln, and some dry-goods shops, besides two sailing vessels. There are two Englishmen, Mr. Edward Jackson, a resident of thirty years' standing, who has a farm and brick-kiln; and Mr. Flanagan, alias Fernandez, a builder. The authorities offer free gifts of 80-acre farms to settlers, on payment of \$20 (equal to 4*l.* sterling) registry fees, with the condition of occupying the place four years. These farms are around the town, and 6000 acres are still open for applicants. Wheat gives 18 to 1; farm-servants can earn 15 to 20 hard dollars monthly, with board and lodging. Artigas had formerly 5 saladeros, but now most of the cattle are sent across the frontier to Pelotas. The State school is attended by 100 children.

The mail-coaches between Artigas and Montevideo make the journey (110 leagues) in four or five days; some go by Villa Melo, others by Treinta-tres, the road making frequent circuits to avoid the Cuchilla Grande. The only bridge to be met with is that north of the town of Melo, which was built by a Frenchman some ten years ago. Between Cerro Largo and Montevideo there are two places well worth the traveller's attention. One is the Cerro Campana, where some ledges of granite are balanced like rocking stones, and when struck with a piece of iron give out exactly the sound of a bell. More remarkable still is the Cerro de los Cuentos, so called from the beads of various sizes and colours which are washed down after rains and picked up by the neighbours among the fissures and crevices of the rocks. The beads seem a freak of Nature, and can be put on a string

for a necklace or rosary. The natives seem to think they are not of natural formation, but that probably in the missionary times the Indians deposited here a large quantity of beads, which are washed out by the rains from some subterranean hiding-place. In a visit to this mountain in 1869 the writer obtained some of these beads of different sizes.

Treinta-y-tres, called after the thirty-three patriots, is a half-built place of 1500 inhabitants, in the midst of fine scenery at the foot of the Cuchilla Grande, near the river Olimar Grande. The surrounding country suffers much from brigands. There is a free school, attended by 110 boys and girls. The Olimar is a rapid stream of 150 yards wide, and the village being on the north side was until recently cut off from mail-coach communication with Montevideo; but a Basque has now put up a "balsa" for passing over coaches, cattle, &c. Formerly canoes were used in crossing. Gauchos have often been drowned in trying to swim their horses across; the safer way is with a "pelota," or cow's hide sewn up like a ball, to act as a life-buoy. The Olimar could easily be made navigable from Treinta-tres to Lake Mini, a distance of 20 leagues. The chacras around the village are under crops of wheat and maize; a mill is much wanted. Most of the inhabitants are old Spaniards. The place was founded in 1857, and each of the streets bears the name of some one of the famous thirty-three. There are 92 azotea houses; building sites  $25 \times 50$  varas cost  $\$12\frac{1}{2}$ . Farms of 20 cuerdas (40 acres) may be bought for 6*l.* ( $\$30$ ), and Señor Urrutia and others offer to give settlers house, food, seeds, cattle, &c., for the first year, to work the ground on halves. Wheat gives twenty-fold; potatoes sell for 1 real, or 5*d.* per lb. Treinta-tres is 71 leagues N.E. of Montevideo, 27 S. of Melo. Mail-coaches ply twice a week from Montevideo.

The department of Cerro Largo has 7 public schools, attended by 488 children. Revenue of the department,  $\$34,700$ ; value of property,  $\$6,500,000$ ; property tax,  $\$25,000$ ; stock: 500,000 sheep, 900,000 cows, 300,000 horses. It sends 30,000

head of cattle to the saladeros of Montevideo, besides larger quantities to Rio Grande. There are 313 merchants or dealers who pay licence. Cerro Largo returns 1 Senator and 2 Deputies.

#### TACUAREMBO.

This department occupies one-sixth of the entire Republic, having an area of 1161 square leagues, or 7,500,000 acres, being more than that of the kingdom of Belgium. It is bounded on the north by the Sierra Sant' Ana, on the west by the Cuchilla de Haedo and Arroyo Salsipuedes, on the south by the Rio Negro, and on the east by the same river up to its head-waters on the Brazilian frontier. Population, 34,000. The country is extremely wild and mountainous, and chiefly remarkable for the gold deposits found in the Arroyos Corrales and Cuñapiru and in the country adjacent to Cerro Arecuá. The auriferous strata are supposed to extend 10 or 12 miles in breadth and more than 150 northwards across the Brazilian frontier. The Cerro Arecuá stands 6 miles west of the Cuchilla Yaguáry, and 250 miles north of Montevideo. It is almost equidistant, in a right line, from Salto to Rio Grande. The first gold was discovered some fifteen years ago by a Gaucho crossing the Arroyo Corrales, who saw something glistening in the sand and found it to be a nugget of pure gold, weighing 3 to 4 oz. The Corrales and Cuñapiru are affluents of the Rio Tacuarembó, which, after a winding course of 80 miles, disembogues into the Rio Negro. In 1865 D. Manuel Castrillen obtained the usual mining right over a gold-field at Cerro Arecuá, and got up a joint-stock company, capital 10,000*l.* in 100 shares. The samples which he exhibited in Montevideo were found to possess 62 per cent. pure gold, 8 silver,  $\frac{1}{2}$  paladio, 5 iron,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  antimony, and 22 silicious quartz; the pieces of quartz were opaque, with red veins of oxide of iron and bright yellow metallic globules, showing the complete character of auriferous quartz. The "guachos" of the vicinity sell the gold to the "pulperos" at the rate of 13 hard dollars an ounce. Nuggets have been

commonly exhibited in the shop-windows in Montevideo, and an English resident got a dinner-service made entirely of this native gold. In 1866 Mr. Jehu Hitchens came out and made an elaborate survey of the Cuñapiru gold-fields for a London company, but the result was not published. In September, 1868, Mr. Bankart was sent to England by the Cuñapiru Mining Company for miners and machinery; most of the latter, with wooden houses, &c., arrived the following year, and were sent up to Salto for conveyance overland. Some months later Mr. Bankart and his staff arrived, but difficulties at once sprung up which resulted in Mr. Bankart and his staff returning to England. The most successful miner of late years is General Goyo Suarez, who has taken out some 20 lbs. in nuggets and gold dust, obtaining about 1000*l.* for same in Montevideo: he works bare-foot among his niggers. During the last three years a miner, named Rogers, of Australian and Californian experience, has been working here; he has two Mexican mills which can crush 2 tons of quartz in twenty-four hours, the yield being from 2 to 6 oz. per ton; he reports the river-washing poor, but says there are thick veins of auriferous quartz at from 40 to 60 feet deep. Don Miguel Ricorder, agent for Mr. Jackson of Montevideo, buys whatever gold offers. There are about 106 Italians or Basques at Cuñapiru.

The majority of estancias on the frontier districts of this and the adjoining departments belong to Brazilian settlers, as we gather by the following official returns.

Along the frontier of the Chuy and San Miguel, 36 Brazilian estancias of 342 square leagues and 460,000 head of cattle. On the frontier of Cuareim, 161 estancias, containing 381 square leagues and 420,000 head of horned cattle. At the south of the Arapey, 77 estancias, of 227 square leagues and 273,000 head of horned cattle. On the frontiers of Yaguaron and Bage, 154 estancias of 832½ square leagues, but the amount of cattle on these estancias does not appear. In the department of Tacuarembó two-thirds of the inhabitants are Brazilian.

Among the highest mountains are the Vichadero, 2300 feet; Cerro Chato, 1200 feet; Batovi, Mangrullo, Ombú, and Arecuá. The chief watercourses are the Yaguary, Caraguatay, Tacuarembó, and their numberless tributaries, all pouring their waters into the Rio Negro. They take their rise in the ranges of Haedo, Cuñapiru, Yaguary, and Caraguatay, which run nearly parallel from north to south.

The only town in the department is Tacuarembó, officially called San Fructuoso, in lat.  $31^{\circ} 39'$  south. It stands on a table-land over the Arroyo Tacuarembó Chico, surrounded by gardens and plantations. It is well built and has 3000 inhabitants, doing a brisk business with the frontier districts. It is 102 miles east of Salto, 70 south of the Brazilian town of Sant' Ana, 71 north of the Rio Negro, and 220 north of Montevideo.

Farming stock: 150,000 sheep, 1,300,000 horned cattle, and 125,000 horses. This department exports 150,000 head of cattle annually to the saladeros of Rio Grande. Tacuarembó returns 1 Senator and 2 Deputies.

#### SALTO.

This department is bounded on the north by the river Cuareim, which is the Brazilian frontier line, and falls into the Uruguay, 95 miles north of the Salto; on the west, by the river Uruguay; on the south, by the Dayman, which falls into the Uruguay 10 miles below Salto; and on the east, by the Cuchilla de Haedo, as far as the head-waters of the Cuareim. Area, 903 square leagues, or nearly 6,000,000 acres; population, 30,000. The country is diversified and picturesque, abounding in rich pastures and unexplored mineral resources. Agate of every variety, as well as jasper, porphyry, alabaster, &c., are found in the mountain ranges. The valleys are peculiarly adapted for rearing cattle, and we find the stock to comprise 1,500,000 sheep, 710,000 horned cattle, and 330,000 horses. Medicinal herbs and all the fruits of temperate and tropical climates flourish here. Experi-

ments in tea, coffee, and the mandioca plant have been successful. Some cotton samples sent to the London Exhibition of 1851 were much admired, and again in 1862 were awarded a medal and valued at 22*d.* per lb.; the cotton-tree lives from ten to fourteen years, producing 3 to 4 lbs. annually.

There are six mountain ranges, viz. the Yacaré Curuzú, or Dead Crocodile, the Pelado, the Cuchilla de Belen (sometimes called Santa Rosa), the Arapey hills, Cuchilla de Salto, and Cuchilla de Haedo, all of which, except the last named, run almost from east to west. The chief watercourses are the Cuareim with its tributaries Yucutuyá, Yacaré Curuzú, Cuaró, Pelado, Tres Cruces, and Catalanes; the Arapey, which disembogues 20 miles above the cataract of Salto Grande; the Dayman, which drains all the country between the ranges of Salto and Queguay, having for tributaries the Laureles, Blanquillos, Tunas, &c. The best varieties of agate are found in the Cerros Catalanes, as well as crystallizations of the rarest beauty. Considerable quantities of agate are exported every year from Salto, chiefly for the German markets. Petrifications are often met with in the streams, which abound also with handsome shells and pebbles. One of the finest estancias in this department is that of Laureles, belonging to Baron Mauá: it contains 32 suertes (over 150,000 acres), and is stocked with 150,000 sheep and cattle.

The great feature of this department is the cataract which gives it its name, 15 miles above the town of Salto, which impedes all navigation of the Upper Uruguay, except in seasons of heavy flood, when small steamers ascend to Uruguayana and San Borja in the Misiones of Brazil. The noise of the Salto Grande can be heard 10 miles off. The Salto Chico, or lesser fall, is only a couple of miles above Salto. The Corralitas rocks, between Salto and Concordia, are very dangerous.

Salto is the most enterprising town in the Banda Oriental, after Montevideo; it is picturesquely situated on three hills, well built, clean, bustling, and healthy, with 10,000 inhabitants.

It is the centre of the trade of the frontier districts of Brazil and Misiones, which is carried on by ox-carts; these bring down about 600 tons of produce monthly and take back an equal amount of imported goods. Attempts were made to do this trade by small steamers on the Upper Uruguay, but failed. Salto has the honour of having originated the first joint-stock steamboat company in the country, and it was so successful that it paid 71 per cent. in the first year (1860), and still larger dividends after. At present there is great competition, Salto having almost daily steam communication with the lower ports. Steamers are built at Hardy's foundry, Messrs. Hardy and Ribes having six steamers on the river. Mr. Richard Williams, the oldest resident in Salto, has a saladero for curing mutton on the Morgan system. There is also a tanyard below the town. The best hotel is the Concordia. A granite wharf has been constructed at the water-side. The view of the opposite town of Concordia in Entre Rios is pretty. The Comandancia and church are in the Plaza. The chief business street is Calle Uruguay, in which we find the Mauá Bank, the Concordia and Plata hotels, and the best shops. Weekly mails are delivered at Cuaró, Arapey Chico, Sta Rosa, and San Eugenio; the last two are villages on the Brazilian frontier, founded in 1852. Salto is 310 miles N.N.W. of Montevideo, 75 N. of Paysandú, 420 E. of the port of Rio Grande on the Atlantic, and 150 S. of Uruguayana on the Upper Uruguay. Salto returns a Senator and 2 Deputies.

The North-Western Railway, from Salto to Santa Rosa on the Brazilian frontier, now in construction by Messrs. Clark, Punchard and Co., will be 110 miles long, with a 7 per cent. guarantee on 10,000*l.* a mile, the stock being held mostly in London. It was commenced in August, 1872, and the first section is completed to the Arapey, 30 miles, where a bridge of 500 feet crosses the river. The gauge on all railways in this Republic is 4 ft. 8½ in. The steepest gradient on the line is 1 in 50; the sharpest curve has 1000 yards radius.

There are numerous English residents around Salto: Mr.

Dickenson at Itapeby, 11 leagues out, Messrs. Buist, Mr. Quigley, Mr. Randall McDonnell, Messrs. Leighton of Guabiyu, 12 leagues distant, Messrs. Lyde and White at Palomas, on the line of railway, the three brothers Weston at Tangucrupá, Mr. Edgar at Itapeby, Mr. Johnston at Puntas Dayman, Mr. Bird near Salto. Besides the railway engineers at Salto, there are the following English residents: Rev. Mr. Schmidt, Messrs. Armstrong, Joseph Smith, Elsee, Bradley, John Williams, Reilly, and Conyngham. The railway terminus is at Plaza Libertad, on the edge of the town, and a tramway is being constructed to connect it with the port. As soon as the railway is completed to Santa Rosa it will do a great carrying traffic for the Brazilian frontier. Santa Rosa is a town of 1500 inhabitants, including Dr. Spence and Mr. Dickenson.

#### PAYSANDU.

This department is bounded on the north by the Dayman, on the west by the Uruguay, on the south by the Rio Negro, and on the east by the Salsipuedes. Area, 817 square leagues, or 5,500,000 acres. Population, 30,000. It is beyond doubt the most favoured portion of the Republic, and has long been preferred by foreign settlers, who own a number of large estancias, viz. those of the "Bichadero," Young, Wendelstadt, Drysdale, Mohr Bell, Wilson, Owen Lynch, Mrs. Cash, Peile Brothers, Croker, "Pichinango," "Maciel," McEachen, Jackson, McColl, McIntyre, Drabble, Croker, Chapman, Rafael and Shaw, Gale, Brown, "El Perdido," Davie, Stirling, Vernet, Diehl, Usher, Barton, Heber, "Sta Isabel," Wyatt Smith, Gaynor, Munro, McKinnon, Mundell, &c.

There is no part of the Uruguay so well repays the trouble of a visit as this, and the traveller may make Paysandú his head-quarters from which to make excursions of 10 or 20 leagues, and taking in a round of English estancias. Paysandú is reached by steamer in 36 hours from Montevideo. It is a well-built, flourishing place, of 9000 inhabitants. The port is a mile from



the town, and connected by tramway. The new church towers above the rest of the town; it was used as a fortress by Leandro Gomez, who held the place against immense odds in 1864, till at last overpowered and put to death with his principal officers. The town suffered so much by the Brazilian bombardment, that it had to be in a great measure rebuilt. The Gefetura is a tasteful edifice with Grecian front, containing the judicial and other public offices, with a prison in the rear. Among the most popular Gefes who have lately held office are Colonel Mundell and Captain McEachen; the former an old Scotch resident of the Queguay, whose life has been a romance of war. Another old resident, Mr. Williams, of Salto, has a saladero outside the town. Don Miguel Horta, agent for the STANDARD and Vice-Consul for Spain, is the leading trader of the place, and his shop is a general rendezvous for foreigners. There is a good demand for carpenters, blacksmiths, and bricklayers. The Mauá and Italian banks are handsome buildings. The best hotels are La Paz and La France, the former kept by Mme. Sinistri. Mr. Kemsly, the local lawyer, is of English extraction, and most attentive to strangers; his brother keeps a bookshop. Paysandú was founded in 1772, and takes its name from a missionary (Pay) or Padre Sandú, whose history is now forgotten. Half a century later came the famous Padre Solano, with whose name are connected some remarkable ruins about a mile from the town.

Padre Solano Garcia was a native of Spain, and came to Paysandú, as Cura, about the year 1826. He built lime-furnaces, cultivated silkworms on a large scale, and raised chickens by steam, on one occasion hatching 1500. After divine service on Sundays he would mount his ox, which he had trained like a horse, with a bridle attached to a ring in his nose; but what astonished the natives more than all was, that he actually made a slate roof to his house. He meddled in politics, and was banished to Cuba: on his return he brought a breed of snails, things before unknown. His last scheme was a

subterranean saladero, in which he constantly employed from 30 to 50 men, under an experienced French master-builder.

Paysandú is one of the great centres of the saladero business, over 250,000 head of cattle being killed annually and exported as jerked beef. There are also several graserias for melting down sheep; that of Mr. O'Connor, on the Arroyo Sacra, is close to town. The Arroyo San Francisco, 3 leagues out, is a favourite place for pic-nics, but sometimes the woods are infested with robbers. A pleasant excursion may be made by boat to the Colon colony in Entre-Rios, nearly opposite. The Mauá Bank is managed by Mr. Good. The public schools of the department (including Fray Bentos) are 8 in number, attended by 476 pupils. Paysandú is 95 leagues N.W. of Montevideo by land, the distance by water being much greater; it is 25 leagues S. of Salto, 96 W. of Melo, and 30 N. of the Rio Negro.

Crossing the Arroyo Sacra, a half-hour's ride through fine rolling scenery, like that of an English park, takes us to Mr. Drysdale's estancia; the owner has expended over 50,000*l.* sterling.

Estancia de la Paz, the property of Mr. Richard Hughes, situated at the junction of the Arroyos Negro and Rabon, comprises  $5\frac{1}{4}$  leagues of land stocked with 100,000 sheep and cattle. Amongst the cattle is a herd of 1200 which have been crossed by short-horn Durhams. The sheep are mestizos, bred from Southdowns, Lincolns, and Negretti rams.

The Saladero of Arroyo Negro is well worth a visit. It is 5 leagues from Paysandú. The country abounds in game, and strangers speak in the highest terms of the kindness of Mr. Marion.

Southward is the estancia Bella Vista of Messrs. Peile and Dunsmure.

Buen Retiro, the property of Mr. James Mohr Bell, is situated on a bluff overlooking the majestic Uruguay.

Adjoining Buen Retiro is the estancia known as Herrera and

Buschenthal's; close to the remains of an old saladero of the last century. The estancia of Messrs. Getting is near the Arroyo Roman, and crossing the stream we come upon the extensive Iglesias property purchased by Baron Mauá: it covers nearly 100,000 acres, but is thinly stocked and settled. There is an abundance of deer and ostriches; an ostrich egg will make a dinner for eight persons, and sometimes thirty or forty are found in a nest. Baron Mauá has a meat-preserving factory here.

Ten leagues farther S.E. is the famous German estancia of Messrs. Wendelstadt, with a group of buildings. There is a large tract of ground under agriculture: it is a model estancia, and evinces the outlay of a very large capital. There are over 100,000 sheep, some of the prize rams from Germany being remarkably fine. It is distant 10 leagues from Fray Bentos. The banks of the Rio Negro are thickly wooded, and offer great attractions for shooting and fishing: the river is full of carpinchos, a kind of water-hog. Close by is Torre Alta, the estancia of Mr. Robert Young, whose father was the first settler in these camps. Some fifty years ago there were two Scotch carpenters in Buenos Ayres, named Young and Sterling, who had saved a little money, and hearing that these lands were for sale at \$800 a suerte (about 8*d.* an acre), came over and settled here. They suffered much during the civil wars, but bravely held their ground, and their descendants are now "lords of the manor" for leagues around, having sold a portion of their estates at twenty times the original cost. From the "mirador" at Torre Alta a splendid view is obtained: on a clear day Mercedes is visible beyond the Rio Negro.

The Bichadero is a joint-stock estancia belonging to shareholders in England; the land covers 10 square leagues (65,000 acres), and was purchased from the late Mr. Young, who planted the magnificent quadrangle of ombus that now stands near the house. The stock comprises over 100,000 sheep and horned cattle. The estate is managed by Mr. Theophilus Ricketts,

and has all the newest appliances and most improved methods for cattle farming and agriculture.

From this point the traveller may cross the Rio Negro, through the woods to the pretty town of Mercedes, and then drop down the Rio Negro in the passenger steamer, which meets the one for up-river at the Boca de Yaguary.

From Paysandú you may ascend the Uruguay as far as Arroyo Malo, where the steamer calls, and there visit the splendid estate of the Wyatt-Smith family; then ride over to Las Delicias, the picturesque country-seat of Dr. Wilson, on the banks of the Uruguay.

Another route from Paysandú towards Tacuarembó, inland, will take us to the estancias of Mr. Owen Lynch, Mr. Lietz, and the joint-stock English estancia established by Mr. Webster. The estancia Esteban Chico covers  $2\frac{1}{4}$  square leagues, and is managed by Mr. Adolf Lietz for Mr. Herman Redellien (a German who was for twenty-five years in business in Manchester, and since 1863 resides on his estate Gebelzig, in Prussia). This estancia was established in 1864, and has 30,000 fine mestizo sheep.

Fray Bentos is a thriving little port, which has recently sprung into notice through the factory of Extractum Carnis Liebig. The nature of this beef-extract is already pretty well known: suffice it to say that it contains the soluble matter of thirty times its weight of flesh, and 1 lb. of it if boiled with potatoes will make broth for 128 men. The factory was begun by the late Mr. Giebert in January, 1864.

The first shipment arrived in Antwerp in November, 1864, 260 lbs.: it was pronounced by Baron Liebig as superior to his most sanguine expectations. In 1865 the agent in Europe made a navy contract for 500 lbs. per month, whilst the demand from the general market was 1500 lbs. monthly.

A joint-stock company, capital 500,000*l.*, was formed in London, and Mr. Giebert in 1866 got new machinery made in Scotland. The present great factory was concluded in May,

1868, and can kill 200,000 head in the season. The net profit in the year 1872 amounted to 81,188*l.* sterling.

The factory is situated on a high barranca which overlooks the river, about 1 mile south of Fray Bentos. The extent of land fenced in around the factory is 6500 acres. The killing-ground covers 2 acres. Eighty animals per hour is the rate of killing. The factory is in every respect the foremost one in South America.

There are from 600 to 700 hands employed, who with their families number in all 1500 souls.

The average consumption of coal is about 6000 tons per annum, and about 6000 fanegas of salt are used for salting hides.

By the old saladero system horned cattle produced only  $\$2\frac{1}{2}$  a head, whereas Mr. Giebert makes them yield  $\$16$  to  $\$20$ . At the Paris Exhibition, out of 75,000 exhibitors, the only one article which obtained two gold medals was the Extractum Carnis of this factory. At Vienna in 1873 it also obtained the grand gold medal, leaving Australian and others far behind. Mr. Giebert died recently, but the business continues.

Fray Bentos seems to derive its name from some friar of olden time, but the official designation of the place is Villa Independencia. It is 38 leagues from Buenos Ayres and 20 from Paysandú, steamers passing up and down almost daily. Last year the aggregate of arrivals and sailings from this port was 400 vessels. The statistics show 33 marriages and 88 deaths for the year. The population is about 1500, and there are some old English residents, viz. Mr. Hammett, Mr. James Mooney, Mr. Dungey, Mr. James Oliver, &c. There is an English Mission under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Sheils, who has a chapel, parsonage, and school.

The department of Paysandú has 1,825,000 sheep, 748,000 horned cattle, and 50,000 horses.\* Local revenue,  $\$86,700$ ; property valuation  $\$13,500,000$ ; property tax  $\$54,000$ . There

\* There are 850 estancias or cattle-farms, and 7500 acres under tillage.

are 640 licensed dealers and shopkeepers. Weekly mails are sent inland calling at Paso Gutierrez, Algarrobos, Arroyo Grande, Corrales, and Quebracho. The department returns 1 Senator and 2 Deputies.

#### SORIANO

Is bounded on the north by the Rio Negro; on the east, by the Arroyo Grande, Ojolmi, and Perdido, separating it from San José; on the south, by the Cuchilla Grande and Arroyo Sauce, separating it from Colonia; and on the west, by the river Uruguay. Area, 347 square leagues, or 2,250,000 acres; population 23,000. This fertile and picturesque department is watered by the Rio Negro and its affluents, the Bequeló, Cololó, Arroyo Grande, Durazno, Pelado, Ojolmi, and Mouzon. The waters of the Rio Negro are full of sarsaparilla, and much recommended to invalids. Carboniferous strata are found on the banks of the Bequeló and Cololó; potter's clay is abundant, and iron is known to exist in large quantities. The woods and rivers are full of game and fish, but also much infested with "matreros," or freebooters. The pastures are very rich; there are some fine estancias belonging to foreigners, especially that of Baron Mauá, near the town of Mercedes.

The Mauá estancia has an area of 100 square miles, say 70,000 acres, with a frontage of 7 leagues along the Rio Negro. The stock comprises 100,000 sheep (including Rambouillet and other fine breeds), 14,000 horned cattle, and 3000 horses. The estate is furnished with all the latest improvements in farming implements and machinery. The estancia-house is only half a league from Mercedes by water, overtopping the surrounding woods of the Rio Negro. The house is said to have cost 10,000*l.*, and the official valuation of the estancia is \$447,000, or about 90,000*l.* Another smaller estancia, belonging to Baron Mauá, is near San Salvador, comprising  $4\frac{1}{2}$  suertes (say 24,000 acres). If we count also the Laureles estancia in Salto and the Roman in Paysandú, we shall find that Baron Mauá's estates in

the Republic cover about 400,000 acres, and are valued at more than 250,000*l.* sterling.

The town of Mercedes was founded in 1771, and is charmingly situated on the Rio Negro, which is here a wide and rapid river. It is much frequented in summer as a watering-place, owing to the medicinal properties of the river. There is a comfortable hotel, kept by a French Basque. The Mauá Bank is a fine building; there is an extensive view from the mirador, following the course of the Negro, which is marked by a winding belt of foliage down towards its mouth. The river is here 20 feet deep, and may be ascended in boats for a great distance. There is little of interest at Mercedes, unless for bathers or sportsmen. A steamer takes passengers up and down in connection with the Uruguay line. Mercedes is 64 leagues from Montevideo, and mail coaches run daily to and from Santa Lucia railway station.

Within a few hours' ride of Mercedes are the fine estancias of Vernet, Raphael, Drabble, Shaw, &c., all on the most improved plans, and in the best part of Banda Oriental.

Near Maciel is the Demarchi estancia, once known as Mallmann's, on which over 50,000*l.* were expended.

Nueva Alemania, established by Messrs. Prange in the "rincon" between the Arroyo San Salvador and River Uruguay, is one of the largest estates in the Republic, covering 9 suertes, or 40,000 acres, and supporting 150,000 sheep, besides horned cattle. The buildings, offices, puestos, &c., are in the best style; there is a graseria on the bank of the San Salvador for melting down 600 sheep daily.

Soriano, from which the department takes its name, is an almost deserted village at the mouth of the Rio Negro, with a few scattered houses, and a church that reminds us of its ancient importance. This place was founded so far back as 1624, by Fray Bernardo de Guzman. It was the first "reduction," or settlement of Indians made by the Spaniards at the mouth of the Uruguay; the site was admirably chosen, in the

midst of luxuriant pastures, and less than 100 miles from Buenos Ayres. Its present population is about 700. The islands about the mouth of the river are often infested with pirates or "matreros." The steamer goes down the Yaguary; the other mouth, Boca Falsa, is unnavigable. On the opposite side of the river is Rincon de Gallinas, where Flores landed with three men in April, 1863, when he began the series of wars which resulted in Brazilian intervention and the fall of Lopez of Paraguay.

San Salvador, also called Dolores, was founded by Fray Bernardo de Guzman at the same time as Soriano, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  leagues S.E. of that "reduction," on an arroyo that has taken the same name, 2 leagues from the coast of Uruguay. It is a thriving town of 1500 inhabitants, with a municipality, justice of peace, curate, post-office, schools, &c. The neighbours dedicate themselves both to pasture and agriculture, for which the land is well suited. Sebastian Cabot founded a town in this vicinity, of which all trace is now lost. The Cerro Espinillo, above San Salvador, commands a fine view of the Uruguay, its height being 283 feet.

The department of Soriano has 6 schools, attended by 330 children. There are 243 dealers who pay licence. The local revenue is \$38,000. Valuation of property, \$8,500,000. Property-tax, \$32,859. Stock: 2,000,000 sheep, 340,000 cattle, 120,000 horses. The department returns 1 Senator and 2 Deputies.

#### COLONIA

Is bounded on the north by the Cuchilla Grande, from Cerros de Ojolmi to the mouth of a little Arroyo called El Sauce, which disembogues into the Uruguay near Punta Chaparro; on the east, by the Arroyo Cufre, which descends from the Cuchilla de San José to the River Plate; and on the west and south by the rivers Uruguay and La Plata. Area, 214 square leagues, or 1,500,000 acres; population, 24,000.

This department derives its name from the Colonia del Sacra-



mento, established in 1679 by the Portuguese Governor, D. Manuel Lobo, where the city of Colonia now stands. The country is in some parts sterile and mountainous, but in general possesses splendid pastures, watered by the Vivoras, Las Vacas, Juan Gonzalez, San Juan, Sauce, Colla, Pichinango, Rosario, and Cufre. It has a coast-line of 40 leagues along the La Plata and Uruguay. In the vicinity of the Cuchilla Grande, near the Cerros de Mahoma and the head-waters of the Pichinango and Colonia, are found scattered samples of auriferous quartz, as well as iron, lead, and marble. At the London Exhibition this department was represented, among other things, by 53 samples of medicinal plants and 51 of timber, besides wool samples of superior quality.

There are some of the finest estancias in the country in this department, viz. : Martin Chico, belonging to Mr. George Bell, almost opposite Martin Garcia ; Estanzuela, Mr. White's, near Colonia ; Pichinango, Mr. Rickett's, on the Arroyo of that name ; Newton's, on the Arroyo Miguelete, near the Cerros de San Juan ; Locker's, on the Sarandi, &c.

The Waldensian and Swiss colonies in the neighbourhood of Rosario Oriental claim special notice. In 1857 the first Vandois emigration to Montevideo took place, about 140 leaving Piedmont, impelled by the scarcity of employment in their native districts. These were followed, next year, by 100 more. Their number now exceeds 1000 souls. There are three directors resident in Montevideo, namely, the chairman, accountant, and treasurer. A manager resides at the colony, who has 5 capatazes, one for each of the 5 sections. The farms consist of 36 cuadradas, or 72 acres each, measuring  $300 \times 1200$  yards. Each lot is composed of 8 farms,  $1200 \times 2400$  yards, with roads on every side, 45 feet wide. The colony has been in every respect a great success. The last call on the shares was paid up in 1863, and the shareholders received in 1869 a dividend of 33 per cent. on the original value of the shares. The company did not pay the passage of any of the settlers, but advanced them land, seed,

ploughs, oxen, milch cows, &c., the settlers giving the company one-third of their crops for four years in repayment, the land becoming their own at the end of that period. The site purchased by the company in 1858 was 4 square leagues (26,000 acres), about 6 miles from the mouth of the Arroyo Rosario, on the coast of the River Plate. In 1861 a square league was sold for the establishment of the adjoining Swiss colony, and in 1863 the Swiss took  $1\frac{1}{2}$  league more. The land is fertile, wheat giving from 14 to 20-fold. The village in the colony goes by two names, Rosario Oriental and Villa de La Paz.

Almost all the farms are surrounded by ditches. There are about 500,000 poplar trees, and several vineyards, producing a good deal of grapes, and some of the colonists manufacture wine for their own use. There are numerous orchards, particularly of peaches. The manager's office is in the Villa La Paz, where there are, besides, 16 brick houses, among these a steam flour-mill and a windmill.

Almost all the families that compose this colony were inhabitants of the Alps near the sources of the Po, known as Waldenses, and profess the Evangelical worship. For the support of the clergyman the colonists give him every year two fanegas of wheat for each farm.

The Swiss colony, Nueva Helvetia, was established in September, 1861. The basis was to dispose of the farms at \$12 per cuadra (25s. an acre), then to assist the colonists by loans of money to build and buy animals and provisions, &c., with a charge of 15 per cent. per annum. The founders of this colony were Messrs. Finder and Sigrist, who spent money too lavishly at the outset, and failed, after having expended 24,000*l*. The land was then put up to auction in Montevideo, and fetched from \$4 to \$7 per cuadra (8s. to 14s. an acre). Those who bought are now able to get from \$14 to \$30 per cuadra for the same. The present colonists are for the most part good practical farmers, except those who make a living as artisans. Every year new colonists arrive, and they find it difficult to obtain

good land either here or in the Waldensian colony at less than 50s. an acre. Don Juan Victorica had 2800 cuadradas adjoining the Waldenses, which he cut up into farms and sold to the Waldenses or to new comers in 1869, at an average price of 20s. to 25s. an acre. Don Juan Ramirez had 20,000 cuadradas also close by, of which he sold in one year (69-70) more than 8000 acres at 18s. to 20s. an acre. It is probable that in a few years the whole Rincon del Rey, as the district is called, with its 100,000 acres, will be taken up by colonists. The river Rosario is navigable for 12 miles, having 10 to 12 feet of water. The Buenos Ayres and Montevideo Telegraph Company has a station at the colony.

Colonia del Sacramento is older than Montevideo, and was for many years a bone of contention between the Spaniards and Portuguese. Sebastian Cabot called the place San Gabriel; but it seems Juan Diez de Solis was here before him, and left two of his caravels anchored under shelter of the island (still called San Gabriel) while he proceeded to explore the Uruguay in a smaller craft. The city was founded by Manuel de Lobo, Portuguese Governor, in 1679, and has since undergone strange vicissitudes. It was occupied by the English in 1807, and is reckoned the best military position in the River Plate. Its glory, however, has passed away, and the stranger walks through half-deserted streets and ruined buildings that tell of former bombardments. The present population hardly exceeds 1000. During the recent civil wars the place has suffered much. At intervals an Irishwoman, named Kelly (now dead), used to act as port captain, consul, postmaster, &c., and her hotel was a favourite resort for sportsmen. There is plenty of shooting about here, and a little steamer plies every day to and from Buenos Ayres in about four hours. The submarine cable of the Buenos Ayres and Montevideo Telegraph Company starts from here to Punta Lara, on the Buenos Ayres coast, being 28 miles long; it was laid down in October, 1866. The port of Colonia, according to Admiral Lobo, is the safest in the River Plate,

being protected by the islands San Gabriel, Farallon, and Lopez. In 1869 Capt. Benjamin D. Manton opened his submarine railway and graving-dock, where vessels of 1000 tons are overhauled and repaired with the utmost ease, instead of having to send them, as before, to Rio Janeiro. It is proposed to enlarge the works, so as to accommodate vessels of 2000 tons. In the first four months after opening the dock there were no fewer than 13 steamers (besides sailing-vessels) overhauled, some of them over 500 tons. Messrs. Waring Brothers are constructing a railway, branching off from the Central Uruguay at Santa Lucia, to connect Colonia and Higueritas with Montevideo, the Government guarantee being 7 per cent. on 10,000*l.* a mile. There are two good inns at Colonia, one kept by Mr. Murtagh, the other by a French Basque. There are a church, schools, Comandancia, and a lighthouse; this last is 120 feet high, with a light revolving every three minutes, and visible 10 or 12 miles; it was put up in 1857. Whenever the shipping and town of Buenos Ayres are visible, it is a sign of bad weather; the shipping sometimes appear upside down in the sky, like the Sicilian Fata Morgana. Colonia is 46 leagues W. of Montevideo and 10 N.E. of Buenos Ayres.

From Colonia some pleasant excursions may be made inland to the Swiss and Italian colonies, 30 miles distant; to the estanzuela of Mr. White, a kind of English model-farm; to Mr. Petty's; to Mr. Newton's, on the Miguelete; in all which places will be found a hospitable welcome and plenty of game. If preferable the traveller can procure a boat and visit the remarkable promontories of stone called Pipas and Barriles (8 miles east), from their resemblance to wine-butts; or, going north, steer for Martin Garcia (30 miles), which is termed the Gibraltar of the River Plate. Some remarkable places are passed on the coast: Punta de Hornos, where the Marquis of Casa-Tilly landed in 1777, when he destroyed Colonia. Cerros de San Juan (488 feet high), where Yrala founded a colony on St. John's day, 1552, but which was razed by the Indians;

Martin Chico, where the discoverer, Juan Diaz de Solis, was murdered by the Charruas.

*Martin Garcia* is a granite rock, almost circular, about 2 miles in circumference, and 215 feet high, with the shape of a truncated cone. A small landing-place is found on the north side. The island was a convict depôt under the Spaniards. It is now fortified, and has a small Argentine garrison, besides some fishermen, and labourers employed in quarrying stone for the street pavement of Buenos Ayres. The Argentine Republic took Martin Garcia from the Banda Oriental, to which it naturally belongs; but by the treaty of 1856 it is stipulated the position shall be declared neutral in case of war. Nevertheless, as it is the key of the Paraná and Uruguay, this stipulation would probably in such event be forgotten. The island takes its name from a pilot or boatswain of Solis, who fell overboard and was drowned here. A few shrubs alone grow on the arid sides. Hell Channel, between the island and the mainland,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles wide, has a dreadful current. Abreast of the island, westward, is the Paraná-Mini, and farther south-west another mouth of the Paraná called Las Palmas. Large vessels have to go by the Boca de Guazú, which exposes them for 2 miles to a fire from the batteries of the island.

*Carmelo*, otherwise called *Las Vacas*, 13 miles N. of Martin Garcia, is a small port of increasing importance, at the mouth of the Arroyo de Las Vacas, into which flows the Arroyo Juan Gonzalez, a little above the town. It was founded in 1816. The surrounding camps are of remarkable fertility. Among the English settlers are Messrs. McVicar, Ower, and others. A small steamer usually plies to Colonia and Higuieritas. The Guazú mouth of the Paraná is exactly opposite Carmelo. There are mails from Montevideo once a week. The population of the place is about 800; there are schools, post office, comissaria, and some good shops; the country is thickly wooded. A couple of leagues farther north is Las Vivoras, where a chapel was built about seventy years ago, but the place is now deserted.

*Punta Gorda*, 20 miles N.N.W. of *Martin Garcia*, is the point where the *Uruguay* pours its waters into the River Plate at the rate of 150,000 cubic feet per second, according to Mr. Bateman's measurement, whereas the *Paraná* gives 520,000 per second, minimum rate. The *Uruguay* is here a mile across, with a deep-water channel of 86 feet. *Punta Gorda* is 94 feet high and covered with wood. Five miles higher up is *Punta Chaparro*, after which the river widens to 5 or 6 miles in ascending towards *Fray Bentos*. From *Punta Chaparro* to *San Fernando* (in *Buenos Ayres*) is the delta of the *Paraná*.

*Higueritas*, or *Nueva Palmyra*, is midway between *Points Gorda* and *Chaparro*; it was founded in 1829, and has 1000 inhabitants; it is a place of some trade in small coasting craft, with moles for landing and shipping goods. Mr. *Gazzañ* is an old American resident. The *Uruguay* steamers going up or down touch here almost daily. The best inn is that kept by *D. Antonio Berardo*. Messrs. *Halbach*, *Fox*, and *Miller* have properties hereabout.

Stock of the department: 1,500,000 sheep, 270,000 cattle, and 130,000 horses. Property valuation, \$5,000,000; property tax, \$20,000. Local revenue, \$36,000. There are 364 licensed shopkeepers. The public schools, 6 in number, are attended by 344 pupils. The department returns 1 Senator and 2 Deputies.

## CHAPTER XXV.

## PARAGUAY.

THIS beautiful and ill-fated country is in the heart of the continent, its capital city being 1000 miles from the mouth of the River Plate, the only outlet connecting with the exterior world and civilization. The prolonged war of 1865-69 completely destroyed the Paraguayan people, of which only some scattered remnants now survive, forming a kind of Republic under the protection of Brazil.

It is bounded on the north by the Rio Apa, which separates it from Brazil, on the west by the river Paraguay, on the south and east by the Upper Paraná; having an area of 90,000 square miles, between the 22nd and 27th degrees of south latitude, and the 55th and 58th of west longitude. The inhabited and cultivated portion never exceeded 20,000 square miles; and although a census taken in 1857 pretended to give 1,337,449 inhabitants, the real population never could have reached more than 500,000 souls, and at present hardly exceeds 100,000. The number of male inhabitants who perished in the war is computed at 100,000, and a still larger number of women and children died of exposure and starvation in the woods, the survivors in many cases having lived for months on bitter oranges.

The Cordillera of Amanbay bisects the country, the eastern half being almost uninhabited, and the various towns and villages lying between this range and the River Paraguay. The Yerbales or maté fields are principally found along the base of the Amanbay, and on the opposite side of this ridge are the sources of five rivers which fall into the Upper Paraná. The Tibiquari is the most important of seven Paraguayan

rivers tributary to the Rio Paraguay; and Lopez had sent to England to build light-draught steamers for navigating it, as the districts on the northern bank are some of the richest in Paraguay.

The climate is warm and dry, the soil prolific in all fruits and products of the tropical or temperate zones. The hottest months are November, December, and January, when the medium temperature is  $90^{\circ}$  in the shade, but it sometimes rises to  $100^{\circ}$ ; the average in the winter months, May and June, is  $50^{\circ}$ , but falling at rare intervals to  $40^{\circ}$ . It is in the same latitude as Rio Janeiro, but free from yellow fever, or any other epidemics, and Dr. Stewart considers it one of the healthiest climates in the world. In the absence of sea-breezes—for it is 500 miles from the nearest point of the Atlantic, and 900 miles from the Pacific—the temperature is influenced by north and south winds, the former having a relaxing tendency, the latter being a precursor of rain and storms.

The appearance of the country is undulating, the vegetation luxuriant; and stately forests, noble rivers, lofty peaks clad to the summit, and reflected in expansive lakes, give a charm to the scene that neither the bad roads, want of conveyances, nor other drawbacks can in the least diminish. Tigers, pumas, wild boars, rattlesnakes, tiger-cats, foxes, apes, monkeys, &c., are to be met with in the woods, offering fine field for the sportsman or naturalist. The lakes and rivers swarm with crocodiles and lizards; the former more properly of the cayman species, often 25 feet long, the lizards from 6 to 8 feet in length. Azara counts 448 kinds of birds, the prettiest being the *viudita*, or widow, no bigger than a canary. Bees and cochineal are common, and the locust pays periodical visits, sometimes devastating a whole district.

The mineral resources have never been sufficiently explored. Just before the war Lopez brought out Mr. Twite, an eminent geologist, and other scientific men from Europe. Mr. Twite



found precious metals in different places, and iron in great abundance. An old Swedish doctor of the time of Francia discovered medicinal herbs of great value, and Bompland made an extensive collection of flora, which was sent home to the French Government. Forests cover a large portion of the country, and Du Graty enumerates 51 different kinds of timber, especially suited for building, some as hard as iron, and of such specific gravity that they sink when thrown into water; these kinds are much used in Buenos Ayres by builders. Copper is found in some places, iron in many parts; the iron of Caapucú and Quiquío yields from 30 to 36 per cent. pure iron, and the iron-works of Ibicuy, which employed over 100 operatives, were useful to Lopez during the war. Still more useful would have been salt, the want of which cost Paraguay thousands of brave soldiers, as their constitution was so enfeebled that their wounds would not heal.

Government monopolies greatly interfered with trade under the Lopez regime; the chief products were bought by government agents, and all freedom of trade was unknown. Nevertheless the commerce of Paraguay showed a wonderful development in the ten years succeeding the fall of Rosas in Buenos Ayres, who had kept Paraguay hermetically shut in by closing the rivers. The following returns for the decade show an increase equal to seven-fold up to 1860:—

		Imports.		Exports.
		\$		\$
1851	.. .. .	230,917	.. ..	347,616
1855	.. .. .	431,835	.. ..	1,005,900
1859	.. .. .	1,539,648	.. ..	2,199,678
1860.	.. .. .	885,841	.. ..	1,693,904

The excess of exports over imports in ten years amounted to \$3,850,014 (the dollar being about 3s.) or 577,502*l.* sterling, which was expended in the arsenal, railway iron, arms, and educating youths in Europe. The Custom duties in 1860 produced \$289,653 (say 44,000*l.*), of which two-thirds were on

imported goods and one-third on exported produce, the former paying 20 per cent., the latter 5 per cent. *ad valorem*. Yerba belonged to the Government and paid no duty, but gold or silver coin even introduced by travellers paid 10 per cent. leaving the country. Duties were paid and transactions made on the principle of one-third in gold or silver, and two-thirds in paper-dollars, which fluctuated from about 30 to 36 pence English.

The trade returns for 1860, when Charles Antonio Lopez, commonly called Lopez I., was at the zenith of his power, showed how little Paraguay depended on the exterior world for the necessities or comforts of life, her exports amounting to double her imports, viz. :—

IMPORTS.	
Silks .. .. .	\$31,285
Woollens .. .. .	133,656
Linens and cottons .. .. .	340,053
Hardware .. .. .	29,851
Wines and spirits .. .. .	79,016
Groceries .. .. .	155,665
Haberdashery and shoes .. .. .	56,353
Miscellaneous .. .. .	59,962
	<hr/>
	885,841

EXPORTS.	
Yerba-mate .. .. .	\$1,093,860
Tobacco .. .. .	292,833
Dry hides .. .. .	187,787
Tanned ditto .. .. .	22,858
Bark for tanning .. .. .	22,474
Oranges .. .. .	23,465
Timber .. .. .	14,799
Miscellaneous .. .. .	35,828
	<hr/>
	1,693,904

The territorial division under the Lopez dynasty consisted of twenty departments, viz. :

Asuncion.	Guazucua.	Villa Rica.
San Salvador.	Desmochados.	Quazapa.
Concepcion.	Igatimi.	Misiones.
San Pedro.	Cupuguaty.	Yuti.
Rosario.	Estanislao.	Bobí.
Oliva.	San Joaquin.	Encarnacion.
Villafranca.	Cordillera.	

Each had a town or village with local authorities, such as Comandante, Justice of Peace, and Curate: the police administration was the most perfect imaginable, and a system of espionage pervaded the whole country. Crime was so rare that murders or robberies were unknown, and the traveller might go unarmed through the wildest forests of the interior. There were no public conveyances, and it was difficult to travel unless by order of Government, when changes of horses were obtained everywhere, and the Justice of Peace provided such hospitality as is found in other countries in inns.

When Lopez II. succeeded to power the standing army, on peace footing, was 12,000 men, including horse, foot, and artillery, besides a reserve or militia of 46,000 well-disciplined men. The army and fortifications counted 200 pieces of cannon, some of the heaviest having been made at the Asuncion arsenal. The soldiers were often employed as navvies; at one time 6,000 were at work on the railway to Villa Rica.

Notwithstanding the military conscription the agriculture of the country was well attended to, the women taking a great part in the labours of the field. The quantity of land under tillage in 1863 (one year before the war) was stated in official registers at 28,000,000 "linos" or 550,000 acres, viz.:

Indian corn .. .. .	240,000 acres.
Mandioca .. .. .	110,000 "
Beans .. .. .	75,000 "
Cotton .. .. .	32,000 "
Tobacco .. .. .	23,000 "
Sugar-cane .. .. .	25,000 "
Mani .. .. .	11,000 "
Rice, vegetables, &c. .. .. .	34,000 "
	<hr/>
	550,000 "

There were very few landed proprietors, three-fourths of the country being Government lands, mostly confiscated from the Jesuit Missions in the last century, when the Fathers were expelled: the Government granted the lands at a nominal rent to the cultivators, and small "copueras" of maize, mandioca, tobacco, and cotton were met with every mile along the high-roads during the prosperous times before the war. After the fall of Lopez a survey was made by the new Government in 1870, when the public lands were found to comprise:—

	Sq. Leagues.	Sq. Miles.
Arable lands .. .. .	7,100	42,600
Mountains and forests .. ..	4,500	27,000
Yerbales .. .. .	840	5,040
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Public lands .. .. .	12,440	74,640
Private ditto .. .. .	2,560	15,360
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	15,000	90,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The Paraguayan league being only 5,000 varas or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles, the square league is only equal to 6 square miles. The arable lands are still devoted chiefly to agriculture, although the want of hands is such that the best districts are not half cultivated. The tobacco plantations look very pretty when nearly ripe: the plants are put down in September, like cabbages, and transplanted in November: the gathering commences in January, the leaves are hung out to dry, until the "acopiador" or broker comes round to buy. The best kinds of tobacco are known as Canela and Pará, the former often fetching  $\frac{1}{4}$  dollar per lb. The cigars called Peti-Hobi and Peti-Pará are largely exported, especially by Messrs. Zambonini, who have a large factory near Asuncion and an agency in Buenos Ayres. The home consumption of tobacco is large, as men, women, and children all smoke. It gives three crops a year: the home consumption used to be estimated at 15,000,000 lbs. annually, besides 6,000,000 lbs. exported. At the Paris Exhibition of 1855 a gold

medal was awarded to this tobacco. The statistics for 1870, show 3,500,000 lbs. exported, representing a value of \$150,000.

Maize and mandioca form the chief support of the inhabitants, who raise little or no wheat. Maize is a sure and prolific crop, giving often 150 for one, and mandioca is as general as potatoes in Ireland or macaroni in Italy, the people being eminently vegetarians, and using a bread called "chipa" of oily flavour but not disagreeable. Sugar-cane might be cultivated more largely and successfully if there were machinery: a considerable quantity of molasses is produced, and Paraguayan caña is a liqueur equal to Chartreuse or Rosolio. Rice is grown for home consumption, similar to Carolina, and yielding as much as 250 for one. Mani is a kind of nut, esteemed a delicacy all over South America.

The forests have numerous varieties of stately trees, most useful for building, the samples at the Paris Exhibition of 1855 attracting much notice: there are also several kinds of bark suitable for tanning. The forest that extends to Paraguari to Yaguaron and Itá covers several square miles, and is only about 30 miles from Asuncion, with good roads and easy access to Ytaguá, whence there is a railway to the city. The orange plantations are so numerous all over the country that the fruit has only a nominal value.

The yerbales, which cover about 3,000,000 acres, are far in the interior, and were worked for many years by the Indians of the Jesuits, through whom the yerba-maté became known all over the continent, and used instead of tea or coffee. It is considered wholesome if taken in moderation and without milk or sugar, being usually sucked through a silver tube from a small gourd which gives its name to the beverage. Of late years the use of maté has much diminished in Buenos Ayres. Lopez used to pay the "acopiadores" \$1 50 cents. for 25 lbs., and sell it to exporters at double that price, but it has since risen to 2s. per lb. in Buenos Ayres. The exportation in 1870 is said to have reached 4,500,000 lbs. (probably an exaggeration),

representing a value of 290,000*l.* sterling. The exported value under Lopez never exceeded 160,000*l.* per annum (in 1860), when the quantity exported was 4,463,425 lbs.

*Asuncion*, the capital and centre of commerce, is situated on the left or eastern bank of the river Paraguay, in 25° 16' 29" south lat. and 57° 42' 42" west long., at an elevation of 182 feet over the city of Buenos Ayres, from which it is distant 970 miles. It was founded on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, August 15th, 1536, by Commander Ayolas at the head of 300 Spaniards. It is therefore much older than Buenos Ayres, but preserves to-day much of its mediæval character, and during the last three centuries its population has perhaps never exceeded 30,000 souls, although Du Graty estimated it in 1860 at 48,000; at present it is barely half this number. The situation is picturesque, about 50 feet over the river, which is here 605 yards across: the depth of the Rio Paraguay varies from 20 to 72 feet, with a current of 2 miles per hour, and Commander Page registered a fall of 13½ feet between October and February. The arsenal is the first part of the city which is seen on approach; it was built for Lopez by Messrs. Whitehead and Grant in 1861, and for some time occupied 300 men, including the saw-mill attached. There were 30 English mechanics, besides a few French or Germans, the rest being natives: in three years they constructed seven mail-steamers which used to ply to Montevideo, besides cannon, stoves, bells, &c. The public buildings are very fine, especially the Government-house, cathedral, railway-station, Lopez's palace, custom-house, theatre, &c. The streets are, as in all Spanish towns, chess-board fashion, the city being cut into blocks of 80 yards square, with streets 15 yards wide, often impassable from sand. There is a tramway to the river-side, owned by an English merchant of Buenos Ayres. The market-place is an interesting sight at day-break, crowded with country women selling their tobacco, fruits, &c. The shops are poor, but some beautiful gold purse rings are made, like those in China, which the traveller should buy.

The arcades around the market are used for shops. The houses are not flat roofed, but mostly tiled, as was common in the seventeenth century, with wide corridors.

The railway from Asuncion traverses a most delightful country for 40 miles, as far as Paraguari. On leaving the city the first object to attract notice is the house wherein the tyrant Francia lived and died. Close by is the quinta which belonged to the unfortunate Dr. Berjes, minister of foreign affairs, shot by Lopez; here was a fine collection of exotics and rare plants, and at the foot of the cliff overlooking the river is the Chorro waterfall, a favourite bathing-place. The Trinidad church marks the place where old Lopez was buried, and after crossing Campo Grande we find ourselves amid mandioca plantations, succeeded by orange and palm groves as we approach Luque, 10 miles from town. Soon we get sight of the Cordillera, clad to the summits in luxuriant vegetation, and now bursts upon the traveller's view the magnificent lake of Ypacaray (covering an area of 40 square miles), which begins at the village of Areguá. Now the line skirts the lake for some miles, passing the glorious peak of Ytaguá, at the foot of which was the summer-palace of Mrs. Lynch during the Lopez regime. The "cajon," or valley of Pirayu, offers a charming spectacle, wooded hills rising up on either side, and appearing to close it in at the further end, where the Cerro Mbatovi lifts its head in the clear sky. There is a belief among the country people that St. Thomas the apostle dwelt in a cave in this mountain, where a small chapel now exists. We pass Cerro Leon, where Lopez had his head-quarters when preparing for the war in 1865, that was to cost him life and sceptre on the field of Aquidaban four years later, and to leave his country a wilderness. His father began this railway in 1859, under the engineers Burrell, Valpy, and Thompson, who made it as far as Paraguari, when it was stopped, midway to Villa Rica, by the war. Paraguari is a small village, only remarkable as one of the great Jesuit establishments in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; they

had farms here with 30,000 head of cattle, and the old registers show the names of English or Irish fathers. Near Paraguari is the Cerro Porteño, where a Buenos Ayrean army under General Belgrano was defeated in 1811. The route of the railway to Villa Rica would pass Cerro Acay, but the line will hardly be prolonged unless purchased from Government by an English company.

*Villa Rica* was a place of considerable trade and population, and famous for the manufacture of cigars, being situated in the midst of a fertile country between the rivers Tiquary and Tiquary-Mini, the former navigable for small vessels. It stands 323 feet above Asuncion, from which it is distant 108 miles. The situation is picturesque, surrounded by tobacco and mandioca farms, with hills running east and west covered with noble forests of morosimo, tatayba, and other woods, like mahogany, very suitable for furniture. The old Jesuit church and college were destroyed by Francia. The population was about 2000, and it ranked as the second town in Paraguay.

*Pilar*, formerly known as Nembucu, is in front of the Bermejo, a little above Humaytá, where Lopez had his great fortress. It was the only part in Francia's time open to commerce; and no strangers were allowed to penetrate farther into Paraguay. It stands about 20 feet above the river, the houses being mostly roofed with the trunks of palm trees, divided and the pith taken out, which lasts for over 30 years as an excellent roof.

*Villa Franca*, 59 miles above Pilar, is the chief town of the district of that name, which is separated from that of Pilar by the river Tiquary. The lands of Villa Franca are among the best in the country.

*Oliva*, 12 miles above Villa Franca, is another "chef du département," but only a village, remarkable for the fine forests of lapacho, quebracho, urunday, catigua, &c., on the opposite banks of the Chaco side. Lopez had "guardias" every league



along the Paraguayan bank, to watch Indian marauders from the Chaco, the river varying from 500 to 1000 yards in width.

*Villeta* is a pleasant village 62 miles above Oliva, commanding the approach to the capital, this being the most difficult pass in the river. A few miles lower, the worst part of the pass is called *Angostura*, and here Colonel Thompson held at bay for some months the whole fleet and army of the Allies. Between *Villeta* and the capital is the magnificent peak of *Lambaré*, a conical hill of basaltic formation, wooded to the summit, rising abruptly from the river's edge to a height of 312 feet, and called after a valiant Cacique who fell fighting against the Spanish invaders, and is supposed to be buried at the base.

*Villa Occidental*, about 10 miles above *Asuncion*, on the opposite side of the river, was founded by Lopez in 1854 with a number of French settlers, who gave it the name of *Nouvelle Bordeaux*, being situate just above the delta where the *Pilcomayo* falls into the Paraguay. The first settlers attempted to escape, but most of them either perished in the Chaco or were recaptured and imprisoned, until the survivors were released at the instance of the French Government. After the fall of Lopez the place was occupied by the Argentine Government and declared capital of the Chaco territory, with a Governor and military garrison. There are about 600 inhabitants, some of whom raise oranges and sugar-cane, and Messrs. Gebeler have established a steam saw-mill.

The *Pilcomayo* was four times partially explored, by Father Patino in 1721, by Casales in 1735, by Castañares in 1741, by Thompson and Magariños in 1844. It is still imperfectly known, the latest exploration in these regions being that of Captain Cilley's party, who in 1873, after four months of hardship, reached *Santa Cruz de la Sierra*, the nearest town in Bolivia; both Cilley and Thompson were Americans, but the latter is not the same as the defender of *Angostura*, who is an Englishman. The *Pilco-*

mayo rises in the Andes north-west of Potosi, and after receiving the Cachimayo and other tributaries descends in a south-east direction to the river Paraguay, where it debouches almost in front of Asuncion.

*Rosario* is a village about 90 miles above Asuncion, situated in a charming country of woods, guyayava groves, yarumus, &c. Near this was the great estate of Caprepomo, belonging to Lopez, and the country abounds with game.

*San Pedro*, just above the confluence of the Jejuy and Paraguay; the former rises in the Paraguayan cordillera, traverses the Yerbales, and affords easy freight for the yerba. The rivers here abound in pacú and other fine fish.

*Concepcion*, about 200 miles above Asuncion, was a flourishing town, deriving much importance from the yerbales, 70 miles inland. Some 30 miles higher is the mouth of the Aquidaban, on the banks of which stream Lopez fell in March, 1870.

*Salvador*, 70 miles above Concepcion, is the last town of any importance in Paraguay before reaching the Brazilian frontier, about 100 miles higher. It is 520 miles from the confluence of the Paraguay and Paraná at the Tres Bocas, and Captain Page found 15 feet of water all the way. The inhabitants manufacture ropes from the Caraguatay filaments, of the aloe tribe. In the time of the Jesuits they wove it into cloth, and Father Dobrizhoffer mentions that the stockings made of its thread were sent to France and pronounced superior in strength and softness to silk.

There is no town or place of note on the Upper Paraná, except Itapica, formerly one of the most flourishing missions, but since used only for a military outpost on the Argentine frontier of Misiones. The remains are seen of a stone church, once rich with statues of the twelve apostles in silver and fine wood-carving, which was first stripped by Francia, and pulled down by Lopez in 1846; the dimensions are stated by Captain Page at 320 feet long by 80 wide. The old Jesuit college is now used by the Comandante of the district, as found also in many

of the other ruined missions through Paraguay, the buildings being uniformly as perfect as when occupied by the Fathers.

The first Jesuit settlement was made by Fathers Field and Ortega, in 1557, and in seventy years the missions extended along the Upper Uruguay. But the Paulistas, having commenced a slave trade, made descents upon the peaceful Misioneros, and Captain Page says that 60,000 Indians were sold in Rio Janeiro market-place, in two years (1628-30). Some of the Jesuits perished in defending their missions. Father Montoya collected 12,000 survivors of the Guayra missions and moved down to Loreto on the left bank of the Paraná, abandoning San José, Los Angelos, San Pedro, San Pablo, San Cristobal, Jesus-Maria, Sant' Ana, San Joaquin, Santa Theresa, San Carlos, Apostoles, and San Nicolas, where 100,000 converted Indians had perished or been carried off captives by the Paulistas. A new Christian Republic was now established out of reach of the Mameluco slave-hunters. Each mission was built in a uniform style, with a great plaza in the centre, and here were erected the church, college, arsenal, stores, workshops of carpenters, smiths and weavers, all under the Fathers' immediate care. Every Monday the male inhabitants went through drill, infantry and cavalry prizes being given for the best musketeer marksmen.

Church ceremonies were regularly performed every day, the children beginning with morning-prayer, followed at sunrise by Mass, at which the whole population attended. Baptisms took place in the afternoon; vespers were sung every evening as a close of the day's work. Marriages were celebrated on all holidays or festivals. Charlevoix describes the processions on grand fête days as magnificent. The Indians were excellent musicians and singers. The dress of both sexes was of native cotton, the men wearing shirts and short trousers, the women caps and loose gowns. The schools and workshops were admirably managed, and the wood-carving of the Misioneros of olden time still excites the wonder of the traveller. The language spoken was Guaraní, and printing-offices were established at

Santa Maria and San Javier in the seventeenth and eighteenth century, from which issued many works, the following being still extant.

‘Temporal and Eternal,’ by P. Nieremberg, 1705.

‘Jesuit’s Manual for Paraguay,’ 1724.

‘Guarani Dictionary,’ 1724.

‘Guarani Catechism,’ 1724.

‘Sermons and Examples,’ by Tapaguay (probably a native Jesuit), 1724.

Two of the above are in possession of the priest at Villa Rica.

The total population of the Jesuit reductions in 1740 was ascertained to be over 140,000 souls. In 1767 the jealousy of the Spanish Government decreed the expulsion of the Fathers, who offered not the least resistance. In 1801 a census was made by Soria, and the survivors of the thirty missions only numbered 43,639, having lost two-thirds of their population during thirty-four years. Many of them had taken to the woods; the plantations were abandoned; cattle, sheep, and horses were destroyed, and the traveller cannot but view with regret the crumbling remains of the fine monuments that once were the glory of a happy and progressive people under the Jesuit Republic.

An interval of about forty years occurred from the expulsion of the Fathers to the overthrow of the Spanish authorities, and then began the iron rule of Dr. Gaspar Francia. At the death of Francia, the supreme authority was seized by Carlos Antonio Lopez, the latter on his death-bed transmitting the power to his son, Francisco Solano, commonly known as Marshal Lopez. The Government was nominally a republic, but as absolute as under the tyrant Francia. Nevertheless, during twenty years, great progress was made, and if the ambition of Lopez II. had not blinded him the country would have rapidly risen to importance.

Not content with the title of Marshal President, he aimed at proclaiming himself Emperor, and conquering adjacent territories.

In December, 1864, he made a descent on the Brazilian province of Malto Grosso, meeting little or no resistance. In April, 1865, he invaded the Argentine province of Corrientes, and shortly afterwards marched 10,000 men into Rio Grande. Neither the Argentines nor Brazilians were prepared for this sudden aggression, and as Lopez had over 60,000 well-equipped troops, he might have over-run half the continent, if his energy were equal to his ambition. But he did not head the army in person, and his generals allowed the allies to collect armies while the Paraguayan columns remained inactive. Thus one Paraguayan corps d'armée was cut to pieces at Yatay, in Misiones, while another under Estigarrihia surrendered in Uruguayana to the Emperor of Brazil commanding in person. These disasters were followed by the destruction of the Paraguayan fleet at Riachuelo, in a battle of twelve hours' duration, with a superior force of Brazilian iron-clads (June 1866). The evacuation of Corrientes followed, Lopez now assuming a defensive warfare, and assembling all his strength between the fortress of Humaytá and the Tres Bocas. After some dreadful battles, such as the Boqueron, in which some days of fierce fighting resulted in a victory claimed by both sides, the Allies, under General Mitre, attempted a combined attack by land and water on the position of Curupaity (Sept. 1866), and were defeated with such slaughter that the campaign was on the point of being abandoned. Lopez refused very advantageous terms, although disease and privation had begun to make havoc among his gallant troops; he still held command of the river, Humaytá remaining impregnable. In February, 1868, a great flood enabled the Brazilian iron-clads to pass the fortress, which was soon afterwards evacuated as untenable. This decided the fate of the war, although Lopez continued to maintain a desperate defence. Angostura, with a small garrison under Colonel Thompson, held out for several months, keeping at bay the whole allied army and fleet, till forced by hunger to surrender, with all the honours of war. After a useless and protracted

struggle in the mountains of the interior, Lopez was at last overtaken and killed at Aquidaban, in March 1870.

Since the fall of Lopez the name of Paraguay has only been heard in connection with two London loans, and a disastrous attempt to establish an English colony. The first loan, in 1871, was for 1,000,000*l.* sterling; the second, in 1872, for 2,000,000*l.* bearing 8 per cent. nominal interest, the scrip falling after a time to 25. The proceeds were to go for public works, especially prolonging the railway to Villa Rica, which has not been done. Messrs. Robinson and Fleming got up the expedition of what were called "Lincolnshire farmers," about 800 people of all kinds, of whom 160 died of privation and hardship at Itá and Paraguay, two were murdered by natives, and the rest, after a few months, were removed to Buenos Ayres at the expense, and by the charitable efforts, of H.M. Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. F. St. John, the St. Patrick's Association, and the foreign bankers and merchants of Buenos Ayres.

The internal condition of the country has been a hopeless state of anarchy. During the first year of President Jovellano's being in office, there were three revolutions, the rebels shutting up the Government in Asuncion. At last, natives and foreigners were so wearied of this state of things, that they begged the Brazilian garrison to afford some protection. The Brazilian troops marched out (April, 1874) and beat the rebels, since which time Paraguay is virtually under a Brazilian protectorate, and enjoys some peace.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

## THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

THESE islands properly belong to Buenos Ayres, being 250 miles from the coast of Patagonia and 300 in an E.N.E. direction from the Straits of Magellan; they form the only considerable cluster in the South Atlantic, having a total area of 7600 square miles. They were discovered by Davis in 1592, visited by Hawkins two years later, and successively held by French and Spaniards. After the Independence the Government of Buenos Ayres established a colony there in 1820, under the late Mr. Vernet; but some American cruisers burnt the settlement in 1831, and in 1833 the British Government seized the islands for the purpose of offering a refuge to whalers or to vessels that might have sustained injuries in doubling Cape Horn; they form at present the most southerly colony owned by Britain, and enjoy a most healthy climate. East Falkland has an area of 2,000,000 acres, West Falkland 1,500,000 acres; besides these two principal islands there are 100 small ones. Port Stanley is much resorted to by vessels rounding Cape Horn, and is the seat of government and trade; there are several sheep-farmers in East and West Falkland, the total population in 1871 being 812 souls, but now about 1000. The highest peak is Mount Adam, 2315 feet over the sea; and another is called Mount Viale, after an Italian of that name in Buenos Ayres, who gave up his own life in the loss of the 'America' (December 25th, 1871), to save Madame M. Del Pont.

The Government is vested in a Governor and Executive Council, appointed by the Crown, the present governor, Colonel Darcy, being an officer of long and hazardous services on the

West Coast of Africa. The exports, chiefly wool, are almost double the imports, the returns for 1872 being—

Imports .. .. .	£24,737
Exports .. .. .	38,353
Revenue and Expenditure .. .. .	12,000

There is a regular mail service by means of the pilot-boat, 'Foam,' to and from Montevideo, by which communication is kept up with England; and at intervals British war-vessels lying in the River Plate visit the Falklands.

We are indebted to Henry Byng, Esq., Colonial Secretary, for the following notes on the condition and prospects of these islands.

Up to the year 1867 sheep and cattle farming had been confined to the East Island, and one or two of the small islands adjacent to the West Falklands. The principal sheep-farms were those belonging to the Falkland Islands Company; and others, on a smaller scale, were owned by Capt. Packe at Port Fitzroy, Mr. Dean on Pebble Island, Mr. Littlejohn on New Island, and the South American Missionary Society, at their station on Keppel Island. The chief owners of cattle are the Falkland Islands Company, Captain Packe, Mr. Bonner, and Don Andrez Petaluga; but as the outlet for beef was small, being confined to the supply of the limited market at Stanley, the business was not found to be lucrative. Cattle are decreasing in numbers rapidly, and the opinion has gained ground that sheep properly looked after are the most payable investment to be had.

In the year 1867 the first settlement was made on the West Falkland Island, and so rapidly was the land taken up that the whole was absorbed in the course of the next two years. At the same time large additional tracts of land have been occupied in the East Island, and but little of any consequence on either of the larger islands is now available.

The chief drawback experienced by sheep-farmers has been



the scab; but it is, fortunately, so far exterminated that several estancias are perfectly free from it, while in others it has been to a great extent put down. The grasses of the Falklands possess the most remarkable fattening properties as far as sheep are concerned; a wether in ordinary condition seldom weighs less than 70 lbs. dressed for market, while 100 lbs. and even 110 lbs. are no uncommon weight. Wool grows well, and in some flocks exceeds an average of 8 lbs. per sheep; it has a tendency to grow coarse, which is the effect of the peculiar climate.

The principal stockholders are the Falkland Islands Company, who have, since their establishment in the year 1802, spared no expense to develop the resources of the islands; their chief settlement is the camp at Darwin Harbour, on the isthmus which divides their freehold of Lafonia (so called from one of the principal founders of the Company, the late Samuel Lafone, Esq., of Montevideo) from the rest of the island, and 70 miles distant from Stanley. Their sheep land extends to within 15 miles of Stanley, along the northern shore of Choiseul Sound, and by Mount Pleasant and Port Fitzroy on the one side, and by the southern shore of Choiseul Sound as far as Low Bay on the other. Their sheep number between 50,000 and 60,000, and are of the Cheviot breed, with a slight admixture of South American, of which the original flock consists. Their last clip of grease wool realized 11*d.* and 11½*d.* per lb., and as a combing wool has for some seasons been much approved of in Bradford.

The Company has also "rodeos" of tame cattle, amounting to over 4000, and on their freeholds wild cattle, variously estimated in number from 15,000 to 25,000, which from their hides form a source of income.

There are no other farms of any extent as yet in either island, although the West bids fair to show a good account of wool in the course of a year or two.

## LANDHOLDERS.

## EAST FALKLANDS.

Falkland Islands :—	acres.
Freehold .. .. .	800,000
Leasehold .. .. .	132,000
	<hr/>
	932,000
Captain R. C. Packe .. .. .	74,000
Mr. John Bonner .. .. .	61,000
Don Andrez Petaluga .. .. .	98,000
Mr. R. Greenshields .. .. .	42,000
Don José Llamoso .. .. .	12,000
Messrs. Sharp and Robson .. .. .	24,000
" Felton Brothers .. .. .	32,000
" R. and G. Cobb .. .. .	.. Lively Island.
Mr. C. H. Williams .. .. .	Speedwell Island.

## WEST FALKLANDS.

Messrs. Packe Brothers .. .. .	118,180
" Baillon and Stickney .. .. .	148,790
" Bertrand and Holmsted .. .. .	171,120
Mr. J. L. Waldron .. .. .	103,920
" J. McClymont .. .. .	100,000
" C. H. Williams .. .. .	124,680
" W. D. Binney .. .. .	21,000
" G. M. Dean .. .. .	90,400
Messrs. J. M. Dean and Son .. .. .	.. Pebble Island.
" Bertrand and Holmsted .. .. .	.. New Island.
South American Missionary Society .. .. .	.. Keppel Island.

## GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

Colonel George D'Arcy .. .. .	<i>Governor.</i>
Henry Byng .. .. .	{ <i>Colonial Secretary,</i> <i>Shipping Master, and</i> <i>Postmaster.</i>
Edward Roger Griffith .. .. .	<i>Stipendiary Magistrate.</i>
Arthur Bailey .. .. .	<i>Surveyor-General.</i>
Horace N. Watts, M.D. .. .. .	<i>Colonial Surgeon.</i>
Charles Conyngham Turpin .. .. .	<i>Clerk of the Courts.</i>
George Travis .. .. .	<i>Collector of Customs.</i>
Rev. Charles Bull, M.A. .. .. .	<i>Colonial Chaplain.</i>
<i>Harbour Master</i> .. .. .	Charles Melville.
<i>Lighthouse Keeper</i> .. .. .	William Brown.
<i>Assistant ditto</i> .. .. .	George Biggs.
Right Rev. Waite Hockin Stirling, D.D., Bishop.	

## MILITARY.

Lieut. I. Drury .. .. .	<i>Royal Marines.</i>
John Fisher, R.N. .. .. .	<i>Garrison Surgeon.</i>

## APPENDIX.

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### HISTORICAL RECORD.

- 1515. River Plate discovered by Juan Diaz de Solis.
- 1527. Sebastian Cabot explores the Paraná and Uruguay.
- 1530. Buenos Ayres founded, under invocation of the Holy Trinity.
- 1531. The fort and settlement destroyed by the Indians.
- 1535. Second foundation by Pedro de Mendoza : also destroyed.
- 1537. Asuncion del Paraguay founded by Ayola.
- 1544. Irala greatly extends the Spanish dominions.
- 1553. Santiago del Estero founded by Aguirre.
- 1555. Arrival of the first bishop, Francisco la Torre.
- 1559. Garcia de Mendoza founds Mendoza and San Juan.
- 1565. Villaroel founds Tucuman.
- 1573. Cabrera founds Cordova.
- 1573. Juan de Garay founds Santa Fé city.
- 1580. He marks out the city of Buenos Ayres, June 11th.
- 1582. Lerma founds Salta.
- 1588. Corrientes founded by Alonzo de Vera.
- 1591. Velazco founds Rioja, and, in 1592, Jujuy.
- 1596. Loyola founds San Luis.
- 1609. Jesuit missions of Paraguay founded by Padres Mazeta and Cataldini.
- 1622. Jesuit missions along the Upper Uruguay.
- 1628. Paulista Indians carry off 60,000 captives from Misiones.
- 1680. Colonia founded by the Portuguese.
- 1726. Montevideo founded by Zavala, Governor of Buenos Ayres.
- 1730. Spain cedes Misiones to Portugal ; Indian settlements broken up.
- 1767. Expulsion of the Jesuits ; destruction of the Misiones.
- 1776. Viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres created, under Pedro de Zaballos.
- 1782. Census : Buenos Ayres territory, 170,832 inhabitants ; and Paraguay, 97,480.
- 1806. English invasion under General Beresford, who capitulates.

1807. Second invasion, under General Whitelocke, who also capitulates.
1808. Liniers named Viceroy.
1810. Revolution of Buenos Ayres, May 25th.
1811. Belgrano invades Paraguay, and capitulates.
1812. He beats the Spaniards at Tucuman and Salta.
1814. Spanish garrison expelled from Montevideo.
1815. Campaign of Artigas in Banda Oriental.
1816. Declaration of Argentine Independence, at Tucuman, July 9th.
1818. General San Martin beats the Spaniards at Maypu, and emancipates Chile.
1821. He liberates Peru, and enters Lima in triumph.
1821. Banda Oriental annexed to Brazil.
1825. Revolution of Lavalleja and thirty-two others, against Brazil.
1826. Buenos Ayres declares war against Brazil.
1826. Admiral Brown chastises the Brazilians.
1826. Rivadavia introduces many reforms.
1827. Alvear beats the Brazilians at Ituzaingo.
1828. Brazil gives up Banda Oriental, and makes peace.
1828. England guarantees the independence of Banda Oriental.
- 1830 to 1852 Civil wars, and tyranny of Rosas.
1852. Rosas overthrown by Urquiza.
1853. Urquiza expelled from Buenos Ayres.
1856. Introduction of gas.
1857. Western Railway inaugurated; the first in these countries.
1859. Battle of Cepeda: Buenos Ayres capitulates.
1860. Buenos Ayres re-enters the Argentine Confederation.
1861. Dreadful earthquake at Mendoza.
1861. Battle of Pavon: gained by General Mitre.
1862. General Mitre unanimously elected President.
1863. Flores invades the Banda Oriental.
1864. Brazil invades the Banda Oriental.
1865. Paraguay declares war.
1866. The Allied army (Argentines, Brazilians, and Orientals) invade Paraguay.
1867. Siege of Humaitá.
1868. General Flores murdered at Montevideo.
1868. Don Domingo F. Sarmiento elected President.
1869. First Census of Argentine Republic taken (1,836,490 pop.).
1870. Conclusion of Paraguayan war; death of Lopez.
1870. Assassination of General Urquiza.
1871. Plague at Buenos Ayres; Public Works Loan (6,000,000%).

1872. Railways, telegraphs, and free libraries through the interior. \*  
 1873. City of Buenos Ayres improvements commenced.  
 1874. President Sarmiento succeeded by President Avellaneda.

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 The Argentine Republic. By Colonel Du Graty. Brussels, 1861.

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#### ARGENTINE TRADE REPORT FOR 1873.

	Imports.	Exports.
	\$	\$
England .. ..	19,344,143	9,894,007
France .. ..	18,255,138	8,677,819
Belgium .. ..	2,967,586	13,891,508
United States ..	5,167,616	3,032,945
Italy .. ..	3,784,384	1,487,925
Carried forward	<u>49,518,867</u>	<u>36,984,204</u>

	Imports.	Exports.
	\$	\$
Brought forward	49,518,867	36,984,204
Spain .. ..	2,952,600	1,231,697
Chile .. ..	1,444,182	2,365,475
Brazil .. ..	2,968,953	769,464
Uruguay .. ..	2,735,299	992,949
Germany .. ..	3,228,015	449,597
Holland .. ..	1,611,616	226,204
Other Countries ..	1,999,341	2,100,515
	<u>\$66,458,873</u>	<u>\$45,122,105</u>

(These figures may be reduced to £ sterling by dividing by 5.)

If we take the years 1872 and 1873 together, we find the exports about 20 per cent. less than imports in the same period, viz. :—

*Exports of 1872 and 1873.*

	Value.
	\$
363,725,000 lbs. of wool .. ..	38,530,000
181,300,000 lbs. of jerked beef .. ..	4,120,000
205,902,000 lbs. of tallow .. ..	12,872,000
128,070,000 lbs. of sheepskins .. ..	9,916,000
5,661,000 ox and cow hides .. ..	12,322,090
Horse-hides, bones, metals, &c. .. ..	12,322,000
	<u>99,002,000</u>
Imports for 2 years .. ..	<u>121,093,900</u>
Excess of imports .. ..	<u>\$22,091,000</u>

By comparing the import returns of 1873 with those of 1870, we find that the imports from England and France have increased 50 per cent., from United States 80, from Germany 110, from Belgium 150, from Italy 120, from Spain 35, from Holland 30 per cent. There is a decline of 10 per cent. in Brazilian merchandise.

GROWTH OF EXPORTS IN 20 YEARS (1853-1873).

	1853.	1860.	1870.	1872.
Salted ox-hides ..	400,831	420,525	774,806	} 3,121,758
Dried ,, ..	604,868	1,241,968	1,824,895	
Horse-hides .. ..	129,905	278,613	102,250	
Wool .. .. bales	20,514	42,275	160,369	210,000
Sheepskins .. ..	1,398	10,715	67,294	49,021
Jerked beef .. .. qq.	275,000	424,839	647,532	
Value in £ st. ..	£1,400,000	£4,240,000	£8,200,000	£9,100,000

## GROWTH OF REVENUE IN 10 YEARS (COMPARED WITH CHILE).

		Argentine.		Chilian.
		\$		\$
1863	.. ..	6,478,683	.. ..	6,700,659
1864	.. ..	7,005,328	.. ..	6,574,918
1865	.. ..	8,295,071	.. ..	7,301,043
1866	.. ..	9,568,554	.. ..	6,197,111
1867	.. ..	12,046,287	.. ..	9,756,838
1868	.. ..	12,496,126	.. ..	10,694,974
1869	.. ..	12,676,680	.. ..	11,484,806
1870	.. ..	14,833,905	.. ..	11,537,781
1871	.. ..	12,682,155	.. ..	11,681,032
1872	.. ..	18,172,379	.. ..	13,843,000
1873	.. ..	20,160,380	.. ..	15,392,557

## PROGRESS DURING 5 YEARS OF PRESIDENT SARMIENTO'S ADMINISTRATION.

President Sarmiento in opening Congress for the last time in May 1874 reviewed the progress made by the country since he ascended to power in 1868. Trade and revenue doubled, public schools quadrupled, 5000 miles of telegraphs constructed, 500 miles of railway completed, immigration risen to 100,000 souls yearly, and many other features of national development. The administration will also be remembered for having taken the first census of the Republic, held an international Exhibition at Cordoba, established an astronomical observatory, opened 140 free libraries in the Provinces, and contracted a loan of 6,000,000*l.* sterling for public works. For the first time in history the Argentine Government saw its stock reach par on the London Exchange; and each year President Sarmiento opened Congress he had to announce that the increase of revenue exceeded the estimates. In 1873 the receipts reached 20,160,000*l.*, say 4,120,000*l.* sterling, or 50,000*l.* over the estimates last year for Canada, which has just double our population. The increase of 1873 over the preceding year was 2,000,000, equal to 11 per cent., and the excess of receipts over estimates 1,000,000, while the ordinary expenditure was 3,500,000 less; all these flattering results were neutralized by the Entre Rios rebellion which cost 16,000,000 dollars between the two revolts of 1870 and 1873.



FOREIGN CAPITAL IN PUBLIC DEBTS AND JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES  
IN THE RIVER PLATE.

*Argentine Government.*

	£	£
Riestra Loan, 1865 .. .. .	2,138,000	
Public Works, 1871 .. .. .	5,716,100	
Hard Dollar Loan, 1872 .. .. .	1,224,000	
	<hr/>	
Total due on 1st of March .. .. .		9,079,100

*Buenos Ayres Government.*

Loan, 6 per cent. 1824 .. .. .	819,400	
3   "   "   "   "   "   "   " .. .. .	888,200	
6   "   "   1870 .. .. .	1,001,800	
6   "   "   1873 .. .. .	2,040,800	
	<hr/>	
Total due on 1st of March .. .. .		4,750,200

*Entre Rios Government.*

Loan, 7 per cent. 1872 .. .. .		214,900
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*Santa Fé.*

Loan, 7 per cent. 1874 .. .. .		300,000
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*Republic Uruguay.*

Mont, 6 per cent. 1864 .. .. .	640,000	
"   "   "   1871 .. .. .	3,360,000	
	<hr/>	
Total due on 1st of March .. .. .		4,000,700

*Paraguay.*

8 per cent. Public Works, 1871 .. .. .	973,400	
8   "   "   "   1872 .. .. .	1,958,800	
	<hr/>	
Total due on 1st of March .. .. .		2,932,200
		<hr/>
Total National debts River Plate .. .. .		£21,277,100
		<hr/>

From the same authentic source we take the capitals of foreign companies in the River Plate.

	£
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Railway .. .. .	350,000
Buenos Ayres Great Southern .. .. .	997,200
"    Dolores Extension .. .. .	332,800
"    6 per cent. Debenture Stock .. .. .	119,300
Central Argentine .. .. .	1,300,000
"    7 per cent. Bonds .. .. .	364,500
Central Uruguay 7 .. .. .	300,000
"    7 .. .. .	942,000
"    Preference Shares .. .. .	942,000
East Argentine 7 .. .. .	640,000
Northern of Buenos Ayres .. .. .	140,000
"    "    Deferred .. .. .	55,000
"    "    Ordinary .. .. .	40,000
North-West Montevideo 7 per cent. Mort. .. .. .	600,000
London and River Plate Bank .. .. .	200,000
"    "    "    New Issue .. .. .	400,000
Mercantile Bank .. .. .	399,600
German Bank .. .. .	200,000
Buenos Ayres National Tramway .. .. .	140,000
Central Argentine Land Company .. .. .	130,000
City Buenos Ayres Tramway .. .. .	350,000
Liebig's Meat Factory .. .. .	357,200
Montevideo Gas Company .. .. .	500,000
Anglo-Argentine Mining Company .. .. .	50,000
Platino-Brazilian Company .. .. .	90,100
"    "    First Mort. .. .. .	100,000
City Buenos Ayres Tramway Debenture Stock .. .. .	95,000
Uruguay and Higueritas 7 per cent. Mort. .. .. .	600,000
North-West of Montevideo Mort. .. .. .	300,000
	<hr/>
	10,092,700
National debts River Plate .. .. .	21,277,100
	<hr/>

Total foreign capital in National debt and Compa- nies on March 1st, 1874 .. .. .	} £31,369,800
	<hr/>

### MONEYS, WEIGHTS, MEASURES, AND DISTANCES.

#### *Buenos Ayres.*

In Buenos Ayres the basis of the currency is the paper dollar or "peso," worth 2*d.* English, 25 "pesos" being equal to a hard dollar, such as used in North America. In all exchange operations, and the

like, only specie is used, the sovereign being taken for \$4 90c. silver, or for \$122½ paper. The gold coins of England, North America, France, Spain, and Brazil are a legal tender throughout the Republic, at the following rates :—

	Silver.	Paper.		Silver.	Paper.
	\$	\$		\$	\$
Sovereign .. ..	4·90	122½	Twenty milreis ..	11·00	275
Twenty francs ..	3·90	97½	United States eagle	10·00	250
Chilian condor ..	9·25	231½	Doubleon .. ..	16·00	400

In the upper provinces almost all transactions are carried on in Bolivian silver, the value of which slightly fluctuates at times. The Bolivian dollar averages about 3s. English, or twenty-one to the doubloon.

The weights and measures are—

1 arrobe, equal to ..	25 lbs.	1 vara, equal to 34 English inches.	
4 arrobes ..	1 quintal.	1 cuadra .. ..	150 varas.
20 quintals ..	1 ton.	40 cuabras .. ..	1 league.
80 arrobes ..	1 ..	6000 varas .. ..	1 ..
2000 lbs. ..	1 ..	1 sq. league, equal to 6500 Eng. acres.	

In calculating distances, twelve cuabras may be estimated as an English mile. The superficial cuadra covers about four acres, and is also called a “manzana”: there are 1600 “manzanas” in a square league of land. A “suerte” of estancia usually measures 1½ leagues long, by half a league wide, comprising 27,000,000 square varas: a square league of land contains 36,000,000 varas.

### Montevideo.

Since the redemption of the paper money (11th November 1872), the currency is fixed on the basis of a dollar worth 52*d.* English, or 4 per cent. more than the North American dollar.

	Montevidean \$.		Montevidean \$.
Mexican dollar ..	0·96	Sovereign .. ..	4·70

The weights and measures are the same as in Buenos Ayres; but the cuabras are only 100 varas square, so that a league is said to be 60 cuabras long, and a superficial league to contain 3600 manzanas: of course the league is exactly the same length as in Buenos Ayres.

*Paraguay.*

The table of weights is the same as in Buenos Ayres. The land measure is very different—

1 league, equal to .. 5000 varas.	1 manzana, equal to .. 1¼ Eng. acres.
1 sq. league ,, 3600 manzanas.	1 sq. league ,, 4500 ,,

TABLE OF DISTANCES FROM BUENOS AYRES.

	Spanish Leagues.		Spanish Leagues.
London .. .. .	2500	Cape San Roque .. ..	920
Lisbon .. .. .	2200	Rio Grande do Sul .. ..	150
Cape Verde .. .. .	1550	Montevideo .. .. .	40
Pernambuco .. .. .	850	Bahia Blanca .. .. .	200
Bahia .. .. .	700	Welsh Colony .. .. .	350
Rio Janeiro .. .. .	450	Falkland Islands .. ..	450
New York .. .. .	2300	Magellan's Straits .. ..	600
St. Thomas .. .. .	1800	Cape Horn .. .. .	680
Pará .. .. .	1250		

*River Paraná.*

Rosario (S. Fé) .. .. .	75	La Paz .. .. .	160
Santa Fé .. .. .	117	Goya .. .. .	210
Paraná .. .. .	185	Corrientes .. .. .	260

*River Paraguay.*

Tres Bocas .. .. .	265	Pan de Azucar .. .. .	460
Humaita .. .. .	275	Fort Coimbra .. .. .	510
Rio Vermejo, mouth .. ..	278	Curumbá .. .. .	555
Asuncion .. .. .	340	Cuyabá .. .. .	640

*Upper Paraná.*

Paso la Patria .. .. .	270	Tranquera de Loreto .. ..	315
Falls of Apipé .. .. .	310	Salto de Guayra .. .. .	450

*River Uruguay.*

Fray Bentos .. .. .	20	Salto .. .. .	110
Rio Negro, mouth .. .. .	40	Santa Rosa .. .. .	140
Gualeguaychú .. .. .	50	Uruguayana .. .. .	160
Concepcion .. .. .	70	San Borja .. .. .	208
Paysandú .. .. .	80		

*Upper Provinces.*

	Spanish League.		Spanish Leagues.
Frayle Muerto .. ..	100	Rioja .. .. .	250
Rio Cuarto .. .. .	130	Catamarca .. ..	260
Cordoba .. .. .	150	Tucuman .. .. .	270
San Luis .. .. .	170	Santiago del Estero ..	220
Mendoza .. .. .	225	Salta .. .. .	310
The Andes .. .. .	240	Jujuy .. .. .	330
San Juan .. .. .	245	Oran, Rio Vermejo ..	350

*Province of Buenos Ayres.*

## (South.)

Cañuelas .. .. .	11	Magdalena .. .. .	19
San Vicente .. .. .	10	Tuyu .. .. .	46
Lobos .. .. .	18	Tandil .. .. .	60
Navarro .. .. .	17	Azul .. .. .	55
Guardia Monte .. ..	19	Mar Chiquita .. .. .	66
Ranchos .. .. .	20	Cape Corrientes .. ..	78
Chascomus .. .. .	24	Laguna los Padres .. ..	74
25 de Mayo .. .. .	35	Necochea .. .. .	80
Las Flores .. .. .	32	Tres Arroyos .. .. .	98
Dolores .. .. .	39	Bahia Blanca .. .. .	115
Ensenada .. .. .	10		

## (North.)

Pilar .. .. .	10	San Nicolas .. .. .	45
Capilla .. .. .	14	Arroyo Medio .. .. .	46
Zarate .. .. .	16	Arrecifes .. .. .	33
Giles .. .. .	20	Carmen de Areco .. ..	27
San Antonio .. .. .	21	Salto .. .. .	34
Baradero .. .. .	27	Pergamino .. .. .	42
San Pedro .. .. .	31	Rojas .. .. .	43
Obligado .. .. .	35	Fort Melincué .. .. .	60
Ramallo .. .. .	44		

## (West.)

Lujan .. .. .	13	Chacabuco .. .. .	36
Mercedes .. .. .	20	Junin .. .. .	45
Chivilcoy .. .. .	31	Nueve de Julio .. .. .	48
Bragado .. .. .	39	Saladillo .. .. .	33

## COMPARATIVE TABLE OF TIME.

When it is noon at Buenos Ayres it is at—

	Hours.	Minutes.	Seconds.
Montevideo .. .. .	12	8	43 P.M.
Rio Janeiro .. .. .	12	42	57 "
Pernambuco .. .. .	1	34	9 "
Valparaiso .. .. .	11	7	50 A.M.
New York .. .. .	10	58	35 "
Cape de Verde Islands .. .. .	2	43	32 P.M.
London .. .. .	3	53	13 "
Paris .. .. .	4	2	57 "
St. Petersburg .. .. .	5	54	50 "
Berlin .. .. .	4	47	11 "
Constantinople .. .. .	5	29	46 "
Rome .. .. .	4	43	25 "
Lisbon .. .. .	2	17	2 "
Calcutta .. .. .	9	46	57 "
Pekin .. .. .	11	39	31 "
Sydney .. .. .	1	58	30 A.M.
Cape of Good Hope .. .. .	5	7	31 P.M.

## LAND LAW AT BUENOS AYRES.

*Government price, ls. per acre.*

The law passed on 3rd August, 1871, contains the following clauses:—

1. Public lands on the frontier to be put up for public auction twice a year, viz. January and June, after three months' notice in the journals.
2. Lots to be of 8 square leagues, say 13,300 acres.
3. Minimum price as follows:—
  - 500*l.* per league outside the frontier of 1858, and not contained in the partidos hereinafter named.
  - 580*l.* per league in Lincoln and Nueve de Julio on the western frontier, and Tres Arroyos on the seaboard.
  - 650*l.* per league in Necochea on the seaboard, and Bragado Junin and Rojas on the west and north frontier.
4. Fractions under 2 square leagues will be sold to private parties at the above rates without auction.
5. Payment in all cases to be made in eight years in this manner:—
  - 10 per cent. in cash on receiving deed of sale.
  - 90 per cent. in eight yearly instalments, free of interest.
6. A year's grace allowed for any instalment, charging 1 per cent.

interest per month; if unsatisfied after twelve months the land to be again put up to auction.

7. If the Indians carry off the cattle the Government will allow double the term for the instalments, and without interest.

8. If lands were previously occupied the buyer must take improvements at a valuation.

9. The districts of Bahia Blanca and Patagones are excluded from the present laws.

10. If the purchaser wish to pay cash instead of taking eight years for payment he will be allowed discount and 6 per cent. per annum (reducing the price by about 150% per square league).

*Note.*—The price therefore (at eight years) of the above lands is from 18*d.* to 2*s.* per acre, or paying cash say 13*d.* upwards. The distance from Buenos Ayres city varies from 50 to 100 leagues.

#### TARIFFS AT BUENOS AYRES.

##### *Post Office.*

Letters by British mail-steamer leaving Buenos Ayres on the 9th and 15th of each month pay 1*s.* postage either here or in England, but must have an Argentine stamp of 5 cents.

By French mail-steamer twice a month, 8*d.* and Argentine stamp.

By Southampton steamer leaving Buenos Ayres 30th, or other steamer than the four mentioned above, the English postage is only 6*d.*

Newspapers go free through South America, but the British post office charges 1*d.* Registering a letter costs 25 cents extra.

Unclaimed letters are advertised in lists hung round the courtyard.

##### *Hackney Coaches.*

From one part to another of the city, \$20.

By the hour, first hour, \$25, afterwards, \$20.

##### *Whaleboats.*

Inner roads, \$60, outer, \$150, if party does not exceed five persons; if more, each person pays \$10 and \$25 respectively. If carts are used, \$30, if row-boats, \$10.

##### *Street Porters.*

Any distance not exceeding 10 squares, \$10, and \$1 per square extra for each trunk.

##### *Livery Stables.*

Horses may be had for \$50 a day, hut on Sundays \$100.

*Telegraph Messages.*

Through the Argentine provinces 25 cents, to Montevideo 1 hard dollar, to Chile 3 dollars.

## ARGENTINE AGENTS ABROAD.

His Excellency D. Mariano Balcarce, Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris and London.

His Excellency D. Manuel Garcia, Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington.

His Excellency D. Felix Frias, Minister Plenipotentiary in Chile.

His Excellency D. Luis L. Dominguez, Minister Plenipotentiary in Peru.

His Excellency Dr. Uriburu, Minister Plenipotentiary in Bolivia.

## FOREIGN MINISTERS AT BUENOS AYRES.

His Excellency Hon. Lionel Sackville West, Great Britain and Ireland.

His Excellency M. Ducros Aubert, France.

His Excellency M. Le Maistre, Germany.

His Excellency Baron Araguaya (Magalhaes), Brazil.

His Excellency M. Blest Gana, Chile.

His Excellency General Osborn, United States.

His Excellency M. Hofer von Hobenfels, Austria and Hungary.

His Excellency Dr. Irigoyen, Peru.

## ARGENTINE CUSTOMS DUTIES.

1. Books, printing materials, and paper, plants, fruits, ice, tobacco for sheep, gold and silver, also articles for church use, scientific instruments, machinery for steamboats or new industries, furniture and effects of immigrants are imported duty free.

2. Ploughs, coal, iron, lumber, salt, silk, wrought gold or silver, steam thrashers or reapers pay 15 per cent.

3. Precious stones pay 8 per cent.

4. All other articles pay 25 per cent. ad valorem.

5. Hides, wool, sheepskin, beef, tallow, feathers, and bone-ash pay 6 per cent. ad valorem export duty.

6. All other articles are exported duty free.

7. Allowance of 10 per cent. for leakage of wines, &c. from Europe.

## ENGLISH CLERGY IN THE RIVER PLATE.

\*Rev. Canon Dillon, Irish Chaplain General, Buenos Ayres.

Rev. Dr. Smith, Church of England, Chaplain, Buenos Ayres.



- Rev. James Smith, Scots' Church, Buenos Ayres.  
 Rev. J. Jackson, American Methodist Church, Buenos Ayres.  
 Rev. N. Lett, Assistant English Chaplain, Buenos Ayres.  
 \*Rev. Samuel O'Reilly, Irish Chaplain, Luxan.  
 \*Rev. M. Lynch, Irish Chaplain, Mercedes.  
 \*Rev. Michael Leahy, Irish Chaplain, Carmen de Areco.  
 \*Rev. John Leahy, Irish Chaplain, Rojas.  
 \*Rev. John Flannery, Irish Chaplain, San Nicolas.  
 \*Rev. J. Mullady, Irish Chaplain, San Antonio.  
 \*Rev. P. Grennan, Irish Chaplain, Capilla del Señor.  
 \*Rev. James Curran, Irish Chaplain, Lobos.  
 \*Rev. Monsignor Curley, Irish Chaplain, Chascomus.  
 Rev. J. Gebbie, Scotch Chaplain, San Vicente.  
 Rev. M. Ferguson, Scottish Chaplain, Chascomus.  
 Rev. J. Hoskins, English Chaplain, Montevideo.  
 Rev. J. K. Law, Assistant Chaplain, Montevideo.  
 Rev. Mr. Sheils, Assistant Chaplain, Entre Rios.  
 Rev. Mr. Coombe, Assistant Chaplain, Rosario.  
 \*Rev. Father Burke, Santo Domingo, Buenos Ayres.  
 \*Rev. Father Davis, Irish Chaplain, Montevideo.  
 \*Rev. J. MacNamara, Irish College, Mercedes.  
 \*Rev. Dr. Miller, Parish Chaplain, Belgrano.

\* \* Those marked with an asterisk are Catholic clergymen.

SALARIES OF ARGENTINE OFFICIALS (reduced to English Money).

	Per Ann.		Per Ann.
	£		£
President .. .. .	4000	Chief of Depart. Agric.	600
Vice-President .. ..	2000	Envoy Extraordinary ..	2400
Cabinet Minister .. ..	1800	Secretary of Legation ..	750
Sub-Secretary .. ..	500	Receiver of Customs ..	1000
Archbishop .. .. .	1000	Captain of Port .. ..	1000
Bishop .. .. .	700	Admiral .. .. .	500
Canon .. .. .	220	Colonel .. .. .	480
Federal Judge .. ..	1700	Lieut.-Colonel .. ..	280
Sectional „ .. ..	600-1200	Major .. .. .	200
Brigadier-General ..	650	Captain .. .. .	150
General .. .. .	600	Lieutenant .. ..	100
Senator .. .. .	700	Rector of Nat. Colleg. ..	320
Deputy .. .. .	700	Professor .. .. .	210-270
Postmaster-General ..	750	Navy Captain .. ..	240
Inspector of Telegraphs	750	Army Surgeon .. ..	600
Chief of Engin. Depart.	1000	Port Doctor .. .. .	250-600

*Buenos Ayres Tramways.*

The tramway traffic in 1873 was as follows:—

	Passengers.	Miles run.	Journeys.
City of Buenos Ayres ..	5,161,074	616,427	179,636
Central (9 months) ..	1,807,570	273,580	54,716
Argentine .. .. .	2,221,041	(500,000)	60,491
Belgrano ( $\frac{1}{2}$ year) ..	770,444	185,474	37,302
Boca (9 months).. ..	1,043,926	232,355	39,745
National .. .. .	1,146,607	359,175	65,879
Proportion for months omitted .. .. . }	1,687,609	354,452	50,000
	<u>13,838,271</u>	<u>2,521,463</u>	<u>487,770</u>

	Men.	Coaches.	Horses.
City of Buenos Ayres ..	273	46	700
Lacroze Central .. ..	60	18	199
Argentine .. .. .	137	33	370
Belgrano .. .. .	107	23	350
Boca .. .. .	..	..	..
National .. .. .	94	17	275

*Municipality of Buenos Ayres.*

The Municipal receipts in 1873 were:—

Weights and licences .. .. .	\$ m/c.
Street lighting .. .. .	3,476,485
Markets .. .. .	3,534,481
Funerals and graves .. .. .	1,096,000
Mataderos .. .. .	533,430
Coach-stands .. .. .	367,499
Fines, fees, &c. .. .. .	530,500
	989,405
	<u>\$ 10,527,800</u>

The expenditure was as follows:—

Hospitals .. .. .	\$
Scavenger service .. .. .	2,066,358
Free schools .. .. .	3,359,940
Prisons, health comm., &c. .. .. .	1,714,916
Public works and paving .. .. .	2,812,909
Lighting, &c. .. .. .	3,434,262
	3,105,015
	<u>\$ 16,493,400</u>

There are 326 billiard-saloons, 77 ball-courts, 2 cock-pits, 384 carriages, 210 hack do., 132 tilburies, 3751 carts, and 7248 dogs paying licence.

*Central Prisons, Buenos Ayres.*

There were 631 delinquents admitted during the year :—

252 Argentines.
154 Italians.
90 Spaniards.
45 French.
30 Montevideans.
14 English.
36 various.

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631

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There were 287 liberated, and 318 condemned to hard labour or sent to penal stations. No fewer than 226 were cases of attempt to kill or of actual murder, and 227 of robbery.

*Table of Wages at Buenos Ayres.*

	£	£
Farm-servants .. ..	30 to	50, with board.
Gardeners .. ..	40 „	100 „
Coachmen .. ..	40 „	60 „
Men cooks .. ..	40 „	120 „
Bakers .. ..	40 „	70 „
Shopmen .. ..	20 „	200 „
Apothecaries .. ..	80 „	150 „
Teachers .. ..	60 „	100 „
Housemaids .. ..	30 „	60 „
Nurses or cooks .. ..	40 „	80 „

*Operatives per Day.*

	s.	s.
Carpenters .. ..	6 to	12, without board.
Blacksmiths .. ..	6 „	10 „
Stone-cutters .. ..	7 „	10 „
Lithographers .. ..	7 „	20 „
Watchmakers .. ..	8 „	11 „
Tailors .. ..	7 „	11 „
Saddlers .. ..	6 „	10 „
Bookbinders .. ..	5 „	10 „
Painters .. ..	5 „	8 „
Shoemakers .. ..	4 „	7 „

*Immigration.*

The returns for 1873, as compared with previous years, show thus:—

					Immigrants.
1868	..	..	..	..	29,234
1869	..	..	..	..	37,934
1870	..	..	..	..	41,058
1871	..	..	..	..	21,758
1872	..	..	..	..	41,002
1873	..	..	..	..	79,712
Total in 6 years ..					250,698

The proportion of nationalities was:—

	1872.		1873.	
Italians .. ..	56	per cent.	.. ..	56 per cent.
Spaniards .. ..	17	”	.. ..	19 ”
French .. ..	17	”	.. ..	16 ”
British .. ..	4	”	.. ..	3 ”
Germans .. ..	3	”	.. ..	5 ”
Various .. ..	2	”	.. ..	1 ”
	100		100	

The sexes were:—

	Males.		Females.	
In 1872 .. ..	80	to	20	
„ 1873 .. ..	65	„	35	

A statistical table compiled from auctioneers' books, escribanos' registers, and banking houses in the city, shows that the amount of property purchased by foreign settlers and of money remitted in small drafts to their friends at home in 1873 reached the enormous figure of 2,600,000/ sterling, viz. :—

	£
Public lands bought .. ..	45,460
Returns of 24 auctioneers .. ..	1,280,000
Foreign investments at Rosario .. ..	240,300
Small drafts to Italy .. ..	405,000
„ „ Spain .. ..	203,600
„ „ France .. ..	182,400
„ „ Basque country .. ..	99,000
„ „ Great Britain and Ireland .. ..	84,200
„ „ Switzerland .. ..	39,500
„ „ Germany .. ..	24,000
	£2,603,460

## CORDOBA EXHIBITION OF 1871.

## ENGLISH AND NORTH AMERICAN PRIZE LIST.

*Gold Medals.*

- Wheelwright & Co., Rosario, farm implements and furniture (2).  
 Stow Brothers, Frayle Muerto, " "  
 Collins & Co., New York " "  
 William Perkins, Rosario, labours for immigration.  
 Gwynne & Co., England, pumps.  
 Samuel Lafone, Catamarca, native wines.  
 Rushton and Proctor, England, machinery.  
 John Grey, England, steel ploughs.  
 James Livesey, England, railway model.  
 Handyside & Co., England, metal fountains.  
 Barker & Co., Cordoba, Angora goats and wool (2).  
 James Temple & Co., Cordoba, large number of exhibits.  
 Walter A. Woods, Patent American reaper.  
 Wilfrid Latham, Buenos Ayres, racehorses.

*Silver Medals.*

- Wilfrid Latham, Buenos Ayres, prize cattle and wool (4).  
 J. E. Atkinson, London, perfumery.  
 W. Parody, Buenos Ayres, short-hand system.  
 Moreton & Co., England, bedsteads, pumps, &c. (3).  
 Mulhall Brothers, Buenos Ayres, various exhibits (2).  
 Beckford & Co., Cornwall, candlewick.  
 Barker & Co., Cordoba, shawls and horses (2).  
 Kerr and Clark, London, thread.  
 Garrett and Sons, England, steam-harrow.  
 Rushton and Proctor, England, road-engines, &c. (2).  
 B. Reéd & Co., England, patent sower.  
 Wood's patent mower, New York.  
 John Howard, England, steel ploughs.  
 Jack & Co., England, patent reaper.  
 Fawcett, Preston & Co., England, sugar mill.  
 Gwynne & Co., England, vertical engine.  
 Ashby and Jeffry, England, vertical engine.  
 W. B. Douglas, New York, fire-engine.  
 Louis M. Murray, Boston, preserved fruits.  
 Portland Packing Company, preserved salmon.

Davis and McKean, Philadelphia, sugar samples.  
 Mitchell & Co., horse or steam corn-sheller.  
 Cornwin & Co., American hand-engines.  
 Knot's patent American plough.  
 Buckeye's Combined American reaper.  
 J. H. Tieman, indigo and colours in powder.  
 Arthur Shaw, Cordoba, architect of annexes.  
 James Anderson, best ploughman.

*Bronze Medals.*

R. Ross, iron castings.  
 W. Kelsey, Buenos Ayres steamboat model.  
 H. Ross, Santa Fé, machinery.  
 M. S. Bagley, Buenos Ayres, Hesperidina liqueur.  
 W. Tatham, Buenos Ayres, Durham cow.  
 Gibson Brothers, Buenos Ayres, Leicester sheep.  
 F. Younger, Buenos Ayres, Berkshire sow.  
 David Smith, England, cloth of River Plate Wool.  
 G. Magnus, England, enamelled tiles.  
 Wood's Combined American mower.  
 Temple & Co., Cordoba, Dodge's reaper.  
 Hornsby's saws and mowing machines (2).  
 Garrett and Sons, England, hand winnower.  
 Burlick's patent straw-cutter.  
 Ransom and Simms, England, patent barrows.  
 Crosskill & Co., England, cartwheels, &c. (2).  
 Woven wire beds, Hartford Company, United States.  
 C. Lightfoot, New York travelling chairs.  
 Willmore and Belcher, New York, hand corn-shellers.  
 Ames & Co., United States, harrows, &c. (2).

MONTEVIDEO AT THE VIENNA EXHIBITION.

M. Giebert, Liebig's Extractum Carnis, gold medal.  
 Baron Mauá, preserved beef, medicinal herbs, &c.  
 Edward McEachen, wild honey.  
 Richard Hughes, native flax.  
 Lucas Herrera-Obes, preserved beef.  
 Paulet & Co., and Antonio Ferreyra, artificial saladero guano.  
 Luis Latorre, native wines and liqueurs.  
 Robert Davison, collection of wool samples.  
 Luis Podestá, flour and macaroni.

Joaquin Suarez, collection of woods.  
 Bernabé Mendoza, skins and feathers.  
 Gervasis Burgneño, native marble.  
 Dr. Ordoñana, medicinal herbs.  
 John Mitchell, and Leon Domecq, dried beef.  
 José Ortega, Guillermo Ponjade, and Gianelli Brothers, wheat.  
 John F. Fisher, tanned hides.  
 Koeing and Acenedo, glue.  
 Perfect Giot, Rambouillet wool.  
 Ruperto Las Carreras and Lorenzo Nieto, native woods.  
 Torcuato Marquez and Miguel Rovira, honey.  
 Henry Beaulieu and Santiago Bertelli, native silk.  
 Xavier Vianna, native tobacco.  
 Antonio Molfino, cabinet work.  
 Jorge Acevedo, ropes made of vira-vira.  
 Victor Jacod, ostrich feathers.  
 Ignacio Urtubey, wool samples.  
 Luis Rocha, native wax.  
 Morcino and Liaro, wheat.  
 Remijio Castellanos, medicinal herbs.  
 Dr. Bolline, Vienna wool.  
 Domingo Mora, statue of a Gaucho.  
 Pedro Bernat, woods.  
 Alfred Herrera, Alpaca wool.  
 Lezica and Fynn, Sta Lucia water.

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#### MINING IN THE ARGENTINE CONFEDERATION.

The *Carolina* mine "has lately changed hands, and is now under the firm of

SCMIDT, TRENDELBURG, & Co.

"Mr. A. S. Bower, son of Mr. Geo. Bower, the London contractor, has lately inspected these mines, and his report is very favourable.

"More Chilian mills have been ordered, and under the management of the new firm great expectations may result. Mines we have in plenty, but the machinery generally used in them is of the rudest description."

The "*Carolina*" has given great results in the past, and is likely to be still more productive in the future.

## BUENOS AYRES NEW GAS WORKS.

One of the most important public works hitherto completed in Buenos Ayres has been the *Mutual Gas Company's*, which we believe is the largest in South America. The works are situated in Calle Defensa, near to the Ensenada line of railway and close to the Boca; a site well chosen, as it is at the lowest level of the city of Buenos Ayres, and close to the town of Barracas, which, with the Boca, will be lighted by this Company by the end of 1874. Up to the present Buenos Ayres is far behind Rio Janeiro in gas lighting, the former city having 5200 lamps, while at present Buenos Ayres has only 2200, representing about one-third of the city district. At Rio every lane and corner is lighted; even gas is found at the top of the Tijuca mountain, having a charming appearance, surrounded as it is by splendid quintas; while Buenos main street is only lighted half-way up with gas! The last numbers taken from the municipal books were 2240 gas lamps and 2860 kerosene lamps, and the district not lighted by either equal to another 1000. The Mutual Gas Works will be found well worth a visit; the buildings and machinery stand upon 18,000 square acres of land, which cost, even in this part of the outskirts, nearly 7000*l*. The retorts and ovens number about 200, and are capable of making 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day; the gasholder is the largest in South America, and contains when full 500,000 cubic feet, the dimensions being 125 feet  $\times$  40 feet; the scrubbers, condensers, engines, &c., are all on the most improved principles, and the works contain the usual stores, blacksmiths', carpenters', and other workshops. We noticed many applications of machinery so as to diminish hand labour. The front has a very handsome appearance, containing the manager's house, offices, stores, &c., the whole being finished off in Roman cement. The coal store measures 300 feet  $\times$  100, and contains about 8000 tons of coal when full; tramway lines run all over the works, and the whole fabric has the appearance of everything being well and completely done. The mains vary from 18" down to 2", and are laid in about 500 square blocks, representing a length of about 110 miles. The Mutual Gas Company hold the municipal contract for ten years, from 15th June, 1874, for not fewer than 4200 lamps, which number it is expected will be increased to 6000 this session. The price paid for the public lamps is at 110 paper dollars per month, or say equal to 10*l*. 15*s*. per lamp per year, which must be considered a fair price, taking into consideration the lamps are only 28 yards apart. The whole of the goods were imported free of duty, but coal has to pay about 8*s*. per ton. The quantity used per year is expected to be about



10,000 tons. Coke finds a ready sale at about 3*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.* 5*s.* per Spanish ton. Tar has not a good sale, and will be burnt at the works under the retorts so as to save coke.

The whole of the works were carried out by Mr. George Bower, of Saint Neots, London, who has also erected several large gas works in South America, including Rio Grande, Porto Alegre, Pelotas, and Olinda, in Brazil, also the town of Belgrano near to the city of Buenos Ayres. If the new Mutual Gas Company will carry out the whole of their programme they will confer a benefit on the inhabitants, increase the value of property, reduce crime, and there can be no doubt their dividends will be satisfactory, judging from the profits of the old Buenos Ayres Gas Company, the Rio or the Montevideo works.

#### STATISTICS OF THE REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY.

M. Adolphe Vaillant, who published in 1873 an important statistical work on the Republic of Uruguay, estimates the total population in that country at 450,000. Since 1860 the increase has been at the rate of 120 per cent. in the Metropolitan Department of Montevideo, and at the rate of 100 per cent. in the remaining twelve departments. In ten years, 1860 to 1870, the increase in the Department of Montevideo was at the rate of 93 per cent. ; whereas in the province of Buenos Ayres in the neighbouring Republic, the increase in the same time was 53 per cent., and in the United States of North America 34 per cent. In regard to density of population, the Republic of Uruguay, being relatively of small extent, is more thickly peopled per square mile than Brazil or the Argentine Republic, but less so than Chile. In the Department of Montevideo there are 165 inhabitants to the square kilomètre ; and in the other departments only 1½. As M. Vaillant observes, the Platine States are not peopled ! That, he says, is the secret of a rapid development which from time to time appears little less than magical, as with abounding space and a fruitful soil a few thousand immigrants will in each decade multiply the resources of the country out of all ordinary proportion to their number ; and often in spite of the opposing accidents of war, epidemics, and monetary crises.

Compared with South American states in general, and indeed with all others excepting its neighbour, the Argentine Republic, the character of its population forms the most hopeful element in the future of Uruguay. It is singular in possessing no indigenous races. As stated in the text of this work, there is not a single Indian in the territory of the Republic. Moreover, the Africans which were originally imported

as slaves, and till lately formed a large proportion of the soldiery and lower grades of the labouring population, are gradually disappearing. Even the "mestizos" of mixed Indian, Negro, and European races, who still compose the bulk of the native population in the country districts, are mysteriously diminishing. According to the calculations of M. Vaillant the foreigners form about one-half of the whole population of the Republic; and in Montevideo there are 480 foreigners in every 1000 inhabitants. But the foreign population of the Republic is not exclusively European. A large proportion in the northern departments is Brazilian.

The European immigrants who remain in the country cannot at present be estimated at more than from 3000 to 5000 yearly, as the greater portion who arrive have latterly proceeded to Buenos Ayres and other Argentine ports. But such is the demand for labour, as M. Vaillant tells us, in all branches of industry, rural and urban, it is difficult to over-estimate the probable increase. In one year of average prosperity (1872) we have seen the number of immigrants augment at once 50 per cent. compared with the previous year.

M. Doazan, the French chargé d'affaires in Montevideo, estimated the amount of imports of Uruguay in 1869 at 4,744,393*l.*, and the exports at 4,107,077*l.*, giving a total of 8,851,470*l.*

These calculations are based upon the market value of the articles. The official values upon which the export and import duties are charged are about 27 per cent. less. The market value is, nevertheless, the true value, when it is a question of estimating the resources of the country independently of fiscal considerations. In a review of the trade of Uruguay, which for commerce is conveniently situated between two large countries, Brazil and the Argentine Republic, we have to take into account the "transit trade" and the "contraband trade." It is not easy to estimate the amount of one or the other. By the rough method of comparing the official returns of the exports of England, France, and Brazil to the Republic of Uruguay, with the amount of imports from those countries given by the Montevideo customs, we find in the latter an enormous deficiency, amounting in 1868 to about 40 per cent. Calculating for all countries in the same proportion of deficit shown by England, France, and Brazil, the total deficiency would amount to 81 per cent. "Now if we are asked," says M. Vaillant, "what proportion of this deficit must be placed to the account of the transit trade, and what to contraband, we should be puzzled to reply."

Making every allowance for contraband, both in the cattle trade on the Brazilian frontier and in the general trade through the Montevidean Custom House, the intimate connection between the foreign mercantile

houses in Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, the constant transshipment of goods according as the market is more favourable in one place or the other, would account for the greater part of the difference alluded to. But no kind of correct estimate of the transit trade could be made, unless based on a number of years. Naturally, in the years when the Montevidean market was most depressed, the export transit trade would be the heaviest, the converse being true in regard to imports.

In 1862 the total imports and exports amounted to \$16,956,245; and in 1872 to \$34,349,256, official values. This increase of more than 100 per cent. took place in a period of ten years, in which the Republic suffered from foreign and civil war, pestilence, and commercial crises. Those conditions were slightly relieved by the extra trade the transit of provisions, troops and materiel from Brazil afforded during the war with Paraguay. Such adventitious aids to commerce are usually much overrated. The broad result of the Paraguayan war, one year with another, was to check the trade of Montevideo.

A sufficient proof of that fact is in the statistics given by M. Vaillant. In the last three or four years of the war, the exports and imports fluctuated between twenty-eight and thirty millions. After a slight decline, they rose again three years afterwards, in 1872, to thirty-four millions, when commerce had returned to its old channels.

From the latest returns of the Custom House we can safely estimate the exports and imports for 1874-5 at 25 per cent. over those of 1872.

Owing to the tastes and habits of the native inhabitants, and the large immigrations from the Basque provinces of France, the trade of Uruguay with that country is very important. M. Vaillant gives some interesting details in its regard.

So far back as 1868 the relative values of the exports from France to different countries in America were as follow:—

	Millions of Francs.
Argentine Republic .. .. .	79·1
Uruguay .. .. .	41·6
(River Plate Republics) .. .. .	120·7
United States .. .. .	162·1
Brazil .. .. .	76·1
Chile .. .. .	34·6
New Grenada .. .. .	28·
Peru .. .. .	27·8
Venezuela .. .. .	4·4
Guatemala .. .. .	1·5
Ecuador .. .. .	1·4
Bolivia .. .. .	0·0

M. Vaillant observes, that "the export trade of France with the River Plate is 60 per cent. more important than that of Brazil; and 25 per cent. more than that of the united trade of the seven states of the Pacific mentioned above. The imports from France of the Republic of Uruguay alone are 20 per cent. more than that of Chile." He tells us also "that the inhabitants of the Republic of Uruguay consume more French articles than Frenchmen do in France. In French wines, the two Republics of the River Plate consume in *quantity* double as much as is consumed in England, four times as much as is consumed in the United States, and seven times as much as is consumed in Brazil."

These are important details in favour of the powers of consumption of a country which cannot be estimated by the mere number of the population, but by the general welfare of the masses and the money they can afford to spend in luxuries.

Whether the paying powers of the inhabitants of Uruguay have not been overtaxed is a serious question for its patriots and public men to decide. But the fiscal arrangements are temporary, and subject to readjustment and improvement, whereas the increase of the resources of the country may be looked upon as a constant in calculations for the future.

The Customs revenues of Montevideo increased 333 per cent. in about ten years, from 1861 to 1872. The expenditure has unfortunately kept pace with that increase. In 1869, 38½ per cent. of the revenues were appropriated to the payment of interest on the public debts of the country. In 1870 the proportion rose to 49 per cent.; and in 1871 to 54 per cent.; that is to say, about one-half of the whole Customs revenues.

M. Vaillant remarks that the deficits which occur in the financial budgets of these countries arise from want of order and method in the fiscal arrangements. Sooner or later the deficits disappear, because "the revenues of the State exceed all anticipations." "The economists of Europe," says the 'Courier de la Plata,' a French journal published in Buenos Ayres, "should begin to accustom themselves to seeing the Republics of South America prosper with an annual deficit."

The proportion of the public debt of the State of Uruguay to the number of its inhabitants is larger than in Chile or the Argentine Republic. It amounts to \$92 for each inhabitant, whilst in the Argentine Republic the proportion is only \$44. But to the latter we have to add a large percentage for local and municipal debts. Corresponding items are included in the State budget of Uruguay. In the

insignificant State of Costa Rica the proportion is \$120 for each inhabitant; in France \$116; in England \$113; and in Holland \$104.

“The proportion of \$92,” says M. Vaillant, “which corresponds to each inhabitant of the Republic of Uruguay, ceases to arrest attention when we see that the inhabitants have paid, without the slightest effort, a tax of \$77 per head during the last fourteen years for the same object.”

Referring to the table under the heading of “The New World” in this appendix, p. 432, we find that the Republic of Uruguay, one of the smallest in regard to area and population, takes a high rank in commercial importance amongst the twenty States of America. Estimating their relative positions by the amount of exports and imports, Uruguay stands eighth in the list.

	Trade.
United States .. .. .	£253,225,123
Brazil .. .. .	41,500,000
Canada .. .. .	38,400,000
Argentine Republic .. .. .	21,500,000
Chile .. .. .	11,200,000
Peru .. .. .	11,100,000
Mexico .. .. .	9,500,000
Uruguay .. .. .	6,500,000
Columbia .. .. .	4,000,000
Hayti .. .. .	3,100,000
Bolivia .. .. .	2,600,000
Venezuela .. .. .	2,200,000
Costa Rica .. .. .	1,400,000
Salvador .. .. .	1,200,000
Ecuador .. .. .	1,000,000
Guatemala .. .. .	800,000
S. Domingo .. .. .	300,000
Paraguay .. .. .	200,000
Honduras .. .. .	..
Nicaragua .. .. .	..

## THE NEW WORLD.

	Population.	Square Miles.	Revenue.	Trade.	Railways.	School Children.	Telegraphs.	Public Debt.
United States	38,115,641	3,603,844	66,747,640	253,225,123	71,000	3,500,000	130,000	446,896,598
Brazil	9,858,000	3,100,104	10,500,000	41,500,000	520	40,000	7,000	69,200,000
Canada	3,657,887	3,483,952	5,963,566	38,400,000	4,028	200,000	6,000	24,480,000
Argentine Republic	1,870,000	1,290,000	4,750,000	21,500,000	1,150	103,700	6,500	18,500,000
Mexico	9,176,000	1,030,442	3,603,000	9,500,000	300	..	3,150	63,471,000
Chile	1,938,000	131,000	3,100,000	11,200,000	870	77,000	2,000	8,000,000
Peru	3,200,000	303,000	11,800,000	11,100,000	1,100	..	2,000	43,000,000
Venezuela	1,565,000	368,000	1,000,000	2,200,000	..	..	..	27,000,000
Ecuador	1,300,000	219,000	370,000	1,000,000	..	..	..	3,500,000
Columbia	3,000,000	432,400	480,000	4,000,000	100	..	200	10,000,000
Bolivia	1,743,000	473,300	1,400,000	2,600,000	200	..	300	3,200,000
Uruguay	420,000	73,600	1,500,000	6,500,000	180	15,000	1,200	8,500,000
Costa Rica	120,500	26,040	440,000	1,400,000	100	..	..	4,600,000
Guatemala	1,180,000	41,830	150,000	800,000	..	..	..	7,000,000
Honduras	250,000	39,600	90,000	..	..	..	..	6,000,000
Nicaragua	350,000	49,500	180,000	..	62	..	..	1,400,000
Salvador	435,000	9,594	270,000	1,200,000	..	..	..	1,600,000
Haiti	572,000	10,200	500,000	3,100,000	..	..	..	1,300,000
S. Domingo	136,000	18,000	240,000	300,000	..	..	..	730,000
Paraguay	80,000	83,000	70,000	200,000	50	..	100	3,000,000

# MAUÁ BANK,

101—CALLE CANGALLO—103.

---

**T**HE Public is informed that the following transactions are carried on in currency and specie in this Bank:—

Bills and obligations with good signatures are discounted on conventional terms.

Money is advanced on mercantile and other securities approved of by the Manager.

Accounts Current are opened with merchants or other parties who may prefer depositing endorsed and transferable securities, against which they may draw up to an amount previously convened, under conditions established for such class of operations.

Money is received in account current, bearing interest from day of deposit, which is accumulated in favour of the parties every three months, the depositors being allowed to retire at any time by means of cheques—part, or the full amount, at their wish—save when the quantity exceeds three hundred doubloons, or one hundred thousand dollars currency, in which case forty-eight hours' previous notice is required to be given at the Treasury of the Bank.

Bills or Letters of Credit are drawn and taken on Montevideo, Salto Oriental, Paysandú, Mercedes, Rio Janeiro, and other places in Brazil, London, Paris, Antwerp.

Finally, the Bank undertakes and executes all legitimate transactions within the orbit of banking operations.

**The Establishment is always open from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.**

PP. MAUÁ,

E. DE LAS CARRERAS.

BUENOS AYRES, 31st July, 1874.

# LONDON & RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED.

LONDON, BUENOS AYRES, MONTEVIDEO,  
ROSARIO, CORDOVA.

<b>AUTHORIZED CAPITAL</b>	.. .. .	£2,000,000
<b>SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL</b>	.. .. .	1,500,000
<b>RESERVE FUND</b>	.. .. .	175,000

Receives Money in Current Account and in Deposit, payable at sight or at fixed dates.

Buys and sells Bills of Exchange on all the principal cities of the world, issues Letters of Credit, and does every class of Banking business.

## WM. JOHNSON & Co.,

Ship Chandlers, Butchers, and General Provision Dealers.

BALLAST AND WATER SUPPLIED.

CORNER CALLES COLON Y LAS PIEDRAS,  
MONTEVIDEO.

## J. DE BOER,

SURVEYOR OF "BUREAU VERITAS,"

International Register for Classification of Vessels,

AGENT FOR THE INSURANCE COMPANIES OF AMSTERDAM, ANTWERP,  
BREMEN, BORDEAUX, ELBERFELD, FRANKFURT O. M., GENOA, HAMBURG,

HAVRE, HEILBRONN, LYONS, MARSEILLES, PARIS,

ROTTERDAM, VIENNA, &c.

Office—55, CORRIENTES, BUENOS AYRES.



# National Insurance Companies.

MANAGER: F. F. MORENO.

No. 112 $\frac{1}{2}$ , CALLE FLORIDA—SECOND STORY.

## 1st. The ARGENTINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Capital £400,000 sterling. Established in 1859, for Insurance against Fire, or Loss by Sea. Chairman: Thomas Armstrong, Esq. Vice-Chairman: Don Mariano Casares. Directors: Messrs. Jacob Parravicini, Bernardo Iturraspe, Ambrosio Placido Lezica, and Martin Iraola. Maritime Inspector: Luis Sardi. Fire Inspector: W. Schindler.

## 2nd. The ESTRELLA FIRE AND NAVIGATION INSURANCE COMPANY.

Capital £400,000 sterling. Established in 1865. Chairman: E. Ochoa. Vice-Chairman: Henry N. Hart. Directors: Thomas Armstrong, George Temperley, Alexander Sivori, F. Bustamante, and P. Senillosa. Maritime Inspector: Luis Sardi. Fire Inspector, W. Schindler.

## 3rd. BIENHECHORA DEL PLATA MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Established in 1864, under Government sanction. The sums subscribed are invested in the Home Consols of 6 per cent., or in Scrip of the Mortgage Bank, as subscribers may choose. Directors: E. Basabilvaso, Julio Sanchez, E. T. Mulhall, Jayme Llavallol, and Juan Lezica. Government Inspector: E. Del Campo. On May 31st, 1874, the Company had emitted 5501 Policies in National Bonds, the subscribed capital being equal to £1,158,408 sterling; the amount of National Bonds held was £392,080 sterling; besides 12 Policies in Mortgage Scrip representing £5901 sterling.

*Office Hours for the above Companies, from 10 to 5.*

# Oriental Telegram Agency.

OFFICES—

57, SAN MARTIN,

OPPOSITE THE BOLSA,

BUENOS AYRES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Messrs. LANUS and Co. are definitely installed by the Head Office, London, as Agents of the above Telegraphic Agency, in the River Plate.

Merchants, Bankers, and others are invited to register their names without delay. Registration gratis, after which the names and addresses of firms and their correspondents count as ONE word only.

The Registration Book is now opened, and we earnestly request those intending to register to come early, so that the lists may be ready for the first steamer.

## EXAMPLE.

JONES, ELDER, & Co., Buenos Ayres.	}	ELDER & Co., London.
		VIVALDI & Co., Paris.
		FERREIRA & Co., Havre.
		ROBINSON & Co., Liverpool.
		JOHNSON & Co., Manchester.
		SMITH, C. E., Glasgow.
		VIARINI HIJOV, Lisbon.

Each of the above Correspondents has a number.

# HOUSE COAL,

FOR COOKING AND DOMESTIC PURPOSES,

Received direct from the best Mines in England, and  
always on Sale at Lowest Market Prices at

V. & L. CASARES' YARD,

PLAZA ONCE.

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*ORDERS RECEIVED at—*

No. 4, CALLE BALCARCE.

THE DEPOSIT IN BARRACAS, near S. Esquinas;

OR AT

THE HEAD OFFICE, IN THE PLAZA ONCE.

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N.B.—NO CHARGE FOR CARTAGE.

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# RODOLFO NEWBERY, BROTHERS, AMERICAN DENTISTS

(Formerly of Montevideo),

Associated with Don TOMAJ COQUET,

108, CALLE MAIPU.

We have received an immense quantity of the most beautifully-carved Artificial Teeth, comprising thousands of different shades and forms, from which, with our long practical experience, we can match any style or feature, complexion or expression, with such artistic niceness that detection is impossible.

The Plate we use for the atmospheric pressure is the Whalebone Rubber, the lightest and strongest known.

We have been using Nitrous Oxide Gas for the painless Extraction of Teeth for nearly fourteen years, and have administered it over

**20,000 TIMES,**

2140 times, in this City alone, since August, 1872,

and recommend it as the safest anesthetic known. It is nothing new; as it has been tested by thousands of Dentists and hundreds of thousands of people.

Persons from the Camp and neighbouring Towns can have their Sets of Teeth made in time to return the same day, by making an appointment beforehand.

**RODOLFO NEWBERY, BROTHERS, 108, CALLE MAIPU.**

---

## CHAS. A. DAVIS,

### Public Accountant and Average Adjuster.

RECEIVED BY THE

SUPERIOR COURTS OF JUSTICE,

Being duly authorized, undertakes to arrange all Questions of Heirship and Legacies, the Liquidation of Societies, whether public or private, in Bankruptcy or otherwise; to Audit the Books of Companies; and to Adjust Averages of every description.

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CORRESPONDENTS IN ENGLAND:

MESSRS. CLARK, SON, AND PURDAY,

14, LITTLE TOWER STREET, LONDON.

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**117 — CALLE POTOSI — 117.**

“The Farmer’s Friend,”

ESPECIALLY ESTABLISHED IN THESE  
CAMP TOWNS

FOR THE

SALE OF EVERY ARTICLE

AT

CITY PRICES.

~~~~~  
ENGLISH AND SPANISH SPOKEN.

NO SECOND PRICE.

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**TORROBA BROTHERS,**  
MERCEDS & CHIVILCOY.

~~~~~  
AGENCY FOR ‘STANDARD.’

# MOCKFORD'S SHEEP-WASH.

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The excellent properties of this Wash for the  
Extermination of Scab, and for Purifying the  
Skin and Stimulating the Growth  
of Wool in Sheep,

Are already widely known and appreciated by the  
Flockmasters of this and other countries.

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The Reduced Price at which it is sold since the  
Duty was abolished, on petition of the chief Con-  
sumers of this Wash, makes it the cheapest and most  
effective Remedy ever produced.

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*AGENTS IN THE RIVER PLATE,*

**ZIMMERMANN, FAIR, & CO.,**

BUENOS AYRES AND MONTEVIDEO.

# BRANDY BITTERS.

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## TONICO AMARGO.

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*These Bitters are held in the highest estimation for their virtues in giving an appetite if taken an hour before a meal; and as an excellent Remedy in all Diseases of the Stomach arising from Debility, as Nausea, Flatulency, Indigestion, Spasm, Heartburn, &c.; also in Nervous Affections, Faintness, General Debility, and Lowness of Spirits.*

*A Tablespoonful to be taken for a Dose, either with or without an equal quantity of water, and repeated two or three times a day if required.*

PREPARED ONLY BY

**S. TORRES,**

BOTICA DE S. BISHOP,

**65, 67, & 69, DEFENSA,**

**BUENOS AYRES.**

# JOHN FINDLAY & CO., MERCHANTS AND ENGINEERS,

19, CALLE POTOSI, BUENOS AYRES, and  
10, LAURENCE POUNTNEY LANE, LONDON,

Offer for Sale a COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF MACHINERY of the following  
Classes:—

Brick and Tile Machinery.

Saw-Mill and Wood-Working Machinery.

Pumping and Hydraulic Machinery.

Engineers' Tools and Steam Fittings.

Printing and Lithographic Machinery and Utilities.

Engines from 2 to 20 horse-power—Horizontal, Portable, and Vertical.

PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, and ESTIMATES furnished for all kinds of Machinery  
to bonâ-fide applicants.

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# JUAN FINDLAY & CIA., INTRODUCTORES DE MAQUINARIA,

19, CALLE POTOSI, BUENOS AYRES, y  
10, LAURENCE POUNTNEY LANE, LONDRES,

Tienen siempre en venta un MAGNIFICO SURTIDO DE MAQUINARIA de todas  
clases:—

Maquinas para hacer ladrillos y baldosas.

Cerruchos y maquinaria para cortar madera.

Toda clase de Bombas y utiles de hidraulica.

Utiles de ingenieros y de establecimientos á vapor.

Maquinaria de imprenta y litografia.

Maquinas á vapor desde 2 hasta 20 caballos de fuerza—sistema hori-  
zontal, portatil, y vertical.

Los interesados pueden pedir, gratis, los dibujos, precios y toda clase de  
detalles, en nuestra casa, No. 19, Calle Potosi.



# ALFREDO JONAS & CO.

HAVE

REMOVED THEIR OFFICES

TO

655 & 657, RIVADAVIA.

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THE FIRST ARGENTINE  
**BOOT AND SHOE FACTORY,**

A. JONAS & CO., PROPRIETORS,

RECEIVE ORDERS FOR

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF BOOTS AND SHOES

AT THEIR OFFICE,

655 & 657, RIVADAVIA.

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WANTED—20 WOMEN OR MEN,

TO WORK BOOTS AND SHOES ON SEWING MACHINES.

MOVED BY STEAM-POWER.

Apply between 4 and 5 p.m. at the

FIRST ARGENTINE BOOT & SHOE FACTORY,

655 & 657, RIVADAVIA,

ALFREDO JONAS & CO., Proprietors.

# THE CELEBRATED SHEEP DIP! LICOR DERMATOSICO!

Prepared by S. TORRES & CO., Druggists.

GUARANTEED INFALLIBLE FOR THE CURE OF SCAB IN SHEEP!



After long experiments and innumerable trials we have succeeded in preparing the above Sheep Dip, by the use of which we guarantee the *thorough* eradication of Scab in Sheep. Besides cheapness and easy application, it has the great advantage over all other similar preparations of being *completely soluble* in water, a circumstance which admits of our liquid penetrating to the very surface of the skin without spotting the wool or making it adhere.

## METHOD OF USING IT WITH THE BRUSH.

Mix one part of the Dip with (8) eight parts of water and apply it to the affected part with a brush.

## METHOD OF USING IT AS A DIP.

Mix one part with twelve of water—warm water is better—and bathe the animal therein.

The cure may be effected by means of bathing during the shearing, but it is preferable to delay the same *for one or two months after*, as it can be done more carefully then, although the partial cure with the brush ought to be practised every time a sheep is observed to be affected.

A second application will cure the most inveterate scab totally, and impede the spread of this serious evil. This we guarantee on the authority of many of our principal *estancieros*.

Prepared and sold exclusively by

## S. TORRES & CO.,

65, 67, & 69, DEFENSA, BUENOS AYRES.

N.B.—We likewise sell the well-known Remedy for the Cure of Foot Rot (Morrina), the use of which will destroy the maggots produced by this disease in the hoofs of sheep; and it is proved to be the best preventive for the inflammation caused after castrating stallions. One application will save a valuable animal.

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**PETER EBBEKE & Co.,**  
**AUCTIONEERS,**  
**80, CALLE PERA.**

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This old-established Firm undertakes the SALE or  
PURCHASE of

**REAL ESTATE,**

**HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,**

**LIVE STOCK,**

**SOFT GOODS, &c., &c.,**

On the most favourable terms, which a lengthened  
experience of men and markets can alone supply.

**WILLIAM MARTIN,**  
 PROFESSOR OF LANGUAGES AND DRAWING,

REFERENCES—'STANDARD' OFFICE,  
**118, CALLE SAN MARTIN.**

**T. A. FUND & CO.,**  
 MECHANICS AND ENGINEERS,  
 MANUFACTURERS OF SEWING MACHINES,  
 213, 215, 217, CALLE CHACABUCO,  
 CORNER OF CALLE MEJICO,

Offer to the Public a large assortment of all kinds of SEWING MACHINES—a variety of the best makers, such as Wheeler & Wilson, Grover & Baker, Singer, Howe, Little Wanzer, and others, all original manufactures, as also different kinds of their own, at the LOWEST PRICES.

Every Machine will be specially guaranteed by them.

Repairs speedily attended to and cheaply executed.

Old Machines taken in payment for new ones.

Beg to offer their Establishment for every kind of MECHANICAL WORKS and ENGINEERY, possessing the necessary utensils for the manufacture of Machinery and Mechanical Instruments.

To BUILDERS and ARCHITECTS they particularly offer their services for the working of Railings for Balconies, and similar articles.

MUSKETS, REVOLVERS, and all kinds of FIRE-ARMS repaired at lowest figures.

**QUESADA & BULRICH,**  
 AUCTIONEERS,

**57 — CALLE CANGALLO — 57,**

UNDERTAKE THE SALE OR PURCHASE OF

**Land, Houses, Furniture, Carriages, Land Produce, &c., &c.**

CASH ADVANCED ON THE ABOVE GOODS, OR VALUABLES.

# STEAMBOAT AGENCY

OF

## PAEZ & CO.,

No. 44, CALLE RIVADAVIA.

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THE FINEST and most COMMODIOUS STEAMERS in  
the River are DAILY DESPATCHED for

ROSARIO,  
PARANÁ, PARAGUAY,  
CORRIENTES, MONTEVIDEO,  
PAYSANDU,  
SALTO, GUALEGUAYCHU,  
&c., &c.

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All kinds of CUSTOM-HOUSE WORK done with  
promptness and dispatch.

# LA POPULAR ARGENTINA.

## SAVINGS BANK.

Deposits in account current are received from \$250 m/c to the largest sum.

Interest at 8 per cent., capitalized every three months.

Depositors will receive a Pass-book, showing how their account stands.

### DEPOSITS AT FIXED DATES.

The sum deposited must not be less than 100 hard dollars. Depositor will receive a Bond signed by the Government Delegate, the Administrator, and a member of the Vigilance Committee. The interest can be collected every three months by means of Coupons attached to the Bond.

|             |    |    |    |    |              |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|--------------|
| At 6 months | .. | *  | .. | .. | 10 per cent. |
| At 9        | „  | .. | .. | .. | 11 „         |
| At 12       | „  | .. | .. | .. | 12 „         |

For more than a year—at rate to be agreed on.

The Bonds and Coupons when due will be paid in any Town in America or Europe, to be named when depositing the money.

The Head Office, and all the Branches throughout the Republic, give Drafts on Europe.

## ADMINISTRACION GENERAL,

213½, Calle Piedad.

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ESTABLISHED 1871.

MAC LEAN & CO.,

No. 4, CALLE RECONQUISTA, BUENOS AYRES

(Opposite the COLON THEATRE, corner of PLAZA VICTORIA).

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UNDERTAKE THE CONSIGNMENT OF GOODS ON  
COMMISSION.

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SHIP AGENTS ON SPECIAL TERMS.

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CUSTOM HOUSE BROKERS, FORWARDING AND GENERAL  
COMMISSION AGENTS.

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SPECIAL AGENTS FOR THE TRADES OF PATAGONES,  
BAHIA BLANCA, AND RIVER PORTS.

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PACKAGES FOR THE INTERIOR OF THE REPUBLIC  
FORWARDED IMMEDIATELY AND DELIVERED  
THROUGH OUR PROVINCIAL AGENTS.

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INVOICES COLLECTED AGAINST DELIVERY OF GOODS.

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AGENTS FOR THE PRINCIPAL COLONIES.

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CORRESPONDENCE IN ENGLISH, ITALIAN, FRENCH,  
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AGENTS FOR THE PRINCIPAL EUROPEAN AND  
AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANIES.

JOSÉ PEDRO LUZZETTI,  
ENGINEER AND ARCHITECT,  
7, CALLE SUIPACHA,  
BUENOS AYRES.

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## THE COLONIA DOCK.

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THIS DOCK IS IN FINE WORKING ORDER.

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VESSELS HAULED IN IN 25 MINUTES.

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FOR PARTICULARS INQUIRE OF

RUBIO & FOLEY, AGENTS,  
40 — CALLE CANGALLO — 40.

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HOARD, LOADER, & CO.,  
Importers and General Commission Merchants,  
MONTEVIDEO.

AGENTS for MESSRS. C. GADEN & KLIPSH, Bordeaux; P. GARNIER, Noyon, France;  
GEORGE CURLING & Co., London; DE VENOGÉ & Co., Epernay;  
THE COMMERCIAL UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, London.

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H., L., & Co. occupy themselves in the Disposal of Consignments,  
Purchase of Produce, and Commission Business generally.



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**FELIPE SCHWARZ & BRO',**  
**MECHANICAL AND CIVIL ENGINEERS AND**  
**CONTRACTORS,**  
**CALLE SAN LUIS, 6, CASA AMARILLA, BUENOS AYRES.**

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**FOUNDRY MEN.**

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**SHIP'S REPAIRS AND MILLWORK OF ALL KINDS.**

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F. S. & BRO' being well and favourably known to mostly all the best Machine Makers in Europe, are prepared to take Orders for all the most improved

**ENGINES AND BOILERS.**

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**FLOUR MILLS AND WATER WHEELS.**

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**SHEEPSHEARS AND FIRE ENGINES, &c., &c.**

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*NAVAL AND TERRESTRIAL ARCHITECTURE.*

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F. S. and BRO' have everything imported direct from the  
European Markets.

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**CALLE SAN LUIS, 6, CASA AMARILLA,**  
**BUENOS AYRES.**

# Mercantile Bank of the River Plate, Limited.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, £1,500,000.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £1,000,000. RESERVE FUNDS, £50,000.

Offices in London - - No. 6, Lombard Street, E.C.  
 Offices in Buenos Ayres - No. 85, Calle Reconquista.  
 Offices in Monte Video - No. 202, Calle Misiones.

## DIRECTORS.

### In England.

JULIUS BEER, ESQ.  
 EDWARD ASHWORTH, ESQ.  
 ED. J. HALSEY, ESQ.  
 FREDERICK J. ISAAC, ESQ.  
 A. J. LAMBERT, ESQ.

### In South America.

AMBROSIO P. LEZICA, ESQ.  
 SAMUEL B. HALE, ESQ.  
 CHARLES P. LUMB, ESQ.  
 A. URE MACKINLAY, ESQ.  
 JAMES SCARNICCHIA, ESQ.

### Managing Director in Buenos Ayres.

FREDEERIC WANKLYN, ESQ.

## MANAGERS.

### In London.

CHARLES RAPHAEL, ESQ.

### In Montevideo.

WM. FLOWERDEW, ESQ.

Current Accounts opened with Commercial Firms and Private Individuals.

Deposits received for Fixed Terms.

Bills, Public Funds, Coupons, &c., received for Collection.

Bills Discounted at Conventional Rates.

Bills of Exchange purchased at Current Rates.

Circular Notes issued to Travellers.

Letters of Credit issued on the Head Office in London, and on Paris, Antwerp, Genoa, New York, &c. Commission charged only on amount used.

Letters of Credit payable in Buenos Ayres or Montevideo at the Current Rates of Exchange, can be obtained by persons desiring to remit or bring money to the River Plate, from the Head Office in London, from the National Bank in Ireland, and from the other Agents of the Bank.

Bills of Exchange issued on the Head Office:

London and County and other Banks in London.

Most of the Provincial Towns in England.

The National and other Banks in Ireland.

The British Linen Company and other Banks in Scotland.

### Also on

|                 |           |                  |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Montevideo,     | Antwerp,  | Frankfort,       | Oporto,         | San Francisco,    |
| Rio de Janeiro, | Liège,    | Badeo-Baden,     | St. Petersburg, | Montreal, and     |
| Lima,           | Genoa,    | Bremen,          | Stockholm,      | Branches of the   |
| Valparaiso,     | Turin,    | Amsterdam,       | Constantinople, | Bank of Mont-     |
| Paris,          | Venice,   | Madrid, and all  | Alexandria,     | real,             |
| Bordeaux,       | Naples,   | Agents of the    | Bâle,           | Bombay, and other |
| Havre,          | Florence, | Bank of Castile, | Berne,          | Branches of the   |
| Marseilles,     | Milan,    | Barcelona,       | St. Gall,       | Chartered Merc-   |
| Lyons,          | Berlin,   | Vigo,            | Zurich,         | antile Bank of    |
| Toulouse,       | Cologne,  | Coruña,          | Lausanne,       | India, London,    |
| Dieppe,         | Dresden,  | Gibraltar,       | Geneva,         | and China.        |
| Pau,            | Hamburg,  | Lisbon,          | New York,       |                   |

A complete list of Agents may be seen at the Offices of the Bank.

(Signed) F. WANKLYN, MANAGING DIRECTOR.

BUENOS AYRES, May 20th, 1874.

# ARGENTINE BANK,

## 31, 33, AND 35, SAN MARTIN.

~~~~~  
 BANKING HOURS from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 ~~~~~

President—BERNARDO YRIGOYEN.

Director-General—D. ANACARSIS LANUS.



The RATE of INTEREST from the date, until further notice,  
 will be—

|                              |   |                     |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| ALLOWS—On Account Current .. | 7 | per cent per annum. |
| Thirty Days .. .. .          | 8 | ” ”                 |
| Sixty to Ninety Days ..      | 9 | ” ”                 |

CHARGES—On Specie and Currency, 15 per cent. per annum.

MONEY ADVANCED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT.

BILLS AND PAGARES DISCOUNTED ON CONVENTIONAL TERMS.

SAVINGS BANK, OPEN FROM 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

On Specie and Currency, 6 per cent. per annum.

*MARCO DEL PONT, Manager.*

## ARGENTINE NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS.

The Uniform Rate of 25 cents. is charged for each 10 Words between the following Offices :

|                     |                   |                |               |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Buenos Ayres.       | Ojo de Agua.      | Rioja          | Empedrado.    |
| Belgrano.           | Loreto.           | Chilecito.     | Corrientes.   |
| Zárate.             | Santiago.         | Tinogasta.     | Diamante.     |
| Baradero.           | Tucuman.          | Belen.         | Victoria.     |
| San Pedro.          | Trancas.          | Andalgalá. "   | Gualeguay.    |
| San Nicolás.        | Rosario Frontera. | San Lorenzo.   | Gualeguaychú. |
| Rosario.            | Metán.            | Coronda,       | Concepcion.   |
| Belleville.         | Campo Santo.      | Santa-Fé.      | Colon.        |
| Villa Maria.        | Salta.            | Rincon.        | Concordia.    |
| Cordoba.            | Jujuy.            | Paraná.        | Federacion.   |
| Jesús Maria.        | Atamisque.        | Antonio Tomás. | Nogoyá.       |
| Divisadero.         | Salavina.         | La Paz.        | Tala.         |
| Tulumba.            | Monteros.         | Esquina.       | Villaguay.    |
| San Pedro, Córdoba. | Medina.           | Goya.          |               |
| Chañar.             | Catamarca.        | Bellavista.    |               |

TELEGRAMS ARE ALSO FORWARDED TO CHILE.

CHARLES BURTON,

*Buenos Ayres, 1874.*

DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

## EDWARD CASEY, CONSIGNEE OF PRODUCE,

118 — SAN MARTIN — 118.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE ON IRELAND.

Parties about to leave IRELAND for the RIVER PLATE can, by applying at the BANK OF IRELAND, DUBLIN, obtain Drafts on the above-named, payable in BUENOS AYRES; the best and most secure way for Emigrants and others coming to the Plate to hold their money.

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# BANCO NACIONAL,

## 32, RECONQUISTA.

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CAPITAL,  
\$20,000,000 = £4,000,000 Sterling.

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### DIRECTORS.

President.—JUAN ANCHORENA.

First Vice-President.—EMILIO CASTRO.

Second Vice-President.—DALMACIO VELEZ SANSFIELD.

MARIANO CASARES,  
JUAN FRIAS,  
FELIX BERNAL,  
JOSÉ F. LEDESMA,  
NOBERTO DE LA RUESTRA,  
FELIPE A. LLAVALLOL,  
NARCISO MARTINEZ DE HOZ,  
ANGEL M. MENDEZ,  
LEONARDO PEREIRA.

Secretary.—JOSÉ M. GUTIERREZ.

Inspector.—J. PEDRO DE SOUZA.

---

### BANKING HOURS.

10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

**GEO. BOWER,**  
**GAS AND WATER WORKS**  
**ENGINEER,**  
AND  
CONTRACTOR FOR PUBLIC WORKS,  
**ST. NEOTS,**  
**HUNTS, ENGLAND.**

---

Mr. BOWER has already manufactured and erected  
more than

**500 Gas and Water Works,**

In nearly all parts of the Globe; including a large  
number supplied to the

BRITISH, FRENCH, RUSSIAN, SPANISH, and  
ITALIAN GOVERNMENTS.

As an Engineer, Mr. BOWER will design and carry  
out Gas or Water Works on Commission; or, as  
Contractor, supply and erect them complete, with all  
the most modern practical inventions, for a fixed  
price, in any part of the World.

Mr. BOWER has supplied and fixed a large number of Gas Works in SOUTH AMERICA, including the whole of the Mains and Buildings complete for the following Cities:—

**BUENOS AYRES MUTUAL GAS COMPANY,**

Capable of making 1,000,000 cubic feet per day.

**ARGENTINE GAS COMPANY,**

Works for 200,000 cubic feet per day.

**BELGRANO GAS WORKS, ARGENTINE  
REPUBLIC.**

**RIO GRANDE GAS WORKS, BRAZIL.**

**PORTO ALEGRE GAS WORKS, BRAZIL.**

**PELOTAS GAS WORKS, BRAZIL.**

**OLINDA GAS WORKS, BRAZIL.**

Mr. BOWER also undertakes the entire equipment of *Tramway Companies*, constructs *Bridges, Fountains, Sugar Machinery, and General Engineering Work, to Order.*

The great experience in Continental Trading enables Mr. BOWER to execute orders on the most favourable terms to Purchasers; and being thoroughly conversant with the requirements of most Foreign Markets as to Custom House Declarations, Packing, &c., his experience in these matters will be found of great advantage.

All inquiries should be addressed to **ST. NEOTS**; or to the **SOUTH AMERICAN AGENT,**

**MR. C. H. SMITH,**  
**235, Calle Victoria, Buenos Ayres.**

# BANCO DE ITALIA Y RIO DE LA PLATA.

**74— CALLE PIEDAD — 74.**

**Subscribed Capital, £1,500,000 hard Dollars.**  
(This is divided into 15,000 Shares.)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

President.—MARCOS DEMARCHI.

Vice-President.—AGILES MAVEROFF.

ANTONIO DEVOTO.

PABLO MARENGO.

NICOLAS SCHIAFFINO.

BARTOLEME VIALE.

LUIS EAMINI.

EDUARDO FALCON.

Until further notice the rates of Interest will be as follows:

ALLOWS—Account Current, 7 per cent. Fixed periods, conventional.

CHARGES—Account Current, 15 per cent. Discounts, Promissory Notes, and other Documents, conventional.

## BILLS AND LETTERS OF CREDIT

Issued on LONDON, FRANCE, BELGIUM, and all the Chief Cities of ITALY, viz. :—

|            |       |                               |
|------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Rome       | .. .. | BANCO GENERALE DI ROMA.       |
| Genoa      | .. .. | DI GENOVA Y BANCO ITALICO.    |
| Milan      | .. .. | LOMBARDO.                     |
| Turin      | .. .. | DI TORINO.                    |
| Venice     | .. .. | VENETO.                       |
| Padua      | .. .. | VENETO.                       |
| Lecco      | .. .. | DI LECCO.                     |
| Savona     | .. .. | DI SAVONA.                    |
| Paris      | .. .. | M. FOULD & Co.                |
| Bordeaux   | .. .. | PIGANEAU FILS, LAFARGUE & Co. |
| Marseilles | .. .. | PASCAL FILS.                  |

Also Direct on LONDON.

Drafts likewise given or taken on Cordoba, San Juan, and Tucuman.

The Rates of Exchange on Italy are always posted up in the Bank for public view, whether at sight or on time.

The Bank gives Letters of Credit for Shipment of Goods or Passengers from any of the above ports of Italy.

## BANKING HOURS.

From 10 to 4 P.M., and until 5 on Saturdays.

S. POLLININI, MANAGER.

BUENOS AYRES, *Julio* 1, 1873.



# GOVERNMENT MORTGAGE BANK,

Offices—111, CALLE SAN MARTIN.

This Bank will be open to the Public on all business days from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.  
It advances on real estate to be repaid at long dates.

It pays Mortgage Certificatea (Cedulas Hipotecarios) for the amount of the loan it advances, which bear an interest equal to that collected by the Bank.

The value of property offered in Mortgage shall not be under two thousand patacons, nor the loan be less than 500 fuertes.

No loan can exceed half the value of the property mortgaged.

The Mortgagor shall bind himself to pay an annual sum so long as the Mortgage lasts, said sum to represent the interest on the sum lent the amortization fund and commission to the Bank. This yearly sum shall be paid quarterly or half-yearly.

**Series A—Quarterly.**—Mortgage for 20 years 117 days, 8 per cent. interest, 2 per cent. amortization, and 1 per cent. commission.

**Series B—Quarterly.**—Mortgage for 27 years 270 days; 8 per cent. interest, 1 per cent. amortization, and 1 per cent. commission.

**Series C—Half-yearly.**—Mortgage for 20 years 190 days, 8 per cent. interest, 2 per cent. amortization, and 1 per cent. commission.

**Series D—Half-yearly.**—Mortgage for 28 years 5 days, 8 per cent. interest, 1 per cent. amortization, and 1 per cent. commission.

Upon the full payment of the yearly sums stipulated in the Mortgage, both property and Mortgagor shall be freed from all further obligation.

The Mortgagor shall be at liberty to anticipate the payments and to discharge the Mortgage, all or in part.

Applications for Mortgages must be made in writing, specifying the property offered, accompanied by the title deeds, the receipts of the Contribucion Directa tax, and setting forth that the property is free from all incumbrance, or if not the incumbrance that exists thereon, and which is to be paid off by the Mortgage. The Secretary of the Bank will supply applicants with the forms necessary, as also the tables for amortization.

Quarterly Mortgagors shall pay from 8th to 15th of each January, April, July, and October, and half-yearly Mortgagors shall pay between the 8th and 15th of each January and July.

With the amortization fund, mortgage certificates (cedulas) shall be redeemed at par by quarterly and half-yearly drawings.

The Mortgage Bank pays the interest on the quarterly cedulas or mortgage certificatea between the 31st December and 6th January, the 31st March and 6th April, the 30th June and 6th July, the 30th September and 6th October every year, and on the half-yearly cedulas from the 31st December to 6th January, and from 30th June to 6th July.

The Mortgage Bank can act between the capitalist and mortgagor, free of charge, in the way of realizing the cedulas, and for this purpose will receive deposits without interest, which will receive a preference, and which sums will be deposited in the Provincial Bank.

On and after the 15th February, 1872, the Mortgage Bank will be open to the public.

JOSÉ M. LA FUENTE, SECRETARY.

111 — CALLE SAN MARTIN — 111.

# NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT OFFICE, 121, CALLE MAYO.

---

This Institution, created by the National Government,  
under the superintendence of the Immigration  
Committee, has for its chief object to

**PROVIDE LABOUR GRATUITOUSLY**

for all applicants, more especially

**FOR EUROPEAN IMMIGRANTS,**

for whom the undersigned Chief of the Office has ever  
an especial care.

*All Languages spoken, and no Fee or Commissions of  
any kind whatsoever charged.*

**FREDERICK GOWLAND.**

BUENOS AYRES, *Sept. 1, 1873.*

# THE LABOUR OFFICE.

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## Decree of the National Government.

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CONSIDERING the advantage to Immigrants of an Office where they would be supplied with work on landing, and there being funds enough at the disposal of the Immigration Department, as shown by the last Annual Report, the President of the Republic hereby

### DECREES :

- ART. 1. Let an Office be created under the name and title of "Labour Office," under the direction of the Immigration Committee.
- ART. 2. The Staff shall consist of a Head Clerk, with salary of one hundred and fifty patacones per month, with an Assistant at fifty patacones per month, another fifty being also allowed for Office expenses.
- ART. 3. Let it be communicated, published, and entered in the National Register.

SARMIENTO.

DAL MACIO VELEZ SANSFIELD.

ED. FOX, SECRETARY.

# DEUTSCH-BELGISCHE LA PLATA BANK,

*Cologne and Buenos Ayres.*

Authorized Capital:—Prussian Silver Thalers, 20,000,000.

Subscribed Capital:—Prussian Silver Thalers, 10,000,000.

OFFICES IN BUENOS AYRES :  
**20 — CALLE FLORIDA — 20.**

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened with Commercial Firms and Private Individuals.

MONEY RECEIVED on fixed Deposit at conventional rates.

BILLS DISCOUNTED at conventional rates.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE purchased at current rates.

DRAFTS issued on the following places:

|                |           |         |
|----------------|-----------|---------|
| Montevideo     | Cologne   | Antwerp |
| Rio de Janiero | Hamburg   | Genoa   |
| New York       | Bremen    | Madrid  |
| London         | Paris     | Lisbon  |
| Berlin         | Amsterdam |         |

And all the principal places of commerce on the Continent of Europe.

LETTERS OF CREDIT issued available for purchase of merchandise in all parts of the world, on terms to be ascertained on application to the Bank.

AD. ALTGELT, U. LOCHER, MANAGERS.

## Deutsch-Belgische La Plata Bank.

From the 1st Julio, 1873, and till further Notice, the Rate of Interest allowed and charged by the Bank will be as follows:

### INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Deposits in Account Current, in both Currencies, 4 per cent. per annum.

Ds. on a fixed term, at 30 days . . . . . ½ per cent.

” ” 60 ” . . . . . 5 ”

” ” 90 ” . . . . . 6 ”

At longer dates at conventional rates.

### INTEREST CHARGED.

On Debit Balances in Account Current, in both Currencies, 15 per cent.

For Discounts—Conventional, according to circumstances.

Bank hours from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., and on Saturdays to 5 P.M.

AD. ALTGELT, U. LOCHER, MANAGERS.

BUENOS AYRES, August 12, 1873.

# HESPERIDINA

IS THE

BEST TONIC FOR CONVALESCENTS.

~~~~~

IS GOOD FOR EVERYONE.

~~~~~

IT GIVES AN APPETITE,

TAKEN BEFORE MEALS,

AND ASSISTS DIGESTION

IF TAKEN AFTER.

~~~~~

Is Pure and Genuine only when the Labels, Capsule, and Cork of each Bottle have the facsimile of the Proprietor's Signature,

M. S. BAGLEY.

# LA BONAERENSE,

A MACHINE FOR RAISING WATER FROM ANY DEPTH.

PROTECTED BY LETTERS PATENT GRANTED BY THE NATIONAL  
GOVERNMENT TO EUGENIO FILIPE CARRERAS.

We beg to call the special attention of SHEEP-FARMERS and AGRICULTURISTS to the advantages gained by the use of this machine, especially as regards the simplicity of its working and the ease with which the bucket is manipulated.

The qualities which are most notable in this machine are the following, viz.:

**SOLIDITY OF CONSTRUCTION**; being wholly of iron, well put together, and painted.

**SIMPLICITY**; as it can be placed over, or fitted to, almost any well (or jagüel) without the assistance of machinist or mechanic; can be removed from one part of the establishment to another with the greatest ease; and, above all, does not require rods or brickwork either in or about the well.

**FACILITY IN WORKING**; as with the aid of a boy and a horse large quantities of water can be raised in a very short time.

**DURABILITY**. It will last for years, and is very difficult to get out of order.

**CHEAPNESS**; the price being only \$3000 m/c, delivered in Buenos Ayres.

**CONVENIENCE**. The motive power can be attached to either end without changing the position of the receptacle for the water, as by passing the rope over the small wheel and over the pulley above the discharging trough (or canaleta) the horse can draw from the opposite end to that shown in the engraving which accompanies every machine.

For further particulars apply to the Proprietors,

E. F. CARRERAS & CO., 314, MAIPU.

## TAKE NOTICE.

*Extract translated from the Patent Law. See Paragraphs Nos. 53, 54, 56, & 60.*

No. 53. The infringement of patent rights will be judged as a criminal act, and punished with a fine of from 50 fts. to 500 fts. (gold dollars), or with from one to six months' imprisonment, and the confiscation of the counterfeit articles; the infliction of which will, however, in no wise interfere with the right of the patentee to sue the counterfeiter for damages.

No. 54. Those who may aid and abet the counterfeiters, either by selling, appropriating, introducing, or affording information concerning the counterfeit (knowing it to be such), will be liable to the same punishment.

No. 56. The fact of the counterfeiter having been in the employ of the patentee, or having obtained a knowledge of the details under false pretences, will be considered an aggravation of the offence.

No. 60. The fines imposed upon the delinquent will be divided between the Fiscal and the INFORMER.

# HOUSE & LAND AGENCY,

130 - SAN MARTIN - 130.

**BUENOS AYRES.**

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WE do a Large Business in the PURCHASE and SALE of LANDED PROPERTIES throughout the Argentine Republic, and especially in the province of Buenos Ayres.

LETTERS from parties in Great Britain and Ireland who wish to invest in this country will be answered by return of post.

WE COLLECT RENTS, remit the money, and give previously security for the same.

WE BUY PROPERTIES for established Houses, or for parties who send satisfactory references, paying the purchase-money in advance, which we recover on depositing the title-deeds in any bank of Buenos Ayres that the purchaser shall indicate.

## DENNEHY & MIROLI.

NOTE.—*We collect Interest on National Bonds, Mortgage Bank Cedulas, &c.*

# BRISTOL'S SARSAPARILLA,

IN LARGE BOTTLES,

The Great Purifier of the Blood,

*Particularly recommended for use during Spring and Summer,*

When the blood is thick, the circulation clogged, and the humours of the body rendered unhealthy by the heavy and greasy secretions of the winter months. This safe, though powerful detergent, cleanses every portion of the system, and should be used daily as

## A DIET DRINK

by all who are sick, or who wish to prevent sickness. It is the only genuine and original preparation for the

## PERMANENT CURE

of the most dangerous and confirmed cases of Scrofula, Old Sores, Boils, Tumours, Ulcers, Abscesses, and every kind of Scrofulous and Scabious Eruptions. It is also a sure remedy for Salt-Rheum, Ringworm, Tetter, Scald Head, Scurvy, Syphilis or Venereal Disease, White Swelling and Neuralgic Affections, Nervous and General Debility of the System, Loss of Appetite, Languor, Dizziness, and all Affections of the Liver, Fever and Ague, Bilious Fevers, Chills and Fever, Damp Ague, and Jaundice.

Guaranteed to be the most powerful and purest preparation of  
**GENUINE HONDURAS SARSAPARILLA**  
 that is put for Sale.

It is the very best, and, in fact, the only sure and reliable cure of all diseases arising from a vitiate or impure state of the blood, or from excessive use of mercury.

The afflicted may rest assured that there is not the least particle of mineral or any other poisonous substance in this medicine. It is perfectly harmless, and may be administered to persons in the very weakest stages of sickness, or to the most helpless infants, without doing the least injury.

Full directions how to take this most valuable Medicine will be found around each bottle; and, to guard against counterfeits, see that the written signature of LANMAN and KEMP is upon the blue label.

PREPARED ONLY BY

**Lanman & Kemp, Wholesale Druggists,**  
 NEW YORK.



# THE "STANDARD,"

ESTABLISHED 1861,

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$30 PER MONTH.



# THE "WEEKLY STANDARD,"

EVERY WEDNESDAY. DOUBLE SHEET.

\$20 PER MONTH, or \$200 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.



# PACKET EDITION,

FORTNIGHTLY, FOR ENGLISH MAILS.

£2 PER ANNUM.



The total List of Subscribers comprises 3000 names. Over 20,000 copies pass monthly through the Post Office for the United Kingdom, European Continent, North America, &c.

Editors and Proprietors—M. G. and E. T. MULHALL.

## FOREIGN AGENTS—

LONDON—MR. GEORGE STREET, 30, CORNHILL.

SOUTHAMPTON—MR. J. C. SHARPE, REUTER'S TELEGRAPH.

MONTEVIDEO—G. BEHRENS, 103, CALLE ZAVALA.



Subscribers in the Rural Districts may order their Correspondence from Europe to be directed to the *Standard* Office, whence it will be despatched gratis to the Agents without delay. Advertisements for poor immigrants inserted gratis.



"Standard" Court, 116 & 118, Calle San Martin.

# PROVINCIAL BANK OF BUENOS AYRES.

**BUSINESS HOURS, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**D**EPOSITS of not less than than \$400 m/c and 16 ftes. received. These deposits will not be entitled to interest if retired before the expiration of sixty days from the date of such deposit; after sixty days they will be entitled to interest from the date of the deposit. All interest not collected shall at the end of each year be capitalised. All deposits at interest shall be entered in a book which the Bank will deliver to the depositors, in which all payments of interest and capital shall be entered, and all interest shall be payable after the first of the month, or on returning the deposit.

The Bank discounts bills with two signatures, having from seven to ninety days to run; it also discounts mercantile bills of from seven days to six months, on the condition that at maturity they are paid in full.

The Bank draws at three days' sight upon the following Branches, charging only  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. commission:—

SAN NICOLAS,  
CHIVILCOY,  
MERCEDES,  
LOBOS,  
SALTO,  
AZUL,  
DOLORES,  
BARADERO,

CHASCOMUS,  
TANDIL,  
25 DE MAYO,  
EXALTACION DE LA CRUZ,  
SAN PEDRO,  
PERGAMINO,  
LAS FLORES.

The Branches also draw upon the Central Bank at sight, and at the same rate; and upon each other at eight days' sight.

The Bank pays commission to Brokers on the first discounting of bills and promissory notes.

## LOANS TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

The Bank lends to artizans and operatives sums from Three to Twenty Thousand Dollars, on their own signature, taking as security a document with any well-known signature.

## CREDITS IN ACCOUNT CURRENT.

1st. The Bank opens Accounts Current or Commercial House.

## RATES OF INTEREST.

### ALLOWS

Private Depositors, 6 per cent. per annum m/c.

" " " " " specie.

To Private Depositors, in account current 4 per cent. per annum do.

" " " " " cur.

### CHARGES

Discounts in currency, 8 per cent. per annum.

" in specie, 8 " " "

E. V. ZAMUDIO, SECRETARY.

July 1, 1873.

THE LARGEST AND BEST ASSORTED  
LIBRARY, STATIONERY, AND MUSIC STORE  
IN MONTEVIDEO.

---

G. BEHRENS,

101A, CALLE DE ZAVALA, MONTEVIDEO,

HAS CONSTANTLY ON HAND A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

Literary, Scientific, Educational, and Classical Works in  
ENGLISH,  
FRENCH,  
GERMAN,  
SPANISH,  
ITALIAN, AND OTHER LANGUAGES.

---

LARGE STOCK of the best ENGLISH STATIONERY.

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MUSIC.

METHODS, EXERCISES, AND FANTASIAS OF ALL CLASSES FOR PIANO, VIOLIN,  
FLUTE, HARMONIUM, &C., &C.

COMPLETE OPERAS FOR VOICE, PIANO, VIOLIN, AND FLUTE.

ENGLISH SONGS.

---

AGENCY FOR THE 'STANDARD.'

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**HOTEL DE PROVENCE,**  
**25 - CALLE CANGALLO - 25,**  
**MONTEVIDEO.**

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**PROPRIETORS: MESSRS. J. PÉRÈS & CO.**

---

Banquets of all kinds, Balls, Suppers, Picnics, Soirées, &c. supplied in the most recherché style.

**Apartments for FAMILIES at Moderate Prices.**

Board and Accommodation by the Day, for Travellers passing through the City, 60 ps.

Monthly Board, 750 ps. per month.

*An Assortment of the finest Wines, of all classes.*

**EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE. NIGHT PORTER.**

---

**25 YEARS ESTABLISHED.**

---

The Best, Fastest, and most Commodious  
**RIVER STEAMERS**

are daily despatched for

**ROSARIO,**

**SANTA FE,**

**PARANA,**

**PARAGUAY,**

**CORRIENTES,**

And all the Ports of the URUGUAY,

From the Agency of **MATTIE & PAERA,**  
 No. 30, CALLE CANGALLO.

# J. DEFRIES & SONS'

## TABLE GLASS AND EARTHENWARE, LAMPS, CHANDELIERS AND FOUNTAINS FOR INDIA.

By Appointment to Her Majesty, and Contractors to Government.

### CRYSTAL AND BRONZE CHANDELIERS FOR GAS OR CANDLES, FOR INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

#### NEW LAMP FOR INDIA.

J. DEFRIES & SONS. Estimates for Lighting Streets, Towns, Railways, and Manufactories with a LIGHT EQUAL TO GAS at a much less cost.

CONTRACTS taken, and experienced men sent out if required, as for HIS HIGHNESS THE NIZAM, Secunderabad, India, THE SULTAN, and VICEROY OF EGYPT.

ESTIMATES AND DESIGNS FREE.

*\*\* Catalogues can be had on application at the Office of this Handbook.*

#### MODERATOR AND OTHER LAMPS FOR INDIA.

JUGS, WITH SEPARATE CHAMBERS FOR ICE.

GILT DINNER SERVICE, 102 PIECES (CRESTS EXTRA), £3 10s.

#### TABLE GLASS IN GREAT VARIETY,

CUT AND ENGRAVED.

*New Decorations for the Dining, Drawing, and Ball Room.*

DEFRIES & SONS, Manufacturers of Storer's PATENT PERPETUAL AND PERFUME CRYSTAL TABLE FOUNTAIN, which, when complete with Flowers and Fruit, forms the most elegant Ornament for Dining-rooms, Ball-rooms, Drawing-rooms, and Conservatories. They are portable, most elegant and new in design, and rich in appearance. Also the CONSERVATORY FOUNTAIN, which is quite independent of a service of water-pipes, tanks, and other expensive accessories, and, having no mechanism, cannot possibly get out of order. *MOST WONDERFUL INVENTION OF THE DAY.*

#### FOUNTAINS! FOUNTAINS!! FOUNTAINS!!!

In great variety, from £2 17s. to 100 Guineas. In Crystal and Gilt, for the Dining-room and Drawing-room. In Crystal, Electro Plate, or Gilt, for Conservatories. For the Sick-room can be used with every kind of Perfumed Water. Chemists, Druggists, and Perfumers can make satisfactory arrangements for the Sale of Storer's PATENT PERPETUAL AND PORTABLE TABLE FOUNTAINS by applying to the Manufacturers,

### J. DEFRIES & SONS,

ALSO MANUFACTURERS OF

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