

THE
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NOVEMBER, 1894

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(ENGLISH AND SPANISH.)

CHAPTER V.

SHEEP.

FEEDING FOR WOOL.

Few shepherds take sufficient thought of the necessities of the fleece in the feeding of the flock. And yet in the majority of cases, this is the most important part of their business. The wool of the sheep is a special product and calls for special feeding. It is a highly nitrogenous substance, and thus needs food of the same character for its quality. In all feeding there are two important ends to be thought of. One is the sustenance of the animal and the other the special product of it. In feeding cows for butter the expert dairyman gives the most particular care to his special product, but the shepherd rarely does so. When a cow is to be tested for butter product, the food is selected with the utmost care in regard to the fitness of it for the end in view. But how few wool-growers take thought in this direction.

It is well known by all intelligent shepherds that the least fault in the condition of the sheep is apparent in the wool. There are weak spots in it where the fiber has not been nourished sufficiently, or where the sheep has been subject to some adversity. The wool suffers, but the sheep escapes,

just as if the fleece were a safety valve or a spring to take up some extra pressure on the animal. And this is true. The first necessity of the animal is to live. The next is to store up any surplus vitality in the fleece. And in a ewe the lamb comes in between these two necessities. Thus, the fleece gets the surplus nutriment after the sheep and the lamb are provided for.

Wool consists of about 80 per cent of carbohydrates, 16 per cent of nitrogen, and nearly 4 per cent of sulphur. It has nearly the same composition as skin, and is really an out-growth of the skin. In the winter-feeding of sheep, which is the period of the greatest growth of the fleece, it is well known how frequently the sheep suffers in regard to the condition of the skin, and how this affects the fleece. The wool falls off, and under the bare spots, the skin is red and irritated so that the animal bites it. When this happens, the wool is found to be dry, and the natural grease and yolk deficient in it. This is due in every case to some fault in feeding. Perhaps this is irregular, or it is overdone, or the food is wanting in proper nutriment. It is very certain that very little care is given as to the selection of food, except by the expert shepherds who have had long experience to guide them, but even many of these need to give more study to the wool-growing part of their business, and this is proved by the very irregular weights and qualities of the fleeces at the shearing exhibitions.

There are two main considerations that concern the feeder of the flock that is kept for wool. One is nutritive quality of the food, and the other is digestibility. Or one is the right material to be used, and the other its availability. Both are equally important. Certainly, the food must be rich in nitrogen, because the fleece is nothing less than so much flesh that must be put on the animal. It must also be rich in fat-forming elements, because the yolk and grease are so much fat, if they are outside the carcass. But food rich in nitrogen is difficult of digestion, and all animals fed on such food require the other elements to be such as will aid in the digestion of it. It is on this account that roots are

found so useful for sheep. The reason is that they are wholly digestible, are healthfully laxative, and aid greatly to make other food more digestible. Thus it might go without saying that the best wool is the product of root-fed sheep. And that this is so, we have to look only to the English flocks, whose wool is the best in the world, and this because the sheep are fed for the production of the best mutton in the world. The wool is simply flesh in another form, but chemically identified in composition. And roots form a standard part of the feeding of the English flocks. Experience has proved that the change from this kind of feeding, when sheep have been imported to America, has been the cause of the rapid deterioration of the animals, and the disappointment of their new owners. No doubt, the culture of root crops must be more generally adopted if we wish to excel in the growth of the sheep and the best kinds of wool. The Canadian sheep greatly surpass those of the United States. This may be attributed to the better feeding by the Canadian shepherds. They use more roots and peas. Peas are highly nitrogenous. The 19 per cent of legumin, which this grain contains, has almost the identical composition of wool. Chemically considered, a typical ration for sheep might consist wholly of peas. For a wool-bearing ewe that is carrying a lamb, peas contain the exact elements that are required for the wool and the milk, excepting some of the fat needed. Thus this grain, with some fat-making food, would make up the most nutritious food for a wool-bearing flock. Corn would supply the deficiency in fat. But alone, this grain is a most undesirable food for sheep. Why it is so is apparent, considering the above facts. And the prevailing corn feeding is unquestionably the cause of much loss and disappointment among beginners in sheep-keeping. Clover hay, is, no doubt, the best rough fodder for sheep. But it must be in the best condition and quite free from mold. This defect of clover hay is quite common, due, perhaps, to the difficulty in curing it. But mildew has a bad effect on the sheep by reason of its inflammatory effect on the system and its almost immediate result on the skin, causing irritation

and congestion, by which the wool is deprived of nutriment and loses its attachment to the skin and falls off. In one case, a flock that was doing well were fed on moldy clover hay, and in a week the wool was loosening, and by the spring, half the flock were almost wholly bare. That flock, as might be expected, reared but few lambs, and the ewes had but little milk.

Protection from extremes of weather is necessary for the good quality of the fleece. Wet has a bad effect on the wool of sheep that are crowded together, and all sheep are fond of huddling. The wet wool, under the pressure and influence of warmth, felts, or as it is termed, becomes "cotted," and in some cases splits, and the split ends interlace and mat together. This, of course, destroys the value of the fleece. German shepherds clothe their sheep to protect them from the winter rains, and the English grease the fleeces. These precautions are almost unknown here, but it may sometimes be found profitable at least to protect the sheep for the sake of the quality of the fleece.

But no doubt the most effective means of improving the wool is to produce good mutton. Even the Merino may be made a mutton sheep. The fine French Rambouillet sheep is as good an animal as could be desired, and the Delaine sheep of parts of New York and Ohio is equally good for its carcass. But without roots for the winter feeding and better pastures, it is vain to expect excellent mutton, and this brings us round again to the previous remark that root growing must be the basis of excellent wool.

TO FATTEN SHEEP.

Sheep should always be fed with the utmost regularity, and though fond of variety, feeding sheep resent a sudden change to an unaccustomed feed stuff. Hence combination of feeds is better than change—that is, let the day's ration comprise a portion of all the feed stuffs—say one in the morning, a second at noon, and a third at night. There are many devices for keeping them clean between feeds; perhaps as simple and effectual way as any is to have the troughs set loosely on

notched cross-boards ; then they can easily be turned bottom up when not in use.

Water should be provided in abundance, and of a temperature not below an ordinary cistern or well. In very cold weather the matter of watering can be regulated only by pumping a number of times a day ; the surplus, if any, may be tipped out of the trough into a waste trough, and conveyed out of the building to prevent freezing. A sheep that is full fed on heating grain requires water several times a day, else it will not thrive. The same remark is true as to salt.

With swine it is a bad practice to keep grain lying by them ; with sheep it is worse, it is ruinous. The sheep is the most fastidious of all domestic animals ; it will contend stoutly for the first place next to the pump spout or a certain clean corner in the grain trough. For this reason, all troughs should be turned over or covered tight the moment they are emptied, to prevent any foulness from accumulation. Whatever grain is given, the flock should be watched while they eat it ; if a few are a little "off their feed" on account of muggy weather or other cause, the hearty eaters should not be allowed to linger and consume the residue of feed. They should be promptly driven from the troughs and the remaining feed removed, else they, too, will be in danger of getting "off their feed."

A good grain for fattening sheep is shelled corn, one-half ; barley or rye, one-quarter ; oats, one-quarter. Years of experience satisfies us that it pays, unless the mill is very remote, to have all grains ground, even for sheep, and the finer the better ; the process of resalivation will be just as well performed with meal, as with grain ; there is much grain that will escape the act of regurgitation and remastication ; and, most important consideration of all, the particles of grain have to be reduced, either by the mill, the teeth or the stomach, infinitesimally small before they will lend themselves to the great work of nutrition. We would have corn meal ground nearly as fine as wheat flour, if possible ; then the waste will be reduced to a minimum, and the process of alimentation will be best promoted.

Sheep that have been shut up to be fattened do not require any more exercise; they are supposed to have made their muscles, and now they are to develop fat, which requires rest. To this end, they should be kept not only quiet but absolutely dry. There is no other sure method of keeping them free from catarrh and "snuffles," and no sheep can fatten with its nostrils half stopped up with disgusting accumulations of mucous. It needs all the air it can obtain by the deepest and fullest inhalations to oxygenate and assimilate the immense amount of concentrated feed which is being taken into the stomach and ultimately into the blood. Though requiring to be dry, both above and under foot, the sheep-house should not be warm and steamy. Glass windows should exclude the storms, but be opened to admit the air freely at all other times, and that at a sufficient elevation not to strike the sheep directly.

Whether in the sheep-house or in the feeding yard adjacent, the grain troughs should be flat bottomed to prevent the master sheep from heaping up food and exercising monopoly.

From the time the flock is put into the yard to begin the fattening process, it should be nearly or quite a month before the ration of grain is increased up to their full capacity of consumption. An increase of two quarts a day will carry the feed in that time from one bushel up to three per day; and that amount of corn or meal is about all that 100 average Merino or Southdown wethers can be induced to eat, with plenty of clover hay. It is best to divide this into two feeds; one at noon, another at night. Grain feeding in the morning is not advisable; some sheep have a human sluggishness and lack of appetite upon rising.

(To be continued.)

GANADO AMERICANO.

CAPÍTULO V.

LOS CARNEROS.

ALIMENTACIÓN NECESARIA PARA LA PRODUCCIÓN DE LA LANA.

Pocos criadores han estudiado suficientemente las necesidades del carnero en lo relativo á su alimentación para poder decir con exactitud la que debe dársele á fin de que produzca la mayor cantidad de lana, ó la lana de mejor clase; y sin embargo, en la gran mayoría de los casos, esta es la parte más importante de su industria. La lana del carnero es un producto de naturaleza especial que requiere alimentación también especial. Es una sustancia altamente azoada que requiere, por lo tanto, que el alimento del animal que la produce sea de la misma clase. Dos son siempre los propósitos del alimento: uno es el sostenimiento del animal, otro es la producción del artículo especial que se trata de obtener con él. Cuando se crían vacas con el objeto especial de la producción de mantequilla, los vaqueros expertos atienden con más empeño á lo que favorece la producción de este artículo, y elijen con el mayor cuidado el alimento más á propósito para este objeto. Pero; cuán raros son los criadores de carneros que se preocupan de este asunto!

Es cosa bien sabida entre todos los que entienden el manejo de los carneros que la menor cosa que se experimente en ellos aparece de momento en la lana. Si el animal no ha sido alimentado suficientemente hay puntos en la fibra de la lana que carecen de la fuerza debida. Lo mismo sucede cuando el carnero ha sufrido algun contratiempo. En muchos casos el animal recupera aparentemente sus fuerzas, pero la

lana atestigua la prueba más ó menos severa á que el carnero ha estado sujeto. La primera necesidad del animal es vivir; después viene la de emplear todo el exceso de vitalidad que pueda haber en él en la producción de la lana; y cuando se trata de una oveja, hay que añadir á estas dos necesidades las relativas á la conservación del cordero. En este último caso la alimentación ha de ser calculada, primero para la oveja misma, después para el cordero, después para la cualidad y cantidad de la lana.

La lana consiste en cerca de un 80 por ciento de carburos de hidrógeno, un 16 por ciento de azoe y cerca de un 4 por ciento de azufre. Tiene casi la misma composición que la piel, y en realidad no es otra cosa que una producción de este último órgano. En el invierno, que es el período del mayor crecimiento de la lana, es cosa bien sabida por todos los criadores que el animal sufre frecuentemente por el estado de su piel, y que en ese caso se le cae la lana dejando espacios calvos, de color rojo, y tan encendidos é irritados, que el animal se está mordiendo constantemente. Cuando esto sucede, la lana es seca y carece de su grasa y suavidad natural. Puede decirse que esto es siempre debido á alguna falta en la alimentación, bién porque sea irregular, bién porque sea excesiva, bién porque carezca de los elementos nutritivos que son necesarios. Es por desgracia demasiado cierto que se tiene muy poco cuidado en la elección del alimento que debe darse al carnero, y que solo alguno que otro entendido pastor de grande experiencia se ocupa de este asunto. Aún en este último caso, mucho queda por hacer con respecto á la producción de la lana, como se demuestra por las grandes irregularidades en el peso y cualidad de este artículo, cual ha sido exhibido en las exposiciones.

Hay dos consideraciones principales en lo que concierne á la alimentación de los carneros para el objeto de que produzcan buena lana. Una es la cualidad nutritiva del alimento, y otra la de la mayor ó menor digestibilidad de este. Una es la del material propio que deba usarse, y otra la de su mayor aprovechamiento. Las dos son igualmente importantes.

Ciertamente el alimento debe ser rico en azoe, porque la

lana necesita mucha cantidad de esta sustancia. También debe ser rico en elementos que formen grasa, porque la lana debe contenerla. Pero el alimento muy rico en azoe es de difícil digestión, y hay que mezclarlo por lo tanto con otros que la hagan fácil. Es por esta causa que las raíces son tan buenas para los carneros, pues que además de digerirse bien producen un saludable efecto laxante y contribuyen mucho á hacer asimilables los demás alimentos. De aquí resulta, como un hecho demostrado, que la mejor lana es la de los carneros alimentados con raíces. Para demostrarlo bastaría solo con echar una mirada á los rebaños ingleses, cuya lana es la mejor del mundo, y aunque los carneros se crían con el objeto de que produzcan buena carne para venderse en el mercado. La lana difiere de la carne simplemente en la forma, pero una y otra son idénticas en cuanto á composición química. Las raíces forman el elemento principal en la alimentación de los rebaños ingleses, y la experiencia ha demostrado que un cambio de este régimen, cuando el animal ha sido importado en América, produjo siempre un desmejoramiento notable en la constitución del carnero y un desengaño doloroso en sus nuevos propietarios. No hay duda de que debe adoptarse con mayor generalidad el cultivo de aquellas plantas que tienen raíces propias para este objeto, si se quiere que los carneros se desarrollen bien y produzcan lana de la mejor calidad.

El carnero del Canadá es superior en mucho al de los Estados Unidos, y esto depende solo de su mejor alimentación, efectuada, por lo común, con raíces y con chícharos. Estos últimos contienen mucho azoe, y el 19 por ciento de la legúmina que existe en este grano presenta una composición casi idéntica á la de la lana. Si se atendiese solamente al punto de vista químico, el alimento de los carneros debiera consistir únicamente en chícharos. Para las ovejas, cuando están preñadas, este grano es también el mejor, pues que contiene precisamente los elementos que se requieren para producir así la lana como la leche, faltándole solo algunos de los elementos productores de grasa; y si estos se le agregan se obtendrá seguramente el alimento más

nutritivo posible para las ovejas en este estado. El maíz es un alimento bueno para el efecto de proveer de grasa; pero si se dá exclusivamente, sus efectos serán perniciosos para el carnero. La razón de esto es bién clara, si se consideran debidamente los hechos expuestos. Puede decirse sin temor de errar que la alimentación de los carneros con solo maíz es causa de muchas pérdidas y de muchos desengaños entre los que empiezan á ejercitarse en la crianza.

El heno de alfalfa es sin duda el mejor forraje ordinario para los carneros, pero debe estar en la mejor condición posible y enteramente libre de musgo. Es muy común que la alfalfa tenga este defecto, que es muy pernicioso para los carneros, pues que produce en ellos un efecto inflamatorio, de que resulta una grande irritación y congestión de la piel, que priva á la lana del alimento debido y determina su caída. Hubo un caso en que al cabo de una semana de alimentación con heno de alfalfa que estaba enmohecido empezó á aflojarse la lana de los carneros que formaban el rebaño, y que hasta entonces habían estado muy lozanos: y cuando llegó la primavera la mitad de ellos se encontraba completamente sin lana. Además de esto, como era de esperarse, hubo en el rebaño muy pocos corderos y las ovejas no tenían sino muy poca leche.

Otra cosa que se necesita para la buena calidad de la lana, es la protección del animal contra las extremas inclemencias del tiempo. La humedad tiene muy mal efecto sobre la lana de los carneros, sobre todo cuando estos se reúnen y arriman unos á otros estrechamente, según es su costumbre. La lana húmeda, oprimida y calentada por los cuerpos de los animales, experimenta una transformación que generalmente termina en que sus hebras se mezclen y apelotonen unas con otras haciéndola por lo tanto perder su valor. En Alemania los pastores ponen á sus carneros un vestido para protegerlos contra las lluvias del invierno. En Inglaterra los pastores los untan con aceite. Pero aquí en los Estados Unidos estas precauciones son casi absolutamente desconocidas. Pudiera ser provechoso sin embargo que se

prestase más atención á este particular, del que depende en tan alto grado la cualidad de la lana.

No hay duda de que el modo más eficaz de mejorar la lana es producir buena carne. Hasta el carnero merino puede hacerse un excelente animal para el matadero. El famoso carnero francés llamado "Rambouillet" es tan bueno para este objeto como el mejor que puede encontrarse, y lo mismo sucede con los carneros "Delaine" que se propagan bién en varias partes de los Estados de New York y Ohio; pero sin tener buenas raíces en el invierno, además de los pastos adecuados, será en vano esperar que el animal tenga excelente carne, y esto nos trae de nuevo á la observación que antes hicimos de que las siembras de plantas con raíces alimenticias deben ser la base en que descansa la producción de una buena lana.

COMO DEBEN ENGORDARSE LOS CARNEROS.

Los carneros deben siempre alimentarse con la mayor regularidad posible, porque aunque á estos animales les gusta mucho la variedad en su comida, sufren siempre más ó menos con cualquiera cambio súbito que en esta se verifica. De aquí resulta que sea siempre mejor la mezcla y combinación de los alimentos que el cambio de ellos, por lo cual es de aconsejarse que la ración de cada día se componga de todos los materiales que han de usarse para la nutrición alternándolos, y dándolos por ejemplo uno de ellos en la mañana, otro al mediodía y otro por la noche. Hay muchos medios de conseguir que no se ensucien entre una comida y otra los dichos materiales, y quizás el medio más sencillo y eficaz para conseguirlo consiste en arreglar los pesebres de tal manera que se les pueda volcar fácilmente y ponerlos boca abajo cuando no están en uso.

Debe haber agua en abundancia y tenerse cuidado de mantenerla á una temperatura que no sea inferior á la de un pozo ó aljibe ordinario. En días de mucho frio la provisión de agua debe hacerse, por medio de bombas, un cierto número de veces al día; y toda el agua que sobre deberá sacarse del establo para impedir que se hiele dentro de él. Un carnero que está alimentado con granos productores de calor requiere que se le

dé agua varias veces al día, pues de lo contrario no prosperará. La misma observación debe hacerse con respecto á la sal.

Es mala costumbre hasta cuando se trata de los puercos dejar los granos regados al rededor. Puede decirse que este hábito es ruinoso cuando se trata de los carneros. Son estos los más delicados de todos los animales domésticos en punto á la limpieza de lo que comen ó beben. A veces pelean con gran tesón por el primer lugar cerca de la canal de la bomba, ó por el lugar más limpio que haya en el pesebre. Esta es la razón porque todos los pesebres deben volcarse ó taparse con cuidado, cuando están vacios, á fin de evitar la acumulación en ellos de ninguna suciedad. Cualquiera que sea el grano que se dé al rebaño, será siempre bueno vigilar con cuidado á los animales mientras lo están comiendo. Si hay algún carnero que no quiere comer, bien por causa del tiempo demasiado caliente ó por otra causa, no por eso se debe dejar que los otros más glotones se detengan por mas tiempo del necesario y consuman todo el alimento. A estos se les debe separar prontamente de los pesebres, recogiendo con cuidado cuanto quede en ellos. Si no se limpian bien los pesebres se corre el riesgo de que aún esos mismos glotones no quieran comer.

Un alimento que puede recomendarse para engordar los carneros consiste en una mezcla de maíz desgranado, cebada ó centeno y avena, en la proporción de una mitad del total volumen para el primero, y una cuarta parte para cada una de las otras. La experiencia de varios años nos ha demostrado que es útil, á no ser que el molino esté muy lejos, usar los dichos granos después de molidos. Aún para los carneros grandes será mejor el grano mientras más finamente esté molido. El acto de la salivación tiene lugar del mismo modo con la harina de dichos granos que con el grano entero; y hay que tener en cuenta que si se usa este último hay muchos granos que se pierden por razón de que el animal los regurgita. La más importante consideración entre todas es la de que las partículas del grano tienen que ser necesariamente reducidas, ya sea por el molino, ya por los dientes, ya

por el estómago, á una masa extremadamente fina, antes de que pueda utilizarse en la grande obra de la nutrición. La harina de maíz debe ser tan fina si es posible como la de trigo; y si esto se hace, los desperdicios quedarán reducidos al minimum, y el procedimiento de la alimentación se verificará con mayor ventaja.

Los carneros encerrados con el objeto de cebarlos no necesitan hacer ejercicio: se supone que ya tienen todo lo que se quiere en cuanto á músculos y que lo que les falta es la gordura, que para desenvolverse requiere el descanso. Es por esta razón que se les debe tener no solo quietos sino absolutamente secos. No hay método más seguro que este último para libertarlos de catarros y obstrucciones en las fosas nasales: y no hay carnero que pueda engordar cuando tiene las narices medio tupidas con asquerosas acumulaciones de sustancias mucosas.

El carnero necesita todo el aire que pueda obtener, y sus órganos respiratorios requieren la más amplia y libre inhalación de aquel fluido, para oxigenar y asimilar la inmensa cantidad de alimento concentrado que penetra en su estómago y se convierte últimamente en sangre.

Aunque se requiere que el carnero esté en lugar seco, el establo no debe ser caliente ni humeante. Los vidrios de las ventanas, excelentes para impedir que el agua penetre, deben estar abiertos para dar entrada libre al aire en todo el resto del tiempo, y las ventanas deben estar colocadas á suficiente altura para que el carnero no se encuentre directamente en la corriente.

Bien sea en el interior del establo, bien en el corral inmediato, los pesebres deben ser de fondo plano á fin de evitar mayor acumulación de grano en alguno de ellos, en detrimento de la igualdad que debe observarse con todos.

Desde el momento en que el rebaño entra en el corral para empezar á ser cebado hasta aquel en que se le dá el maximum posible del alimento, ha de pasar por lo menos un mes, puesto que el aumento debe ser gradual. Un aumento de dos litros por día hará que al cabo del tiempo indicado la ración haya subido de uno á tres "bushels" diarios, que es la mayor canti

dad de maíz ó de harina de maíz que cien carneros merinos ó "Southdowns" pueden ser inducidos á comer cuando tienen bastante heno de alfalfa. Es mejor que se divida esto en dos comidas, una al mediodía y otra por la noche. Darles grano por la mañana no es siempre bueno: hay algunos carneros que tienen falta de apetito y de habilidad de digestión en las primeras horas del día.

(Continuará.)

MEXICO.

It is learned that the Department of Communications has approved the location of the line of the Mexico, Cuernavaca and Pacific Railway from Cuernavaca to Acapulco, a distance of about 175 miles.

The route surveyed will open up the rich States of Morelas and Guerrero, the latter being especially rich in gold mines, now in operation and being prospected.

A federal decree has been published in the official organ of Mexico, *El Diario Oficial*, ordering a general census of the inhabitants to be taken on October 20, 1895.

To insure the success of the undertaking the Department of Encouragement has issued circulars to the various local authorities containing preliminary instructions as to how to proceed in the work.

From the *Mexican Financier* of November 3 it is learned that the Secretary of the Treasury has petitioned Congress for authority to impose a special tax of 25 cents per ton on all merchandise entering or leaving the country by way of Vera Cruz, for the purpose of defraying the cost of the new customs warehouse to be erected at that port.

ARGENTINA.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

(Continued.)

III.

As yet no attempt has been made to manufacture ribbons, and this is somewhat surprising seeing the amount that are imported every year. In 1891 34,519 kilos of ribbons, excluding those of silk, and valued at \$61,013, were imported, while the imports for the past year amounted to 70,956 kilos, valued at \$188,575; the imports for the past four years amounted to 210,353 kilos, with a valuation of \$496,330.

As mentioned in the last article, Messrs. Burnichon & Co. have devoted a portion of their factory to the making of wicks for candles, lamps, and matches, but only on a small scale: a factory specially devoted to this branch of the industry will shortly be opened in Barracas, and to show that there is ample room for a factory of this description, we have only to state that the imports for the past four years amount to 300,000 kilos, valued at \$250,000. From the preceding chapters will be seen the strides that the cotton manufacturing industry is making in the country; but before it can make much more headway, it is undoubtedly necessary that, from the raw material to the finished article, it be cultivated, spun, and woven in the country. At present the cotton factories import more than 84,000 kilos of yarn per annum.

The manufacture of cotton woven goods in this country is destined to increase rapidly in the near future, on account of the innumerable varieties of textile plants, which abound everywhere. As yet, however, cotton growing may be said to be in its infancy, as only a few agriculturists have of late taken to growing cotton as a business, and that only on a small scale, on account of the lack of spinning mills to prepare the raw material for the factories. A spinning mill,

however, is shortly to be established in the city, and those who have undertaken the cultivation of the cotton plant will find a ready market for their goods, and will reap for the first few years a rich reward.

The provinces and territories most suitable for the cultivation of the cotton plant are those situated in the north of the Republic, such as Rioja, Catamarca, Corrientes, the southern and central Chaco, Misiones, Jujuy, Tucuman, Santiago, and Salta. With the exception of a few species such as *algodon salpicado*, Indian cotton, etc., and a few which grow well in the driest earths, the cotton plant requires loose and nutritious soil, damp rather than dry, with sufficient vegetable mold. Virgin soil is not so good as land which has already been cultivated. The Chaco Austral, on account of the geological composition of its soil, is destined to produce good and abundant crops of cotton, as has already been proved by various trials made with different classes of seed. The soil of the Province of Entre Rios contains all the necessary elements for the production of good cotton, as it contains 4.02 per cent water, 63.85 per cent sand, and 18.87 per cent arjil.

In a report made to the English Foreign Office by the Consul in Rosaria upon the cultivation of cotton in the Delta of the Parana, we find the following: "For my part, I would not hesitate a moment in making an experiment, by way of trial, in any of the islands of the large rivers. It is desirable to make experiments with the seed of the exquisite Catamarca cotton as well as with the different Egyptian varieties. The Catamarca cotton is produced on a plant which the inhabitants there cut down every year, leaving nothing but the root. The plant springs up the year the seed is sown, reaching maturity during the second year, and continues to shoot up from the root with the most complete productive vigor during ten to fifteen years."

Cotton growing is likely to become the first source of wealth to the province of Corrientes, as it is destined to be cultivated on a large scale, having first been planted to a considerable extent before the Paraguayan war in the sixties.

In the Province of Salta, there exists an indigenous shrub

which the natives call *Lluchán cotton* and also *Palo borracho* and *Samubú* to which botanists give the name of *Chorisia insignis*. This shrub is a species of cotton plant, and grows to a height of 33 to 46 feet, and measures 1 foot 8 inches to 6 feet 6 inches in diameter. Its bark is from half to three-quarters inches thick and is distinguished by very large lumps and is of greenish grey color. The trunk is spongy and the wood of a dirty yellowish white. The bark is composed of long and strong filaments, or textiles, which might with advantage be applied for rope making: the substance produced by the capsule is almost identical with that of cotton, except that its fibers are short, but nevertheless after being carded, it would serve for mattresses, pillows, etc. This plant is found abundantly in the whole of the north of the Republic.

Cotton has been cultivated in Mendoza for more than thirty years, and although it was taken up with interest by landholders and agriculturists, they soon saw the difficulties that the said cultivation offered on account of difficulty in transport and the heavy freights. What is now grown is all employed for local requirements, and is woven on old-fashioned looms. As soon as a spinning factory is established in Buenos Aires, Mendoza will be among the first of the provinces to send in their cotton products.

IV.

At the end of the eighteenth century there existed in the Misiones territory a large colony composed of more than 30,000 inhabitants under the direction of the Jesuits. Cotton was cultivated on a large scale, and the manufactured products not only supplied the requirements of the people, but fine pieces of woven articles were exported to Spain. Even now, there still exist ruins of these vast establishments of the spinning mills and weaving sheds.

The soil of the Misiones territory is most suitable to the cultivation of cotton, as the following extracts from a letter of an influential colonist in those parts to the Immigration Department clearly show:

In November, 1892, I took a kilo of seed of so-called dwarf cotton and

another kilo of the large variety, which I distributed among the people of the Alurralde Colony, who sowed them at the ends of January and February in prepared ground, on which maize, mandioca and other seeds had previously been sown, and toward the middle of May they had already begun to gather cotton; this shows you the rapidity with which the plant develops there. The cotton fiber gathered there is long and sufficiently white. A square sown with dwarf cotton gives 20,000 plants, and with the large variety, 10,000.

We will now refer to the quantity of raw cotton and woolen yarn imported during the past three years, and the various cotton goods imported during the same period. In 1891 the imports of raw cotton amounted to 64,658 kilos, whereas for the two years 1892 and 1893 it amounted to 325,028 kilos or, say, an annual increase of more than 200 per cent. The imports for the first six months of the current year were 24,296 kilos.

The imports of cotton yarn for the three years amount to 941,625 kilos, and of woolen yarn in 1893 to 58,526 kilos. The imports of wicks for lamps and candles for the four years 1891 to 1893, amounted to 319,235 kilos. The total value of the manufactured cotton goods imported during the above period amounts to more than \$76,000,000. From the above we deduce that there is already a market in Buenos Aires for more than 700,000 kilos of raw cotton, for the manufacture of counterpanes, quilts and medicinal cotton; that the hosiery factories which we have described consume nearly a million kilos of cotton yarn; that the new wick factories will require over 100,000 kilos of yarn per annum, and lastly, the spinning mills to be erected will require more than 3,000,000 kilos of the raw material per annum.

Turning now to the cultivation of the cotton plant, a light soil with a mixture of sand, but fertile, in which the roots near to the surface can spread out easily, is most adaptable; the most suitable is soil composed of aluvion, or which being near to streams has been covered by water containing a large quantity of vegetable substances. The soil of the Chaco which is composed of aluvion, humo-arenaceous, argillo-arenaceous humus, is the most appropriate for the cultivation of cotton. A hectare will produce from 1,320 to 3,300

pounds of seed, according to the class of cotton plant, and state of cultivation. With 4,000 pounds of seed manure is formed which gives the same result as by employing 40,000 pounds of ordinary manure. Cotton, like any other plant, requires the tillage of the earth to be deep, and the operation to be carried out repeatedly and before the sowing season. In the northern parts of the Republic, the preparation of the ground should be commenced in the month of July.

As the cotton plant is sensitive to cold, it should be sown in this country, and in the territories and provinces situated in the north, from the end of September and during the whole of the month of October. The seed should not be sown in shady places. The gathering of the crops should be concluded in the month of May at the latest. In a cotton plantation receiving proper attention in a suitable place it is estimated that the annual species gives one and a half to two pounds of raw cotton, with the seed to each plant. It is calculated that from four to seven pounds gross weight of cotton, a pound of clean cotton in a proper state for sale is obtained. A square of ground well cultivated should contain eight to nine thousand plants. Estimating the square at 8,000 plants and the gross production at one pound per plant, we shall have 8,000 pounds per square, which reduced to one-fifth as the net product, leaves at least a profit of 1,600 pounds per square (4.17 acres).

As cotton planting is virtually in its infancy in this country, it has been impossible to obtain any reliable data as to the cost of cultivation, but it may be taken that two men are sufficient to prepare and sow one square of land.

We think it will be clearly seen from these articles that a large field is open to cotton planters, and that it is only necessary for the first spinning mill to be erected in Buenos Aires for this nascent industry to become one of the principal ones of the Republic.

URUGUAY.

The Government of Uruguay has now under consideration the proposition of Mr. Edward Cooper, of Montevideo, to establish a new port on the Atlantic coast of that Republic.

The point at which the proposed seaport is to be made is the "Coronilla," about three leagues distant from the Brazilian line, State of Rio Grande do Sul.

Owing to the existence of several large outlying islands, the harbor is perfectly sheltered from the rough weather of the Atlantic, and the water is of depth sufficient to admit large vessels.

From the Coronilla to Rio Janeiro the distance is 860 miles—300 miles less than that from Buenos Aires, and about 200 miles nearer Rio than is Montevideo.

Mr. Cooper's project has for its immediate basis and purpose the exportation of live stock to the markets of Rio and other cities of Brazil.

Coronilla is the natural and most adjacent port for the provinces of Rocha, Treinta y Tres, and Cerro Larga, which it is claimed contain at the present time 4,000,000 head of cattle, about one-half the entire product of the Republic.

With the exception of a very few live animals, brought with difficulty and much expense from Montevideo and Buenos Aires, the markets of Rio and other cities have to depend largely for their meats upon the unpalatable "tasajo," or sun-dried beef of the country.

Below are given the terms as proposed by Mr. Cooper and his associates. It will be observed that no aid or guarantee is asked from the Government:

1. Mr. Edward Cooper, or the company which he represents, is authorized to construct at the Coronilla, in the Department of Rocha, a port specially destined for the exportation of *live* cattle, constructing for that purpose a breakwater starting from one of the islands eastward of Point

Coronilla, with moles or docks in the manner most convenient for the loading and discharging of vessels, and to provide the port with moorings, buoys, and lights, necessary for the security of navigation.

2. The concessionaire shall present the general plan of the works for the approval of the Executive within three months after the granting of the concession, and detailed plans before beginning the works.

3. The concession is granted for fifty years, during which time the constructing company shall have the exclusive right of loading and discharging in the port, and to charge for anchorage, transport and storage, establishing the required services and constructing the necessary buildings.

4. The general goods entering or leaving the new port, are to pay the existing import or export dues, and the Government may create the same fiscal taxes as in other ports of the country.

5. The administration of the port in political, sanitary, and custom-house matters shall always belong to the State, and its ships shall have free access to it at all times, and can make use of the company's works free of any charge.

6. The entering and leaving the port is completely free to any ship not doing operations in it.

7. The port may be opened as soon as the works have advanced sufficiently to offer safe shelter to vessels.

8. The company shall construct the offices necessary for the employes which the State may require for the administration of the port.

9. In case the fiscal rents produced by the port should not be sufficient to cover the expenses of administration the company is to pay the deficit.

10. The Government cedes gratuitously to the company the use of the islands east of the Coronilla Point, and of the coast around the port, including the right of quarrying stone for the works and accessories.

11. The company is authorized to expropriate 2,500 hectares of land near the port, and if there be fiscal lands in its vicinity, fit for the fattening and *storing* of animals to be kept as re-

serve stock for exportation, these are ceded to the company to the extent of 15,000 hectares, not including the land belonging to the Santa Teresa fort.

12. The introduction, free of charge, of the materials and tools required for the works is granted to the company.

13. The company's capital, represented by its landed, maritime and floating properties, is free of any tax or charge during ten years from the date of the opening of the port.

14. The works shall be commenced within nine months after the approval of the general plans and shall be finished in two and a half years.

15. The majority of the company's employes shall be natives of the Uruguay Republic.

[From advance sheets of the United States Consular Reports for November, 1894.]

PROPOSED INTERCONTINENTAL RAILWAY CONFERENCE.

Consul Schramm, of Montevideo, under date of September 6, advises the Department of correspondence between himself and the Minister of Public Works of Uruguay, with reference to the subject of the proposed intercontinental railroad. In his letter, dated August 23, the minister, Mr. Juan José Castro, writes to Mr. Schramm, transmitting a copy of the work entitled "Treatise on South American Railways," etc., which was compiled by him under instructions from the Uruguayan Government for transmission, with a map, to the World's Fair, Chicago. He says that the book and map will show the important part Uruguay will have to play in the great work of establishing International communication between the countries of the Western Hemisphere. He expresses the opinion that the intercontinental railway project will result in establishing direct communication between the United States of America and Canada to the estuaries of the River Plate and Chile, and that the Interoceanic Railway of South America will reduce the time from the Pacific, the

River Plate, and Brazil to the European continent and Great Britain. Mr. Castro adds:

Uruguay has deemed the most efficient means to aid this enterprise in a practical form to be the publication of a comparative statement of the railway systems extending through the countries of Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentine Republic, Paraguay, Brazil, and Uruguay, the authorized (railway) extension of which already amounts to 80,000 kilometers, of which 32,000 kilometers are built, 11,000 kilometers are under construction, 13,000 kilometers are under survey, and 24,000 kilometers are to be surveyed. In this network of lines, the Intercontinental Railway will find an expeditious means of extension from La Plata, Bolivia, to La Paz, Sucre, Asuncion del Paraguay, Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, and Valparaiso, traversing regions of the greatest richness, full of variegated products of the fauna, flora, and mineral kingdoms.

It is to be expected that these enterprises will not be neglected by the countries interested, and that, in consequence, the 121,000,000 inhabitants of the continent will be able to tighten the ties of American confraternity by means of interchange and the most friendly relations. For the purposes of this great American work, the holding of a new international conference imposes itself as indispensable, be it in Washington or in one of the River Plate cities, in order to consider the most practical ways and means to bring the work to execution and the various other capital points, namely, technical conformity of the broad-gauge service and of the rolling material, service, etc., systems of accounting, bonded transit, etc. Uruguay—of this you may rest assured—will not abandon the post of honor it is designated to take in collective action with the other American Republics to effect the realization of the work which may be demanded of each, and which, there can be no doubt, will have a powerful influence upon civilization and the development of the industries and commerce of the new world, the fundamental basis of its great future and aggrandizement.

VENEZUELA.

THE BANKING LAWS.

The proposed establishment at Caracas of a banking house, under the name of "Anglo-Venezuelan Commercial Bank," with power to issue notes receivable in payment of all public and private debts, having given occasion for representations and protests on the part of some merchants and other people in Venezuela, the President of the Republic, General Don Joaquin Crespo, deemed it advisable to cause the banking laws of Venezuela to be republished in newspapers of the country, and to write furthermore, in the shape of a letter, dated at Maracay, October 4, 1894, addressed to Doctor Don Feliciano Acevedo, a distinguished gentleman of Caracas, an exhaustive explanation of the whole subject. It is thought that the publication of this letter, wherein the formal declaration is made that the Government has no intention of creating paper money, and that of the statutory provisions in force in Venezuela on this particular matter, has caused all apprehensions felt there to be dispelled. But the commerce at large, both in that Republic, and in all the others which form the Union represented by this Bureau, will find it interesting to have said laws translated as well as reprinted in the pages of this Bulletin.

BANKING LAW.

(APPROVED JULY 4, 1894.)

Be it enacted etc., etc., etc.

Art. 1. Banks of deposit, exchange, and discount may be allowed to be established freely, without any other formalities than those required by the Code of Commerce, in force in Venezuela, for the establishment of commercial houses in general.

Art. 2. Banks of circulation, or emission—that is to say,

banks having power to issue notes payable at sight to the bearer, may also be permitted to be established subject to the provisions of the present law.

The bank notes shall not be, under any circumstances, for less value than five *pesos sencillos* *

Art. 3. Banks of emission may be established either by a single person, or association of persons jointly responsible as general partners with the whole of their property for the operations of the bank, or by joint stock companies, wherein the responsibility of the stockholders is limited to the amount of their shares.

Art. 4. All banks of emission are indispensably bound to comply with the following provisions, to wit :

1. To file with the Secretary of "Fomento," (Secretary of the Department for the Promotion of Public Welfare), within at least fifteen days previous to beginning business, a certified copy of the deed of partnership, or individual document, under which the bank was established, and also a copy of the entry thereof in the registry, and of the rules and regulations which shall govern the bank. Said rules and regulations must state: First, the name of the bank; second, its capital; third, the manner and form in which this capital must be paid; fourth, the purposes of the bank; fifth, its legal residence; sixth, the number of branches which it may have, and the capital and residence of each branch; and seventh, the period of its existence.

2. To publish every week a statement of their condition, stating, according to their account books, and with proper clearness, the number of bank notes, and the aggregate value thereof, which are kept by them in their safes; the aggregate amount of deposits; the amount represented by promissory notes payable on maturity; the amount of promissory notes whose payment has been delayed, or whose payment is not expected at all, a separate enumeration being made of either class: the amount loaned to the directors, managers, stock-

*The peso sencillo, in contradistinction of the peso fuerte (hard dollar, of 100 cents,) consists only of 80 cents.

holders, and agents of the bank ; and the amount of its liabilities.

3. To publish the minutes of all the meetings of the stockholders, and transmit information to the Department of Fomento of all changes made in the rules and regulations of the bank.

The failure to make any of the publications referred to in the foregoing paragraph shall render the bank liable to be closed immediately and put in liquidation.

Art. 5. The banks established under this law by joint stock companies shall have to comply additionally with the duty of forming a reserve fund to meet unforeseen emergencies ; said fund to consist : First, of a fourth part, at least, of the capital, which shall not be actually disbursed except for that purpose ; and, second, of 10 per cent, at least, on the profits, which shall be set apart and deducted from each dividend, at the time of its being declared.

The other three-fourths of the capital of the bank shall be paid, either wholly and at once, or partially and at different subsequent dates, as the rules and regulations may provide.

Art. 6. All banks established under this law shall have the power to create new branches, additional to those which were mentioned in the application for the patent, on condition, however, to report the fact to the National Executive, in order that the said new branches may be considered included, as provided in the said patent.

Art. 7. No bank shall have authority to issue notes for more than twice its paid-up capital ; and these notes shall be paid at sight, either at the bank, or at any of its branches, but in the latter case up to the amount of their respective capitals.

The violation of this provision shall render the bank liable to the same penalty established in the final paragraph of article 4.

Art. 8. Banks of emission, established by joint stock companies, are forbidden to loan money on their own stock.

Art. 9. They are also forbidden to pay dividends of profits not actually made.

Art. 10. Bank notes, at sight and to the bearer, shall entitle the owner to make execution on the property of the individual banker, or of the company to which the bank belongs, provided that they are formally protested, without acknowledgment of the signature.

Art. 11. The fraudulent fabrication of bank notes shall be considered and punished as the counterfeiting of money.

Art. 12. Any false statement made by the director of a bank, in any of the publications above provided for, shall be punished by fines from \$100 to \$1,000, without prejudice to any other action which according to the nature of the case may be proper.

In case of failure of the bank, the director or directors, who may be found guilty of the frauds above stated, shall be punished as defaulters.

Art. 13. If any bank shall lose one-half of its capital it must be put at once in liquidation, unless the company, or some new associates, agree to restore the lost capital. But no creditor or debtor of the bank shall be allowed to become one of those new associates.

Art. 14. The national executive shall cause the statements of the banks of their branches to be compared and proven monthly, or whenever it may be deemed advisable, upon actual examination of books, papers, and safes, by either the Secretary of "Fomento," or any official or person designated by him.

EXECUTIVE DECISION OF SEPTEMBER 20, 1893.

Whereas some applications have been filed in behalf of certain banks already established and of others which are to be established hereafter, asking for several concessions, and among them for an order that their notes should be receivable as legal money in the national collection offices: Therefore, the President of the Republic, after having heard the opinion of the Federal Council, which is in favor of the concession, has been pleased to decide: That the notes of the Commercial Bank of Caracas, of the bank to be established at

Valencia, and of any other bank which may be established in the future, and shall ask it, shall be received as money in the national collection offices, provided that said banks allow one officer appointed by the National Government to take a seat in the board of directors, and inspect their operations, although without deliberative vote, the said officer to be paid by the bank.

VENEZUELA.

LAS LEYES BANCARIAS.

El proyecto de establecer en Caracas una institución bancaria, que debe llamarse "El Banco Comercial Anglo-Venezolano," con facultad de emitir billetes, que se recibirán en pago de todas las deudas públicas y privadas, fue motivo para que se hicieran diferentes representaciones y protestas contra esa medida por parte de algunos comerciantes y otras personas de la República. El General Don Joaquín Crespo, Presidente de Venezuela, estimó conveniente, en vista de esos hechos, hacer publicar de nuevo en los periódicos del país las leyes sobre bancos que están vigentes en Venezuela, y dar también á luz, en forma de una carta, que fecló en Maracay á 4 de Octubre de 1894 y dirigió al Sr. Doctor Don Feliciano Acevedo, personage importante de la República una explicación detallada de todo lo ocurrido en este particular.

Es de creerse que el tenor de esta carta, donde se hace la declaración formal de que el Gobierno no tiene la intención de crear ó establecer papel moneda, y el de los textos legales sometidos con ella á la consideración pública, habrán disipado todos los temores y aprensiones que pudieran haberse suscitado. Pero el comercio, en general, tanto de aquella República, como de las otras que formaron la Unión de que esta Oficina es el representante, encontrará tal vez útil conocer

dichas leyes. Por eso se publican en este Boletín, en castellano y en inglés.

LEY DE BANCOS.

(APROBADA EL 4 DE JULIO DE 1894.)

El Consejo, &c., &c., decreta:

Art. 1º. Pueden establecerse libremente bancos de depósitos, giros y descuentos, sin más formalidades que las que prescribe el Código de Comercio vigente en Venezuela para el establecimiento de casas de comercio en general.

Art. 2º. También podrán establecerse bancos de circulación, es decir, que emitan billetes pagaderos á la vista y al portador; pero estos bancos quedarán sujetos á los preceptos de esta ley.

§ único. Los billetes en ningún caso podrán representar una cantidad menor de cinco pesos sencillos.

Art. 3º. Los bancos de circulación pueden fundarse: 1º por un solo individuo, ó por varios en sociedad solidariamente responsables con la totalidad de sus bienes; y 2º por sociedades anónimas, es decir, sociedades por acciones, á cuyo importe se limita la responsabilidad de los socios.

Art. 4º. Unos y otros bancos de circulación están obligados á llenar imprescindiblemente las formalidades que siguen:

1. Consignar en la Secretaría de Fomento, quince días por lo menos antes de empezar su giro, copia autorizada de la escritura de sociedad, ó de establecimiento, si fuere un solo individuo, inclusa la anotación del registro; y copia igualmente autorizada del reglamento del *banco* en el cual ha de constar: 1º la denominación con que se ha de conocer el *banco*: 2º su capital: 3º la manera y términos con que este capital debe ser enterado en caja: 4º el objeto que se propone: 5º el lugar de su residencia: 6º el número de sucursales que haya de tener el *banco*, capital de cada una de éstas y el lugar de su residencia; y 7º su duración:

2ª. Publicar semanalmente el balance extractado de sus libros, en que debe constar con claridad el importe total de los billetes que hubiere en caja, con especificación del im-

porte respectivo; el importe de los depósitos si los hubiere; el de los pagarés en cartera, considerados realizables á su vencimiento; el de los demorados y los irrealizables de que se llevará cuenta separada: el de los préstamos á los directores, administradores, accionistas y demás agentes del *banco*, y el de las obligaciones del mismo *banco*:

3^a. Publicar también todas las actas de las juntas generales y transmitir á la Secretaría de Fomento noticia de las alteraciones que se hicieren en el reglamento de la compañía.

§ único. La omisión en publicar todo lo que se previene en este artículo sujeta al *banco* á ser cerrado inmediatamente y puesto en liquidación.

Art. 5^o. Los *bancos* establecidos por sociedades anónimas, conforme á este decreto, tendrán además el deber de formar un fondo de reserva para casos adversos, que se compondrá: 1^o. de una cuarta parte, por lo menos, del capital social, que no se desembolsará sino en tales casos: y 2^o. De un *diez por ciento*, por lo menos, de las utilidades, el cual se sustraerá de cada dividendo que se hiciere.

§ único. Las tres cuartas partes del capital del *banco* deberán enterarse en caja, en su totalidad ó, en porciones sucesivas, según lo dispongan los estatutos del *banco*:

Art. 6^o. Los *bancos* establecidos podrán establecer otras sucursales, además de las que hayan indicado al solicitar la patente, dando cuenta al Ejecutivo Nacional para que se consideren como incluidas en ésta, previos los requisitos que establece esta ley.

Art. 7^o. Ningun *banco* podrá emitir billetes por más del duplo de su capital efectivo enterado en caja; y estos deberán ser convertidos á su presentación, tanto en el establecimiento principal, como en las sucursales hasta el capital de cada una.

§ único. La contravención á esta regla lo sujeta á la misma pena establecida en parágrafo único del artículo 4^o por la falta de publicación de su estado.

Art. 8^o. Se prohíbe á los *bancos* de circulación por *acciones*, prestar cantidad alguna con garantía de sus propias acciones.

Art. 9°. También se les prohíbe hacer dividendos de utilidades que no se hayan hecho efectivas.

Art. 10°. Los billetes á la vista y al portador serán título ejecutivo contra los bienes de los banqueros particulares, ó contra los bienes de las sociedades anónimas, en virtud de formal protesta, sin reconocimiento de firma.

Art. 11°. La fabricación fraudulenta de billetes de *banco* se considerará y castigará como la fabricación de moneda falsa.

Art. 12°. Las falsedades que cometieren los Directores de *bancos*, en la publicación de sus actas y de los balances, se castigarán con multas de ciento á mil pesos, sin perjuicio de cualquiera otro procedimiento á que pueda dar lugar la naturaleza de la falta.

§ único. En caso de quiebra del *banco*, se considerará y castigará como deudor alzado al Director ó Directores que hubieren cometido dichos fraudes.

Art. 13°. Si un *banco* perdiere la mitad de su capital, deberá ponerse inmediatamente en liquidación, á menos que la compañía ó nuevos socios convinieren en reponer el capital perdido; pero no podrán ser nuevos socios los acreedores ó deudores al *banco*.

Art. 14°. El Ejecutivo Nacional hará comprobar mensualmente, y cuando lo tenga por conveniente, por medio del Ministro de Fomento ú otro de sus agentes, ó de las personas que tenga á bien designar, el estado del *banco* y sucursales, con vista de sus libros, cajas y carteras.

DECISIÓN PRESIDENCIAL DE SETIEMBRE 20 DE 1893.

Habiendo solicitado algunos bancos ya establecidos y otros por establecerse, entre otras concesiones, la de que sus billetes sean recibidos en las oficinas nacionales de recaudación, como moneda de ley legal, el Presidente de la República, con el voto afirmativo del Consejo Federal, ha tenido á bien resolver: que los billetes del Banco Comercial de Caracas, los del que ha de establecerse en Valencia, y los de cualesquiera otros que en lo sucesivo se establecieren, y solicitaren igual

concesión, puedan recibirse en las cajas nacionales, siempre que dichos bancos admitan un empleado fiscal nombrado por el Gobierno, con ingerencia en la Dirección, é inspección en sus operaciones, aunque sin voto deliberativo, siendo de cargo del respectivo banco el pago de este empleado.

[From advanced sheets of the United States Consular Reports for November, 1894.]

PROPOSED RAILROAD IN VENEZUELA.

Consul Plumacher, of Maracaibo, under date of October 3, transmits to the Department of State a copy and translation of a contract entered into by the Government of Venezuela for the construction of a railroad from Puerto Cabello to Carenero. "Should this project be carried out," says the consul, "the coast towns will receive incalculable benefit, and the railway will be one of the most important in Venezuela." The contract was made by the Minister of Public Works and the Soller Navigation Company, of Barcelona, Spain, represented by Juan Baptista Soles Ferre. The Soller Navigation Company obligates itself to build, within four years from April 2, 1894, a railroad which, starting from Puerto Cabello and passing through La Guayra and the coast towns, shall terminate at Carenero. The line may be constructed according to the single-rail system, "with great velocity," or in the ordinary manner, according to the judgment of the contractors. In the latter case, the width of the line will be 1 meter, 7 centimeters (3 feet 6 inches) between the rails. Branch lines will be constructed to neighboring towns or localities as public interests require. The builders of the road are to own it "perpetually and irrevocably," and no similar concession in the territory to be traversed shall be made for ninety years. Timber used for the road may be cut in the public forests. Construction machinery and tools are to be exempt from import duties. The company is to have no Government subvention or guaranty, and must pay annually to the public treasury "5 per cent of the liquid product of the line." Freight and

passenger rates will be fixed by agreement with the Government. The work of construction must begin within ten months from August 22, 1894. The public lands needed for the road are given free, but compensation must be made for rights of way through private property.

VENEZUELAN TARIFF ON SHIRTS OF KNITTED COTTON.

Under date of August 25, Consul Plumacher, of Maracaibo, reports the publication of a Federal decree which directs that shirts of knitted cotton (stocking knit) imported through the custom-houses of Venezuela shall be scheduled in the sixth class (50 cents per kilogram==2 2046 pounds), with an augmentation of 50 per cent upon the amount of the duties thus levied.

ECUADOR.

The exports from Ecuador in 1893 were about 15½ per cent larger than in 1892.

It is noticeable that the only domestic article, whose exportation decreased, is India rubber; and this fact, which seems to have been observed also in preceding years, is explained by the reported destruction of a large number of old rubber trees, without their having been replaced by young trees.

The Cacao crop in 1893 was the largest known during the last fifty years. The production of this article in the famous cacao district of Arriba reached 13,093 tons, against 10,966 tons in 1892. Machala produced 3,077 tons against 2,232 tons in 1892. Balao gaye 1,782 tons against 1,752 in 1892.

The average price of the cacao in 1893 was, in French money, 83.30 francs, or \$16.63 per quintal (100 pounds).

The crop of coffee was also larger than in the preceding years, and the average price which was paid for this article at Guayaquil, in 1893, was in French money, 90.80 francs, or \$18.16 per quintal. Mr. Ph. de Baroncelli, vice-consul of France at Guayaquil, in a report to his Government, just published, says, the cultivation of coffee in Ecuador seems to be more profitable than that of cacao, the additional advantage being on its side, that the tree begins to produce in less time. He says that the attention of capitalists has been called to this fact, and that the cultivation of coffee was carried in 1893 to a much larger extent than in the previous years.

The exportation of sugar in 1893 was 1,000 tons in excess of the exportation in 1892.

Tagna, or vegetable ivory, which was sold at the average price of 6.85 francs, or \$1.35 per quintal, was exported in 1893 to the amount of 17,222 quintals. In 1892 the exportation was much below these figures.

EXPORTS.

The following statement shows the principal exports of Ecuador in 1893, the ports through which they were exported, and their value in United States money:

Port.	Export.	Quintals.	Value.
Guayaquil.....	Cacao.....	405,000	
Other ports.....		27,438	
		432,438	\$6,486,570
Guayaquil.....	Coffee.....	41,177	
Other ports.....		2,808	
		43,985	\$14,755
Guayaquil.....	Raw hides.....	11,486	
Other ports.....		2,387	
		13,873	104,050
Guayaquil.....	India rubber.....	3,929	
Other ports.....		4,777	
		8,706	195,885
Guayaquil.....	Vegetable ivory....	138,115	
Other ports.....		247,660	
		385,775	530,440
Guayaquil.....	"Panama" hats....	114,791	
Other ports.....		110,603	
		255,394	133,365
Guayaquil.....	Tobacco leaf.....	69	
Other ports.....		1,377	
		1,446	14,970
			\$8,280,035

IMPORTS.

No statistics of the imports in 1893 have yet been published; but the calculation has been made, on safe reliable foundation, that it increased as follows: Fifty per cent for

articles of ordinary daily consumption, and 30 per cent for all others.

FINANCE.

The President of the Republic has just appointed a committee to revise and reduce the tariff.

The depreciation of silver has been felt in Ecuador no less than elsewhere. A committee appointed by the President to devise some means of establishing a gold currency, submitted, among others, a plan suggested by the president of the Bank of Ecuador, which was as follows:

The bank should import on or before December 31, 1893, the sum of 250,000 pounds sterling, in gold—all the losses sustained in the exchange, freight, insurance, interest, etc., to the amount of 300,000 sucres, to be charged to the Government. Thereupon the whole amount of money in circulation in the country, including the 300,000 sucres should be withdrawn, and replaced by new coins, both gold and silver. The gold coins should be of three kinds, representing, respectively, 1, 5 and 10 sucres, and having a weight of 1, 5 or 10 grams, and a fineness of nine-tenths. The silver coins should be pieces of either 5, 10 or 20 cents, weighing respectively 1,250, 2,500 and 5,000 grams, and with a fineness of nine-tenths. There should be also nickel pieces of the value of 5 cents, and bronze pieces of 1 and 2 cents. The coinage should be made by the bank, at the expense of the Government, the whole operation to be ended on or before December 31, 1894.

The size, shape, etc., of the coins should be fixed by the Government.

The importation of silver or gold in any shape or form should be strictly forbidden, and no other coins than the English sovereign and half-sovereign should be allowed to circulate between now and the date in which the coinage of the new coins should be finished. The sovereigns should be received during that intermediate period at the rate—the sovereign, of 8 sucres, and the half-sovereign, of 4 sucres.

All silver coins now in circulation should be withdrawn within three months after the approval of the plan proposed.

The Government has caused this plan to be published in the official Journal (*Diario Oficial*) and declared its determination to submit it to Congress.

COMMERCE.

The movement of vessels in the Port of Guayaquil in 1893 was as follows :

ARRIVALS.

Flags.	Sailing vessels.	Steamers.	Total tonnage.
French.....		11	23,431
British.....	4	81	103,954
Ecuadorian.....	1,521		23,720
Other nationalities.....	15	75	116,447
Total.....	1,540	167	267,552

DEPARTURE.

French.....		11	23,431
British.....	3	81	103,776
Ecuadorian.....	1,514		22,815
Other nationalities.....	15	75	115,793
Total.....	1,535	167	265,815

The Ecuadorian vessels include all kinds of minor vessels, *chatas*, etc., etc., through which a large coastwise commerce is carried on.

CONFERENCE OF MANUFACTURERS.

As will be seen by the following call, there is to be held in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, a conference of manufacturers of the United States for certain well-defined purposes. Besides the gentlemen representing the Manufacturers' Association of Cincinnati, whose names are appended to the call, it is proper to be stated here that this laudable effort to extend the markets of our manufacturers has the support of very many manufacturers throughout the country. The Bureau of American Republics is in receipt of letters commending this project from many firms of established reputation, who assert their belief that the scheme proposed will result in largely extending the commerce of the American Republics.

The committee appointed by the local Manufacturers' Asso-

ciation, of Cincinnati, to prepare and issue a call for a conference in that city, of manufacturers from all sections of the country, for the purpose of effecting a national organization, met and prepared the following circular letter, which will be as widely distributed as possible :

GENTLEMEN: The Manufacturers' Association of Cincinnati and Hamilton county, Ohio, desiring to promote the prosperity of the manufacturing interests of the entire country, and appreciating the importance of concerted action, hereby respectfully invite your organization to be represented at a

CONFERENCE OF MANUFACTURERS,

Which will be held in the city of Cincinnati on the 22d day of January, 1895, for the purpose of general interchange of views, looking to the formation of a National Association of Manufacturers, which shall embrace among its purposes :

First: The advocacy of carefully considered legislation, to encourage manufacturing industries of all classes throughout the country.

Second: The discussion of ways and means whereby trade relations between the United States and foreign countries may be developed and extended.

Third: The establishment in South American Capitals and other desirable points of permanent expositions for the display of American products.

Fourth: Such other topics as may be agreed upon by the convention.

It is desired that this convention shall be nonpolitical, nonpartisan and nonsectional.

The invitation hereby extended is without limit as to number of attendants, and is cordially extended not only to accredited delegates from organized exchanges, representing manufacturing interests, but to any individual manufacturer who may have the promotion of the general good by organized efforts sufficiently at heart to be willing to meet with us.

The favor of reply, not later than December 1 prox., accompanied by suggestions, is respectfully requested.

W. T. PERKINS,
FREDERICK PENTLARGE,
B. W. CAMPBELL,
H. C. YEISER,
CHAS. F. THOMPSON,

Committee from the Manufacturers' Association of Cincinnati and Hamilton county, Ohio.

CONFERENCIA DE FABRICANTES.

Como se verá por la convocatoria que se publica á continuación va á celebrarse ahora en la ciudad de Cincinnati, en Ohio, una conferencia de fabricantes americanos, en que se discutirán algunos puntos de importancia práctica bien determinada.

Aparte del gran peso que dan á ese proyecto los nombres de las personas que lo iniciaron, y que representan la Asociación de los fabricantes de Cincinnati, hay que tener en cuenta, en favor de la idea, la aprobación que la mayor parte de los fabricantes del país, en todas sus secciones, ha prestado siempre y continúa prestando á todo lo que se encamina al laudable objeto de extender los mercados.

La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas ha recibido muchas cartas, autorizadas por firmas de gran valía, en que se elogia el proyecto antedicho, y en que se manifiesta la creencia de que de él resultará notable impulso y acrecentamiento en el comercio de las naciones del Nuevo Mundo.

La Comisión nombrada por la mencionada Asociación de Fabricantes de Cincinnati para preparar una convocatoria para la referida Conferencia en aquella ciudad, se reunió como era debido, y después de meditar el asunto con la madurez que corresponde, determinó dar al público, en la forma de una circular, que se tratará de distribuir entre el mayor número posible de los fabricantes del país, el documento que dice así:

CIRCULAR.

SEÑORES: La Asociación de los Fabricantes de Cincinnati, y del Condado de Hamilton, en Ohio, deseosa de fomentar los intereses fabriles de todo el país, y conoedora de las ventajas que siempre tiene la acción combinada, ha determinado invitar á Vdes, de la manera mas respetuosa, á hacerse representar en una Conferencia de fabricantes, que habrá de celebrarse el 22 de Enero de 1895, en la ciudad de Cincinnati, con el objeto de discutir lo conducente al establecimiento de una Asociación nacional de fabricantes, destinada á los siguientes fines:

Primero. Abogar por la oportuna promulgación de leyes que estimulen la industria fabril en todo el país.

Segundo. Discutir los medios y arbitrios de que deba hacerse uso

para desarrollar y extender las relaciones comerciales entre los Estados Unidos y los demás países.

Tercero. Establecer en las capitales de la América del Sud y en los demás puntos que se estimen convenientes Exposiciones permanentes de los productos americanos.

Cuarto. Estudiar todas las demás cuestiones que acordare la Conferencia.

Se desea que esta carezca en absoluto de carácter político, no represente á ningún partido, y esté privada de espíritu seccional.

No hay límite en cuanto al número de las personas invitadas. Con la misma cordialidad se convida á tomar parte en la Conferencia á los delegados legítimamente acreditados de las Bolsas, Lonjas ú otros establecimientos ó cuerpos representantes de intereses fabriles, como á cualquiera fabricante individual, que tenga interés en conseguir el bien de todos por medio de trabajos sistemáticos y bien combinados, y que se sienta dispuesto á concurrir.

Se suplica respetuosamente á los que acepten la invitación que tengan á bien contestar antes del 1º de Diciembre próximo. Con la respuesta podrán venir todas las indicaciones que estimen conveniente hacer.

W. T. PERKINS,
FRÉDÉRIK PENTLARGE,
B. W. CAMPBELL,
H. C. YEISER,
CHAS. F. THOMPSON.

El Comité de la Asociación de los fabricantes de Cincinnati y el Condado de Hamilton en Ohio.

COMMERCIAL NOTES.

COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA COFFEE.

The recently enacted tariff bill of the United States repeals the duty of 3 cents per pound on coffee imported from Colombia and Venezuela which was imposed by the special proclamation of President Harrison dated March 15, 1892.

Prior to the imposition of this duty these coffees found their principal market in this country, where they were more popular than in the markets of Europe.

The revocation of this discriminating tax appears to have turned this valuable trade, which had almost entirely left us, again to our shores, and it is believed that the conditions existing prior to March, 1892, will be speedily restored.

CHILE.

SALES OF CHILIAN NITRATE PROPERTIES.

The following letter has been addressed to the editor of the London *Economist*, and appeared in a recent issue of that paper:

SIR: The accompanying list of nitrate properties sold by the Government of Chile on the 15th instant, and the prices realized, may be of interest to readers of the *Economist*.

List of nitrate properties sold by public auction by the Chilean Government at Santiago on October 15, 1893.

Name of property.	Reserve price.	Sold at.	Purchaser.
Santa Catalina	£ 22,184	£ 22,184	Williamsons, Balfour and Co., Valparaiso.
Quebrada de Pazos I.....	9,500	11,150	
Do. II.....	12,000	12,000	Chilian Company.
Porvenirly Demasias.....	31,035	31,035	
San Luis de Cuyo.....	9,000	9,000	Do.
Huascary Chiquiquiray....	52,330	52,330	Galté.
Providencia.....	28,272	60,000	Do.
Resurreccion	34,381	34,381	New Tamarugal Nitrate Co.
Grounds between La Palma and Peña Chica.	9,000	9,000	Do.
Ascencion de Capetillo.....	3,000	3,000	Shiell.
Fortuna	2,000	2,000	Do.
San Antonio de Flores.....	4,800	4,800	Do.
Candelaria.....	41,737	41,737	Perfetti.
Trinidad.....	60,481	60,481	Do.
San Jorge de Perea.....	10,375	10,375	Do.
Grounds between San Jorge and Rosario.	21,000	28,000	Do.
Ascension de Loayza	12,000	12,000	Charme.
Compañia de Negreiros.....	6,563	6,562	Do.
Grounds west of Ramirez....	156,000	156,000	Do.
Grounds between San Donato and Ramirez.	22,000	22,000	Do.
Dolores	17,489	17,489	Lascelle.
San Luis.....	7,900	7,900	Do.
Santa Clara.....	113,234	138,000	Gildemeister.
La Perla	51,840	97,000	International Co.
Carmen Alto	26,146	37,000	Granja.
Paradas de Loayza.....	5,700	5,700	Do.
Puntilla de Huara.	90,000	156,000	Rosario Nitrate Co.
Grounds east of Constancia.	33,000	33,000	Devescovi.
	992,967	1,030,125	

I scarcely need point out to you the importance resulting from the facts that those prices, so largely in excess of the " upset value," is indicative of two results, (1) the gradual increasing value of nitrate properties; and (2) that as 50 per cent of the proceeds of sales is reserved for the restoration of the Chilean currency to a specie basis, these prices can not fail of having a beneficial effect on the rate of exchange, which already is bearing fruit to the soundness of the financial policy initiated by Señor Don Augustin Ross, formerly Minister Plenipotentiary to this country. It is worthy of note, also, that these properties have been acquired by those who possess an intimate knowl-

edge of the industry, thus proving their confidence in its future. I am,
sir, your obedient servant,
October 18, 1894.

JOHN HAROLD.

The Government will offer for sale on the 15th of May proximo, another lot of nitrate fields, the minimum estimated value of which is 1,042,500 pounds sterling.

COLOMBIA.

[From advanced sheets of United States Consular Reports for November, 1894.]

United States Consul Clifford Smyth, under date of July 26, 1894, from Cartagena, makes the following report to the Department of State:

On the 20th instant, the construction of the Cartagena-Magdalena Railroad was formally completed, and the road opened for traffic with appropriate ceremonies. The plan for this railroad was originated by a Boston company some three or four years ago. Capital was invested in the enterprise to the extent of about \$2,000,000. Work was actually begun here two years ago, but owing to the natural difficulties of soil and climate, together with the necessity of importing all labor and machinery from the United States, progress on the road was slow as compared with similar enterprises in more advantageous countries. Considering the grave obstacles with which railway engineering has to contend in this country, the result in this case furnishes a most gratifying instance of American skill and energy, and at the end of their construction labors, the company has justly become the recipient of much flattering commendation at the hands of those Colombians who are looking forward to an era of increasing prosperity for their country.

The completed road is somewhat over sixty miles in length. It runs from Cartagena, in a southerly direction, to Calamar, the nearest town on the Magdalena River. It is a narrow-gauge road, stone ballasted, and without any heavy grades.

Now that this road is permanently established, the merchants of Cartagena are confidently predicting a return of the

abundant traffic that was formerly conveyed through this port. Years ago, owing largely to the natural advantage of an unexcelled harbor, Cartagena knew no rival on this coast as a trading city. In those days, transportation from the Magdalena River was effected by means of a canal, but for some reason, trade languished, and the canal fell into disuse and became unnavigable. Barranquilla was built and Cartagena's commercial supremacy disappeared. For years, no effort was made to reëstablish what naturally belonged to this city, and it remained for some enterprising Americans to discover the brilliant advantages that belonged to Cartagena as a seaport, and to give those advantages their practical value by means of the railway that has just been completed.

Of course, at the present stage of its existence, any statement of the value of this road to the city must be purely conjectural: but, taking into consideration the excellence of the road and the facilities it affords for quick transportation of freight from the main artery of commerce (the Magdalena River) to one of the best harbors on the South American coast, there seems to be no reason to doubt that it will fully realize the degree of usefulness predicted for it by its promoters, and become a most important factor in the development of Colombian resources and industry. Already, large exporters in the interior are announcing their intention to ship their goods through this port hereafter instead of through Barranquilla. This may be a temporary detriment to the latter city, but, on the other hand, it is believed that the operation of the railway will act as a stimulus to the latent capabilities of the country in every direction, and that Barranquilla will be benefited as well as Cartagena.

NICARAGUA.

[From the Panama Star and Herald, October 25, 1894.]

The National Legislative Assembly has authorized the president to use the national revenue, or to enter into contracts with individuals or corporations, without the pre-requi

site of ratification, for the extension of the national railroad and the construction of new branches, the building of the following lines being recommended in preference: From Chinandega to Viejo, from Leon to Subtiava, or from Quezalguaque to Telica: from Masaya to Jinotega or Matagalpa; from Chinandega to the Departments of Esteli or Nueva Segovia; from Matagalpa to Jinotega or to some point on the Rio Grande; from some port on Lake Nicaragua to the Rama; from Granada to Rivas and San Juan del Sur, a branch running from this line to the Costa Rican frontier and the department of Carazo, and from Managua to La Paz.

The assembly has approved a contract made by the Secretary of the Interior with J. A. Gomez for the construction of a wharf at San Juan del Sur.

The government has granted Mr. Salvador Rivas the privilege of importing wool, cotton, or silk for the manufacture of cassimere and other cloths. The privilege is granted for fifteen years.

SALVADOR.

The government has authorized the "Compañia del Muelle de Acajutla" to unload at Puerto Viejo material for the construction of a new wharf.

Mr. José Ruiz Salas has been appointed Consul of Salvador at Sana Cruz, Teneriffe, *vice* Herman Vorbeck.

COSTA RICA.

Mr. Francisco Mendiola Boza has entered into a contract with the *Ministerio de Fomento* by which he agrees to establish cable communication between Costa Rica and the United States.

JAMAICA.

Advices from Kingston bring the information that a mysterious and deadly malady is prevailing among the native cattle on the island of Jamaica.

The acting governor has appointed a commission, consisting of three of the leading citizens of the island, to make an investigation of the origin and nature of the disease, and to report a plan for its suppression.

Up to the present time the veterinary surgeons have been baffled in their efforts at making any satisfactory explanation of this strange and destructive malady, its cause and peculiar character.

PERU.

The financial results of 1893 have been made public, from which we gather that the receipts amounted to 7,066,330 soles, and the expenditure to 6,572,927 soles, showing a surplus of 493,403 soles.

The customs for the first half of 1893 produced 2,073,314 as compared with 2,975,993 soles for the corresponding period of 1892.—*South American Journal*, October 27, 1894.

CUBA.

[From advanced sheets of U. S. Consular Reports for November, 1894.]

Mr. Ramon O. Williams, Consul-General at Havana, under date of August 20, 1894, submits the following report to the Department of State:

SUGAR EXPORTS FROM CUBA.

I have the honor to inclose a statement showing the exports of sugar and molasses from Cuba during the six months ending June 30, 1894, compiled by the *Boletin Comercial* of this city (Havana).

Exports of sugar of the present crop (1893-'94) from the Island of Cuba from January 1 to June 30, 1894.

To	Bags.	Hogsheads.	Tons.	Per cent.
United States.....	5,686,974	7,748	792,397	95.66
Great Britain.....	34,626	.....	4,791	0.58
North of Europe....	6	.....	.....	.....
Spain.....	118,843	.....	16,447	1.99
Other ports.....	106,049	.....	14,676	1.77
Total, 1894.....	5,946,498	7,748	828,311	100
Total, 1893.....	3,050,984	14,059	556,512	.....
Increase in 1894....	2,895,514	.....	271,799	.....
Decrease in 1894....	.....	6,311	.....	.....

Exports of molasses of the present crop (1893-'94) from the Island of Cuba from January 1 to June 30, 1894.

To	Hogsheads.	Tons.	Per cent.
United States.....	35,018	26,568	83.87
Great Britain.....	6,719	5,099	16.10
Spain.....	11	8	0.03
Total, 1894.....	41,738	31,675	100
Total, 1893.....	29,319	22,268	.....
Increase in 1894.....	12,419	9,407	.....

According to these statements, the United States has taken 95.66 per cent of the sugar exports and 83.87 per cent of the molasses exported this year from Cuba.

NEW PROCESS FOR EXTRACTING RAMIE FIBER.

[From Advanced Sheets of the U. S. Consular Reports for November, 1894.]

Consul-General Pratt writes from Singapore, September 7:

I have the honor to report that my attention has recently been called to a new and economical process for the extraction of the fiber of the ramie plant by simple chemical means and heat. Desirous of satisfying me as to the efficacy of the

above, the inventor took a quantity of the plants, stripped off the bark in my presence, and after about forty minutes boiling in his mixture produced a mass of fiber which seemed entirely free from gum or other deleterious ingredients, and which, after having been simply washed in cold water, dried a few hours in the sun, and then pulled out with the fingers, appeared in proper shape for spinning, as may be judged by the inclosed sample, which I beg you will kindly have submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture for his opinion* which the inventor and his associates wish especially to have, with his views as to the extent of territory in the United States over which the ramie plant can be successfully cultivated, in order to decide as to the advisability of the introduction of their process. If, as I am inclined to think, the ramie will thrive in our Atlantic and Gulf States of the South, in southern California, and in New Mexico, our agriculturists would greatly benefit by producing the plant, were a cheap and easy means afforded for the extraction of its very valuable fiber.

*Sample transmitted to the Secretary of Agriculture and, by him, referred to the Division of Fiber Investigation for examination.



DON RAFAEL IGLESIAS,

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA.

[From La Revista Ilustrada, New York.]

Don Rafael Iglesias was born at San José, the capital of the Republic of Costa Rica, on the 18th of April, 1861. He belongs to one of the most prominent families of the country, and bears a name which shines conspicuously not only in the political history of the Republic, but in the history of all the efforts made in favor of the progress and welfare of the Costa Rican people.

At the age of nine years, when he had already completed

his primary education, he entered as a pupil the famous College of Cartago, then the most celebrated institution of its kind in Central America. This college which was in charge of two Spanish professors, by the name of Farraz, has had the honor of counting among its graduates Don Francisco Picado, one of the men who has done most in Costa Rica for the promotion of public instruction. Young Iglesias remained there for three years, at the end of which time he went to San José, where he entered the university called "St. Thomas," and continued his studies, giving constant evidence of his talent and of his love for learning. Here he received, on the 18th of March, 1875, when only 14 years old, the degree of Bachelor of Sciences and Letters.

He entered then the law school of the university, where he soon secured distinction from both his teachers and his fellow students. The honor was imparted to him, on several occasions, of being chosen to represent his class at some public examinations, both on the Roman and the public law.

The career of the young student, so brilliantly opened, was interrupted unfortunately in the fourth year of his law studies, by pecuniary reverses sustained by his family. Young Don Rafael was then compelled to leave the school and throw himself into the arena to struggle for life. But he did it resolutely and with no fear or hesitation at all. Obstacles, if any happened to present themselves in his way, had no power to detain him: they served, on the contrary, to stimulate and increase his energy. He was prodigiously active and enterprising, and as he made good use of his talents, he had the satisfaction to succeed. He soon became, as he has continued to be ever since, the firm support of a large family.

After having thus secured, through persevering and well-conducted labor, a moderate fortune, he devoted himself with faith, with enthusiasm, and with highly patriotic intentions, to the study of the political questions of his country and of its social and economical condition. He had felt, since his school days, such a decided predilection for this

kind of study, as to cause him to sustain, in days of mourning for the Republic, the persecution of the Government.

The official candidate for the Presidency of the Republic, in the electoral campaign of 1889, was Señor Don Ascención Esquivel, who independently of his own great merits, was then acting as President and had, therefore in his favor, great probabilities of success. But Señor Iglesias, with eleven of his friends, started a new party which he called "Constitutional," and whose principles he defined and defended with indefatigable activity and earnest and persuasive eloquence, whose nominee for the Presidency was Señor Don José Joaquín Rodríguez. He organized this party with great skill and ability, and through the unity he gave to its efforts, and his good management of the campaign, he succeeded in securing the sympathies of the majority in favor of Señor Rodríguez, who carried the election by a large vote.

As soon as Señor Rodríguez was inaugurated, Señor Iglesias, who was the central and most prominent figure of the successful party, was called to take a seat in the Cabinet, as Secretary for the united Departments of War and the Navy.

The period of the administration of Señor Rodríguez had the misfortune of being marked by unusual bitterness in the struggle between the political parties of the country, and on more than one occasion the Government was compelled to watch the said struggle, and even take some action to prevent its manifestations from disturbing public order and peace. But it was marked also by numerous improvements in all the branches of the public service, and especially in the subject of immigration which constitutes in all respects the most preeminent necessity of the country, and a condition, no doubt indispensable, for the rapid development of the wealth of the Republic.

At the last election, the Conservative party relying upon its union and good organization, as well as upon the divisions among the Liberals, was in great hopes of success. But at a certain well-chosen moment one of the branches of the Liberals, which called itself "Civil party," proclaimed Señor

Iglesias as its candidate, and secured his election, and with it the triumph of liberal and progressive ideas.

Señor Iglesias was inaugurated, according to the provisions of the law, on the 8th of May, 1894, and the event was attended with very significant manifestations of popular approval.

His first acts as Chief Magistrate of the Republic have shown his anxiety to satisfy the demands of public opinion. This has happened especially in the particular tact displayed by him in the selection of the distinguished gentlemen he called to form his Cabinet.

The new Government has begun its patriotic labors by introducing reforms in the organization of the executive departments, and by providing, as proper, for the relief of the economical situation of the country, as well as for the public instruction, the administration of justice in criminal matters, and the satisfaction, in so far as it depends upon the Government, of all social necessities. Its attention is at present engaged, with due preference, in entering into contracts with the Atlantic Railroad Company, studying concessions of lands made or to be made to the same, and taking many other measures of great importance to the nation, whose paramount interest lies at present, perhaps more than ever, in the development of its natural wealth, and the preservation of its credit.

Señor Iglesias is trying to carry high and patriotic ideals into actual practice. He is endeavoring to accomplish all the improvements which were started or thought of in the preceding administration; but naturally he has so far given preference to those particular ones, started by him personally, and to which he gave form and existence. These, for instance, the reorganization of the army, the improvement in the garrison service, and the acquisition of additional war elements for the defense of the country.

The distinctly liberal tenets of the political faith of Señor Iglesias, his experience in state matters, his clear conception of the special circumstances and needs of Costa Rica, in all the branches of social activity, fully guarantee his success in

the delicate and important work which devolves upon him as Chief Magistrate of the nation.

Under such favorable auspices the country expects of him, with reason, the realization of the magnificent program of government, which he submitted to his fellow-citizens in the solemn act of his inauguration as President of the Republic.

Let it be so for his own honor and for the greater glory of the worthy and interesting nation, over which he has been called to provide.

DON RAFAEL IGLESIAS.

PRESIDENTE DE LA REPÚBLICA DE COSTA RICA.

[De La Revista Ilustrada, de New York.]

Nació don Rafael Iglesias en la capital de la República, el 18 de Abril de 1861, y descende de las familias más notables, y que con timbres de gloria han figurado en la política y en la prosperidad y cultura de su patria.

De nueve años de edad, hecha completa preparación en la enseñanza primaria, fué alumno del Colegio de Cartago, instituto de renombre en Centro América, y entonces, bajo la dirección de los profesores españoles señores Farráz, en el cual, sea dicho de paso, se distinguió el notable educacionista costarricense señor don Francisco Picado. Allí el joven Iglesias, cursó los tres primeros años de sus estudios secundarios, y habiéndolos completado en la Universidad de Santo Tomás, en San José de Costa Rica, recibió el grado de Bachiller en Ciencias y Letras, con notable lucidez y evidencia de sus talentos y amor al estudio, el 18 de marzo de 1875, á la edad de 14 años!

Continuó en la misma Universidad sus estudios de Derecho, y prueba de la distinción que mereció de sus profesores y compañeros, es el hecho de haber sido designado varias veces, para representar en exámenes públicos, las clases de Derecho Romano y de Derecho Público.

Desgraciadamente la carrera iniciada con tan brillante éxito, tuvo que ser interrumpida, cuando en el cuarto año de estudios de la difícil ciencia, reveses de la fortuna redujeron el capital de la familia de un modo tal, que don Rafael, joven, casi adolescente, se vió obligado á abandonarlos para lanzarse á la lucha por la vida. Y entró en ella con ánimo resuelto y voluntad inquebrantable. Los obstáculos no le arredraron, antes bien, en ellos retempló su espíritu. Su iniciativa fué fecunda, su actividad prodigiosa y su clara inteligencia á la altura de su actividad é iniciativa. En este rudo batallar obtuvo la recompensa del triunfo y la íntima satisfacción de haber sido y de ser valiosísimo sostén de su numerosa familia.

Conquistada una regular fortuna en el campo honroso de perseverantes y bien dirigidas labores, con fé, con entusiasmo, con miras de elevado patriotismo, consagró sus facultades á estudiar las cuestiones políticas y el modo de sér social y económico del país. Estudios estos por los cuales desde su niñez tenía especial predilección, y que le ocasionaron, á la edad de 19 años, persecuciones y sufrimientos, en días que guarda con luto la historia de Costa Rica.

Iniciada la campaña electoral de 1889, para la renovación de los supremos poderes de la Nación, surgió del seno oficial la candidatura del señor Licenciado don Ascención Esquivel, quien á la sazón en calidad de Designado, ejercía el Poder Ejecutivo, y tenía á su favor las probabilidades de la victoria, tanto por sus prestigios propios, como por la influencia de su elevada posición. En tales circunstancias el señor Iglesias, en unión de once compañeros, enarbola el estandarte del Partido Constitucional que se inauguró entonces, y su actividad no tuvo límites, y su elocuente y persuasiva propaganda se hizo sentir por todas partes recogiendo frutos abundantes. El dió, en fin, forma y disciplina al partido que proclamaba la candidatura del señor Licenciado don José J. Rodríguez. La unidad de esta agrupación política, y su acción bien dirigida, atrajo hácia sí una gran mayoría, dando por resultado el que era natural esperar. El señor Rodríguez fué electo Presidente de la República por el voto del mayor número de sus conciudadanos.

Inaugurada la administración, el nuevo Presidente llamó al señor Iglesias, alma del partido que lo había elevado al poder, para que se encargase de la Secretaría de la Guerra y Marina.

Durante la administración del señor Rodríguez, las luchas de la política fueron recias, y casi constantemente forzaron la atención del Gobierno á dirigirlas, encaminándolas en sentido de evitar desbordamientos y dificultades que pudieran comprometer la paz y el orden. Muchas mejoras se llevaron á efecto en varios de los ramos de gobierno, y sobre todo, se dió preferente atención á la más perentoria de las necesidades del país, la inmigración, único elemento para el desarrollo de una prosperidad rápida.

Llegados los días de la última campaña electoral, alentaban al Partido Conservador, unido y bien organizado, las divisiones del Partido Liberal, hasta que en momentos preciosos, una de las agrupaciones de este mismo Partido, con el nombre de Partido Civil, proclamó la candidatura del señor Iglesias, logrando por este medio el triunfo de la idea liberal y progresista.

El señor Iglesias tomó posesión de la Presidencia de la República, conforme á la ley, el 8 de mayo último, acontecimiento que fué celebrado con muy significativas y populares manifestaciones públicas.

Sus primeras disposiciones como Jefe del Estado han dado crédito á su acierto para satisfacer las exigencias de la opinión pública, de lo cual ha sido prueba la selección de los distinguidos ciudadanos que forman el Gabinete.

Ha principiado el nuevo Gobierno sus tareas patrióticas, iniciando reformas que comprenden mejoras reclamadas en la organización administrativa y por la situación económica del país, la instrucción pública, la justicia criminal, y las necesidades sociales, en cuanto del Gobierno depende satisfacerlas; y ocupan de preferencia su atención los contratos con la Compañía del Ferrocarril al Atlántico, las concesiones de tierras hechas á esta, y otros negocios de importancia trascendental para la Nación, empeñada más que nunca, en

el desenvolvimiento de sus fuentes de riqueza, y en la estabilidad del crédito nacional.

Persigue el señor Iglesias ideales patrióticos y elevados, y al tener á su cargo la dirección suprema del país, en el nuevo período que se inicia, continúa las mejoras que se propuso llevar adelante en el período anterior, mirando como es natural con especial cariño, aquellas á que él mismo dió vida y forma real. Tales son la reorganización del Ejército, la mejora del servicio de guarniciones, y la adquisición de los elementos de guerra necesarios para completar los que pudiera requerir la defensa nacional.

El dogma netamente liberal que informa el credo político del señor Iglesias, la experiencia adquirida en todos los asuntos del Estado, y su visión clara de las condiciones especiales de Costa Rica, en todas las esferas de la actividad social, constituyen plena garantía de acierto en sus delicadas y trascendentales labores como primer Magistrado de la Nación.

Bajo auspicios tan favorables, el país espera con razón, del eximio ciudadano que rige sus destinos, la realización del magnífico programa de gobierno presentado á sus compatriotas en el acto solemne de tomar posesión de la Presidencia de la República.

Que así sea para honra suya, y para la mayor gloria de su patria, digna y simpática.

BRAZIL.

President-elect Prudente de Moracs will be inaugurated President of Brazil on the 15th instant.

The following cabinet has been announced:

Minister of Finance—Rodrigues Alves.

Minister of Foreign Affairs—Carlos de Carvalho.

Minister of Industry and Public Works—Antonio Olyntho.

Minister of Marine—Admiral Elisario Barbosa.

Minister of War—Bernardo Vasques.

Minister of the Interior—Gonçaves Ferreira.

President Moraes is the first President of the Republic elected by the people. General Fonseca was chosen President and Peixoto Vice-President by Congress.

PARAGUAY.

General Egusquiza has been elected President of Paraguay. He was educated in the National College of Buenos Aires, and entering the Argentine army rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel, which rank was accorded to him when he joined the Paraguayan army. Entering the political arena in 1882, he was elected a National Deputy. He has also held the post of military commander in several departments, and was Minister of War in the Cabinet of President Gonzalez. He was made a general in 1893.

HONDURAS.

Semiofficial advices from Tegucigalpa, of the 12th instant, say that at the national election Policarpo Bonilla was elected president by an overwhelming majority, and his brother, Manuel Bonilla, was elected vice-president.

The new constitution was adopted by an almost unanimous vote.

UNITED STATES CONSULATES.

Frequent application is made to the Bureau for the address of United States Consuls in the South and Central American Republics. Those desiring to correspond with any consul can do so by addressing "The United States Consulate" at the point named. Letters thus addressed will be delivered to the proper person. It must be understood, however, that it is not the duty of consuls to devote their time to private business, and that all such letters may properly be treated as personal and any labor involved may be subject to charge therefor.

The following is a list of United States Consulates in the different Republics:

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—

Buenos Aires.
Cordoba.
Rosario.

BOLIVIA—

La Paz.

BRAZIL—

Bahia.
Para.
Pernambuco.
Rio Grande do Sul.
Rio de Janeiro.
Santos.

CHILE—

Antofagasta.
Arica.
Coquimbo.
Iquique.
Talcahuano.
Valparaiso.

COLOMBIA—

Barranquilla.
Bogota.
Cartagena.
Colon (Aspinwall).
Medillin.
Panama.

COSTA RICA—

San José.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—

Puerto Plata.
Samana.
Santo Domingo.

ECUADOR—

Guayaquil.

GUATEMALA—

Guatemala.

HAITI—

Cape Haitien.
Port au Prince.

UNITED STATES CONSULATES.

HONDURAS—

Ruatan.
Tegucigalpa.

MEXICO—

Acapulco.
Chihuahua.
Durango.
Ensenada.
Guaymas.
La Paz.
Matamoras.
Mazatlan.
Merida.
Mexico.
Nogales.
Nuevo Laredo.
Paso del Norte.
Piedras Negras.
Saltillo.
Tampico.

MEXICO—*Continued.*

Tuxpan.
Vera Cruz.

NICARAGUA—

Managua.
San Juan del Norte.

PARAGUAY—

Asuncion.

PERU—

Callao.

SALVADOR—

San Salvador.

URUGUAY—

Colonia.
Montevideo.
Paysandu.

VENEZUELA—

La Guayra.
Maracaibo.
Puerto Cabello.

BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, U. S. A., 1894.

It is impossible to comply with requests for the free distribution of the publications of this Bureau. The demand for Handbooks and Bulletins has increased so rapidly as to make compliance impossible, because of the limited editions published. The lists of applicants desiring to be supplied with every Handbook and Bulletin issued by the Bureau largely exceed any edition published, and these lists would be constantly increased if the requests received daily at the Bureau were acceded to. Yet, it is well understood that many requests are received from persons having good reasons for desiring the information asked for, and both willing and able to pay the slight cost of these documents.

Recognizing these facts, the Bureau some months ago issued a circular announcing that thereafter the publications of the Bureau would be sold to all applicants at a small price. This was done with a view of extending rather than limiting the circulation of the information published by the Bureau, and at the same time securing the utmost impartiality in such distribution. It was believed that this course would result in a more general circulation of the information secured in saving the unnecessary labor of replying to requests from persons who apparently had no special interest in the publications applied for, and that all who had a well-grounded intention of embarking in business in foreign countries, or extending business already established, would be able to afford the slight expense involved in the payment of the cost price of the Bureau documents.

The result of this experiment has more than justified the hopes with which it was undertaken. With exceptions too rare to be noted, the plan embraced in the circular has met with the cordial approbation of the business men of the

PRICE LIST OF PUBLICATIONS.

country, and if the progress made thus far in extending the circulation of these publications shall be continued it will be possible to largely increase the numbers of each edition of future publications.

Many of the earlier Bulletins have been included in more recent publications. This applies especially to the tariffs, commercial directories and newspaper directories of the different Republics.

Suggestions from manufacturers and dealers as to their special needs of information will receive prompt attention by the Bureau.

The following list embraces a catalogue of the Bulletins and Handbooks published since the organization of the Bureau, of which copies may be secured by remitting to the undersigned the price named in inclosed list.

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CLINTON FURBISH,
Director.

The second volume of the Code of Commercial Nomenclature is now in press and will be ready for delivery about the 1st of October. This is the final edition of the English, Spanish, and Portuguese edition, containing about 24,000 terms, including about 830 pages. Price, bound in cloth, \$3.

El segundo tomo del Código de Nomenclatura Comercial se encuentra en prensa y estará listo para distribuirse para el primero de Octubre próximo. Este tomo es el último de la serie inglesa, castellana, y portuguesa, consta de 830 páginas y contiene cerca de 24,000 vocablos. Su precio, encuadernado en tela, \$3.

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