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By Anson Uriel Hancock

Author of

"Old Abraham Jackson," "Coitlan: a
Tale of the Inca World," Etc.

PART V.

THE CIVIL WAR OF 1891.

PART. VI.

CHILE OF TO-DAY.

CHAPTER II.

EXTENT AND RESOURCES

Chile is a long narrow strip of coun-
try stretching a distance of 2,600 miles
along the Pacific coast of South
America; its breadth varies from forty
to one hundred miles, its area is es-
timated approximately at about 294,000
square miles. This great country, ex-
tending from latitude 17° 47' S. south-
ward to Cape Horn, has for its eastern
boundary the center of the almost
insurmountable Andes, and for its
western boundary the Pacific, along
the shores of which runs the range of
the Cordillera de la Costa. Before the
recent acquisitions of territory from
Peru and Bolivia, Chile was protected
on its northern boundary by the
almost impassable Atacama desert,
three hundred miles in length, so that
the natural position of the republic was
one of great security and strength.
Beside the mainland and extensive is-
lands along the coast south of Puerto
Montt, Chile owns the island of Juan
Fernandez and claims Easter Island.

Between the Andes and cordillera
ranges runs a long valley, extending
from the Quillota river south to Chi-
loé Island, a fertile valley in which are
situated the principal cities and where
are found the best cultivated districts.
To the northward of this valley there
are fertile districts, such as those of
Coquimbo and Aconcagua, but the
chief wealth of northern Chile is to be
found in the rich mines of the moun-
tains and nitrate deposits of the Tara-
pacá and Atacama regions. The mi-
neral district proper consists of the
provinces of Tacna, Tarapacá, Antofa-
gasta and Atacama; between the pa-
rallels of 27° and 32°, the country is
both a mining and an agricultural
region. The central provinces Santi-
ago, O'Higgins, Colchagua, Curicó,
Talca, Linares, Maule, Nuble, Con-
cepcion, Biobio, Arauco, Malleco, Cau-
tín, Valdivia and Llanquihue consti-
tute a rich agricultural zone. From
Puerto Montt to Cape Horn, there is
a vast stretch of forest mountain and
island territory, valuable for fisheries
and timber.

It will thus be seen that Chile en-
joys every variety of climate, from the
desert heat of Atacama to the snow
and ice of Cape Horn, and is thus en-
abled to grow the fruits and grains of
all zones and enjoy the products of
all climates. The term which some
Chilians use in speaking of their
country, "pobre Chile" (poor Chile,) is
scarcely applicable, as nature has
lavished many bounties upon this tract
of the inhabitable earth. Once there
extended a chain of lakes up the
great central valley, like those which
are now seen in the islands from Chi-
loé south, and these old beds have a
very fertile alluvial soil, while the
climate, tempered by the winds from
the Pacific, is as mild and salubrious
as that of California or Italy.

The Chilean winter begins in June.
The rainy season further inland com-
mences earlier than this, usually in
April, and continues until the last of
August. Summer begins in December,
spring the last of September, and from
spring until autumn there is through-
out Chile constant fine weather. In
the southern portions, however, and the
timbered island the rainfall is heavy
in summer. In the northern provinces
from Coquimbo north, rain seldom falls;
in the central provinces it sometimes
rains three or four days in succession
and then follows two or three weeks
of pleasant weather. In the south it
will often rain for nine or ten days in
succession, but the storms are not
accompanied with high winds or hail,
and thunder is seldom heard. Snow
falls only in the Andes, which are ren-
dered nearly impassable by it from
April to November. Occasionally there
is a light fall in the country border-
ing upon the mountains, and in the
interior provinces there are August
frosts with chilly nights. Heavy dews
fall during the spring, summer and
autumn, and to a certain extent, sup-
ply the want of rain. Fogs are not
infrequent on the coast; the north
winds bring rain, the south winds
clear sky; there are seldom torna-
does.

There are one hundred and twenty-
five rivers in Chile, nearly half of
which flow directly into the sea. They

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& Co., in volume form, price \$14.

form a vast natural system of irriga-
tion, bringing the melting snows of
the mountains down into the valleys.
Eight or ten of them are navigable
for some distance, as the Maule and
the Biobio, the latter being over two
miles in breadth. As Chile is merely
the western slope of the Andes these
rivers are all short and rapid, the wa-
ters shallow and broad, the banks low,
the beds rocky. This fact, with the
general topography of the country,
renders irrigation a simple matter.

Not only is Chile abundantly sup-
plied with rivers, there are also many
lakes, such as Bucalemu, Caguil, Bor-
jerica which are brackish; Ridaguel,
Aculeu, Taguatagua, Laquen or Villa-
rica, Nahuelguapi, and many others,
beautiful fresh water lakes, some of
which, as Villarica and Nahuelguapi,
are from seventy to eighty miles in cir-
cumference. In the southern provin-
ces there are many small fresh-water
lakes.

In the southern part of Chile im-
mense crops of wheat are grown; this
region has long been the Sicily of
the southern Pacific coast. On the
great farms, many of which in the vi-
cinity of Angol have an extent of from
5,000 to 20,000 acres, the crop is
grown year after year with almost un-
varying success, together with smaller
crops of barley, maize, beans, grass,
alfalfa and potatoes. The alfalfa is
baled and shipped principally to the
nitrate districts of the north. Immense
quantities of it are grown in the Acon-
cagua valley where the fields are irri-
gated from the Aconcagua river. The
farms are surrounded with hedges and
rows of poplars and weeping willows,
while the orchards and vineyards are
inlaid with roses, jasmine, and
innumerable wild flowers. Between
the Aconcagua and Maule river lie
the fertile lands in Chile.

Throughout Chile, more particularly
near the capital, the grape thrives, and
wine-making is an important indus-
try. Chicha in Chile is made from
grapes and is a much the popular be-
verage as pulque is in Mexico. Grapes
were early introduced by the Span-
iards and in recent year in French
vines have been planted in nearly all
of the great vineyards from Huasco to
Valdivia. Among the largest of the
successful vineyards may be men-
tioned the Urmeneta near Valparaiso,
the Ochagavia, the Totoral near Con-
cepcion, Subercaseaux Bordaens, Pan-
quehue, La Trinidad and Macul. The
vineyards are irrigated and cultivated
in a somewhat primitive manner, oxen
being used for the plowing, but there
is invariably a French expert as ma-
nager and the wines made are of a
very superior quality. The industry
is not restricted in any manner either
in the production or the sale.

From Santiago south to Concepcion
the country is a succession of rich
farms and occasional sandy wastes,
the latter being barren simply be-
cause of a lack of means of irrigation,
for there are here no dews and no rivers
except during the winter. The soil
is usually deep and fertile, and where-
ver water can be conducted upon it,
fine crops are grown. Some of rivers
notably the Maypo, are veritable. Ni-
les and bring down vast quantities of
alluvial deposits every season. The
farms are usually separated by broad
ditches and are carefully tilled, al-
though the methods are primitive.
The irrigating canals are constructed
at considerable expense and each ha-
cendado is usually a shareholder of
the corporation stock. The canals are
divided into so many outlets (regado-
res) and each farmer subscribes for as
many as he may need of the sluices;
from them water is drawn off into the
network of ditches covering his fields.
It is an expensive process, but highly
efficient.

Farther south, around the old Arau-
canian cities, are the vast wheatfields
which we have already noted. Here
rains are abundant, and over the low
undulating hills the yellow grain wa-
ves in billowy oceans. Here also ran-
ge large herds of cattle. Angol is a
great wheat centre, so also is Trai-
guen. A railroad has been pushed
down through this country to Trai-
guen, and is headed for Osorno, where
there are extensive tracts of valuable
timber. Tanning bark (linaue) is
here quite an important article of
commerce. In Valdivia, tanneries
have long been established.

It has been frequently recorded by
travellers in these southern forests that
all the trees lean toward the north.
This is caused by the prevailing south
winds. From the same cause, the tim-
ber on the hills is scanty and scrubby,
that in sheltered spots most luxuriant.
It is a wet, windy country, but the
climate is temperate, the mean tem-
perature being about 56° Fahr. This
part of Chile is being peopled al-
most wholly by European immi-
grants, chiefly Germans, who avail
themselves of the inducements held
out by the government in the shape
of a free forty-acre farm for the head
of the family and twenty-five acres ad-

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ditional for each ten year-old boy, with free transportation and a pension of \$15 a month the first year in addition. But the immigrant's life is a hard one at best; trying to reclaim these primeval forest he finds himself beset with many difficulties he never dreamed of when he left his fatherland. There is certainly room for him for Chile is larger than any European country save Russia, and is inhabited by a population only a little greater than that of Paris. The government holds out glowing inducements, but as is usually the case with immigration pamphlets, the bright side only is depicted. The poor colonist soon finds that there is a column of losses to set over against the column of prospective gains; but this the home seeker finds wherever he may go.

It would seem that there is room in Chile for the business man, the merchant, the miner, the capitalist, the banker. English and German capital and enterprise receive splendid returns. Particularly in the matter of railroads and public works of all kinds is this true, and in banking. The monetary system and credit of the country are satisfactory, Chile's credit being not far behind that of France, and political agitations are not now more violent than in other republics.

The absence of coal mines was until recently, a great drawback to the material development of the country; but now this want is in part supplied by the opening up of the mines at Lota and other places in the south. The Lota mines have an annual output of 200,000 tons, other mines aggregate about the same, so that the annual output is not far from 400,000 tons. There is still imported from England and Australia, from 250,000 to 300,000 tons annually. The Chilean coal is not of first quality and when discovered less than forty years ago, was considered unsuitable for steamers and locomotives, as it is so much lignite as coal. For years the railways of the country used imported coal. A shrewd engineer discovered a simple contrivance for the grates which made it possible for the Lota coal to be used and now it is in use altogether.

The coal formations are found along the coast from the river Biobio to Cañete, and belong to the tertiary deposits, which lie upon the granite rocks of the Cordillera de la Costa. The formation dips toward the Pacific, but in many places have been upheaved and tilted in an opposite direction. The seams which outcrop in the rocks and are reached by means of shafts, are three in number and have an average thickness of from three to six feet. The depths at which they are worked vary from three hundred to eight hundred feet.

It was known as early as 1825, that coal existed in southern Chile, and in 1835, Mr. Wheelwright, the projector of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, undertook to mine it, but with no success.

No further attempts were made before 1855, when Don Matias Cousiño began to work the Lota deposits near Coronel on the Arauco Bay. These mines now produce from eight hundred to one thousand tons daily, which is taken out principally from under sea and gives employment to some two thousand miners. The men are well treated, work twelve hours a day, and receive from eighty cents to two dollars. The mines are well ventilated, good machinery is used, a hospital is attached to them and several schools are in successful operation. The company owns four steamers and several ships which ply along the coast carrying coal north to the Pacific ports and bringing back copper ore for the Lota smelting works. The profits of the company exceed one million dollars a year. There are seven smelting furnaces; employing from six hundred to one thousand men and turning out one thousand tons of copper a month.

There are glass and brick works established at Lota, also machine shops. The two towns, Upper and Lower Lota, have together a population of 14,000. Other extensive coal mines in Chile are the Schwager at Coronel, Rojas at the same place, the Errázuriz at Lebu, and the Arauco Company's mines.

But the true source of Chile's wealth and excellent credit is to be found in

the nitrate works of the north.

The vast deserts between Copiapó and the Camerones, once considered only a worthless waste, have been called a great natural chemical laboratory for here various kinds of salts have been precipitated in immense quantities.

Not only is this region rich in salts, but here are also some of the best paying mines on the coast. The value of the fertilizing product from the nitrate of soda deposits, called in the natural state *calicheras*, is too well known to need mention here. The *calicheras* are situated in the desert just below the surface, in the old dried up lake beds.

(To be continued.)

Vanity Fair.

(Strictly Confidential.)

My dear Dorothy:

"Two house-holds, both alike in dignity" was I in last week. I found out that the mistress herself saw that every thing was done properly. Evelyn (who was with me) also said she saw that at once.

After speaking about several things, conversation (as it always does) veered around to the inexhaustible servant question.

One lady remarked and with reason too, "that in a measure we ourselves are to blame for poor servants. Often we get a fairly good one, but we have little patience to bear with her faults and teach her, and consequently our constant grumbling and fault finding discourages her." I quite agreed with her. I do not forget once when quite a girl feeling discouraged simply because there was the lack of praise. My sister was a superior pianist to myself, and my teacher's remark of "Oh, you can't play that, let G—render it, she is a musician." I hung my head and felt like never touching a piano again. So it is with our servants.

I know Dorothy that they are exceedingly trying at times, but we also must not forget that they are not mere human machines. Surely no one will deny the fact of the great distance kept up between mistresses and servants, and in many houses much freedom is denied a poor servant which you yourself do not feel. In nearly every house I know the servants only get out once a week, and their friends and relations are spoken to for a few moments at the front door. Now I can speak from experience.

Our cook goes out after her duties are done. The house-maid whenever she asks out and they both are allowed their company.

Their humanity must not be forgotten. On the whole, their lives are monotonous, but I opine that a little personal interest is a good antidote. You may now and then come across a domestic who would never appreciate all you do for her. Of course there are faults on both sides at times, and a hankering after change. Mary says "I shall not put up with this or that any longer, so I will leave! and perhaps after all it is comparatively a mere nothing. And often times the mistress who thinks "Jane must go for she is too slow." There is no doubt but that a house-hold is the happiest, and most fortunate, when the servants by mutual understanding remain for many years and leave simply for home affairs, setting up for themselves or some such case.

Every year makes the question a graver one. In times past the only means a woman had of earning her livelihood was by washing or domestic service. But now there are the trams, lifts, biscuit and tobacco factories to say nothing about the sewing girls in this city alone.

You must remember too that the public school has done much to ruin a good domestic service. A girl who knows how to read and write and the rudiments of arithmetic aspires to something better than to be a mere "slavey"—and can you blame her? I know your mother is very hard on her servants—just let her read my letter and get a few hints. You can treat your servants nicely and kindly and at the same time having them understand that you are mistress and want no nonsense. Don't forget either a little praise now and then, it goes such a long way sometimes. Try it! The other morning I happened to be walking along just behind

some of our Valparaíso maidens—those of the kind that have not as yet given up the idea quite, of matrimony. After discussing the different styles of dresses they should prefer on that occasion, they drifted into detailing most minutely the qualities they required in a husband; (after one had spoken I felt like telling her that only in Heaven would she find her mate). I did not know the ladies well enough to give them an old maid's version of the topic, but if you show them my letter they may gather some hints. Now I ask, what on earth did they know of the points in a good husband? And dear Dorothy if ever at any time you have the chance or inclination to change your cards from Miss to Mrs. let me please, give you a few plain and honest hints as to selection.

For a man's birth look to his linen and finger nails, and above all to the inflections of his voice, his grammar and his pronunciation.

For his taste study the colour of his ties, the borders of his handkerchiefs, the pattern of his tweeds and the cut and hang of his trousers, his friends, and his rings—if he has any. For his propensities walk around and look carefully at the back of his head, and remember, dear, never to marry a man whose neck bulges ever so little over his collar.

A man must be a good animal to do his work well, but not too much of an animal or—he's a beast. If you want a successful man see that he has neat feet: he will move quicker, get over obstacles faster, than a man who stumbles over his own toes, and apt also to trip other people. For his breeding talk sentiment to him when he is hungry, and ask him to carry a parcel for you to a mutual friend when perhaps you've just had a difference of opinion.—I was just about to say—now—To test his temper, tell him that his nose is not the shape you admire and that the way his hair and moustache has been trained is simply awful, and if that don't fetch him, nothing will. Before leaving the subject—I must tell you of two incidents, the one I saw, the other I was told about.

The other night I met a couple in the calle Esmeralda, and my word they did not require any placard on their backs—their manner was enough, so clinging and so loving—The usual get up, of course.

Bride, grey silk, almost white; white "chapeau" and gloves—and he all in black, frock coat and tall hat, red tie, pin, (size nearly of a Call oyster)—and the never-to-be-forgotten in a Chileno—patent leather boots a size too small!

The other little episode happened only a little while ago. A wealthy *hacendado* whose place is not a hundred miles from Santiago, and who has a fancy for carrier pigeons, sent off one, one Sunday morning with a proposal to his lady love at the capital in shape of a letter and ring.

Needless to say that the lady in question sent back the ever blissful "yes." I think it a very neat and unique way of proposing. Don't you?

Here is another I overheard, in a promenade, on the rather pier one evening. "Miss A.—I am sailing for Europe next month will you come with me? But alone? "Yes, as my wife."

I was so sorry not to have seen you on my way south this last week. Why

can't you tell me when you are going to the Baths? I had an invitation to a "trilla," and fancy travelling four hundred miles to be present at it! But I don't regret it. The journey certainly was fatiguing, hot and dusty. But still I feel quite recompensed for I had a jolly time. I was disappointed in one way, because I had been to the *hacienda* before. The old-fashioned way of thrashing the wheat by piling it up and then having mares driven around the edge of it has given away to the modern thrashing machine.

Still the *chicha*, corn and chicken pies were there sure enough. To say nothing about the bullock barbecue in the evening and the never-to-be-left-out "cueca." Many are the times I've danced this with only the moon as illumination and to the music of several guitars and the singing of the girls, while the men clapped that irresistible time of the national dance. I have been to a real New England corn-husking in the full light of Indian summer moon, but to my mind it does not come up to a *bona fide* Chilean "trilla."

You know how fond Chileans are of practical jokes? Well I must tell you of what happened one evening. We all went in a large ox-cart to a neighbouring "hacienda" just the other side of the river Maule, and as it is summer time it is low at the ford, but it had quite enough water to give us all an excellent deluge on a small scale when the shaft gave way from the four bullocks and we all landed in the water. I never laughed so much in all my life once I got over my fright, I think we all enjoyed it save the "end man" who was playing his guitar at the time. His instrument (and a valuable one too) was smashed to pieces.

We afterwards found out that our friends finding the cartman asleep, unloosed the cow-hide that was twisted about the yokes and as they said when we next saw them "They had no idea it would happen in the river." Altogether it was "una noche fatal" because, on arriving home the roasted chickens we had been looking forward to, were burned to a cinder. "Morpheus" had been too much for the head of the culinary department.

I have been reading novels lately—and I think so have you. Has it struck you though that when a young woman launches out her first work it is invariably a trifle shady;—a considerable bordering on a French novel? Her women are always fast, and go from bad to worse, while her men are paragons of manliness and virtue. And that also when a man starts out to write out his first books you can at the end draw the moral? I often wonder that such books as "A yellow Aster"—"Dodo" and "A man to-day" ever found a publisher. I am glad you have asked one for "light" on "Pobre's" letter in last number of THE WESTERN COURIER. Whoever is the author of that letter does not know what he is talking about,—for "vagabond" gave a faithful description of the work of the "Little Sisters." I doubt if anyone goes oftener than my companion and myself to the Home in Calle Carrera. The patience and hard work of the nuns can hardly be realised by an out-sider.

There are 16 nuns in all and they do all the soliciting and work for one hundred and fifty-five poor people,

some of whom are too feeble to help themselves. When "Pobre" says he got his information from one individual who was glad to leave the institution, he recalls to mind the story of the Frenchman who went over to England to write up English customs. Walking one day through the White-chapel district he saw a woman rush out of a house and a man behind her with a broomstick. Our traveller immediately looks at his watch, and taking out his note-book writes, "every day at 12 o'clock Englishmen beat their wives."

So, "Pobre" has condemned a worthy charity for one case of discontent. As Mark Twain says "some men would hold the mortgage on the Throne of God and yet grumble."

Let me answer some of "Pobre's" questions.

1st. "As to the praise-worthy disregard to the religious views of the donors in using funds collected for the use of the Roman Catholic Poor, he is all off."

There are Protestants in the Home, plenty of them, and they are allowed their Bible.

The "Sisters" take in any one not regarding race, creed or colour. I remember seeing there one day an American negro who told me with all the innocence in the world that "he was a white man when he went there, but that the nuns used to put coal tar on his face while asleep."

He did not explain, however how he came by his curly hair! Had "Pobre" heard this he would immediately have asked question No. 4.

"Do the 'Little Sisters' coal-tar their inmates?" And we will suppose they were all Roman Catholics, where comes the harm? Are we going to let people suffer and starve because their creed differs from ours?

2nd. It is not true that the "aged and infirm inmates" are obliged to rise at 4 a.m. Why the nuns themselves don't get up until five? And as for the old people being obliged to get up I know better. Some have their eight o'clock breakfast in bed. The dinner hour is 12:30 p.m., and all are present except the feeble ones. I happened in one day. There was soup—a dish of meat and vegetables, roast mutton, stewed fruit, and bread and tea—some had wine and others beer. Each had a box where they could, if they wished put away all left over, for between meals, which will show you that the food is not stunted.

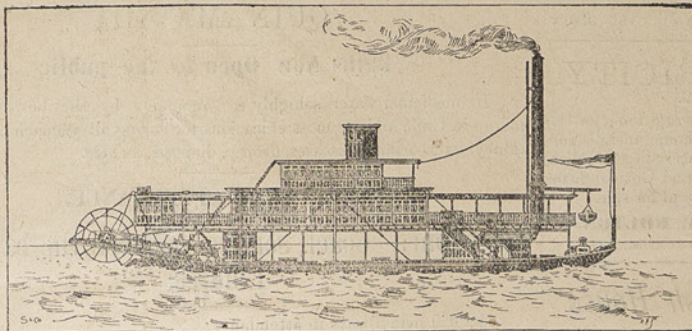
3rd. As to the "separating of married couples" it is not so. There are none now at the Home—but when there were they saw each other always during the day, and always every Sunday. All inmates can receive their friends from 12 to 5 P.M. Now Dorothy do try and come in time for the 19th. It is San José, you know, and he is the patron Saint of the "Hermanitas." There is to be a grand dinner for the poor people at the Home.

I shall send wine and some friends have promised to furnish cigarillos. I wish you would come and you will judge for yourself whether "Pobre" is right in his faintest slur" or "slight defects."

I am not, as you know a churchgoer, but I believe in what he said—Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me. Much love and "hasta luego"

Always your loving, RUTH.

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This journal will appear on the 15th of each month, and subscriptions are invited. Politics, literature, local affairs, sport and amusements, and in general all matters of interest to the English colony, will be fully treated.

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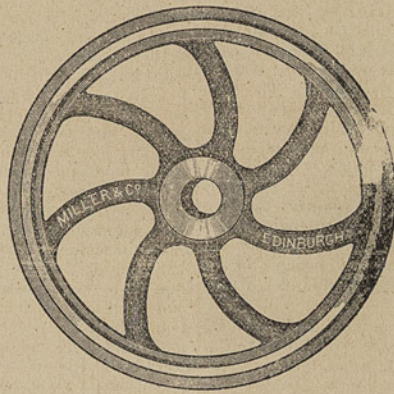
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English School

CERRO ALEGRE.

The Classes will be re-
sumed on the 1st of
March.

Mackay and Sutherland.

A Fingerless Family.

In a Lincolnshire village lives a family who suffer under the curious deformity of being fingerless. This peculiarity does not appear to be one of those freaks of Nature which may appear in one individual, and not be transmitted the next generation. From what can be learned the singularity has existed in this family so far as history or tradition extends, and there seems at present no signs of its dying out, as the grandchildren are as devoid of fingers as their grandfathers.

The hands of this remarkable family present the appearance of having had the fingers amputated, or chopped off roughly and unevenly, below the second joint, leaving a short stump. There is no nail or hard substance, and were it not for the absence of anything like a cicatrice a casual observer would conclude that the defect was due to an accident; but, as though Nature had attempted to compensate for the absence of fingers, the thumbs are abnormally large and strong.

The family are in other respects fully endowed by Nature, and do not appear to suffer the disadvantages the absence of fingers might be expected to entail. One of the daughters, aged twenty, can write, sew, knit, and is in every way as dexterous and accomplished as other girls of her age and station. When asked if she "did not find it awkward to be fingerless," she replied:

"No! If you had never had fingers, you would not know you needed them."

The only drawback that seems to be occasioned is the curiosity the absence of fingers evokes from strangers.

NOTICE TO BRITISH SUBJECTS

Having Claims Against the Government of Chile Arising Out of the Civil War of 1891.

Notice is hereby given to Claimants that the undersigned, British vice consul at Santiago, has been appointed Her Majesty's agent for the British Claims arising out of the act committed against their persons or property during the period between the 7th day of January, and the 28th day of August 1891, inclusive.

The Mixed Commission, established under the Anglo-Chilian Convention of the 28th day of September 1893, held their first meeting on the 24th ultimo and in accordance with article I of the above named convention every Claim must be presented to the Commissioners within six months from that date.

And whereas various Claims, and documents in support of them, have from time to time been transmitted to the Foreign Office in London and to Her Majesty's Legation in Santiago, the Claimants are hereby notified that each Claim must be accompanied by a memorial to the Commissioners, and their Claims formulated in conformity with the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Commissioners.

By order of the Commissioners the memorials must be in print and twelve copies thereof in Spanish and English must be forwarded for the use of the Commissioners.

Such Claimants as may desire copies of the Rules of Procedure, as laid down by the Commissioners for the guidance of Claimants in the presentation of their Claims, can obtain them on application to me.

Claimants are requested to file their memorials, together with all documents connected with their Claims, at my office N.º 34 calle Bandera, Santiago, with as little delay as possible.
F. W. Kerr,
Her Majesty's Agent for the British Claims.
Santiago, 14th November 1894.

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FOR IMMEDIATE SALE.

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VALPARAISO, December 30th, 1893.

Manuel de T. Pinto.—Augusto Villanueva G.
Managing Directors.

THE WESTERN COURIER.

VALPARAISO, SATURDAY, MARCH, 9TH, 1895.

"Hereby knowledge groweth, judgment increaseth, stories be opened, times compared,
truth discerned, falsehood detected and with finger pointed."—Fox's Martyrs.

THE COMPLETION OF A GREAT WORK.

The well-known firm of Lever, Murphy & Co., Caleta Abarca, have lately finished a contract, made with the Sociedad Muelles y Bodegas, de Poblacion Vergara, for the construction of an iron mole in that locality, a short and very incomplete account of which we gave in our last issue.

The work, which was commenced in February of last year has been concluded 6 months under the time stipulated in the contract.

In addition to their original contract, the mole has been lengthened 50 metres and raised 6 feet. The owners found this to be necessary as they had occasion to note during a "norther" last year, that the mole was too low.

Though the work according to the first contract was far advanced, Lever, Murphy & Co. agreed to these modifications and executed them, with a despatch and perfection for which every praise is due to them.

The reader of this article will not fail to notice the advantages derived by the capitalist, in receiving interest on his money 6 months in advance of the time calculated on, and it is highly interesting to commerce and shipping that an important work such as this can be finished in the country in so short a time.

On the other hand, Lever, Murphy & Co. have also profited by this, as anyone requiring similar work will know that they can obtain the fulfilment of contracts in less time than agreed on.

In order that the public will fully appreciate the magnitude and importance of this undertaking, we will make a comparison of the mole at Poblacion Vergara and the fiscal mole, both more or less of the same type.

As before stated, the Poblacion Vergara mole was commenced in February 1894, having to be delivered 18 months after this date.

This mole, though made of iron, was originally intended only for launches.

To allow steamers to go alongside it was afterwards decided to lengthen it 50 metres and raise it 6 feet. The work, when this decision was arrived at, was well advanced, but Lever, Murphy & Co. undertook to make these considerable alterations, as they were sure of their ability to do so and had confidence in their experienced workmen. This firm agreed to do all the work in the same time named in their first contract.

The establishment of Lever, Murphy & Co. is so thoroughly organized that even with these modifications the mole was finished 6 months under contract time.

The mole at Poblacion Vergara is 679 feet long and 32 feet 9 inches wide, and rests on 22 iron cylinders 10 feet in diameter. In the abutment there are 5 cylinders 5ft. 6in. diameter on which the stone work is built. All the cylinders are filled with concrete and vary from 49 to 96ft. in length. 900 tons of iron and 200,000 rivets have been used. The two cylinders at the extreme end of the mole weigh 1000 tons, including the concrete.

The fiscal mole is 235 metres long—therefore longer than that of Poblacion Vergara, and 20ft. wider.

The height of the fiscal mole is 6 metres; the Poblacion Vergara mole 7 metres from mole to water.

The fiscal mole cost in England 90,000 dollars. The exchange

the years 1871 and 1872 being from 45 to 47d. The total cost when completed was 1½ million dollars.

It is worth while to take into consideration that the muelle fiscal was commenced in January 1872 and delivered in 1883—the construction lasting over 10 years.

The mole at Poblacion Vergara has cost its proprietors \$440,000 at an exchange between 10 and 15d. and has been finished in 12 months!

It is needless to make any comment on these comparisons.

Nevertheless we shall point out the following:

The fiscal mole was constructed directly by the Government, and this above all was the cause of its delay and great cost, which proves the convenience of the Government giving out contracts to private firms for this class of work. In proof of our assertion we shall copy the remarks of Sr. Lorenzo Claro, ex-superintendent of Customs, who when passing his report for 1883 expressed himself as follows in reference to the fiscal mole:

"It is unfortunate," he said, "that no exact account of its cost was taken, to add strength to what has already been stated against the construction of works of this importance, directly by the Government. If it is not entrusted to a competent person, trustworthy and honest, the cost of the work is certain to be exaggerated, and it is to be feared that the materials and workmanship will not correspond to the nature of the work."

Further on he adds—"We can come to the conclusion, without being mistaken, that it ought to have lasted over 2½ to 3 years and ought to have cost \$500,000 less, taking the maximum calculated cost."

We shall also notice that the construction of moles or similar work entrusted to private firms has a great advantage, which can be readily proved.

In the first place.—If the contractor does not fulfill the basis of his contract, he is liable to a fine imposed on him; therefore it is to his benefit to finish the work as soon as he possibly can, not only for what gain results by so doing, but likewise by accrediting himself before the public. This is exactly what has been done by Lever, Murphy & Co.

We shall also point out the advantages that Lever, Murphy & Co. have in this line of business.

About the year 1886 the Government ordered the construction of 2 iron moles for the coasting trade. This work was undertaken by another firm. The material employed was so weak, that from the very commencement every one noticed it could not resist the sea. This class of mole is not fit for this bay, on account of the northers it has to resist, and the contract was cancelled through bad construction.

The vessels that will go alongside of the Poblacion Vergara mole will be as safe as at the Fiscal mole, as the Sociedad de Muelles y Bodegas will shortly place the necessary defences for security.

The highest praise is due to the construction at Poblacion Vergara, and the national industry ought to be proud, that it possesses such an establishment as Lever, Murphy & Co's, who mostly use materials which are the produce of the country.

Lever, Murphy & Co. have also laid a railroad line, connecting the mole to the main line of the Estado, including a bridge that crosses the Estero. This line joins on to the main line close to the sugar factory and is about 5 kilometres in length.

In conclusion, we repeat that Messrs. Lever, Murphy & Co. deserve the highest praise for the excellent work just finished, and which places our national industry at a high level.

The Director of Public Works, Don Domingo V. Santa Maria, who has been inspecting engineer both for the mole and railroad, is expected to arrive a Viña del Mar this week, to inspect the work and report on it. We give this prominence to the undertaking in consideration of its being the most important work effected for many years past.

Editorial Pepper and Salt.

THE WAR SCARE

This is the silly season. The Sea Serpent for the current year has not yet emerged "with frightful crest and fearful maw" to scare the life out of credulous folk. The Chino-Japanese duel is lasting too long, lacking lately in incident and generally palling upon the palate. The Conversion question is settled (for the moment.) But newspapers must supply—for the public will have—a sensation of some sort; and the bogey nearest to hand is the Chile-Argentine war scare.

Will there be war? Quien sabe. Of course there is nothing to go to war about; but when two nations (or two individuals) are "blue mouldy for a beating," a pretext is never very hard to find—or invent. But what amuses us is to find the Argentine press accusing us of wishing to go to war. Chile is preparing. Chile is arming. Chile is increasing her army—her navy—her armaments—her military estimates. Chile is blood-thirsty and is determined upon war.

Whatever may be the case with Argentina, Chile wants to go to war about as badly as the average citizen wants to go to gaol. Chile is not preparing. Chile is not arming. Chile is reducing her army and her military

estimates. As for the navy, she is only restoring it to its condition previous to the revolution, of "glorious" memory. The heavy stock of rifles and ammunition brought out (according to the Argentine press) by the new Blanco, resolves itself into one 4 in gun for the torpedo boat *Lynch*.

The Chilean army (30,000 to 40,000 strong, says the Argentine press) is only 6,000 on paper—in reality it barely reaches 4,000 men of all arms. True these men are armed and drilled up to date; true discipline and morale is perfect; true they wheel like a gate and move like a machine; and true also, we believe by the Lord Harry! that if ever the Argentines force war upon us, this little handful of men will walk through them like a forty pound shot through a field of standing corn.

IN THE GRANITE CITY

We learn by cable that the good folk of Aberdeen have been terribly shocked. They knew in a vague way that there were such wicked things as betting-houses. It was even hinted that there were such things in Aberdeen; but they never suspected that anyone whom they knew frequented them. And then the police—awkward fellows—made a raid. The visit was so ill-timed that thirty-three arrests were made, and among them were a

considerable number of well-known public officials. As they were led out in custody the very granite blushed.

A PRETTY PICKLE

A Santiago oil merchant has eloped with his book-keeper, one of those pretty creatures whose only occupation should be the addition of kisses and the subtraction of sighs from the lips of passionate embracers. Now, here is one of the oft-recurring arguments why young women should not be permitted to do men's work, and mingle on a masculine plane, as it were, with the other sex. Flirtation will creep in, whether it be book-keeping or type-writing, or even teaching, and when once it gets a good hold, the matter of previous engagements is altogether forgotten.

The angry parent of the elopee in question is pursuing the oil merchant, and he has so much vinegar and pepper in his composition that, if he overtakes him, a salad will be dished up which the public cannot fail to approve of.

Arrival of President Montt

The cruiser *Blanco Encalada* anchored in the bay on Tuesday afternoon at about half past five. Some time after seven the *Prat*, having on board his excellency the President and suite, hove in sight. The President wishing to test the speed of both ships ordered the *Prat* to leave Talcahuano at midnight on Monday, and that the *Blanco* should follow at four o'clock next morning.

The *Prat* maintained a speed of 12, 14 and 16 miles and was joined by the *Blanco* at the port of Pichilemu.

The latter vessel made the quickest journey ever made on this coast, travelling at the rate of 20 to 22 miles.

The time taken from Talcahuano to this port was exactly twelve hours. The President was accompanied by Sr. Elias Fernandez Albano, Minister of industry and public works and Rear Admirals Castillo, Uribe and Simpson and various other gentlemen.

The Minister of war and marine came on board the *Blanco*.

Collision in the Bay

THE "ISIDORA COUSIÑO" RUNS
AGAINST THE "PRAT"

On Tuesday evening at the moment of arrival of the *Capitan Prat* an accident occurred very nearly resulting in the loss of the Lota Company's steamer *Isidora Cousiño*.

At about half past seven on the evening in question as the *Prat* was entering the bay very slowly to take up her accustomed anchorage she was run into by the outward bound steamer *Cousiño*, and had it not been for the fact that the cruiser was coming in slowly most assuredly the latter vessel would have been sunk by the collision.

As it was the *Cousiño* bowsprit was completely bent, and a large hole was pierced through close to the water line.

The damage can be easily repaired without the vessel requiring to enter the dry dock. The *Prat* also sustained damage, which, though slight, will yet cost a few hundreds of dollars to repair, as a large hole was pierced through in the unprotected part under water.

The commander of the *Prat* signalled to the *Cousiño* to steer clear off the cruiser, but her captain no doubt believing he could cross in time paid no heed with the result that the *Cousiño* scraped the side of the *Prat*.

An Important Undertaking at Iquique.

The tenders for the construction of the proposed dock at Iquique were opened in Santiago on Friday. They were five in number, and were as follows:—

Manuel Lapeyrouse, 631,888 dols. currency; time 14 months.

Arturo Undurraga and Alberto Larenas, 335,632 dols: 33 cents at 24 pence; time 18 months.

Rodolfo Castro, 351,101 dols. at 24 pence; time 18 months.

Guillermo Speedie, 491,094 dols. at 24 pence; time 18 months.

Pedro A. Roffe t., 488,263 dols. at 24 pence; time 14 months.

Banquet in Santiago.

The North American colony in the capital entertained their new Minister, Mr. Edward Strobell, right royally on Wednesday evening at a banquet given in his honour at the private residence of Dr. Macartney.

A numerous and most select company were present and the banquet was a decided success.

Relations between Chile and the Argentine.

AN OFFICIAL DENIAL.

Some days ago the Chilean Government published an official denial to a rumour, which originated in Buenos Ayres, to the effect that the relations between Chile and the Argentine were very strained, and now the Argentine Government has given a similar denial to another equally erroneous report, also originated in Buenos Ayres, as may be seen from the following translation of a communication sent by the Argentine Minister to Chile to the editor of the *Ferrocarril*.

ARGENTINE LEGATION IN CHILE.

To the Editor of the *Ferrocarril*: Sir,—In the *Ferrocarril* of Thursday last there appeared a telegram from the Havas Agency, sent from Buenos Ayres, attributing to H. E. the President of the Argentine Republic the following declaration: "H. E. President Uruburu said, moreover, that in case war should break out, Peru and Bolivia would take part in it, in order to recuperate their losses in the past, which circumstance would make Chile reflect considerably before launching herself on an international conflict."

By order of my Government I contradict in the most positive manner the words I have just quoted, the President of the Argentine Republic not having on any occasion given expression to the opinions transmitted by the correspondent in question; which moreover, are contradicted by the notorious seriousness of the Chief Magistrate of my country, and the cordiality of the relations between the Argentine Republic and Chile, which one and the other government maintain.

I salute etc., etc.

N. QUIRNO COSTA,
Argentine Minister.

Santiago, March 2, 1895.

Valparaiso Public Library.

During last year 20,911 books were consulted in the library and during the first two months of the present year only 27 volumes.

The delay in the construction of the tribunals has greatly inconvenienced the directors of this institution as the hall at their disposal in the liceo is by far too small to hold the present collection of books, not to mention the additions which are being constantly made by generous donors.

Eclipse.

We beg to remind our readers of the eclipse of the Moon which takes place to-morrow night.

First contact with the penumbra Sh. 15' 6" p.m.

Do. do. shadow 9h. 11' 0" do. do.
Middle of eclipse, total, 10h. 56' 5".

Do. do. shadow 11h. 44' 2" do.
End of shadow 11h. 42' 0" a.m.

Do. do. penumbra 1h. 37' 4".
The above represent Santiago time.

Hardly Justifiable.

Lieutenant Miguel Garcia, of the artillery regiment stationed in San Felipe is held responsible by the authorities for the manslaughter of an individual named Rios, whom he killed in the street by striking him on the head with his sword.

He says he was compelled to strike the man down in self defence, as the man made a furious attack upon him, but he was hardly right in using his sword, when with two or three well directed blows with his fists he could have put his assailant, who was inebriated, hors de combat.

Marriage.

WULF-BISCHOFFSHAUSEN.

The marriage of Mr. Alfred Wulf to Miss Magdalen Bischoffshausen was celebrated in the Union Church, on Thursday.

A full report of this most interesting occurrence will appear in our next issue.

New Cure for Insanity.

The *Daily Chronicle* Vienna correspondent says that professor Wagner of the Vienna University expounded a cure of insanity to the medical society yesterday. He injected the subject with Koch's tuberculin causing it fever, after which the insanity diminished and having repeated the treatment a few times; each injection lessened the insanity until it eventually vanished.

Peruvian Notes.

Things in this oft disturbed republic are going from bad to worse, and as yet the result of the revolution is very uncertain as neither of the rival chieftains are willing or perhaps in a position to put an end to this fratricidal struggle. The situation in Lima and everywhere else on the coast is most distressing as all food stuffs have gone up excessively in price.

The port of Mollendo, which is at present blockaded by the Cacerista transport *Santa Rosa*, is also in sore straits. Business men wishing to send their correspondence out of the country must go on board the transport, which is also acting the part of a floating post-office.

Chile's Census.

Following the usual custom of taking the census every ten years, it is now time that such steps should be taken as the last census was taken in 1885. Including this years there have been already seven census taken, as may be seen by the following table:

	Population.	Increase
Census of 1835...	1,010,332	
" " 1843...	1,083,801	73,469
" " 1854...	1,439,120	355,319
" " 1865...	1,819,223	380,103
" " 1875...	2,075,971	256,748
" " 1885...	2,527,320	451,349

The Valparaiso Trams

Alcalde Leon Silva has taken up the much discussed question of the scarcity of cars; so noticeable in Valparaiso, and insisted that the company should add an extra number as soon as possible.

As a result of this five other cars have been now added and this number will be probably increased very shortly.

Personal

DEPARTURE OF MINISTER KENNEDY

Taking advantage of the leave of absence granted him by his government, Mr. Kennedy, H.B.M.'s Minister to Chile, left for England on Tuesday in the *Iberia*. We have much pleasure in wishing him *bon voyage* and that he may shortly return back again.

Pudd'nhead Wilson.

A TALE BY MARK TWAIN.

(Samuel L. Clemens.)

Messrs. W. G. Paton and Co.

This new production from the Author's prolific pen dates only from the year now past having been published in London 1894. It is embellished with seven illustrations, and the scenes, as may be inferred from the title altogether in America, in the Southern States. The opening chapters are somewhat disappointing, his style becoming staid, and many of his incidents obviously grossly exaggerated, perhaps a necessary consequence of trite American humour. As the story proceeds however these imperfections disappear, or at least are not so pronounced. The plot is excellently well laid and skilfully worked out, especially when the criminal hero of the work is discovered by means of palmistry and finger printing. Throughout there is a considerable number of sound philosophical reflections; but the diction is somewhat marred by the Americanisms "his father had forbidden him to have them lest he break windows with them" (page 33) and "We shall be down Thursday" (page 50) etc.

ROUND THE RED LAMP.
London 1894.

These tales of Medical Life by A. Conan Doyle fifteen in all, seem to have been written from time to time in the course of his professional career, and from the preface we gather that the majority of them have appeared before. We remember having read "A straggler of 15" sometime ago and undoubtedly it is a tale of singular power and pathos. Most of the others, too, are entertaining, and couched in the peculiar style so agreeable to the readers of his other works. One or two of them, however we think must have been written when a tyro in literature, or perhaps when he as a student at his University, notably "Behind the times," and "The third generation." We very much doubt if the details in the latter are, or ever have been true, at least to the extent depicted, and we fail to perceive what good purpose it publication can effect. It is not a pleasant subject. The others are well enough, and there is a good deal of the detective element in them, as well as the medical, which the title implies.

Astute Rogues

Some of the poor Valparaiso tailors have been victimised by some unprincipled rogues, who have succeeded in becoming possessed of a number of new suits free of cost. The *modus operandi* was as follows:

Whenever an employee from a tailoring establishment was seen leaving the shop carrying a parcel he was immediately followed by one of the gang, who did not lose sight of him until the parcel was delivered at its destination.

After waiting outside the premises for some time, the wily rogue would enter the house and present a paper purporting to come from the tailor in which the proprietor was politely requested to send back the suit with the bearer as there was a mistake in the address and that the proper suit would be sent at once.

In a great many cases, the thieves attained their object, and managed to make a nice sum by selling their ill gotten goods in the agencies.

The Serpentine Dancer

The Victoria Theatre was crowded on Thursday on the occasion of the first appearance of the celebrated dancer Miss Ada Thompson, who, in conjunction with Mr. Morris the operatic and zarzuela company of the Ruppnick troupe. The performance commenced with a cycle exhibition by Mr. Morris, which was heartily applauded. After the interval the piece *Marina* was rendered by the company in excellent style and richly deserved the applause of the vast audience.

The last act terminated with the appearance of Miss Thompson who enchanted everyone by her most catching and bewitching dances. These must be seen to be fully appreciated. This novel attraction by itself would be enough to draw crowded houses.

A Delicious Beverage

Messrs Charles J. Christie & Co., of Buchanan Whisky fame, who are sole agents for Messrs. Burroughs, Welcome & Co., of Snow Hill Buildings, E.C., have sent us a box of their Tea Taboids which they are selling at a very low price. We have tasted a cup of tea made from one of these pellets, and it is good. Compressed tea is not by any means a novelty. In Russia, hard cakes of it are carried about by travellers, and it is kept in this form in all rural households. But this, so far as we know, is the first time in which it has been adapted to the needs of the British and native household in Chile in such compact and reasonable form.

The "Lone Star" at Havre

President Faure has retired from his old shipping firm in Havre, as it wouldn't do for the Chief of the State to be in business. Besides, the law prohibits it, or that the President be on a bank, railway or other board.

The firm of hide merchants, Felix Faure and Co., of Havre, has therefore disappeared. The new firm that succeeds it is Bergerault and Cremer. M. Bergerault was head clerk in the old firm for 27 years, and M. Cremer is the President's cousin.

The former is Chilean Consul and the latter Consul for Greece at Havre, and the French, Chilean and Greek flags are kept flying over the door of the firm's office. M. Faure is the first man in the hide business that has ever been able to call "himself the equal of Emperors and Kings, another proof of the truth of the old saying that "there is nothing like leather."

Railway Accident at the Baron Station.

A railway accident took place at the Baron station on Friday evening last, caused by the collision of a passenger and luggage train. A number of the cars were destroyed and one of the passengers received a slight scalp wound on the forehead. The engine driver of the passenger train has been retained in custody, as he is to blame for not stopping before entering the station, although the signals gave him due warning.

Preaching v. Practice.

The present war in China brings to mind a laughable incident in the taking of the Taku Forts on the Tientsin River, 1860. The 1st Battalion Royal West Surrey was waiting the order to advance in common with other regiments. A good many bullets passed over the men's heads causing them to duck or bob.

A mounted officer reproved the men for their unsoldierly conduct, saying,

"Whenever you hear the sound of a bullet, it has passed by you, and you have nothing to fear."

Just at that moment a bullet passed close to his own head. He ducked so violently that he nearly lost his seat. Righting himself, he turned to the men and said, "That was a narrow squeak, wasn't it?"

The laughter drowned the sound of whistling bullets for some time after.

The Valparaiso Municipality.

The income derived by the Municipality from the various rentals during the past year amounted to \$1,500,502 2 cts.

Income Tax.....	\$ 439,358.13
Patentes.....	418,999.82
Markets.....	190,850.43
Fines.....	90,807.73
Leaves.....	39,429.75
Street Repairing.....	27,250.59
Launches.....	15,031.05
Tramways.....	15,000.00
Coaches and carts.....	13,921.00
Drainage Company.....	10,063.45
Public fctes.....	7,933.00

The expenses for same period amounted to \$ 1,593,280.63, the most important expenses being the following:

Police.....	\$ 478,570.00
Repairing streets and roads.....	267,999.85
Cleansing Department.....	97,345.88
Lighting Department.....	90,698.88
Primary Instruction.....	54,477.71
Loss of land.....	50,000.00
Direction of Public Works.....	30,627.27
Municipal Laboratory.....	25,526.91
Orfeon.....	24,750.95
Markets.....	20,027.70
Slaughter House.....	17,282.04
Public Gardens.....	15,190.54

More Railway Fatalities

We notice in one of our exchanges from the South that a railway accident has taken place in La Union in the department of Valdivia, resulting in the death of five individuals. Two trains laden with workmen collided; the carriages completely telescoped and caused the death of five workmen.

The bodies when found presented a gruesome sight as in some cases they had been dismembered and in others the heads were found at one place in the line and the other parts of the bodies elsewhere.

Ten other persons sustained severe injuries which in some cases may perhaps end fatally.

Proposed Underground Passage at the Port Station

The outcry made by the entire press in Valparaiso for the immediate construction of an underground passage at the port station has borne fruit as steps are being already taken to carry out this undertaking.

Prison Breakers in Nueva Imperial

Some days ago forty two prisoners escaped from the gaol at Nueva Imperial. By the complicity of two of the jailors the prisoners managed to escape and the remaining eighty would have followed suit if the alarm had not been given by another of the jailors who was on duty at the time.

A fierce conflict took place between the runaways and the police, who during the scuffle killed two and wounded another of the prisoners.

War Between China and Japan.

(By Cable Via Galveston)

London 4.—The Hai Cheng correspondent of the *Central News* telegraphs, under date of February 28, that the first Japanese army to-day attacked the enemy encamped between Liao Yang and New Chwang. The fifth brigade engaged the right wing, routed it and drove it back towards Dayputon? The main column attacked and routed the enemy at Chang Ho Tai and the sixth brigade marched along the Liao Yang road, joined the main division, and with it occupied Tung Yen Tai.

The Japanese loss is of ten killed and eighty two wounded. The Chinese left 150 dead on the field. The *Central News* correspondent at Chee Foo says that the Japanese are advancing steadily upon New Chwang where six hundred wounded Chinese were received between February 24 and 28.

A *Central News* despatch, date from Seoul on March first, say that the Korean War Minister and other exalted officials received permission in response to their own request, to accompany the second Japanese army throughout

the rest of the campaign in China, and that they will be attacked to General Nogi's staff.

It is reported in Tokio that the Chinese peace envoys will be received at Simonsaki and that the negotiation will be conducted there.

A *Central News* despatch from Pekin says that Li Hung Chang, the head of the Chinese new peace mission is still at the Capital and has conferred with all the conspicuous officials and with most all the European diplomats.

It is the unanimous desire among the men of influence in Pekin that United States Minister Denby shall help the Chinese mission by acting as an intermediary in arranging the meeting of the negotiators and the course of procedure. The care with which Viceroy Li Hung Chang is preparing for his duties gives the best evidence of the earnestness of China's purpose.

The *Times* correspondent in Pekin says that, United States Minister Denby, telegraphed to Japan the text of Viceroy Li Hung Chang's credentials and awaits a reply saying whether he will be received.

The *Times* correspondent at Shanghai says that three Japanese vessels on the afternoon of February 21 fired several shots at the fort and embankment of Ting Chow but spared the city.

Mr. Pethick American tutor to the children of Li Hung Chang, has been appointed private adviser to the interpreters who will accompany the Chinese peace mission to Japan.

London, 5.—A Yokosuka despatch says that the Chinese warship captured at Wei Hai Wei arrived at Yokosuka in charge of Japanese crews. The Japanese are hopeful of raising the ships which were sunk in the Wei Hai Wei harbor.

Mr. Howie, the American who attempted to blow up the Japanese ships, will be brought to Japan for trial.

A *Central News* despatch from Pekin says that Viceroy Li Hung Chang started for Japan to-day.

He is now in supreme favor and had five audiences with the Emperor and two with the Empress.

The prospects for peace are regarded as good, Li has full power to negotiate peace.

London, 7.—A Tokio despatch says that the Japanese after a fierce battle of eleven hours captured New Chwang nearly two thousand Chinese having been slain and six hundred taken prisoners.

The Japanese loss is somewhat above two hundred in killed and wounded.

A Pekin despatch says that the friends of Viceroy Li Hun Chang forwarded a memorial to the Emperor declaring that Li is not to blame for the unprepared condition of China to engage in war with Japan and asserting that the President of the Board of Revenue, who is also the Emperor's tutor, is the man to blame.

Brief Mention.

Miss Anna Gould, second daughter of the late Jay Gould and Boniface, Comte de Castellane of France were married on Monday by Archbishop Corrigan, the ceremony being most imposing.

A *Standard* Berlin despatch says that there are thirty thousand sufferers from influenza in Munich.

H.M.S. *Wild Swan*, commander Macvery Napier, en route from Montevideo touched at Sandy Point at the close of last month.

The Ministry of Marine has ordered the removal from the navy of frigate captain Mr. Miguel Tejada, chief officer Mr. Jorje K. Overend and 3rd engineer Eusebio 2. Carriaga, all found guilty of stealing the bars of silver from the steamer *Chili*.

Owing to the prevalence of cholera at Montevideo, the shore leave from the United States ships at this port has been stopped.

The Governor General of Cuba having solicited the recall of the U.S. Consul general in Habana, the Spanish cabinet which met in Madrid on Wednesday decided to uphold his demands. In the province of Santa Clara, Cuba martial law was declared.

A Congressman by name Jose Mariano was shot dead Monday by a policeman in Pernambuco.

Vice President Manuel Victorino will visit the Argentine on a mission it being stated to insinuate the wish on the part of the President of the Republic, Prudencio Morales, to intervene should troubles arise between Chile and the Argentine.

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tors

It has transpired that the bulk of the cartridges in the magazines of China contain sawdust instead of powder. They will not go out of the guns until poked out with a piece of fine wire, and are regarded as failures by Chinese experts. They were made in Germany.

H.B.M. corvette *Hyacinth* is now in the bay on and will leave very shortly for Coquimbo to join the rest of the British Pacific Squadron anchored at that port. She came from Pitcairn islands.

The Compañía Esplotadora de Lota y Coronel will pay government for the damage occasioned to the *Prat* by their steamer *Isidora Cousiño*.

H.M.S. *Satellite*, Commander Allen, arrived at Callao on the 17th ult.

A young man named Juan Tapia committed suicide on Sunday night by shooting himself with a revolver, at his parents house. A large company of friends and relations were dining with the family and the young man appeared in the best of spirits, but shortly after dinner he quietly went out to the yard and killed himself. It is supposed that the rash act was caused by blighted love.

The captain and officers of H.M.S. *Champion*, entertained a large party on board at Callao on the evening of the 13th ult.

Diphtheria is doing ravages in Santiago. In a tenement in Grapes street there were fifteen fatal cases in eight days.

The Right Honorable Sir Hercules Robinson has been appointed Governor and Commander in Chief of Cape Colony, succeeding Sir H.H. Loch.

Early on Wednesday morning a fire broke out in the upper storey of a house in Santiago situated in calle Instituto, belonging to Sra Juana Rosa Tagle Bravo. The flames spread very rapidly and the whole building was consumed.

A man named Felix Benitez burst a blood vessel on Tuesday trying to lift down a wine keg from his cart, dying shortly after from loss of blood.

On Friday last Samuel MacFarland died in the Hospital from injuries he self-inflicted with a chisel and hammer on his throat on the 18th ultimo.

On Friday last a very violent shock of earthquake was felt in Copiapó, which caused considerable damage.

The shock was so great that a number of walls fell down; fortunately no loss of life has been reported.

The steamer *City of Peking*, which arrived at San Francisco on Saturday from Japan, brought the fifty two men-of-warship who manned the Chilean war ship *Esmeralda*, recently sold and delivered to Japan. Those men are all Chileans and are en route for their home.

The *Casino de Paris* a large music hall in Paris was burned on Monday night.

News has been received from London of the death of Professor John Stewart Blackie, which sad event took place on Saturday.

Louise Michael, anarchist agitator, is seriously ill and may not recover.

Tenders for the construction of the new Chilean cruiser *Esmeralda* have been solicited only from the following English firms, to the exclusion of all other foreign ship building yards:—Thomson, Widdowson & Laid Brothers, Mitchell Armstrong & Co., Earl's, Barrow-in-Furness, Bolling, Lowe.

The latest Chilean Methuselah is Manuel Diay Ruiz, from Puchacai, whose death is reported at the ripe old age of one hundred and thirty two years. Wheu!

The steam launch *Calea Abarca*, which our readers may remember sunk close to the *Prat* mole some

time ago was ready to be launched on Thursday. After undergoing the necessary repairs she is even more sea worthy than formerly.

CAMILLE FLAMMARION and three other French astronomers will make for the Paris exhibition in 1900 a model of the moon—a model on such an enormous scale that balloon journeys will be made around it.

Two new Balmacedist organs the *Lealtad* and *de Marzo*, have appeared this week, the former is published in Valparaiso and the other in the Capital.

We have much pleasure in including them in our exchange list and wish them every success.

France, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland Germany, Spain, all consume horse-flesh. Last year Paris alone consumed 11,396 horses.

The influenza is spreading throughout England with remarkable rapidity, though in a milder form than in former years. On most of the railroads one third of the employees are absent, fifty members of the staff of the Bank of England are attacked and the troops stationed at Aldershot and Knightsbridge are suffering severely.

A despatch from Northampton says that all the five hundred miners who were imprisoned in the pit of the Whitewood Haymoor colliery by a collision of the cages in the shaft were rescued during the night.

The Japanese officers serving in the German army received orders from Tokio to return at once for service in China.

It is learned from official sources that the subscription to the new American loan in London amounted to ninety five million dollars.

The Imperial Deputies of the Economic Union met in the Reichstag building and passed a resolution denouncing the commercial treaty between Germany and the Argentina as inimical to German interests. Count Herbert Bismarck, who presided, vehemently opposed all commercial treaties.

The Little Sisters of the Poor

To the Editor of
THE WESTERN COURIER

Dear Sir:

On first reading "Pobre's" letter I was overcome by indignation and surprise to think that the Editors of the Valparaiso Review should have neglected to publish it but on referring to the original prospectus of that journal I feel confident that I can satisfy "Pobre" as to the cause. It is true that "free discussion of local matters" was invited, but not a word was mentioned with regard to humorous articles.

The comic was not asked for, and Pobre's letter is undoubtedly brimful of sparkling wit and humour. Witness one of his jokes: Speaking of the nuns he styles them good ladies ('little' or otherwise).

In a complete collection of *Punch*, which I am lucky enough to possess there is nothing to equal this.

And the story of the old man, who is an acquaintance of a friend of "Pobre's." How amusing and at the same time convincing are the reasons which he had for leaving the Home, in view of which it is but logical that he should have been glad when he escaped.

I must however provide answers to his questions although I am afraid that I am not the person competent to do so and I am certain that the nuns themselves who supply them would be only too delighted to satisfy his curiosity were he to call at the Home any afternoon.

I would that I could answer in the same humorous strain, but I am no hand at a joke, so I must limit myself to answer his questions in my own blunt style.

1st. The funds collected by the Little Sisters of the Poor are not used exclusively for the Relief of Roman Catholic poor. There are at present

inmates of the Home who do not follow that creed. It is true that the nuns believing their faith to be the only true one would wish all to embrace the same, but they are ever ready to help deserving poor irrespective of creed.

2nd. As far as I am aware the inmates of the house are not obliged to rise at any given hour, but most of them of their own accord are about early.

3rd. I am certain that force has never been employed in the establishment especially upon married couples with a view to separating them; nor did I see any suitable apartments for husband and wife in the Home. "Whether it is kind to forcibly separate married couples" is a question which—being a bachelor—I am not able to answer by experience, but I have known cases in which it would have been an unmixing blessing to do so.

I have now answered my interrogator to the best of my ability, and I am quite aware that there may be some defects in the institution,—perfection has never been attained by mortal man, but as your able correspondent rightly says that they are slight and in no way deter from the "excellent work done by the sisters." If only a few more persons would undertake to do good in this way, and a few less were ever ready to criticise the honest attempts of honest souls, I feel certain that "Pobre" will agree with me in saying that this world would be much better than it is.

I remain Dear Sir,

YOURS TRULY,
Vagabond.

Gambling

To the Editor of
THE WESTERN COURIER.

The muse of the "WESTERN COURIER" has treated this matter flippantly, and mixed up things that differ. If gambling is a moral evil of the first magnitude, it is too bad to set us all down as gambling just because the circumstances in which our lot is cast make us venture into the different ways we have of making a living, with no fixed certainty that we shall make that living. The uncertainty of life itself is the heaviest of the natural laws which press upon us; but simply because we have no choice in the matter, gives cause to no one to set us down as each throwing the dice to see whether we or another shall live another day.

Our natural savageness of heart, that makes us take all we can from our neighbor in order to set ourselves on high at his expense, is a thing that can be fought against by every man. To be able to recognize the inhumanity of such conduct is one step in advance of savageness; to wish to refrain is the next step; to strive might and main against it is the most we can hope ever to accomplish, constituted as we are. But to excuse this savageness and the headlong way in which crowds give themselves up to it, shielding it behind the attempt of every honest man to make a living in an uncertain society scramble, and to provide for himself and his own with all the powers he possesses, when there are thousands failing in the attempt, is to put no value on the effort made by an independent-minded man to live at the expense of no other than himself.

Law cannot touch selfishness, it is the one thing that works evil in the law's shadow. The way our money matters shape themselves is proof abundant that the richest, and best off are as a body the most savage of men.

Among that class exceptions are found of the brightest quality; but we have only to see the excitement of the money market and think of the commonest tricks, practised by those who make money on the grand scale through the simplicity of the dupes who frequent the scenes, to know what a deep well of evil the heart of the ordinary rich man is. No kind of consideration whatever hinders them from fleecing a foolish fellow, who ventures into their meshes. This desire of building up fortunes on another's ruin is the foundation of gambling; if it were simply a struggle of the fittest to live, where only the fittest could live, there not being enough

for both him and the unfit one, the case might admit of another colouring. But no such necessity forces the rich speculator into this unequal contest. In most cases it is a simple choice on his part, a giving way to the natural savageness of his heart, and an insane attempt to set himself alone in the Earth, when he knows right well that he cannot live alone.

Of all madmen the worst is the gambler. A man ventures money he can ill spare into a bag where it may either double itself or entirely disappear. His family may live or die for aught he cares, they may be educated at another's expense, or fed and clothed by some kind person who has no gambling tricks, but only a little money laid away against an evil day. His children are thus taught in the worst of all moral codes—dependency on strangers. They grow up feeling that the world owes them a living, and go on in life with the crudest notion as to what is theirs and not theirs; they poison the moral atmosphere wherever they move.

Between the wilful plunge of the gambler and the every day struggle for existence there is a vast moral difference. Z.

Answers to Correspondents

JACK BLODGET, Limache.—Thanks for "Chileno Abroad" and "Chile as I find her" the former of which we publish this week. The latter we will read shortly. The man who writes on both sides of his slips is perennially anathematised by the gentle compositor.

ROLAND D. POWELL, Santiago.—Report of Orphan Home received. Will publish next week.

Bandit Assault in Santiago

On Saturday night a band of armed men attacked a store situated in the Calera de Tango.

The shop door was burst open by the miscreants who commenced pillaging the place. The owner soon appeared on the scene with a rifle and put them to flight. A sharp fire was kept up by the bandits against the house; one stray shot struck the owner full on the leg, which left him helpless.

A number of labourers from the estate arrived on hearing the shots but did not offer resistance as they feared to attack such a strong band.

Later on the same evening the same band attacked another store keeper, where they again met with a stubborn resistance, but after killing a policeman they ransacked the premises and stole all the money they could lay their hands on.

Four of the robbers were captured on the day following in the act of selling their ill-gotten goods.

Los Andes Notes.

(From Our Own Correspondent)

There is not much doing up here just now. The place is never very lively, and since the "Chaya" time, the difference is well marked. Still on Band nights, three times a week, there is always a considerable attendance in the plaza, and it is astonishing too where they all come from the number to be seen during the day being so small. But then the weather has been very hot during the day and the evenings delightful. By the way, there has been a great improvement in the Band, which to some extent may account for the increased attendance of the towns-people. The plaza is now at its best, but the leaves of the trees have already begun to fall with every evening breeze.

Mr. Matthew Clark passed through here on the 24th ult. on his way to Europe, with great expectations as to the success of his plans to acquire the guaranteed loan required to insure the final success of his transandine undertaking. In the Cordilleras the Cart-road is now finished to the summit (La Cumbre) where it joins on to the Argentine road, which, I understand is completed so far as to enable coaches to go from El Salto del Soldado to

meet the train at Punta de las Vacas on the other side.

The Sanitary Commission is still at El Portillo, which discharges its most disagreeable duties in such a manner as could only be done by gentlemen. We need say no more.

Coquimbo Notes.

From our own Correspondent.

H.M.S. *Royal Arthur* returned here from her visit to the island of Juan Fernandez on the 27th of February, the reason of her sudden return being the arrival of H.M.S. *Champion* at this port, homeward bound.

H.M.S. "CHAMPION"

H.M.S. *Champion* left here on her homeward passage Saturday morning, March the 2nd, amidst enthusiastic British cheers, and time honoured tunes discoursed by the band of H.M.S. *Royal Arthur*, and responded to by the men of the *Champion*.

I cannot close, without bestowing a word of praise upon the men for their exemplary conduct when on shore, and I am sure I shall not be saying too much when I say she has well been named the "Pride of the Pacific."

CLERICAL.

Mr. Cubbert, the minister of the American church here, has left for Iquique, where, he and his wife are to take over the management of the American college. Mr. Cubbert has endeared himself to many here by his patient and untiring labours towards the reconciling of the scattered, and hard to be pleased flock, whose faithful shepherd he has been, but his labours, like those of his predecessor, have only been partially successful. Verily this is a stiff-necked generation. I beg now to wish him and family God speed and all success in his new field of labour.

Valparaiso Cricket Club

PAPERCHASERS V. LEATHER HUNTERS

The return match took place on Sunday last and resulted, on this occasion, in an easy victory for the Leather Hunters.

The Paperchasers went in for a second innings, but only made 40 for the loss of five wickets when time was called.

Following are respective scores:

PAPERCHASERS.	
First Innings.	
F. H. James b Quennell	1
E. Howe b C. Lyon	4
W. Gibson b Quennell	6
J. G. Earle b C. Lyon	7
A. W. Edmondson c b Quennell	4
A. L. S. Jackson c Gifford b Quennell	0
J. W. Pearson b Quennell	2
H. Naylor c C. Lyon b Quennell	9
T. Edmondson b Beecheno	22
R. G. Scott c Gifford b Quennell	3
C. A. Pike c McFadden b Quennell	18
A. G. Scott not out	8
Byes, 2; leg bye, 1	3

Total 87

Second Innings.

A. G. Scott b Ashcroft	1
A. L. S. Jackson b do.	9
T. Edmondson run out	15
J. G. Earle b Bushell	5
F. H. James b do.	6
C. A. Pike not out	0
W. Gibson not out	4

Total for 5 wickets 40

LEATHER HUNTERS

First Innings.

A. E. Beecheno c Earle b T. Edmondson	21
C. Lyon c R. Scott b James	7
C. McLean b James	0
F. O. Quennell c T. Edmondson b James	25
A. E. Price c Earle b T. Edmondson	6
B. McFadden c R. G. Scott b Pearson	19
A. D. Price, jun., b Pearson	10
D. Lyon b Pearson	3
W. E. Ashcroft c and b T. Edmondson	37
H. E. Woodgate not out	29
T. Gifford b T. Edmondson	1
R. Bushell c Pearson b T. Edmondson	0
Byes 13; leg byes, 6; wides, 2	21

Total 176

LIPTON STORES IN CEYLON

MADDEMA MILLS CINNAMON
GARDENS.

COLOMBO

Ceylon Offices: Chatham Street.

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DELICIOUS TEA IN TINS

These TEAS have acquired such a world-wide fame that nothing has as yet been found to equal them.

LIPTON

UNRIVALLED TEA IN PACKETS

WHOLESALE AGENT

J. TUSCHE, Serrano No. 35.

LIPTON STORES IN INDIA

HARE ST. STRAND

CALCUTTA

INDIAN OFFICES

DALHOUSIE SQUARE

CALCUTTA

Iquique Notes.

From our own Correspondent.

For some time past the supply of salt water furnished by the Municipality to flush the drains of the private houses and common sewers of the town, has been so scanty that householders have been put to very great inconvenience, and have been obliged to use fresh water to cleanse or flush the sewage and waste-water pipes in their several residences.

This morning at seven o'clock there was no available salt water in the house tanks, and when a fire broke out, at a little after ten a.m., much precious time was lost in obtaining water from the sea, as the tank especially set apart for the use of the fire brigade was quite empty.

Of course, the Municipality is to blame for this state of things; they are culpable for lost lives or property by fire as if they with their own hands placed the fire-brand to the tenement whose burning entails ruin upon the peaceful citizen. Time was when Iquique was second to no city in regard to its safety from extensive fires; but the sewers were made and the pumps that were purchased for the service of the fire brigade have since been called upon to do double work, with results too well known to need any further remarks.

It is quite certain one of two things must happen: either the rate of insurance against fire must rise, or the Municipality must at once provide separate pumps for the flushing of the sewers. Only imagine for an instant what would be the outcome of a break down of the only pumps for the double service in this town! The pestilence that walketh in darkness would be nothing in comparison with the life-wrecking odors that would wander at noonday. Typhoid fever would stalk through the city until death was sated with its ravages, and misery would reign supreme.

The calico fancy dress ball at the Philharmonic was a great success on Saturday the 23rd. The music and supper were all that could be desired, and the fair sex seemed to have added an extra charm to their wonted fascinations.

IQUIQUE SHIPPING.

Arrived.

Feb. 22nd—Louise, Ger.sh., from Newcastle.

"—Quillota, Brit.bk., from Valparaiso.

" 23rd—Gulf of Suez, s.s., from Valparaiso.

Sailed.

Feb. 22nd—Cirie, Fr.sh., for Pisagua.

"—Maria Isabel, Pers.sh., for Pisco.

" 23rd—J. de D. Navarro, Chil.bk., for Melina, in ballast.

"—Pisagua, Ger.sh., for Hamburg.

"—Neko, Ger.s.s., for Valparaiso.

"—R. Roch, Brit.bk., for Caleta Buena, in ballast.

"—Milton, Brit.s.s., for Callao.

"—Louise, Ger.s., for Caleta Buena.

A Wrong that requires Righting

Oruro, Rep. Bolivia.
Feb. 18th, 1895.

To the Editor of

THE WESTERN COURIER,
Valparaiso.

On the 29th of July 1893, Mr. Henry Bolche, an American citizen, miner by profession, was going on foot from his mine in Huanne in Bolivia to his house, a distance of 3 miles, when he was attacked by four native miners armed with shovels and stones. But Bolche being a strong powerful fellow, and the miners seeing they had made a mistake, one of them went and brought a rifle; but Bolche managed to give the others a good thrashing in the meantime. When the rifle came on the scene he had to make tracks for his house; but on the road, missed several articles that he supposed he must have dropped during the fight, he returned to look for them and met some other miners, who told him that the men he had thrashed were raising all the men in the mine to come and kill him. So he started

for his house to arm himself, but was overtaken by a mob of about 50 men, armed with 15 rifles and a shot gun, shovels and stones, howling like wolves; but he managed to reach his house and shut the door.

But this was soon smashed in with stones. He still managed to keep them at bay as he was now armed with a Winchester rifle, but unfortunately, only had 5 cartridges and did not wish to shoot until the last extremity.

The mob seeing that he did not fire became bolder, and some of them went around the back of the house and got on the roof, knocked some holes in it, and started firing through them into the house.

Others tried to set fire to the house but it only smouldered.

Now, what between the bullets and smoke, Bolche was forced to make a bolt for life, intending to shoot down the first that came in his way, only to discover that his rifle would not go off.

However, he got a good start (as the mob entered the house and stole every thing moveable) but soon had to take a rest as he was overcome with fatigue.

While resting, he discovered what was wrong with his rifle, and fixed it; this not a moment too soon, as he also made the discovery that he was surrounded. So he made another dash for life; this time however firing first one shot in the air, and seeing this had no effect, the other four shots on the mob, four of whom dropped wounded, all of whom eventually recovered.

Bolche managed to escape as the mob kept at a safe distance at last ceased to follow him. He then went and complained to the nearest authorities; but of course got no redress.

On August 9th he returned to his mine and started his work and on August 2nd a company of soldiers came and arrested him; treating him brutally and robbing him of all he had they took him to Oruro.

He went before the judge, gave his declaration and was then set at liberty but was advised that he would have to stand his trial. He then went back to the mine to get witnesses for his defence; but was again arrested in two days, although he had succeeded in getting 36 witnesses in his favor.

He was again taken to Oruro thrown into the dirtiest jail in the world.

Bolche then complained to U.S. Minister Grant, who took the matter up and had Bolche provided with a decent room.

On Oct. 22nd the trial finally came off and the district judge gave a decree that Bolche had only acted in self defence; also ordered the arrest of four of the men who attacked Bolche.

The case had then to go to the superior court to be confirmed, which it did.

But the fiscal wanted the court also to decree that Bolche should be paid for all he had lost and called for a new trial.

At this time the news came that Mr. Tyler was appointed U.S. Minister to Bolivia, and nothing was done in the case until February 18th 1894, when Bolche was sent with a guard to Poopo, although he was very ill at the time.

A most inhuman thing knowing there was no medical assistance to be got of any kind. In a few days he was advised that the case was to be tried there, and they sent him back to Oruro to get his witnesses; but on his arrival he was immediately put in jail, until March 14th, so he was unable to get his witnesses, and was sent back to Poopo.

The judge there would not allow the lawyer Bolche brought from Oruro to defend him and sent both the case and Bolche back to Oruro, where the trial was fixed for the 20th of April, but never came off.

Bolche again appealed to the U.S. Minister Mr. Tyler; but everything he demanded of the Bolivian government was either point blank refused or else the authorities in Oruro refused to obey those in La Paz.

The case was then delayed until July 29th 1894, and only two witnesses were examined for the defence out of 36 and one for the prosecution.

This judge gave a decree that Bolche was to be kept in prison for one year and pay all expenses.

The case then went to the superior court and was confirmed although they had decreed quite the opposite and months before.

By the laws of Bolivia this court should decide a case in 21 days, but they took 6 months to come to a decision.

On January 5th 1895, Bolche made and appeal to the Supreme Court, and there it is likely to remain unless Uncle Sam, or some other benevolent cousin, pokes it up a bit.

Bolche is a very decent, honourable man, and well respected by all who know him; yet because he defended himself he is kept in prison 18 months and may be 18 years, as there seems to be no chance that he will get an impartial trial.

This while others who have assassinated in cold blood are at liberty. Amongst these is the man who assassinated Mr. Prime and then escaped from prison in Colquechaca.

Again, although the law allows 10 cents per day to each prisoner to feed himself, they have never given Bolche a red cent although they are giving murderers and robbers 20 cents on account of the depreciation of Bolivian currency, that is providing they have it in the treasury.

It seems to me that the U.S. Minister has not given the attention to this case that he ought to have done and perhaps if you kindly insert this in your valuable paper so as to let the world at large know of the case it may be the means, and earnestly hope of waking him up a bit.

I remain, Mr. Editor,
Yours Sincerely,
COSMOPOLITAN.
Oruro 18th February 1895.

Blot's Lies

Valparaiso, March 1st, 1895,
Editor, of
THE WESTERN COURIER
Present.

Sir,
We have perceived in your paper of 5th January your remarks respecting the delinquencies of Blot; and that you have committed yourself to the extraordinary remark that Blot said he settled with Betteley as regarded selling the false brand of tea by paying him a certain sum of money. A more scandalous allegation we have scarcely ever heard of before. On the contrary, it was patent to every one here the amount of prejudice we suffered in consequence of the very defective laws of this country allowing the scandalous production, of so gross an imitation, (which was the vilest rubbish in the shape of tea, which has ever been introduced into the country). In many places the people absolutely refused to take any more tea Demonio from the fact that unscrupulous people, anxious to make a few more dollars, had foisted upon them the base imitation Anti-Demonio, and being such rubbish were under the impression that the Demonio had fallen off in quality, instead of being, as it has always been the best value tea ever introduced into this country.

We shall feel very much obliged if you will insert this in your next number.

We are, Dear Sir,
Yours truly
BETTELEY & CO.

ED NOTE.—We certainly did commit ourselves to the remark (extraordinary or otherwise) that Blot said he had settled with Messrs. Betteley for selling a false Brand of their tea. But there is a vast deal of difference between that and endorsing Blot's statement. Indeed we went out of our way in the same paragraph to express doubt as to the truthfulness of the assertion.

For the rest, if people allow themselves to be persuaded into purchasing Anti-Demonio instead of the genuine devil they must put up with the consequence.

We stick to Demonio—and see that we get it.

Hame Far Awa.

Written for
THE WESTERN COURIER.

Snell blew the blast,
T'was a South Polar gale,

A wild gurdy night
With a downfall of hail
Long wearied with watching,
To sleep I did fa
In my hammock to dream
Of my hame far awa.

In gleams of sweet fancy,
With love that's divine,
I was wafted away
To the haunts of langsyne;
While the Sun from the lift
Cast a glamour owre a'
The song-thrilling land
Of my hame far awa.

My bright ray of hope.
Ever onward to view,
A ray when in darkness
A star keekit through;
While joy blinking bonnie
So balmy did draw
The heaven grit love
For my hame far awa.

Ah! nameless the pleasure
My bosom core thrills,
At a sight of the glacks
Of the dear heather hills;
Or adown winding nith
By the ivy crowned w'a
Of roofless Lincluden—
In my hame far awa

For the home of my youth
Where the tartan waves free,
At the altar of faith
With a lowly bent knee.
To Him who takes tent
Of the sparrows that fa',
His blessings to shed
On my hame far awa.

I saw the old steading
Where first I saw light;
The ingle lowe brunt
Just as cheerie and bright:
The wee laughing bairnies
So proudly did crawl,
That melted my heart
For my hame far awa.

My kindly old Mother
Her heart beat with joy;
Long and sore had she mourned
The fate of her boy.
Her noble brow bent
With the tresses of snaw,
Old time never waits
In my hame far awa.

My sisters and brothers
Around methey came;
Their tears spoke of one —
A dearly loved name.
My heart was not schooled
For the weary doonfa'—
Our father had gone
Yo his hame far awa.

All hail the auld hame!
May the bright star of peace
Shed a halo of love
Around thee—Dumfries!
How base is the heart
That would ever misca
The birth place of freedom—
My hame far awa!

By moss covered cairns
Where the brown heather waves,
And the heath never pressed
By the foot fall of slaves.
The land of leal hearts
Ever ready to draw
The sword for their faith—
In my hame far awa.
With a heart fidgin' fain
What I've done, and I've dared
To wander once more
Through St. Michael's Kirk-yard;
Near the green grassy mounds
With a silen t fit-fa'—
At thy grave, Robert Burns,
In my hame far awa.

On the "Auld-brig again
I saw bonnie Troqueer,
While the rush of the "caul"
So thrilling to hear.
In the distance the dock
With the lime trees so braw,
Were as green as langsyne
In my hame far awa.

Old friends came around me,
Their hands locked in mine;
Just a shake,—BONNIE DOON
For the sake of langsyne,
Recollections long cherished
They would fondly reca',
Leal and true are the friends
In my hame far awa.

At the old trysting tree
Sad thoughts ow're me steal:

It was there bonnie Mary
I bade thee, farewell.
Our love knots were parted,
Our vows rent in twa,
Ah! a light glints the less
In my hame far awa.

Increasing the gale,
And a wild sea abeam,
I awoke—the ship pitching
And found "hame" a dream
But come, weal or woe
Or whatever bef' a'
My warm heart aye beats
For my hame far awa!

BONNIE DOON.

Coronel, 26. 2. 95.

Jewish Colonisation in South America.

Dear WESTERN COURIER.

I send you an article on the Colonization question in the Argentine Republic, which I consider will be of great interest to your readers and to Chile in general. Try to find room for it.

And oblige, sincerely yours,
B. B.

Casilla 243.

EDITORIAL OF "JEWISH CHRONICLE."

This week we publish the full text of a Consular Report on the Hirsch Colonies in Argentina, drawn up by Her Majesty's Vice Consul at Buenos Ayres, Mr. Gastrell. Primarily, the series of Foreign Office Reports to which this paper belongs is intended for the information of the British merchant or investor. But from the nature of the subject, and from the economic conditions which exist in all the older States, it is invested with a far wider and far more important bearing upon human interests. Mr. Gastrell has consequently preferred, and wisely, to regard his subject not as an isolated question, but as part of a very large and very important problem, the settlement of the surplus population of European countries. It is from the standpoint of the statesman and social economist, that the Vice-Consul has endeavoured to examine the position of the Jewish Colonies, and he succeeds in making patent many of the peculiar conditions under which the settlements were founded, and the peculiar difficulties with which the successive administrators have had to contend.

The nature of those difficulties has been repeatedly pointed out in our columns by Colonel Goldsmid, by his able successor Mr. Kogan, by independent witnesses who knew Argentina and were well acquainted with the Russo-Jewish emigrant, and but recently by the report of the Jewish Colonisation Association; yet it is satisfactory to find that an unbiased critic on the spot has been convinced that the difficulties were by no means exaggerated, and that the only possible method of overcoming them has been adopted. Mr. Gastrell insists that the Jewish colonist cannot be treated as an English immigrant, who has been trained in independence and self reliance from his earliest years. These very qualities have to be implanted and carefully developed in the Russian Jew.

Where there has been failure in a settlement, as in Canada, for example the fact is probably due not to too much nursing, as a recent writer on Canadian farming maintained, but to too little. "The agriculturist Jew has to learn everything, and requires to be practically taught his business." And the task falls upon the officers and administrators of the Association. Hence comes the other chief block in the progressive development of the colonies. Men of such commanding abilities are not readily found. Good organisers are not necessarily agriculturists, not good farmers capable administrators. Indeed, to-day, the Board of Management in Buenos Ayres is incomplete, because, according to the Report of the Association, which we printed at length on January 12th, there has not yet been found "a person possessing the necessary qualifications."

The achievements of the Association however, in spite of the circumstances amid which it worked, are of a nature

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Elecdicators
Telephones
Batteries
Galvanized Wire.

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Bandera 49A, Santiago.

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to attract the careful consideration of the thinking public of every nation. The stress of political environments has compelled our race yet once again to become the teachers of mankind and this time in a sphere carefully closed to the Jew throughout ages and centuries.

That the Jew should ever become the pioneer in the solution of the surplus population problem or in the regeneration of that industry which Napoleon declared was of vital importance to every state, would have seemed absolutely incredible to farmers of the last generation. Yet this is actually the fact to day. It is because there are millions in the civilised part of the earth, distinguished by many of the characteristics of the oppressed Russian Jews, that the experiment in Argentina is so vitally interesting to the statesman and the philanthropist.

If Baron de Hirsch has at present confined his attention to the immediate relief of our Russian correligionists, he has not failed to regard colonisation, nursed by the best ability obtainable and abundant capital, from a broadly humanitarian point of view. Naturally, the Argentine success would induce Jewish leaders of opinion to consider seriously the idea of implanting those already resident in a country on the land should there be individuals among them adapted for agricultural pursuits. It has not yet, however, occurred to anyone to urge what Mr. Gastrell anticipates, the foundation "of other similar associations to take Jews from Russia or elsewhere, and to plant them not only out of Europe, but in any European country." Only countries such as the South American States and Africa, Australia, Canada, or our ancient heritage Palestine, can be seriously considered as adapted for agricultural colonies coming from without.

We may remember that for half a century past there have been Jewish agricultural settlements in Russia it self, and it was sad that they were disturbed. The importance of Baron de Hirsch's experiment for the world at large lies in its demonstration of the feasibility of re-converting effeminated town populations to the harder use of tillers of the earth.

In its purely Jewish aspect the report before us may be regarded as absolutely confirming the wisdom of selecting Argentina for Baron de Hirsch's colossal scheme. The very men engaged to organise the colonies were convinced that the plan was doomed to failure, and *prima facie* their opinions appeared to be justified. They have however, been convinced despite previous conviction that success is bound to come, and to-day, probably, there is no firmer believer in the future of the Russo-Jewish settlements than Mr. Kogan. That his are also the feelings of the people on the spot is borne out by the tone of the Vice-Consul's report, which, of course, must be largely influenced by local and official opinion.

The Statesmen of Argentina are confirmed in their attitude towards the immigrants in whom they recognise the qualities calculated to advance the moral and material welfare of the State. "Now that the Jewish colonies have proved a success in practical hands the Government views these settlements with still more favour as it is well aware of the Republic's need for more labourers." No opposition to the natural growth of the colonies is therefore to be feared from this quarter. Indeed, probably every facility will be afforded for future development. The difficulties are now of a purely material nature, and these are being provided for by the establishment of cattle-farms, whence the large supply of yoke-oxen may in future be drawn. The greatest task which the Association has set itself to perform: it has apparently accomplished. It is fast restoring our correligionists to the land, and it has readily convinced every independent critic that the Jew may be rendered an efficient agriculturist and a self-reliant citizen.

The Chileno Abroad

(Contributed.)

It was commonly conceded in California that the working people who came from Chile were of two classes,

without an intermediate one, and a Chileno was either very good or very bad, and my experience agrees with this opinion.

In harvest times the Chileno was paid over any other workman to feed the Thrashing Machines, for they had a peculiar knack of rushing more straw through in one day, and with more regularity in quantity than was done by anybody else. Such men were generally sober and free from habitual drinking, unlike our own American workmen. Besides being more sober, they had more self respect, and many of them had a house and small lot of land of their own in the small villages in the farming districts; they paid more attention to cleanliness, and in clothing themselves and their families than in their original homes; their houses inside and outside were kept neat and clean, their children were sent to the public schools. Working eight months in the year, with occasional odd jobs in winter, they always contrived to pay their debts, and save a little money as well as support themselves and families in comfort.

The bad classes and hard characters, the less numerous of the two, were generally prowlers all over the country, petty thieves, or horse stealers, often drunk and disorderly; they were frequently inmates of the jails, they were a pest, and anything but desirable citizens.

Practising law at one time, sometimes before the Justice of the Peace, at other times before the County Court, I was often called upon by Chilenos to protect or defend them, as the case might be; in one case I fully experienced what a bad Chileno was.

A common fellow calling himself Antonio Gomes, professed to have been born at an Hacienda near Quillota; he came to me with a complaint that two Irishmen had in their possession a horse stolen from him, and they refused to give it up; consequently he called upon me professionally showing his Bill of Sale, and he agreed to pay me for my services the sum of fifty dollars, he paying all Court expenses. I had the horse replevied by the Sheriff through and order from Court, and the animal was placed in the hands of the owner of a Livery Stable, with strict injunctions not to allow it to be seen by any one without an order from the proper authority.

The day for the trial of ownership arrived, and the opposite party produced their bill of sale of previous date to the one they presented, and five witnesses of my client were at hand to prove former possession, who declared him the real owner and that they knew when he bought it. These witnesses were unknown to the neighborhood, and declared themselves countrymen of my client.

The court took recess for dinner hour. In the mean time a third party put in a claim unknown at the adjournment, and they declared the horse had been stolen from them as they would prove. When the Court opened again I was not aware of what had been done, and was rather taken aback to learn that new proceedings were to take place, having believed the case won just before.

After certain preliminaries were gone through, the new claimant asked that the Judge and the Jury should proceed to the place where the horse was kept, to examine the brand, and have the hip shaved to find out if the brand had not been altered, at the same time handing to the court the Iron: a written paper was also handed to the Judge to be opened when asked for by the one who presented it.

Each claimant was questioned for full description of the horse, brand, spots, and any other peculiarities regarding him. Beginning with the first claimant and his witnesses, each one told all he knew; but the last claimant proved beyond a doubt that the brand had been altered. Furthermore the horse recognised this man, and when he put his hand out and asked the horse to shake hands, the animal lifted his fore foot quite naturally and placed in the hand of the man; a healed wound which left a small scarce observable hollow far back on the breast between the fore legs was called to the attention of all present.

The Court then proceeded to the Court; the Sheriff mounted his horse leading the other, and arriving with the other parties concerned, he hitched

the two animals to a hitching post and entered the audience room. The third party proved his claim beyond any doubt, and proved that he had raised the horse from the time of its being foaled, and that it was stolen from him. The Jury without leaving their seats gave in their verdict in favor of the third claimant, and the Judge declared each party were to pay their own expenses and court fees.

No sooner were the words out of the judge's mouth, than I observed my client pass out of one door leading down a stair case, while the Sheriff entered the room by the other, and the case being dismissed, the many spectators attracted to the court by the singular case of three claimants to a horse, and who from curiosity came to hear the evidence, began to file out of the room. It was seen that two deputies stood one on each at the two doors, and the Sheriff seemed anxious to meet someone; but when the room was empty, he searched every corner carefully, but finding no one he and his deputies hurried down stairs to the street in front of the building. For a short time the three men passed in amongst the people gathered together when all of a sudden the Sheriff missed his horse, and also the other one formerly in dispute.

The rest was soon shown. The Chileno with a companion had descended the stair case and had gone directly to the horses, unhitched them and ridden away, and the Sheriff found himself minus a \$ 300, horse and a fine saddle and bridle. I found myself minus my fee and my expenses; the owner of the horse found himself out of pocket to the amount of about \$35, beside the value of animals; the Clerk of the Court of course lost his fees.

I never heard the last of this suit; it was a standing joke always cracked at my expense; and whatever became of the thieves, horses, etc., I never heard, neither did the other interested parties; but I learned my lesson, to be more particular in my Chilean Clients, and to enquire to what class they belonged. One thing I will say that very few men of this class did I meet in my profession; on the contrary with very few exceptions I found them sincere and honest.

JACK BLODGET.

The Right of Revolution.

(Review of the River Plate.)

Now that the supreme power of the nation, and the national representative as well, have again committed themselves definitely to the opinion that rebellion is an offence which may be readily condoned, we may expect a good deal of criticism more candid perhaps than enlightened, from the European journals that interest themselves in Argentina and indeed in South American affairs.

We have never hesitated to express the opinion that the extreme leniency with which such crimes are regarded and the readiness with which they are condoned, constitute obstacles of the most serious kind in the way of national advancement, and tend to increase the very natural reluctance of the European investor to risk his money in countries where rebellion is not only left unpunished, but is frequently elevated to the level of a patriotic duty.

At this juncture, however, we think it wise, especially in the interest of our English readers, to take some pains to make clear to them the extent and the explanation of what must appear in the eyes of those who live in

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to be an extraordinary instance of obliquity of political vision, and natural incapacity for self-government.

The only government that has a right to exact perfect obedience is a perfect government.

There is no natural obligation to obey unjust laws. The question is one of political expediency. If the government of the country is on the whole for the benefit of the people, it is wrong and in certain circumstances it may be criminal, to endanger the existence of that government and create

public disorder for the sake of effecting some particular reform.

This view was carried to an extreme in England at one time, when Radicals and Chartists, whom we now recognise to have been very moderate reformers indeed, were charged on by cavalry, and committed to prison, for exercising their just right of public meeting.

In some cases the only effective protest that can be made against oppressive laws is to disobey them, a method which has the disadvantage, in a country with a strong government, of placing the reformer in the category of criminal.

Such a course is only an extreme one to be adopted only in the direst extremity and to be regarded with the greatest suspicion, where the government is one amenable to public opinion.

The supreme justification of armed risings against public authority is found in the case where that authority is tyrannical and oppressive, and where legal and recognised means have failed to bring it to reason. The appeal to arms is the inalienable right of the citizens, they have placed the sword in the hands of the authorities, and if it is used against them, they have a right to protest, by force of arms if need be. It is no argument to say that they are provided with constitutional method of protesting, if experience has taught them that these methods are ineffectual. In such a case revolutions are the evidence of political life, just as the administration of lynch law in a community where criminals have been allowed by the authorities to go scot free is the evidence of an abiding sense of justice.

In judging in South American revolutions, therefore, we must be careful not to apply the hard and fast rules which are applicable in countries where the people has achieved its freedom, and where the constitutional channels for the expression of its will are in full working order. We must apply to each revolution the standard of public expediency, and not condemn it right away as a violation of law and a breach of order. The law of England frequently shows a similar tolerance in the case of individuals who have been compelled, as the phrase goes, "to take the law into their own hands;" the awarding of nominal damages for assault in an undoubted case of breach of the peace is tantamount to an acquittal. The technical offence is condoned, in view of the justifying circumstances. Somewhat similar must be our way of viewing South American revolution. Theoretically, the freedom of the people is perfect: their rulers are elected by the people and they are always liable to be called to account for the way in which they discharge their trust. But practically the case is far different: the right of people to select their rulers and representatives is overridden by an irresponsible oligarchy, who have held the power so long that they have come to regard it as their natural right; and they are not above resorting to the basest means for the purpose of debauching the constituencies, and ensuring a continuance in power.

In such circumstances, there can be no doubt that the natural right of the people to control their rulers, and to depose them, by force if necessary, emerges.

Some of the revolutions that have taken place in the South American continent have been strictly necessary and unavoidable in this way: the rising against the Spanish yoke in which most of the republics originated the expulsion of Rosas, the deposition of Juarez Celman, and possibly that of Balmaceda, may be taken as instances.

But it is the greatest of misfortunes for a country when chronic revolution comes to be regarded as its normal state, and our politicians do not seem to recognise how perilously near we have got to this stage: of this fact European observers have formed on the whole a juster opinion than ourselves. What they say is that government in this continent appears to consist of little more than the swing from one revolutionary policy to another; for the parties that call themselves conservatives perpetuate the grievances which lead to revolution, for which

they are therefore responsible: in fact to adapt an old epigram, the government is an oligarchy tempered by revolution, and the revolution is as well recognised and as respected a factor as the oligarchy.

It is an old-fashioned, and a somewhat rough and ready rule, but a rule which is on the whole trustworthy and practical, that a revolution is only justified by success: an unsuccessful revolution is a crime.

If a little more attention were paid to this rule, if unsuccessful revolutionists were treated as the conspirators they really are, we should have fewer of those abortive revolutions, whose only results are the demoralisation of the army, the desorganisation of trade, and the destruction of confidence.

In the establishment of such a view there are many difficulties to be overcome.

That "sentiment" whose lack is the defect of the Anglo-Saxon, is the will of the wisp that leads astray almost all our leaders, and lands them time and again in the quagmires of anarchy.

The Republic was founded by revolution, they say, and by revolution it has progressed; they do not stop to enquire whether a more excellent way of progress might now be found. All the evils of present and comparatively causeless revolutions are condoned in virtue of what revolution has done in times past.

Can our rulers and our political leaders (for they are all alike guilty, with the exception of the ex-President whom they despise), not be brought to see that the day for such a haphazard style of government, if government that may be called which is the negation of all government, is past for ever? If they cannot be enlightened in this respect, we greatly fear that European capitalist will tire of supplying the elements of a progress which is to be credited entirely to the methods he at once fears and despises.

Kalendar for the Week

ENDING 16TH MARCH, 1895.

Day of Month	Day of Week	Ecclesiastical Colour	REMARKS
Mar. 10	*F	V	Second Sunday in Lent. Prince of Wales married, 1863. Sun rises (Valparaiso) 5.56; sets 6.24.
11	M.	V	Full moon. Total eclipse visible in Chile. Income tax introduced, 1842.
12	Tu.	V	St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Theologian, 604. I. L. Toole born, 1830.
13	W	V	Czar of Russia killed, 1881 (Alexander II.) Duke of Connaught married, 1879.
14	Th	V	Battle of Los Loros, 1859. King Humbert of Italy born, 1844.
15	F	V	Battle of Aurachiri, Peru, 1815. Great fire in Valparaiso, 1848.
16	S	V	Duchess of Kent, Queen's mother died, 1861.
17	F	W	Third Sunday in Lent. St. Patrick, Bishop, Apostle of Ireland, died, 464. Sun rises 6.01; sets 6.16. Decrease in length of day during week, 13 minutes. Altogether a decrease of 2 hours 4 minutes since 21st December, the longest day.

*F, Dominical or Sunday letter for 1895. V., violet, for penitential seasons, e.g., from Septuagesima, and during Lent until Maunday Thursday. W, white, on Feasts of Saints, not martyrs. These colours are for the altar frontals, etc., for the super-frontal preferably red.

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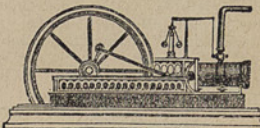
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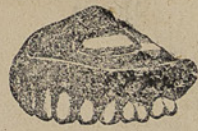
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