THE

# MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

# Bureau

OF THE

# American Republics

WASHINGTON, U. S. A.

# APRIL, 1896.

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BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

NO. 2 LAFAYETTE SQUARE, WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.

Director-CLINTON FURBISH.

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# BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

APRIL, 1896.

# ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

From a report made by E. L. Baker, Consul of the United States at Buenos Ayres, to the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of State, the following items of interest are taken:

#### IMMIGRATION AND CENSUS.

The net immigration to the Argentine Republic for 1895 was 46,783 persons; in 1894, 54,720; and in 1893, 52,007. For the last five years, the total has been 220,000 arrivals. The great majority of the immigrants continue to come from Italy. For the last year, Italian immigration was sixty-five per cent. of the whole, and 18,912 were families.

#### NATIONAL CENSUS OF THE COUNTRY.

In pursuance of a law passed at the last session of the National Congress, during the year there has been taken a general census of the Argentine Republic. The detailed returns have not yet been elaborated and published, but the population of the country is stated to be as follows:

Divisions.	POPULA- TION.	Divisions.	PopuLA-
Buenos Ayres (the capital)	662,763	Territories:	
Provinces:		Misiones	33,005
Buenos Ayres	921,232	Formosa	4,829
Santa Fe	397,632	Chaco	10,280
Entre Rios	302,000	Martin Garcia	656
Corrientes	239,546	Pampa	25,521
Cordoba	351,346	Neuquen	14,518
San Luis	81,155	Rio Negro	6,153
Mendoza	116,676	Chubnt	3,748
Sau Juan	84,964	Santa Cruz	1,014
La Rioja	69,228	Tierra del Fuego	477
Catamarca	90,187		
Santiago	160,495		
Tuenman	215,693		
Salta	118,139		
Jujny	49,568	Total	3,963,646

The only other official census of the Republic was taken twenty-five years ago (1869), and it gave the population at 1,737,023, the last census showing an increase of 2,226,623. The returns of the immigration office show that the number of immigrants remaining in the country since 1857 is 1,548,404, so that the foreign element of the Argentine Republic now amounts to over out-third of the whole population, the greater portion—say two-thirds—of which is from Italy. Spain and France contribute the larger share of the rest.

# AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

The following statement is given of the exports of agricultural products, and of the prospects for the immediate future.

# AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS IN 1894.

Products.	Quantity. Tons.	Value.
Linseed Rye Maize Baled Alfalfa. Oats Barley Wheat Other Crops Sundries		\$3,583,459 40,810 1,046,007 456,386 29,489 10,041 27,118,142 203,804 32,038
Total		\$32,520,176

The total agricultural exports for 1893 amounted to \$29,017,405, thus showing an increase of \$3,502,771.

The people of the United States are, however, especially interested in the wheat and corn exports of the Argentine Republic, and, as a matter of comparison, I bring the table down since 1882, when this country for the first time produced a surplus.

#### EXPORTS FOR THE LAST FOURTEEN YEARS.

YEAR.	WHEAT. TONS.	CORN. Tons.	FLOUR. Tons.
1882	1,700	107,000	
1883	61,000	19,000	
1884	108,499	113,710	3,734
1885	78,493	197,859	7,447
ISS5	37,864	231,660	5,262
1887	257,865	361,844	5,242
1888	178,928	162,037	6,392
1889	22,806	432,590	3,360
1890	327,894	707,281	12,017
1891	395.555	65.908	7,015
1892	470,109	445.935	18,849
1893	1,008,137	80,514	37.921
1894	1,608,249	54,876	40,758
1895 (9 months)	1,471,649	513.443	36,976

#### THE HARVEST OF 1895-96.

The prospect that the harvest of 1895-96 would show an increase of products over any previous year, as has been confidently predicted, is hardly likely to be realized. The season has been unusually wet, with heavy wind storms, and from various parts of the Provinces of Santa Fé and Buenos Ayres come reports that serious damage has been done to both the wheat and the maize crops. There are also reports that the locusts have appeared in some of the districts of Santa Fé. The extent of losses can yet only be conjectured. The harvest has been somewhat delayed by the rains, but their are indications that it will not be so large as it at one time promised to be. On this subject, as a matter of opinion, I translate from the Preusa (newspaper), of this city, as, its estimate of the present harvest, the following paragraphs:

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in ter for The official data which we have received from the Province of Santa Fe differ materially from those heretofore published. The area in crops this year (1895–96) is as follows:

CROPS.	AREA.	
VAVIS.	Hectares.	\cres.
WheatLinseed	1,068,066	2,639,191
Maize	156,688	

The yield will probably be, of wheat, \$90 kilograms per hectare, (13.17 bushels per acre); of linseed, 775 kilograms per hectare (15.36 bushels per acre); and of maize, 549 kilograms per hectare (8.7 bushels per acre). On this estimate, the harvest of wheat would this year, in the Province of Santa Fé, amount to 1,056,000 tons (38,800,960 bushels); of linseed, 320,000 tons (15,677,156 bushels); and of maize, \$6,000 tons (3,385,626 bushels. The previous harvest in that Province amounted to 780,000 tons (28,659,800 bushels) of wheat—205,000 tons (10,043,178 bushels) of maize.

So much for Santa Fé. In the other agricultural provinces the area planted in wheat is as follows:

Andrew Co.		
	ARE	Α.
CROPS.		
	Hectares.	Acres.
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Entre Rios	296,000	731,406
Cordoba	300,000	741,300 988,400
Buenos Ayres	400,000	988,400

With a yield of 775 kilograms per hectare (11.6 bushels per acre), the crop in those provinces will be 1,672,000 tons (61,434,885 bushels) of wheat. This, added to 1,056,000 tons (38,800,960 bushels), the estimated yield in Santa Fé, will put the total wheat harvest of the Argentine Republic for this season at 2,728,000 tons (102 069,147 bushels), or 10 per cent greater than that of the previous harvest.

#### MOVEMENT OF ARGENTINE WHEAT.

In regard to the destination of the wheat exports from the Argentine Republic, according to English Board of Trade returns, the larger proportion goes to Great Britain or to the Channel for orders. The shipments, according to those returns, in 1894, were:

	TONS.
To the United Kingdom and orders	1,136,956
To the continent of Europe	361,739
Total to European ports	*1.108.605

<sup>\*</sup>Total, 55.951,280 bush. The British ton 2,240 pounds; the Argentine (metric) ton. 2,204 6 pounds.

According to the Argentine national statistical office, the shipments of wheat in 1894 were:

	QUAN	TITY.
DESTINATION.	Tons.	Bushels.
Germany West Indies Belginn Brazil Spain France Italy Hollaud Paraguay Portugal Great Britain	75,021 6,162 235,634 475,113 30,000 30,980 22,448 6,765 3,206 2,617 687,378	2,756,522 226,413 8,657,979 17,457,234 1,102,300 1,138,309 824,814 248,569 117,799 96,157 25,293,302
Countries not named	31,925	59,092,429

The discrepancy between the Argentiue and the British Board of Trade returns would seem to be in the amount of shipments credited to Brazil. Which is correct?

#### THE PASTORAL INDUSTRY.

The pastoral coutinues to be the leading industry of the Argeutine Republic, and, since the opening of permanent markets for cattle on the hoof and for frozen sheep carcasses, it is in a more prosperous condition than it was a few years ago, when it had a market only for its jerked-beef product. The estimated number of cattle, horses and sheep in the country for the last year was a follows: Horned cattle, 22,869,385; horses, 4.398,283; sheep, 70,453,665. While the number of sheep is not estimated at so large a figure as it was five years ago, there is a great improvement in the size of the animals, owing to crossing the Merinos with the Liucolus. It was not so much a question with estaucieros to produce fine wool as to breed large-bodied sheep, the export of the carcassas requiring an improvement in this respect, in order to secure their sale in European markets.

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The saladeros, or slaughter-houses for cattle, have all been running on full time during the last season, and the product compares very well with that of former years.

The following table gives the exports of the principal pastoral products for the five years ending December 31, 1894:

ARTICLES.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Ox hornstons	2,289	2,428	1,851	1,593	2,597
Bonesdo	38,787	51,086	28,847	31,419	42,487
Horsehairdo	2,324	2,341	2,138	2,079	2,622
Cowhides: Dry No. Salteddo Jerked beeftons	3,053,649	2,678,909	2,845,189	3,181,237	3,954,483
	1,294,101	1,263,502	1,068,611	1,021,945	1,187,653
	43,481	39,635	44,699	41,151	42,838
Meat extract do	187	192	260	59	S <sub>4</sub>
Hide cuttings do	1,822	1,784	1,433	1,448	1,309
Pres'v'd tongues do	741	784	994	\$57	716
Dried blood do	492	648	964	1,102	850
Grease & tallow do	17,361	20,725	19,879	19,066	25,246
Salted meats do	474	2,876	7,040	2,178	658
Preserved meats. do	76	248	907	301	718

## WOOL AND CATTLE INDUSTRY.

The exports of wool and sheepskins for the same period were:

ARTICLES.	1890.	1891 .	1892.	1893.	1894.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Sheepskins	27,148	24,170	32,060	25,569	36,756
Unwashed wool	118,405	138,605	154,635	132,230	161,907

For the first uine months of 1895, the exports of sheepskins were 21,596 tons; of wool, 148,257 tons.

The following table gives the countries to which the sheepskins and wool were exported in 1894:

COUNTRIES.	Tons.	WOOL. TONS.
Germany	873	39,137
Belgium	398	30,918
United States	1,058	6,120
France	23, 264	71,013
Italy	3,708	3,710
Great Britain	2,766	3,120
Countries not named	4,689	7,880
Total	37,756	161,907

It will be observed that France, Germany and Belgium continue to take nearly all the wools of the Argentine Republic. While Great Britain monopolizes the Argentine trade in woolens and woolen goods, her raw wools all come from her own colonies. The exports of wool to the United States for 1894 show an increase of 1,680 tons over 1893 and 903 tons over 1892. The greater portion of the wool sent to the United States continues to be the Cordoba carpet wool or the Lincoln cross, which is used for yarns as well as carpets.

#### FROZEN SHEEP CARCASSES.

It was for the purpose of obtaining a larger bodied sheep, suited to the export trade, that the Argentines were induced to cross their fine merinos with the Lincolns, and while the effect has been bad for the wool, it has had a marked result in increasing the frozen-carcass shipments. This business, which began only a few years ago, has now become a very important factor in the Argentine export trade. I give the following table of shipments of frozen sheep carcasses since 1885, when the industry was inaugurated:

YEAR.	QUANTITY Tons.	VALUE.
1885	2,860	\$ 75,323
1886		360,508
1887		963,112
ISSS		1,498,182
188g	17,487	1,399,276
1890	20,413	1,633,145
1891	23,741	1,899,360
1892	25,436	2,034,898
1893	25,049	2,003,254
1894		1,864,110
1895 (9 months)	30,818	1,232,703

#### FROZEN QUARTERS OF BEEF.

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Within the last four years, frozen beef in quarters and other frozen meats have also found a market in Brazil and Europe. The shipments thus far have been:

YEAR.	QUANTITY Tons.	VALUE.
1891	 . 464	\$ 37,113
1892		71,912
1893	 . 2,778	222,279
1894		12,400
1895 (9 months)	 . 1,060	42,407

#### EXPORTS OF LIVE ANIMALS.

The falling off in these shipments may, to some extent, be accounted for by the fact that it is found more economical to ship the cattle alive. The export of live animals to Brazil and to European markets has, in the last few years, grown to be a large and regular business, the steamers now engaged in the trade being fitted up with stalls and pens for the purpose. Besides this, large numbers of animals are driven over the mountains to Chile and Bolivia.

The following table shows the number of live animals exported during the last five years:

Animals.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.*	
Asses Horses Sheep Mules Horned cattle	6,790 10,703 114,691 14,703 171,105	10,185 7,487 40,100 16,514 125,458	8,835 5,275 71,167 12,842 201,645	9,423 12,362 122,218 14,426 220,490	6,936 8,469 335,288 14,471 302,996	

<sup>\*9</sup> months.

Nearly all the asses are shipped to Bolivia; the horses to Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay; the sheep to Chile, Brazil and Great Britain; the mules to Chile and Bolivia; and the horned cattle to Brazil, Chile, Uruguay and Great Britain.

#### MINING INDUSTRY.

There is very little to be said, as usual, in regard to mines and mining in the Argentine Republic. It is the same old story; there are mining camps and establishments in the interior provinces. In some instances, expensive works have been erected and large amounts of money invested, but the output has been next to nothing. Not one of the gold or silver mines of the country has, thus far, paid expenses. Of late, I have heard of extensive movements on the head waters of the Chubut River, in Patagonia, where at least two companies are now working; also, promising reports of the Hall mines in Neuquen Territory, and disclosures of great expectations of the gold and silver mines in the Province of San Juan; but I do not put much faith in any of them.

I find the following article in the Review of the River Plate, of January 11, translated from the Nacion, which very truthfully gives the present condition of the mining industry of the Argentine Republic:

It is to be regretted that, although we have positive evidence that we possess the true bases of a great mining future, we have not been able to secure the investment of sufficient capital to develop the industry properly.

Notwithstanding this, there is considerable animation all the time in the mining districts throughout the Andine provinces and the national territories, where several companies are engaged in mining enterprises in spite of the difficulties caused by high freights and the fall in the value of silver, which only permits the export of mineral of very high assay.

Various companies are, nevertheless, working silver and copper which contain alloys of silver, gold and galena, and extracting the metals at their own establishment with good result, especially in the provinces of Rioja, San Juan and Mendoza; but, owing to the rise in the value of copper, more attention is being paid to these mines, since nearly all our auriferous quartz contains at the same time silver and gold in considerable quantities, which fact explains why, although copper has fallen so much in price in the last few years, and in spite of the long distances by cart and rail to the seaboard and subsequent export to Europe, the working of these mines has never ceased, more especially in Rioja, where a good interest has been earned on the capital invested. At the present time, owing to the scarcity of pack unles in that province, the rich and important mines of the district of Famatina cannot be worked as actively as they might, and this is the more to be regretted since if only the Dean Fines to Chilecito ronte were to be finished for the short distance that remains from Patquia to Chilecito, it would be easy to take up all the machinery necessary to wake that immensely rich district into feverish activity.

At the present moment, and owing to the enthusiasm for gold mines which has seized the public in Enrope lately, the discovery and development of our mines is being contemplated by many, and we hear that two large syndicates are now being formed for the purpose of exploiting mines in the provinces of San Juan and Mendoza. At the same time, one or more companies are being formed for the purpose of working the gold mines of Cordoba.

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In the national territories of Neuquen and Chnbut, also, there are three companies, formed with capital of the country, actively occupied in putting up extensive plants for the working of gold washings, and their properties have been duly marked out by the national Department of Mines and Geology, which department has received unmerous applications for claims which will be attended to early in the year. Various applications have been made to the same department asking for claims for quartz mining in the same district of Neuquen, which are to be worked with Chilean capital by persons who have mining interests in Chile

There is incontestable evidence, therefore, that in the whole length and breadth of the Cordillera and its spurs, right away down to Tierra del Fuego, there are immense auriferons zones, and if our capitals have not been drawn toward them, it is because there are so many easier and

very lucrative investments to be had nearer home, besides which, the immense distances of the mining regions and the difficulties of transport have caused those districts to be almost unknown in this city. Now, however, that land speculations, railway investments, etc., are not so easy or so profitable, there are signs of attention being drawn to the mining industry, and there is no doubt that as soon as any faith in the business is established, we shall see great activity in the Andine provinces in mining and other allied industries.

It is, therefore, the more necessary for the miner, as well as for other parties interested in the development of this important industry, to endeavor to bring it into good repute, and for the companies to proceed with every precaution so as to avoid failure. Moreover, seeing that the mining industry is as yet almost in a nascent condition, there is no necessity for capitalists to touch any doubtful properties or schemes, as they have a vast field in which, by careful and competent study, they can work with the certainty of brilliant results, which they cannot do in older countries.

I have uniformly expressed the opinion that there will some day be great discoveries of the precious metals in the regions of the Andes mountains, but there has not as yet been any scientific exploration of those slopes, and until that is accomplished I fear that the mining boom of the Argentine Republic must be remanded to the indefinite future.

The shipments of the precious metals, minerals, ores, etc., for 1894 were:

DESCRIPTION.	VALUE.	DESCRIPTION.	VALUE.
Auriferous sand	\$7,489 36,103	Lead ore	\$21 303 15,698
Tin ore	18,815	Regulus: Gold Silver	3,100
Silver	51,209	Total	19.520 219.581

#### TIMBER INDUSTRY.

In my former reports I have made frequent reference to the wonderful timber resources of the Argentine Republic. They consist entirely of hard woods, susceptible of the finest polish, and specially adapted to cabinet and other fine work. For years they have found a considerable market in Europe, though the expense of developing them—as they are found only in the far interior provinces and in the Chaco regions of the Paraná and Paraguay rivers—prevents them from coming into more general use. In the last few years, also, there has been much inquiry for

red quebracho chips and extract for tanning purposes; and it is believed that a large business could be done by enterprising capitalists in meeting this demand. The timber industry, however, during the past year, has shown no increase in activity, though shipments to Europe have been quite steady, while the home consumption of these magnificent woods by the wood manufacturers now located here is beginning to assume considerable importance. In the following table I give the value of annual exports of Argentine hard woods from 1875 to the present year:

YEAR.	VALUE.	YEAR.	VALUE
1875 1876 1877 1878 1879 1880 1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1884	\$21,171 10,541 57,090 14,943 58,793 36,403 272,613 222,358 257,887 394,848 339,022	1886 1887 1888 1889 1890 1891 1892 1893 1894 1895 (9 months)	\$326,623 330,214 781,793 799,257 1,413,224 2,145,510 1,666,819 1,618,220 1,511,145 1,603,203

The exports of the extract of "quebracho colorado," (red quebracho wood) for the first nine months of 1895—the first time its export has appeared in the custom-house returns—amount to the sum of 238,042. The exports of red quebracho chips or chunks (rollizos) in 1893 amounted to 63,297 tons, valued at \$632,970; in 1894, 74,358 tons, valued at \$743,582; for the first nine months of 1895, 127,330 tons, valued at \$1,273,298—thus showing the increasing demand for this timber for tanning purposes. Nearly all these shipments were destined for Great Britain.

Besides this foreign demand for the red quebracho, the demand for it at home continues to increase. In addition to the use of it, for cabinet work, furniture, doors, sills, window frames, etc., the immense timbers are employed for sleepers, beams, joists, bridges, and other like purposes. And now the streets of Buenos Ayres are being paved with red quebracho par-allelo-pipe-don with most satisfactory results.

Several years ago, a movement was made to send the red eedar of the Misiones to the United States, and several cargoes were shipped; but the expense of getting the timber to the banks of the Parana River and thence down to tide water, to say nothing of ocean freights, soon proved that there was no money in the enterprise.

I have heretofore referred to the company organized in this city to bring the woods of Tierra del Fuego to Buenos Ayres. I understand that the project is being worked with some success. The timber received

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from there has the name of "caique." It is easily worked, and excellent for furniture. Here it goes under the name of "guindo," and is destined to have a good demand.

The manufacture of furniture here is an established industry. It began in 1890, when a prohibitive tariff was put upon the machine-made furniture of the United States, and it has so extended that now all the best styles and qualities of forcign furniture and cabinet work are turned out in this city.

#### THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

The sugar industry of the Argentine Republic in the last few years has had a wonderful development. Its principal seat, for years, has been in the Province of Tucuman, but it has now extended to other parts of the country, owing to the favorable conditions for manufacture. For the last ten years, the National Government has sought to foster and encourage the planting of sugar cane and the establishment of sugar presses by heavy duties on imported sugars, until now the tariff is almost prohibitive-the foreign article being subject to a specific duty of 9 cents per kilogram (2.2046 pounds) on refined aud 7 cents per kilogram on crude sugars. This has had a wonderful effect on stimulating production. There may be some exaggeration in the figures which are published of the total sugar output of the country for the year just closed, but it is stated to be as follows: Production in Tucuman, 108,000 tons; in Salta, Sautiago, and Jujuy, 11,000 tons; in Santa Fé, Chaco, Formosa, etc., 9,000 tons; total product in 1895, 128,000 tons. The output in 1894 is given at 84,000 tons, showing an increase in the production of 44,000 tous during the last year. Taking the population of the country to be 4,000,000 and assuming that the consumption is 17 kilograms (37.48 pounds) per inhabitant, it would appear that the production of sugar is now enough to meet the wants of the people and leave a large surplus for export. The returns, however, show that some sugar continues to be imported. In 1893, the imports were 9.884 tons; in 1894, 12,061 tons; and for the first nine months of 1895, only 4,845 tons. At the present rate of preduction, it is evident the Argentine Republic will soon be offering sugars for sale to the outside world. There is at present but one refinery in the Republic, located at Rosario; but it is large and well equipped and is doing an extensive business.

#### WINE INDUSTRY.

Another of the established industries of the country is viticulture. There is no more favorable locality in the world for the production of vines than the Cuyo provinces of the Argentine Republic, and the wines which come here from those Andine regions are getting to have more than a national reputation. The development of the industry has been

gradual, but sure, those engaged in the business being anxious by experiment to test the wine-producing conditions of the country and ambitious to turn out such products as would stand the test of criticism before embarking too extensively in their manufacture. Certain it is that the qualities of the clarets, sauternes, ports, and sherries of native production are far superior to the importations, which, in too many instances, are foisted upon the Argentine people as genuine wines.

The Andine provinces now have extensive vineyards, and their bodegas contain wines of the finest vintage. President Uriburu, in his late message to the Argentine Congress, says:

"There are now in the country 28,800 hectares (71,165 acres) of vines, which in 1895 produced 1,600,000 hectoliters (42,267,200 gallons) of wine, 10,582 tons of raisins and 18,125 hectoliters (478,800 gallons) of alcohol."

The distribution of the vineyards of the Argentine Republic is about as follows:

PROVINCES.	ARE	A.
	Hectares.	Acres.
	13,000	32,123
	10,000	24,710
		7.413
		1,947
	2,000	4.942
	28,800	71,135
		Hectares. 13,000 10,000 3,000 800 2,000 28,800

Each year there are wider breadths of land put down in vines, and it is found that not merely in the Andine provinces, but also in the Riverine provinces, the finest varieties of French, Spanish and German grapes mature to the greatest perfection and bouquet. The markets here in the season are supplied with the most delicious varieties and at the most reasonable prices. The industry promises to be one of the most important and most profitable in the country. Already it is reaching out for foreign markets.

#### HIGHWINES AND WHISKEY PRODUCTION.

In regard to the production of liquors distilled from maize or sugarcane, the facilities for their manufacture are far in advance of the demands of the country or the wants of the people. There are twenty-one distilleries in operation, which, together, have a productive capacity of 60.000,000 liters (15,850,500 gallons). Besides these, there are fifty-five sugar establishments which have distillery attachments for utilizing the dregs of the sugar-cane, with a productive capacity of 40,000,000 liters 10,567,000 gallons), making the total productive capacity in the neighbor-

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on of wines more been hood of 100,000,000 liters (26,417,500 gallons), while the annual consumption is only about 30,000,000 liters (7,925,222 gallons). This excessive production has made alcohols and high wines a drug in the market, selling for 10 cents per liter (1.537 quarts). The internal revenue derived from distilled spirits in 1895 was about \$5,000,000 in paper, equal to \$51,700,000 in gold. The duty on foreign spirits is about 10 cents (gold) per liter.

#### BREWERIES.

There are now breweries in all parts of the country, and the production is large and the quality so good that it is not possible to import foreign beers and ales at a profit. The duty on the foreign article is 12 cents per bottle, whereas the native beer sells for about 10 cents per bottle.

## THE DAIRY INDUSTRY.

Twenty years ago, horned cattle were raised for their hides, tallow and flesh. Of the 22,000,000 in the country, it was almost impossible to find a milch cow on any estancia. The milk used in the coffee of the camp was "condensed milk" from Illinois; butter was a luxury, which was not visible in many households; and the cheeses all came from Europe. Within the last few years a great change has been effected in these respects in the Argentine Republie. The native, or "créolla," eattle have been crossed with the Durham and the Devoushire, and dairies are now to be found all over this part of the country. Fresh milk is everywhere in the market, butter the most delicious in the world is to be obtained for from 30 to 40 cents per pound, and cheese of excellent quality is manufactured at several establishments in this province and the Province of Santa Fé. Indeed, the butter and cheese of this country are already becoming articles of export. For nine months of the year 1895, the shipments of butter amounted to 147 tons, and of cheese to 54 tons; and their qualities are so fine that the business promises to have an indefinite expansion.

#### TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

The textile industries have, as yet, scarcely a foothold in the country, though in the last few years, there has been some movement in the manufacture of goods which have textile fibre for their base. When we consider, however, the amount of woolen, cotton and linen fabries which are imported into the country, averaging annually not less than \$30,000,000, the wonder is that there are not more milling establishments. So far as cottons are concerned, there may be some reason for this in the fact that the fiber is not grown in the country except to a very small extent; but hemp and flax are produced in large quantities, the fiber of which is not utilized at all, even for export, With 70,000,000 sheep on the pampas, it

would seem natural that there should be found ways and means to utilize the wool here at home to a greater extent than is now done, instead of paying tribute to other countries in shipping away raw wool and then receiving it back in manufactured goods. There is, however, one very large woolen plant in Bnenos Ayres, which turns out every variety of blankets and flannels and also cloth for soldiers' clothing. There are also several establishments for the production of knit goods, such as stockings, undershirts, drawers and other like articles, and they all seem to be full of work.

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#### OTHER INDUSTRIES.

There are various other establishments in the country engaged in the manufacture of articles for which there is a home demand. Among these are foundries for making all kinds of ironwork, machinery, safes, all kinds of agricultural implements, cooking and other stoves, irou beds and mattresses, all kinds of tin and zinc work, etc. There are also factories of buiscuits and crackers, chocolates, candies, canned fruits and vegetables, canned tongues and birds, and other alimentary substances. There are likewise factories for the manufacture of chemical products, such as linseed and other vegetable oils, paints, candles, dyestuffs, sulphuric, nitric, muriatic, and other acids, perfumery, soaps, etc. There are tanning establishments all over the country. There is a glass factory here, a paper factory, a powder and dynamite factory, several large boot and shoe factories, several silk, wool, and straw hat factories, factories of hempen shoes (alpargatas), umbrellas, parasols, fans, etc.; of ostrich plumes and other feathers and ornaments; of corset, shirts, underwear, and white wear generally. Some of these establishments employ from 100 to 500 men and women. All this shows that there is a steady development going on in this country; that it is gradually becoming selfdependent, and that the people more and more are "earning their living" in diversified employments and industries.

#### RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT.

There has been but little railway building in the Argentine Republic during the past year. The total number of kilometers now in operation is 14,312, an increase of only 137 kilometers over the year 1894. It consists of the prolongation of the Bahia Blanca and Northwestern road and a few branches made by the Western and the Central Argentine roads.

Lines of railroad.—The different groups are:

by rational.—The different groups are.	Kilometers.	Miles.
Railways the property of the nation 1		637
Railways guaranteed by the nation 3	.901=	2,121
Private railways 6	0,432=	3,997
Provincial railways 2	2,953=	1,835
Total	1.212=	S So 2

Capital.—The eapital invested in all the different lines of railway is \$462,730,641 (gold), distributed as follows:

Railways the property of the nation	\$42,394,167
Railways guaranteed by the nation	108,560,751
Private railways	229,028,583
Provincial railways	\$2,748,140
Total	162,730,641

#### PUBLIC WORKS AND CARRYING TRADE.

Buenos Ayres Port Works.—The port works have gone on slowly, the death of Mr. Madero, the contractor, having, for a time, stopped their prosecution, and the want of an appropriation of money has still further delayed it. The work during the year has been confined to the excavation and the building of the walls and abutments of the fourth dock and the excavation of the north basin. The dock, with the exception of the gates, is now nearly completed, as is also the terraplane surrounding it. Deposits, railway tracks, and hydraulic machinery have also been built or put in position. The canal leading to the deep river has also been somewhat deepened, but the depth of water is still much less that it should be, it being impossible at low tide for large vessels to effect an entrance. The expenditures last year were \$1,351491 (gold); and arrangements have now been completed by which the work will be prosecuted during the present year without any interruption on account of funds.

Other Public Projects.—All the other works for the ports of Rosario, Corrientes, Concepcion, etc., must wait until more prosperous times. The National Congress, however, has just voted to build a Congress Hall, which will eost \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000. Its proportions are very grand, and to judge from the plans of the building, which have been accepted by the Government, it will be a very handsome and imposing edifice. The work on the new Colon Opera House, also being built under the auspices of the Government, is likewise to be pushed more rapidly than it has been for the last year. It, also, will be a magnificent structure.

## INTERIOR CARRYING TRADE.

The interior carrying trade by the great rivers of the country for the year 1894 shows some increase over the returns of the previous year.

The following table gives the aggregate number and tomage of the river vessels, compared with 1893:

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year.

CLASS OF	ARRI	VALS.	DEPART	fures.	TOT	AL.
VESSELS.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
Sailing vessels Steamers		1,354,584 2,939,307		1,220,033 1,802,797		2.574,617 4.742,104
Total Total in 1893.		4,293,891 3,348,559		3,022,830 2,554,678	53.137 48.763	7,316,721 5,903,237

The average tonnage of sailing vessels on the Argentine rivers in 1891 was 31 tons, and of steamers 388 tons; the average tonnage of sailing vessels in 1891 was 53 tons, and of steamers 376 tons; the average tonnage of sailing vessels in 1893 was 66 tons, and of steamers 340 tons.

The Paraná and Urnguay rivers continue to be well supplied with commodions steamers, with good service for passengers. The great monopoly called the Platense Company has failed and gone into liquidation; but several other companies more than take its place and give more reasonable rates.

#### FOREIGN COMMERCE.

The foreign commerce of the Argentine Republic for 1894 amounted to \$194,476,611, against \$189,542,664 for 1893, an increase of \$4,933,977. The imports were \$92,788,625, being a decrease of \$3,435,003 compared with the previous year; the exports were \$101,687,986, being an increase of \$8,368,950 over those of 1893.

For the purpose of further comparison, I give the returns of the foreign trade of the Argentine Republic for the last ten years:

IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.	TOTAL.
	\$\$3,879,100	\$176,101,069 165,243,584
117,352,125	84,421,820	202.773,945
164,569,884	90,143,355	228,5 <b>2</b> 4,013 244,51 <b>5</b> ,239
67,207,780	99,723,211	243,059,S05 166,930,991
	94,090,159	190,313,787
	\$92,221,969 95,408,745 117,352,125 128,412,110 164,569,884 142,240,812 67,207,780 91,481,163 96,223,628	95,408,745 69,834,841 117,352,125 84,421,820 128,412,110 100,111,903 164,569,884 90,143,355 142,240,812 100,818,993 99,723,211 91,481,163 112,767,826 96,223,628 94,090,159

It will be observed that the course of trade has run very evenly since the great collapse in 1890, with no great increase, however, in the exports, The following table shows the foreign commerce of the Argentine Republic for 1894, according to country:

COUNTRY.	IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.	TOTAL.
Germany	. \$10,689,487	\$11,544,516	\$22,234,003
West Indies		1,391,318	1,393,865
Belgium		12,769,341	21,727,902
Bolivia	73,547	385,586	459,133
Brazil		13,869,406	15,849,874
Canada	31,282		31,282
Chile	20,843	1,764,500	1,785,343
Spain	1,703,314	2,384,507	4,087,821
United States	10,149,018	5,285,210	15,434,228
France	10,156,320	18,844,323	29,000,643
Italy	8,873,377	3,066,767	11,940,144
Holland	. 102,856	164,173	267,329
Paraguay	. 1,712,615	221,730	1,924,345
Portugal	46,286	74,276	122,562
Great Britain		20,410,884	53,599,898
Norway and Sweden		21,221	21,221
Urnguay		4,511,904	6,839,033
Countries not named		4,988,034	7.757.995
Total	\$92,788,625	\$101,687,986	\$194,476,611

Comparing these returns with those of the previous year, the imports from Great Britain and the United States show an increase, respectively, of about \$500,000; while those from Germany, Belgium and France, respectively, show a decrease of about the same amount.

In exports from the Argentine Republic, those to Great Britain show an increase of \$2,570,279; to Belgium, \$1,998,178; to the United States, \$1,868,470; to Germany, \$1,168,039; and to France, \$685,346 over the previous year.

## EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

The exports to the United States being, in great part, raw materials, are more intelligently classified, and they show an increase in value of \$1,868,470 over the previous year, the value of the exports of dry hides alone being equal to that of the entire exports in 1893. The following is a comparative table of the principal shipments during the last four years:

ARTICLES.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.
Ox and cowhides	\$1,455,848	\$2,540,679	\$1,770,876	\$3,216,708
Wool	1,618,722	1,538,313	906,227 133,013	1,076,906 237,872
Goatskins Ostrich feathers	296,085 13,596	188,394 30,055	296,850 25,944	428,912 27,501
Bones	55,486	137,605	169,620	17,132

The remarkable spurt which the returns indicate in the shipment of dry ox and cow hides is owing to the great "leather trust," recently organized in the United States, which, to keep control of the market here and at home, buys up everything in the line that offers. In 1891, the number of dry hides shipped to the United States from this market was \$77,793; in 1892, 1,133,948; in 1893, 894,668; in 1894, 1,687,411.

Argentine wool shipments.—In the matter of wool, there was some increase in the shipments to the United States in 1894 compared with the previous year, and a much greater increase for 1895; but they do not show such an increase as many supposed there would be with the repeal of our duties on that article. Of course, as the repeal was not affected until August, 1894, the full effect of a free market in the United States may not have had time to be appreciated here, and it may be that the future will show a great increase in the exports of Argentine wool to the United States. As I remarked, however, in my last annual report, I fear that the present wools of this country are not generally of the class for which there is the greatest demand with us. The wools for which our manufacturers have in the past depended on foreign markets for their supplies have been the merino clothing wools, which have for years run so evenly and so uniformly in Australia.

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5,708 5,906 7,872 5,912 7,501 7,132 A few years ago, the Argentine Republic was able to furnish the same grade, bating burr and an excess of grease and dirt; but, with the development of the frozen-mutton trade, which demanded large-bodied animals, the Rambouillet and Negretti flocks have been crossed with the Lincolns, and the result of the wool is a cross which does not run evenly, and which, while it can be used to great advantage in yarus and knit goods, has to be assorted to be of much use as a clothing wool. But the great trouble with Argentine wool, even of the kinds most in demand with us, is the quantity of burr that it carries, which in many cases, requires a voyage to Autwerp, where there is special machinery for removing it. In 1891, the quantity of wool exported to the United States was 5,781 tons; in 1892, 5,226 tons; in 1893, 4,445 tons; and in 1894, 6,129 tons

The oral algebraiches for 1895 have not yet been published; but, for the first caree and less the general exports of wool, as I have already stated, amount for \$45.85 tons with enough unshipped to run the amount fully up to 0.000 to 0.00 to 18 quantity, according to the invoices declared at the contract and cat of Rosario, the shipments sent forward from the A. India Republic to the United States from January 1 to December 41.16 for a sollows:

		BA1, ES.
Vool from	Posario	12,214
W sol from	Puenos Ayres	18,307
Lota	1	20.521

Assuming that each bale weighs 450 kilograms (992.07 pounds), the weight of the shipments to the United States in 1895 was 30,278.968 pounds—a very handsome increase over the previous year, which, allowing two-thirds for dirt, grease and burr, leaves 10,000,000 pounds of clean wool.

#### OUTLOOK FOR AMERICAN TRADE.

In my annual reports, I have so often and so fully discussed the conditions of American trade with the Argentine Republic, explaining the ways in which it is handicapped and giving the reasons why the great bulk of the commerce of the River Plate is with the nations of Europe, that it would be only surplusage to go over the subject again at this time. We are still, in great part, lacking in the facilities neccessary to any great increase in our trade with this country. We lack banking facilities with the Argentine Republic, and, above all things, we lack business houses in Buenos Avres. There are several sample houses here which receive orders for goods to be shipped from the United States, and, in their way, they manage to secure some business; but there is not a distinctively American importing house in this city. The trade we have with this country is done through foreign houses-English and German-and they buy certain lines of our manufactures not because they are at all interested in extending American trade, but because they find a sale for them and "need them in their business." Other things being equal, they would not buy a dollar's worth from the United States, but would deal exclusively with the manufacturers of their own nationality. There is little or no hope for any great American trade with the Argentine Republic under these circumstances. So long as our manufactures—better in very many respects than those in the same lines which are shipped here from Europe—are dependent for their market here upon the caprice or the personal interests of English or German importers, their importation to the River Plate cannot be regarded as being on a very firm foundation.

Steamship communication.—There is one thing, however, which, during the last year, has been working greatly in our favor, and that is regular and frequent direct intercommunication by means of steamships. There has been steam service between New York and the River Plate by at least three different lines, all to be sure, under a foreign flag; but they have been of incalculable assistance in our trade with this country. These are the Norton Line, the Prince Line, and the Lamport & Holt Line, with good accomodations, especially the latter, for a few first-class passengers. Their arrivals at each end of the route are watched with especial interest by those who are engaged in the South American trade; and, though without the aid of subsidies, they have done so well during the past year that we may now, I trust, look upon them as regular and permanent adjuncts to our commercial relations with the Argentine Republic.

# TRADE-MARKS.

[From the South American Journal, March 28th, 1896.]

A thorough search is made before any trade-marks or patent is granted, and, in the case of a similar mark being already granted, the second application is refused, Government retaining the fees paid as a fine; it is thus impossible to have one mark registered by two different parties. The Government issues an official certificate that the right to certain trade-marks, etc., has been granted. Any person with a legitimate grievance against the granting of a patent or trade-mark is entitled to oppose it. A list is published in the newspapers, at frequent intervals, of the patents applied for, and, when granted, information to that effect is also published. Once granted it is very difficult to get a patent undone. The time occupied is, on an average, six weeks for a trade-mark, but longer time is necessary to obtain a patent. The various delays are caused by the papers having to be legalized by the Foreign Ministers, then accepted by the Patent Office, all of which is done by means of stamped paper. Also the paying of fees to the Government, whose offices are only open three or four hours a day. The search for similar marks takes some time, and at last, when the patent is granted, it takes perhaps a week to get all the proper signatures affixed, after which it has to be taped, sealed and sewn.

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# BOLIVIA.

# CONSULAR INVOICES.

Article 1 of the protocol signed at Lima on the 29th of October, 1894, approved 28th May, 1895, officially promulgated on the 5th of October, and published in the Monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of the American Republics for November, 1895, stipulates that all merchandise imported into Bolivia shall be accompanied by invoices duly certified by the Bolivian Consul at the point of shipment,

The following announcement of the Bolivian Consul at New York on this subject is self explanatory:

# CONSULATE OF BOLIVIA. NEW YORK, March 15th, 1896.

Gentlemen:—Owing to complaints made by merehants in Bolivia of their correspondents not having been duly informed of the new custom house regulations, I am compelled to issue a second notice, advising you that all goods shipped to Bolivia must be accompanied by Consular invoices, certified by the Bolivian Consulat the port of shipment.

Persons not complying with this regulation shall be compelled to pay double duty on their shipments.

Yours truly,

(Signed.)

T. ALEJANDRO SANTOS, Consul.

In accordance with Article No. 322 of the Custom House Regulations, hereafter Consular fees on invoices shall be as follows:

From	\$ I	to	1	100 \$2	
From	IOI	to		5004	
From	FOI	to	т	000	

and 20 cents for each additional \$100, or fraction thereof, above \$1,000. Certification of extra copies, \$1.

The Congress of Bolivia has passed an act offering a premium for the manufacture of sugar and condensed milk.

Clause I guarantees for five years four per cent., payable semi-annually, on capital invested in any sugar factory which shall have worked regularly for one year.

Clause 2 offers a premium of \$4,000 (Bolivian currency) to sugar refiners turning out 4,000 quintals of refined sugar in one year.

Clause 3 provides for three premiums as follows: 2,000, 1,000 and 500 Bolivian dollars to refineries which introduce improved machinery and methods of manufacture, and maintain them in use for more than one year.

Clause 4 provides a premium of 3,000 Bolivian dollars for the best condensed milk factory producing thirty-four and a-half kilograms daily during three months in any of the agricultural departments of the Republic.

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# BRAZIL.

## COMMERCE OF THE AMAZON.

Within the three decades between 1865 and 1895, the exports of rubber from the port of Pará have increased from 1,768,022 kilograms in 1865, to 8,209,885 in 1895; the latter figures representing the largest exportation in the history of rubber, with the exception of the year 1892, when the exports reached 8,240,512 kilograms.

The exports of the same product from the upper Amazon valley, the commercial centre of which is Manáos, have increased from 5,422,000 kilograms in 1881, to 19,470,000 kilograms in 1894; the exports for six months of 1895 amounted to 10,276,000 kilograms.

During the year 1895, 9,511,345 kilos of rubber were shipped from Pará to Europe, and 11,256,818 to the United States.

The exports of cacao from Pará have fallen off from 6,441,000 kilograms in 1891, to 4,963,000 in 1895.

The export duties of the State of Para are at present as follows:

Rubber, -	21%	Fish Glue,	5%
Cacao,	46	Furs,	10%
Brazil Nuts,	- · 16 %	Cumarú,	SE
Hides,	17%	Woods,	Free.
	Manufactured A	rticles,	Free.

The following items of information are taken from the South American Journal, of London:

The debt of the State of Pará, which was in 1891 \$1,402,560, had been reduced at the end of 1894 to \$464,480; last year,

however, it was increased to \$825,000 by an issue of bonds to pay for the water works expropriated by the State government.

The January receipts of the Pará custom-house amounted in round numbers to \$400,000, of which \$215,000 were derived from imports and \$100,000 from surtaxes. The deposits amounted to the exceptional sum of \$56,555, and should not be considered as revenue. The total receipts for the same month in 1895 were \$220,000.

According to the message of the Governor of Pará, the revenue of the State, which, for the fiscal year 1893-'94 had been estimated at \$1,350,000, amounted in fact to \$1,917,000; and, having been estimated at \$1,500,000 for the year 1894-'95, amounted in that year to \$2,200,000.

The *Provincia* of Pernambuco makes the following estimates of this year's sugar crop in four of the northern States: Pernambuco, 60,000,000 kilos; Alagoas, 21,000,000 kilos; Sergipe, 21,000,000 kilos; Parahyba, 7,500.000 kilos. Total, 109,500,000 kilos.

# CHILE.

## COMMERCIAL STATISTICS.

The volume of trade statistics of the Republic for the year 1894 has just been issued, and from it the following statements relating to the commercial affairs of the Republic are taken:

The aggregate trade of the Republic, both foreign and coasting, in 1894, amounted to \$338,490,753; of this amount \$148,223,539 represent the foreign, and \$190,267,214 the coasting trade. There was a decrease, as compared with 1893, of \$5,116,921 in the foreign trade and an increase of \$8,096,292 in the coasting trade.

In the report of the statistics referred to above, the statement is divided into *Comercio General*, which includes all merchandise imported into the Republic by sea or land; also all merchandise exported or reshipped to foreign countries; and *Comercio Maritimo*, which embraces all the coastwise trade.

The figures for the "Comercio General" in 1893 and 1894 are as follows:

1503	1894	Decrease in
Imports \$ 77,665,514	\$ 72,885,728	\$4,779,786
Exports 75,674,946	75,337,811	337,135
Totals\$153,340,460	\$148,223,539	\$5,116,921

The figures for the coasting trade given below show an increase of \$8,096,292 for 1894:

1893	1894	Increase in 1894
Imports\$ 91,085,461	\$ 95,133,607	\$4,048,146
Exports 91,085,461	95,133,607	4,048,146
Totals \$182,170,922	\$190,267,214	\$8,096,292

The customs revenue shows an increase of \$5,341,380 over 1893, as given below:

Import duties\$20,406,063 Export duties 38,489,696	\$17,153,936 48,083,103	Increase	Decrease \$4,252,127
Totals \$58,895,759	\$65,237,039	\$9.593,407	\$4,252,127
Net increase in 1894.		\$5,341,280	

# MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

The Chilean Society for the "Promotion of Manufactures" has issued a pamphlet on the subject of "The Industrial Establishments in the Department of Valparaiso," from which the following facts are taken. The total number of manufactories is 417; the value of the raw material consumed in 1895 is given at \$20,057,573; operatives employed 12,616. The table below will show the progress in the development of these industries:

Founded previously to 1870 58
From 1870 to 1880 56
From 1880 to 1890
From 1890 to 1895
Total

In the classification, 51 are returned as "alimentary," which consumed in 1895 raw material of the value of \$8,124,245, and gave employment to 1,527 workmen. Of this class of industries the sugar refinery at Viña del Mar occupies the first place. It employes 500 operatives and contains 150 machines operated by steam, 20 steam and 4 gas engines, aggregating 500-horse power.

#### INCREASED DUTY ON CIGARETTES.

[From advance sheets of United States Consular Reports.]

Minister Strobel, in a dispatch from Santiago, February 1, 1896, informs the Department of the passage of an act by the Chilean Congress, dated

January 24, 1896, raising the duty on cigarettes to 5.50 pesos per kilogram. The present duty is 1.50 pesos per kilogram on Havana cigarettes and 1 peso per kilogram on others. "It is to be remembered," adds Mr. Strobel, "that the Chilean peso is now equivalent to 18d."

#### [Translation.]

ARTICLE 1. The import duty per kilogram on cigarettes is raised to 5.50 pesos per kilogram, inclusive of the weight of the wrappers.

ART. 2. This law shall take effect fifty days after its publication in the Diario Official.

By an act of Congress dated February 12, 1896, the export duty on nitrate and iodine has been raised from 34 to 40 per cent. This was to take effect from the 15th of February; acceptable bills on London will be received in payment of these duties.

# COLOMBIA.

# MODIFICATION OF TARIFF.

1.—DECREE No. 1278, OF DECEMBER 29, 1894, REPEALING THE DECREE No. 537, OF 1888.

["Diario Oficial" No. 9677, of January 11, 1895.]

The Decree No. 537 of 1888, published in No. 7439 of the "Diario oficial" (1), reducing the import duties leviable on several raw materials destined to industries, is repealed.

# II.—ORDINANCE OF FEBRUARY 23, 1895. RELATIVE TO THE CUSTOMS TREATMENT OF MACHETES AND KNIVES.

["Diario Oficial" No. 9706, of February 28, 1845.]

For the classification of knives and machetes proceeding from abroad, as well as those of such articles the Customs clearance of which has not yet been effected, the Customs must comply with the following stipulations:

Pruning-knives ("calabozos"), sickles ("aguinches") and other edged implements for grubbing, as well as machetes or hunting knives not exceeding 40 centimetres (40 inches "Granadinas") in length, shall be ranged in the 4th class of the customs tariff, and subject to a duty of 5 centavos per kilogram. Knives or edged implements employed in arts and trades, such as knives for bookbinders and shoemakers, and those employed for agricultural purposes (other than the edged implements for grubbing and the hunting knives mentioned above), shall be ranged in the 6th class, and subject to a duty of 20 centavos.

Machetes and "peinillas" which are carried with a belt tother than those employed in the army), daggers and all other similar articles, shall be considered as side arms and ranged in the 14th class, and subject to a duty of \$1 per kilogram.

Machetes "peinillas" and sabres employed in the army, are arms of war and, as such, prohibited on importation.

Common table knives are ranged in the 8th class, and those with handles of ivory, mother-of-pearl, plated, and of Britannia metal are comprised in the 14th class.

<sup>(1)</sup> See No. 90, page t. No. 4, of the Tariff,

Knives and machetes not enumerated in the preceding paragraphs are comprised in the 8th class.

Should the handles, sheaths or other parts of machetes, knives, etc., be of silver, or a material other than that generally employed in their manufacture, and should, owing to their weight or other circumstances, such parts be subject to higher duty when imported separately (Ordinance of February 10, 1887, "Diario Oficial" No. 6958), the machetes or knives in question shall be subject to the duty leviable on the latter material.

# HI.—ORDINANCE OF MAY 10, 1895, COMPLETING THE PRO-VISIONS RELATIVE TO MACHETES OR HUNTING KNIVES.

["Diario oficial" No. 9753, of May 17, 1895.]

The Law No. 129 of 1888, which, in the classification of machetes or hunting knives, established for these knives a length not exceeding 20 inches (1), meant the English measure, as said measure is generally inscribed in the catalogues of models published by the firms manufacturing the kinds of knives ordinarily imported into this country. Besides this measure is used in the orders and in the commercial invoices, and also usually in the sales and purchases effected on the markets of the country.

Consequently, for the collection of import duties, the Customs must range in the 4th Class of the Tariff, such machetes or hunting knives, the blade of which does not measure more than 0.508 metre in length, equivalent to 20 English inches.

# IV. ORDINANCE OF JUNE 26, 1895, RELATIVE TO THE REGIME APPLICABLE TO WHEAT.

|"Diario oficial" No 9781, of July 6, 1895.]

An Ordinance, dated November 16, 1889, annexed to the bill of the Budget-law of 1890, having prescribed that barley should be comprised amongst the alimentary products of the 2nd Class of the Tariff, the same classification should, by analogy, be adopted for wheat, which is a product of the same nature.

<sup>(1)</sup> See No. 90, page 9, No. 168.

V. DECREE N° 447, OF OCTOBER 3, 1895, MODIFYING THE DE-CREE N° 1449 OF 1893, WHICH PRESCRIBES THE DUTIES LEVIABLE ON SALT IMPORTED THROUGH THE CUS-TOM-HOUSES OF BUENAVENTURA AND TUMACO.

["Diario oficial" N 9842, of October 8, 1895.]

The import duties leviable on salt imported through the Custom-houses of Buenaventura and Tumaco are reduced to 10 centavos per 12½ kilogrammes.

This reduction shall be effected by tenths, at the rate of one-tenth per month, on and after January 2, next, conformably to the stipulations of Art. 205 of the Constitution.

VI. DECREE N° 454, OF OCTOBER 11, 1895, ESTABLISHING THE RULES TO BE OBSERVED FOR THE COLLECTION OF EXPORT DUTIES APPLICABLE TO COFFEE.

["Diario oficial" No 9849, of October 21, 1895]

ARTICLE I. In addition to the prescriptions in force, relative to exportations, the stipulation of the present Decree must be complied with.

ART. 2. After the shipping permit, mentioned in Articles 200 and 201 of the Fiscal Code, has been granted, the Chief of every Customs post must specially visit the vessel, to ascertain whether no export articles are on board. The employes mentioned in Articles 57 and 58 and of the Code may, when the Administrator deems it necessary, likewise be present at this visit.

ART. 3 In addition to the general manifest of the vessel which the consiguor is required to furnish comformably to Art. 202, every exporter of coffee must remit a special manifest of the produce he ships. In this document, which must be drawn up according to the form adopted for importations, shall be entered the minutes of verification and the receipt for Customs duties.

ART. 4. All the export manifests in question must be presented in quadruplicate to the Director of posts in the Customs district of the place of shipment within the time fixed by the Customs when issuing the permit to load the vessel. Manifests relative to coffee must state whether the coffee is hulled or not or without pellicles. This official must immediately compare all the copies of every manifest and transmit, without delay, three to the Customs, and retain the fourth to be forwarded by first mail to the Minister of Finance. The Customs shall dispose of the copies received by them in the manner prescribed by the regulations in force for importations, and the examination of the packages shall be effected at once.

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ART. 5 The verification shall be effected by opening and examining, amongst the packages not entered in the manifest as containing coffee without pellicles, those which the Customs deem proper, to prevent that coffee does not pass under the name of any other kind of goods or that coffee without pellicles is not declared as coffee with pellicles, and by ascertaining the weight of all the packages of coffee.

ART. 6. After examination of the cargo, the Customs shall enter in the three copies of the manifest remitted to them the amount of duties-collect such amount, and issue the permit of shipment at the foot of one of the copies, which shall be returned to the exporter on payment of the duties.

Should the cargo not be subject to duty, the permit of shipment shall be issued immediately after the examination.

ART. 7. The permit in question shall not be issued when the exporter has not previously guaranteed to deposit, within the shortest possible delay, a copy of the bill-of-lading of the goods he intends to ship.

ART, 8. The following provisions are applicable to exportations: The provisions of § 3 of Art, 325 of the Fiscal Code, relative to contraventions, and of § 9 of the same article, relative to manifests, as well as the penalties prescribed by said dispositions, and the procedure to be followed on their application according to Sections 3 and 4 of Chapter 9, Title III, Book 1st of the Fiscal Code.

ART. 9. Complaints relative to material facts shall be decided conformably to the stipulations of Art. 13 of Law No. 36 of 1886, relative to importations. Contestations concerning errors in figures in liquidations, and other irregularties connected with administrative procedure, or any other case not provided for in the present Decree shall, in so far as no incompatibility exists, be decided according to the stipulations of Art. 143 and others of the Fiscal Code, relative to importations.

VII. DECREE No. 499. OF NOVEMBER 9, 1895. REPEALING DE-CREE No. 75. OF MARCH 22 OF THE SAME YEAR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE PROVISIONS RELATIVE TO THE EXPORT DUTY ON COFFEE.

| "Diario oficial" N . 9805, of November 9, 1895. |

ART. 6. Article 2 of the Decree  $N^{\circ}$  75 (1), of March 22, 1895, establishing an export duty on coffee shall, until Congress decides otherwise, be maintained in force. The other articles of the aforesaid Decree are repealed.

(i) See ist supplement to No. 10, page 2.

# COLOMBIA.

# MODIFICACIONES EN EL ARANCEL.

L-DECRETO N° 1278 DE 29 DE DICHEMBRE DE 1894 POR EL CUAL SE DECLARA INSUBSISTENTE EL N° 537 DE 1888.

["Diario Oficial" nº 9677 de 11 de Euero de 1895.]

Declárase insubsistente el decreto nº 537 de 1888, por el cual se rebajaron los derechos de importación sobre algunas materias primas para la industria publicado en el nº 7430 del "Diario Oficial."

# II.—RESOLUCIÓN DE 23 DE FEBRERO DE 1895 SOBRE CLASI-FICACIÓN DE MACHETES Y CUCHILLOS.

[" Diario oficial" nº 9706 de 28 de Febrero de 1895.]

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Las Aduanas clasificarán, de acuerdo con lo que se expresa en seguida, los cuchillos y machetes que se importen en lo sucesivo. y los importados respecto de los cuales estén pendientes en aquellas oficinas las liquidaciones de derechos:

Los "calabozos, agüinches y demás machetes para desmontar," y los "machetes 6 cuchillos de monte" cuya longitud no sea mayor de 40 centímetros (40 pulgadas granadinas), corresponden á la 4ª clase de la Tarifa de Aduanas, gravada con 5 centavos por kilógramo.

Los cuchillos para artes y oficios, como los de encuadernación, zapatería y los peculiares á trabajo de campo diferentes de los de desmontar y los de monte de que se ha hablado, son de la 6ª clase, que tiene asignado el impuesto de 20 centavos.

Los machetes y peinillas para el cinto, distintos de los que se usen en la milicia, los puñales y los demás semejantes ó de naturaleza análoga, son armas blancas de la 14ª clase, que pagan \$1 por kilógramo.

Los machetes, peinillas y espadas que se usan en la milicia son de prohibida importación, como armas de guerra.

Los cuchillos comunes para el servicio de mesa son de la 8ª clase; y los que tienen mangos de marfil, nácar, electro-plata y metal británico, perteneceu á la 14ª clase.

Los cuchillos y machetes no mencionados en los párrafos que preceden son de la 8ª clase.

Cuando los mangos, las enbiertas ú otra de las partes de los machetes ó enchillos, etc , fueren de plata ú otra materia diferente de las que se emplean para ellos ordinariamente, y ésta sea por su peso y demás circumstancias la que causara mayores derechos si estuviera sola, al tenor de la Resolución de 10 de Febrero de 1887 (*Diario oficial* nº 6958), se reputarán comprendidos en la clase á que correspondan tales derechos.

# III.—RESOLUCIÓN DE 10 DE MAYO DE 1895, ACLARANDO LA DISPOSICIÓN RELATIVA Á LOS MACHETES Ó CUCHILLOS DE MONTE

(\*\* Diario Oficial \*\* n | 9753 de 17 de Mayo de 1895.]

Al fijarse en la ley nº 129 de 1888 el derecho de importación sobre los machetes ó enchillos de monte hasta de 20 pulgades de longitud, fue la mente del legislador la de referirse á la medida inglesa de esta denominación, por ser ella la que sirve generalmente de base en los catálogos de diseños que de tales artículos publican las fábricas que producen los que de ordinario se traen á este país, la que se usa, por tanto, en las notas de pedido y en las respectivas facturas commerciales, y la que se emplea por lo común en las compras y ventas que se hacen en las plazas mercantiles de la República.

En consecuencia, las Aduanas reputarán como de la 4ª clase de la Tarifa, para el cobro de los derechos de importación, los machetes 6 cuchillos de monte cuya hoja no tenga una longitud mayor de cincuenta centímetros y ocho milímetros, equivalentes á veinte pulgadas inglesas.

# IV.—RESOLUCIÓN DE 26 DE JUNIO DE 1895, SEÑALANDO LA CLASE DE LA TARIFA DE ADUANAS Á QUE CORRESPONDE EL TRIGO.

[" Diario Oficial" u 9781 de 6 de Julio de 1895.]

Habiéndose dispuesto por Resolución de 16 de Noviembre de 1889, inserta entre los documentos adjuntos á la Memoria de Hacienda de 1890, que la cebada se repute incluída entre los alimentos de la 2ª clase de la Tarifa de Aduanas, debe procederse de ignal modo, por analogía, respecto del trigo que se importe, pués esta mercadería es de la misma naturaleza que aquella.

V.—DECRETO N° 447, DE 3 DE OCTUBRE DE 1895, POR EL CUAL SE REFORMA EL N° 1449 DE 1893, QUE FIJO LOS DERE-CHOS DE IMPORTACIÓN DE LA SAL EN LAS ADUANAS DE BUENAVENTURA Y TUMACO.

["Diario Oficial" n 9842 de 8 de Octubre de 1895.]

Rebájanse á diez centavos por cada doce y medio kilógramos los derechos de importación de la sal en las Aduanas de Buenaventura y Tumaco.

La rebaja se hará por décimas partes mensuales, á contar desde el 2 de Enero próximo, de acuerdo con el artículo 205 de la Constitución.

VI.—DECRETO N° 454, DE 11 DE OCTUBRE DE 1895, SOBRE FOR-MALIDADES PARA EL COBRO DE LOS DERECHOS DE EXPORTACIÓN DEL CAFÉ.

["Diario oficial" n. 9819 de 21 de Octubre de 1895.]

ARTICULO 1º. Además de las disposiciones vigentes sobre exportación, se observarán las que contiene el presente decreto.

ART. 2°. Concedido el permiso para cargar de que tratan los artículos 200 y 201 del Código Fiscal, se hará por el respectivo Gefe del Resguardo ma visita especial del buque con el fin de cerciorarse de que en éste no hay artículos de exportación. A dicha visita concurrirán también los empleados que expresan los artículos 57 y 58 del Código, siempre que así lo disponga el Administrador de la Admana.

ART. 3°. Fuera del manifesto general que debe presentar el consignatario del buque según el citado artículo 202, presentará cada exportador de café uno relativo á esta mercadería, en forma análoga á la de los que se emplean para la importación, con el objeto de que se pueda extender en él la diligencia de reconocimento y la liquidación de derechos correspondientes.

ART. 4°. Todos los manifiestos de exportación de que se ha hablado se presentarán, por cuadruplicado al Administrador de correos del lugar de la respectiva Aduana, dentro del término que ésta fije al extender el permiso para la carga del buque; y los que se refieran á eafé expresarán cual se halla pilado 6 sin pelicula, y cual no lo está. Inmediatamente dicho Administrador comparará entre si todos los ejemplares de cada manifiesto y remitirá, sin demora, tres de ellos á la Aduana, y el otro lo reservará para enviarlo al Ministerio de Haeienda por el próximo correo La Aduana dará á los ejemplares que reciba un destino igual al que para los de importación prescriben las disposiciones vigentes; procediendo sin tardanza al reconocimiento de los bultos.

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1889, a de clase ogía, isma ART. 5°. El reconocimiento se hará abriendo y examinando, de los bultos cuyo contenido no haya sido manifestado, como de café sin película, los que la Aduana juzgne conveniente para impedir que el café pase como si fuera otra mercadería, ó como si tuviera película el que está sin ella; y verificando el peso de todos los bultos de café.

ART. 6°. Una vez reconocido el cargamento, la Adnana extenderá la liquidación de los derechos que se hayan cansado, en los tres ejemplares del manifiesto que tenga en su poder, exigirá el pago y expedirá la licencia de embarque al pié de mo de aquellos documentos y lo devolverá al exportador luego que éste haya enbierto el impuesto.

Si el cargamento no hubiere causado derechos, se extenderá la licencia de embarque inmediatamente después de que sea reconocido.

ART. 7°. Dicha licencia no se entregará sin que previamente afiance el exportador la pronta entrega de un ejemplar del respectivo conocimiento de embarque.

ART. 8°. Las disposiciones sobre infracciones que contienen el artículo 325 del Código Fiscal, en su inciso 3°, y en el 9°, en cuanto se refiere á manifiestos, así como las penas con que ellas se castigan, y el procedimiento para imponerlas de aenerdo con lo que determinan las Secciones 3ª y 4ª del Capitulo 9°, Titulo 3°, Libro 1°, del Código Fiscal, se declaran extensivas á las exportaciones.

ART. 9°. Las reclamaciones relativas á hechos se resolverán de una manera análoga á la que determina para las importaciones el artículo 13 de la Ley 36 de 1886. En cuanto á las que se refieran á errores numéricos en las liquidaciones, ú otros conexionados con puntos administrativos, se aplicarán tambien por analogía, lo mismo que en todos los demás easos de cualesquiera naturaleza no previstos en este Decreto, las disposiciones del artículo 143 y las otras del Código Fiscal relativas á importaciones, en cuanto no sean incompatibles.

VII.—DECRETO N° 499, DE 9 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 1895, DERO-GANDO EL N° 75 DE 22 DE MARZO DEL MISMO AÑO, EXCEPTO EN CUANTO AL IMPUESTO SOBRE EL CAFE.

Diario Oficial, n 9865 de 9 de Noviembre de 1895.]

ART. 6°. Mientras el Congreso no disponga otra cosa, continuará vigente el decreto n° 75, de 22 de Marzo, en su articulo 2°, que establece un impuesto sobre la exportación de café. Los otros artículos del mismo decreto quedan derogados.

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General T. Simon Sam has been elected President of the Republic of Haiti, succeeding the late General L. M. F. Hyppolite, deceased.

# MEXICO.

# OPENING OF CONGRESS—PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE.

The regular session of the Mexican Congress was formally opened by President Diaz on the 1st instant. From the message of the Chief Magistrate addressed to the Deputies and Senators on the occasion, the following passages bearing upon the financial, commercial and industrial conditions of the country are taken:

# MINING AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS.

The various branches under the charge of the Secretary of Fomento are flourishing. Mining shows a greater activity than ever before. Agricultural pursuits show a development equally satisfactory. The number of applications for water privileges for irrigation and motive power is on the increase.

#### FOREIGN COLONIES.

The foreign colonies in Mexico, although few in number and of recent organization, gave proof of their advance by the exhibits at the last agricultural show held in Coyoaean, giving proof of the possibilities of Mexico in that direction.

#### BOUNDARIES.

The engineers appointed to define the boundary between this country and the United States concluded the work on the field last year, and are now at work in Washington constructing different maps and making their report.

The conference between our chief of the boundaries commission and the Guatemala commission has been satisfactory, and their work is progressing.

#### SCIENTIFIC COMMISSIONS.

The commissions on the Yaqui and Mayo Rivers, in Sonora, have done their work in a satisfactory manner, and a large irrigation canal is in course of construction, under their direction, which will give a strong impulse to agriculture in that section.

#### POSTOFFICE.

One of the latest reforms in this branch is the increased accommodation in the delivery of mail from the United States.

The sale of stamps in the fiscal year was \$489,422, or 22 per cent, less than in the first six months of 1894. This decrease was the result of the reduction in postage, and was less than was estimated by the executive.

The postal money order service is giving good results, and is being extended.

#### TELEGRAPHS.

The line from Pochutla to Acapulco has been completed, and also the line from Durango to Culiacan. The border line from Piedras Negras to Nogales has been commenced

From September last up to date 326 kilos of new lines have been completed, 44,500 kilos have been consolidated and repaired and 11 new offices opened to the public.

#### RAILROADS.

Viewing a road to the Pacific Coast as being of great importance, the Executive has given its support and assistance to the concessionnaires of the railway to Acapulco. Judging from present results, the road will soon be completed and the want satisfied. About 31 kilos of new roads have been completed, without counting what has not as yet been approved by the government. Of this amount the International Road has constructed 24 kilos, besides the survey of the road from Durango to Guadalajara. The road from Mexico to Cuernavaca has been increased by 6 kilos, making 82 kilos on that road now complete. From Toluca to Tenango 7 kilos are nearly complete. Other roads are making repairs and improvements. The Central has completed 20 kilos on its Ameca branch, which have not been approved. The National road has opened

its new station. The Interoceanic has changed the curves at Temamatla and has made repairs in various points. The Tehnantepee road continues the work of improving its road-bed.

The total railroads now in operation are 11,165 kilos.

#### THE DRAINAGE CANAL.

Work has been pushed on this canal and is nearly completed thereon. The various railways are finishing the bridges which cross it. The work on the connection of the canal and tunnel is well forward.

Once completed, this canal will solve the question of the sanitation of this city.

#### HARBORS.

The heavy storms during the winter did considerable damage to the jetties at Tampico, but the concessionaires commenced repairs without delay and the traffic to that port has not been interrupted.

The important work undertaken in Vera Cruz will give a safe harbor too hectares in extent and with a depth of 8½ meters of water. The north breakwater has been completed and the northeast wall is in course of construction.

The government wharf at Isla del Carmen was finished last November. February 5th the wharf at San Juan Bautista, on the Grijalva river was inaugurated.

At Salina Cruz the new light house is in course of erection. Tomorrow the new lights at Coatzacoaleos will be inaugurated. At Selba Playa a light is being put in position.

#### TREASURY.

It is to be hoped that the time has passed for deficits to occur in the treasury. At present the receipts exceed the expenditures and leave a surplus of over \$2,000,000 for the first six months of the fiscal year.

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to irs ca ed The decree decreasing the taxes on the salaries of public officials by 40 per cent, is now in force.

The abolition on the 1st of July of the interstate laws throughout the Republic, is a constitutional reform which the Federation, with the aid of all the States, will be enabled to bring about on the above date

The adjustment of the Public Debt can be considered as terminated by means of decrees issued on the 31st of October and February of last. Steps have also been taken, by Congressional act, for the emission of a second series of bonds of the Interior Consolidated Debt with a view of consolidating the national debt.

### COLONIZATION LAW.

The colonization law of Mexico, published below, and now in force in the Republic, was promulgated December 15th, 1883.

#### ON THE SURVEYING OF LANDS.

ARTICLE I. In order to obtain the necessary lands for the establishment of colonies, the Executive will order the surveying, measuring, dividing and valuing of public lands, or such lands of National property as there may be in the Republic, naming to that effect the committees of engineers he may consider necessary and determining the system of operations to be followed.

ART. 2. The sections shall in no case exceed 2,500 hectares, this being the largest extent that may be adjudicated to a single individual of adult age and with legal capacity to contract.

ART. 3. The surveyed, measured, divided and valued lands shall be ceded to the immigrants, foreigners as well as natives of the Republic, who may desire to establish themselves on them as colonists, with the following conditions, viz:

1. By sale at the price of the valuation made by the engineers and approved by the Secretary of Public Works, payable in ten years by installments, beginning from the second year of the establishment of the colonists.

2. By sale at ready cash price, or on shorter terms than those previously mentioned.

3. By gratuitous title, should the colonist so desire; but in this case the grant cannot exceed 100 hectares, nor will be receive the property title until be proves that he has retained it in his possession and cultivated the whole, or at least one-tenth part of it, during five consecutive years.

ART. 4 When there are convenient lands for colonization under the conditions established by Article 1, the Executive shall determine which are to be colonized at once, publishing a map or plan of them and the prices at which they are to be sold, taking care in every case that the sale or cession referred to in the preceding article be made in alternate lots. The rest of the lands will be reserved, to be subsequently sold on the conditions established by this law, when solicited or decided upon by the Executive, who may mortgage them in order to obtain funds which, together with the proceeds of the sale of the lands, shall be destined exclusively to accomplish the colonization.

#### CONCERNING THE COLONISTS.

ART. 5. In order to be considered a colonist and be entitled to the franchises grauted by the present law, it is necessary that if an immigrant be a foreigner, he comes to the Republic with a certificate from the consular or immigration agent, given upon the request of said immigrant, or of the company or association authorized by the Executive to bring colonists to the Republic.

ART. 6. In all cases the applicants must produce certificates from the respective authorities, showing their previous standing, good conduct and occupation, before making application to be admitted as colonists.

ART. 7. The colonists establishing themselves in the Republic shall enjoy, during ten years from the date of their establishment, the following exceptions, viz:

1. Exemption from military service.

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2. Exemption from all taxes except the municipal.

3. Exemption from import duties and internal taxes on provisions in cases where there are none in the locality.

4. Personal, non-transferable, exemption from export duties on articles and products of their own growth and production.

5. Premiums for noteworthy works, and premiums and special protection for the introduction of any new article of cultivation, or new industry.

6. Exemption from fees of legislation, of signatures, and issuing of passports, which the consular agent furnishes to individuals coming to the Republic for the purpose of colonization, in virtue of contracts made by the Government with any company or association.

ART. 8 The Secretary of Public Works shall determine the quantity and class of objects which may, in each case, be introduced free of duty, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall establish the rules with regard to the manner in which these introductions are to be made, in order to avoid fraud, and contraband, without, however, impeding the prompt dispatch of the objects.

ART. 9. Colonists established on lands bare of trees, who can prove that they have, on not less than one-tenth part of their grant, planted trees in proportionate quantity to the area, and two years previous to the termination of the exemptions, shall enjoy one extra exemption for each tenth part which they set aside for the cultivation of trees.

ART. 10. The colonies shall be established under the municipal regime, being subject for the election of their authorities and for the imposition of taxes, to the general laws of the Republic, and to those of the State in which they reside. The Secretary of Public Works may, however,

appoint agents in the colonies, with the view of giving them better directions for their labors, and of collecting the sums due to the Federation on account of every titled granted.

ART. 11. The colonists are obliged to fulfill the contracts which they make with the Government, or with the persons or companies who transport and establish them in the Republic.

ART. 12. Every foreign immigrant who establishes himself in a colony shall declare at the time of his establishment, before the Federal colonization agent, or before the respective notary or judge, whether he has the intention of retaining his nationality, or whether he desires to become a Mexican citizen, which privilege is conceded to him by part 6 of Article 30 of the constitution of the Republic.

ART. 13. The colonists shall be considered as having all the rights and obligations which to Mexicans and foreigners, as the case may be, are conceded and imposed by the Federal Constitution, enjoying the temporary exemptions granted by the present law; but in all questions that may arise, of whatsoever nature they be, they shall be subject to the decision of the tribunals of the Republic, with absolute exclusion on all foreign intervention.

ART. 14. Colonists who, without duly justified cause, may abandon for more than one year and before having paid for them, the lands which were ceded to them, shall lose their rights to said lands, and also to the part of the price which they have paid for them.

In the case of Section 3, of Article 3, the right to the gratuitons title is lost by abandoning the land, or leaving it uncultivated for more than six months, without duly justified cause.

ART. 15. In the places destined by the government for new towns (poblaciones) a lot will be conceded gratis to Mexicans and foreigners who wish to establish themselves there as founders; but they shall not acquire the right of property to said lot until they prove that, before the expiration of the first two years from the time of establishing themselves they have built on it a residence, losing the right of acquisition in the contrary case. It is also specified that the adjudication be made in alternate lots.

ART. 16. Mexicans residing in foreign countries, and desiring to establish themselves in the uninhabited frontier places of the republic shall be entitled to a gratuitous cession of land, on the conditions of Section 3 of Article 3, to the extent of 200 hectares, and to the enjoyment for fifteen years from the exemptions which the present law grants.

ART. 17. The Executive is empowered to assist the colonists or immigrants in cases where he thinks it desirable, and in conformity with the amounts indicated in the laws of estimates, paying the expenses of transportation of themselves and their baggage, for one time, by sea or

into the interior, wherever the railroads reach; also their free maintenance for fifteen days, wherever it may be determined that they shall settle, and with their tools, seeds, building materials, working and breeding cattle; these advances and facilities extended by the government being re-imbursable on the same conditions as the value of the lands.

#### RESPECTING THE COMPANIES.

ART. 18. The Executive may authorize companies for the habitation of public lands, under the conditions of measurement, surveying, dividing into lots, valuation and description, and for the transportation of colonists and their establishment on such lands.

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ART, 19. To obtain such authorization the companies must designate the public lands they intend to colonize, their approximate extent, and the number of colonists that they can establish on them in a given time.

ART. 20. The commission for survey and establishing bounds will be authorized by the judge of the district in which the land is situated, and when concluded, if there be no opposition, will be delivered to the company, which presents them to the Secretary of Public Works, with the other conditions mentioned in Article 18; but if there should be any opposition, the matter shall be submitted to trial, in which a representative of the Federal Treasury be a participant.

ART. 21. In compensation for the expenses which the companies incurred in the habitation of public lands the Executive may concede to to them as much as one-third part of the lands which they take up, or their value, but with the positive condition that they cannot transfer the lands thus conceded to them to foreigners not authorized to acquire them, nor in lots larger than 2,500 hectares, under penalty of losing, in both cases, the lots they had transferred in contravention to these conditions, and these lots will forthwith become property of the nation.

ART. 22. The lands surveyed by the companies, and with the exception of those which may be ceded to them in compensation for expenses in their habilitation, will be ceded to colonists or will be reserved on the terms and conditions which Articles 3 and 4 of this law establish.

ART. 23. Authorizations given by the Executive for the habilitation of public land will be null and without the right of extension should the respective operations not have commenced within the definite term of three months.

ART. 24. The Executive may make contracts with associations or companies for the introduction into the Republic, and the establishment of the same, of colonists or foreign immigrants, with the following conditions:

1. The companies must fix the precise time within which they have to introduce a determined number of colonists.

2. The colonists, immigrants, have to fulfill the conditions established in Articles 4 and 5 of the present law.

3. The bases of the contracts which the companies make with the colonists must be in harmony with the prescriptions of the present law, and must be submitted for the approval of the Secretary of Public Works.

4. The companies must guarantee to the satisfaction of the Executive the fulfillment of the obligations which they accept in their contracts, in which will be designated the cases as to limitations and fines.

ART. 25. The companies who contract with the Executive for the transportation into the Republic, and establishment in the same of foreign colonists, shall enjoy, for a term not exceeding 20 years, the following franchises and exemptions:

1. The sale on long credit and at moderate prices of public lands of national property for the exclusive purpose of colonization.

2. Exemption from all contributions, except stamp duty, on the capital employed in the enterprise.

3. Exemption from port dues, except those established for improvements in the ports themselves for vessels which, on account of the companies, bring at least ten families of colonists into the Republic.

4. Exemption from import duties on tools, machines, building materials and animals for labor and breeding purposes, all destined exclusively for the use of an agricultural, mining or industrial colony whose establishment has been authorized by the Executive.

5. A bonus for each established family and another, smaller one, for each family landed, premiums for each Mexican family established in a colony of foreigners.

6. Transportation of the colonists, on account of the Government, on the lines of steamers and railroads that are subsidized.

ART. 26. The foreign colonization companies shall always be considered as Mexicau, having to establish their domicile in some town of the Republic, without preventing them from establishing others abroad, and obliged also to have in the country a part of their Board of Directors and to have one or more resident representatives, fully empowered to treat with the Executive.

ART. 27. All questions that may arise between the government and the companies shall be settled by the tribunals of the Republic, and according to its laws, without the interposition of foreign diplomatic agents.

#### GENERAL DISPOSITIONS.

ART. 28. Private persons who may destine part or all of the lands of their property to be colonized by at least ten families of foreign emigrants are entitled to have the colonies which they establish on them

enjoy the same franchises and exemptions as the colonies which the Federal Government establishes, always provided they conform to the conditions which the Executive fixes in order to secure the success of the colony, among which conditions is understood the one that the colonists must acquire, by purchase or cession, a lot of land for cultivation.

The Executive may transfer foreign colonists to private persons, stipulating with them the conditions on which they have to establish them; and he may also aid them in defraying the expenses of the transportation of the colonists.

ART. 29. The colonization of the islands of the two seas will be effected by the Federal Executive, subject to the provisions of this law, the government reserving distinctively to itself, on each island, a space of fifty hectareas for public uses. Should the island not be of sufficient size to effect the separation prescribed in this article, then no sales of lands shall be made, and the lands can be rented only for short periods.

In the colonies which may be established on these lands, there shall always be a number of Mexican families, not less than one-half of the total number of the colonizing families.

ART. 30. The Executive is authorized to acquire, by purchases or cession, lands of private persons, provided he judges this convenient, for the establishment of colonies on them, and subject to the costs which are indicated in the laws of estimates of expenses.

ART, 31. All laws on colonization enacted previous to the present, are hereby annuled by the present.

(Signed.)

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ARISTEO MERCADO (M. C.)

GUILLERMO PALOMINO (Senator.)

Vice-President; President.

SATURNINO AVON (Senator), Secretary.

ENRIQUE MARIA RUBIO (Senator), Secretary.

Therefore, be it ordered that this be printed, published, circulated and duly complied with.

Given in the mansion of the Executive Power of the Union, in Mexico, the 15th of December, 1883.

To General Carlos Pacheco, Secretary of State and of the Department of Public Works.

Colonization. Industry and Commerce.

And I communicate the same to you for your knowledge and corresponding effects.

Liberty and Constitution. Mexico, December 15, 1883.

(Signed.)

PACHECO,

Secretary of Public Works.

# REDUCTION OF STAMP DUTIES.

The following National Decree, making further reduction of the stamp duties of Mexico, has been recently promulgated:

ARTICLE 1. That no stamps will be required on:

- (a) Documents through which public employés shall present their resignation of their offices or commissions.
- (b) Conocimientos (bills of lading), for less value than fifty cents. Over this amount they will require the same stamps as receipts.
- ART. 2. The stamp duties on bonds are reduced in the following cases:
  - (a) When the amount is stated:
    - On a public document, for each \$20 or fraction thereof...20 Cents. On a private document, for each \$20 or fraction thereof...2 "
  - (b) When the amount is not stated:
    - On a public document, for each page \$2 00
      On a private document, for each page 1 00
- (c) The bonds given by public employés, whether federal, State or municipal, to guarantee the faithful performance of their duties, will require stamps at the rate of 2 cents for every \$20 or fraction thereof.
- ART. 3. In future, in computing the amount imposed by the stamp law on documents, etc., of foreign corporations, the rate of exchange on the date that the document is signed shall not be considered, but the rate of exchange as figured in the tables used in the custom-houses shall be used for such computation.
- ART. 4. The persons who shall, for a less period than six months, take charge of a public office during the temporary absence of the holder of the office, shall not be required to put stamps on the document appointing them to the office; but should the time, for any cause, exceed the specified term of six months, the holder of the office shall be required to furnish stamps as provided for by law.

#### CHANGE OF MINISTRY.

General Pedro Hinojosa, Minister of War and Marine, has resigned his portfolio, and is succeeded by General Felipe Berriozabal. General Berriozabal is the ranking major-general of the army, and has filled many important positions, confidential and otherwise, under the admistration of President Diaz.

[From advance sheets of United States Consular Reports.]

# PURCHASE OF STREET RAILWAYS BY UNITED STATES CAPITALISTS.

Consul-General Crittenden, writing from the city of Mexico, March 9, 1896, announces the purchase by United States capitalists of the entire street-railway systems of that city, comprising the sole right of way of the desirable streets of the city, together with the following mileage and equipment: One hundred miles of broad-gauge track, 60 miles of narrow-gauge track, 5 locomotives, 300 passenger cars, 80 freight cars (with privileges of carrying all classes of freight), 40 carts, 2,600 mules and horses and 30 funeral cars. The number of passengers carried in 1895 was 17,480,425, at fares ranging from 6 to 31 cents per passenger; number of employees at present, 2,100; average wages paid conductors, drivers and collectors, from 50 cents to \$1.00 (Mexican currency), per day. The parent road has always paid a dividend of from 6 to 7 per cent. since organization, besides putting aside sufficient surplus out of its earnings to enable it to purchase all competing lines, except one small and undesirable single-track road of about 4 miles in length.

The first buyer is Mr. Channing F. Meek, of 837 Broadway, New York, who has sold the lines to Mr. Henry A. Butters, of San Francisco, Cal., and Johannesberg, South Africa. The transaction, including the contemplated re-equipment and improvement of the lines, will involve about \$20,000,000 (silver); but the actual purchase price is stated at \$7.750,000.

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It is stated that the present company will continue to operate the system on account of the purchasers until the second payment of \$825,000 has been made.

Messrs. Meek and Butters are quoted in a newspaper as saying:

"It is our intention to equip the lines with electricity, or at least to make a very exhaustive experiment with electric traction. We are negotiating for very extensive water powers, and among others have secured an option on Mr. Espinosa's concession for the utilization of the discharge from the drainage tunnel, which it is estimated will yield 6,000 horsepower. That would not only give us enough energy to operate our system, but a substantial surplus to sell to power users. Our consulting engineers are Mr. William Page, of London, and Mr. T. W. Orbison, of the firm of O'Keefe & Orbison, of Appleton, Wis. It is our intention thoroughly to revolutionize the service, especially in the direction of accommodating the city traffic in a more adequate and satisfactory manner. At present the city traffic is more or less sacrificed to the suburban. On some of the city lines there will be a three-minute service, but in no case will the interval exceed five minutes. Few people can realize

what a first-class electric street-car service will do for this city. It will revolutionize conditions here, and convert Mexico into a thoroughly modern capital. Naturally, it will take some time to introduce these changes. The system is an extensive one, and its requirements and capacity will have to be thoroughly studied. But the improvements will be made as rapidly as is consistent with safety and good business principles."

# NICARAGUA.

# CONSULAR CERTIFICATES AND FEES.

Minister Lewis Baker has transmitted to the Department of State translations of the following Executive Decrees regulating the issuing of Consular Certificates for merchandise shipped to Nicaragua; also the tariff of consular fees authorized by that Republic.

#### [Translation.]

# The President of the Republic decrees:

t. The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls or Consular Agents of Nicaragua shall be governed by the following tariff in collecting fees for signing invoices of merchandise imported into this country.

For invoices not exceeding \$100\$2 50	)
For invoices not exceeding \$500 3 50	
For invoices not exceeding \$1,000 5 00	
For invoices not exceeding \$3,000 6 oc	
For invoices of \$3,000 and not exceeding \$6,000 6 50	
For each \$1,000 exceeding \$6,000 50	)

- 2. Of these fees 25 per cent, shall be retained by the Consul, and the remainder shall belong to the State for diplomatic expenses. This amount shall be placed at the end of each month to the order of the Minister of Finance.
- 3. The second part of Section 2 of Article 122 of the Consular regulations is repealed.

Done in Managua, March 14, 1896.

[Signed] J. S. ZELAYA.

The Minister of Foreign Relations,

JOSÉ D. GAMEZ.

Translation.

# CONSULAR CERTIFICATES.

The President of the Republic, in the use of his faculties, decrees:

1. There shall not be admitted to the custom-houses any invoice that is not accompanied by the certificate of the Consul at the point from which the merchandise is shipped.

2. The consular certificate mentioned in the above Article will be issued by the respective Consuls of Nicaragua in accordance with the form accompanying this law. Previous to this the sworn declaration in writing of the importer or his consignee is required, stating that the invoice.

3. In case it should be discovered in the custom-houses that the merchandise does not agree in weight and quality with the sworn declaration, then this document shall be returned to the Consul who certified it, so that he may prosecute judicially the person who is responsible for the criminal offence.

4. The provisions of the preceding Article shall not operate to prevent the administration of the custom-house, or any employé of the same, authorized by law, from depositing a legalized copy to be used in the respective prosecution, in accordance with the regulations in regard to Fiscal Offences, of January 5th, 1895.

5. When, for any sufficient reason, the invoice should not be presented with the consular certificate in due form, the importer shall ask the Minister of Finance to authorize the employes of the custom-house to make an inspection by opening every package, and if this permission be given, the inspection shall be made on the day and hour appointed by the Minister, and in the presence of two wholesale merchants from different localities, who shall make separate statements of the weight and quality of the merchandise. This report must be sent to the Minister of Finance in a sealed envelope.

6. When an inspection of any package has been ordered by the Minister of Finance, there must be present, besides the two inspecting merchants, all the employés of the custom-house and two employés of the port, of the highest rank, and when the inspection is finished they must sign a report in writing, showing all that has been done.

7. A legalized copy of the above-named report, and of the invoice made by the custom-house, shall be forwarded to the Minister of Finance within the twenty-four hours next following, at the latest.

8. The inspecting merchants will be paid for their work by the custom-house, in accordance with the tariff of experts in judicial matters; but the amount of these fees shall be added to the valuation of the merchandise registered, so that the importer may pay it into the general treasury.

9. This law is an addition to the existing custom-house laws and to the Regulations on Fiscal Frands, and repeals all provisions to the contrary.

Let it be promulgated.

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invoice Finance [Signed] J. S. ZELAYA.

MANAGUA, March 13, 1896.

The Minister of the Treasury,
L. RAMIREZ M.

[Translation.]

#### FORM OF CONSULAR CERTIFICATE.

In testimony whereof I have hereto affixed my signature and the seal of the Consulate.

The original instrument has been given by me to the interested party and a copy thereof signed by the same has been retained by me.

...... City, the ...... of ......, 18....

#### DEVELOPMENT OF EASTERN NICARAGUA.

[From advance sheets of U. S. Consular Reports for April, 1896.]

Consul O'Hara, of San Juan del Norte, Nicaragua, in a dispatch to the Department of State, transmits a translation of the report of the Hon. Santiago Callejas, Special Commissioner of the Government of Nicaragua, on the affairs of the Atlantic coast of that Republic, published in the *Diario de Nicaragua*. In the course of this report, Mr. Callejas says:

Rama City, on the Bluefields River, is a prosperous place, thanks to the development of its agriculture, especially the cultivation and export of bananas to the United States. From February to July the exportation is very large, but during the rest of the year the demand for bananas is small. The export duty has therefore been reduced to 2 cents a bunch during this period.

The work on the railroad from Rama to a port on Lake Nicaragua is suspended, owing to the resignation of the chief engineer, Mr. Higby. I urge upon the Government the immediate completion of this road, if only as far as Las Iguanas, a distance of 10 miles, which would open up a new territory for the cultivation of bananas and even coffee.

Rama is now in telegraphic communication with Mobile. The line between Rama and Bluefields will be completed in two months.

I visited the mahogany works of Mr. Emery, at La Cruz, 100 miles up the river from Bluefields. Mr. Emery exports about 2,000 mahogany logs per month.

Twenty five miles above La Cruz, near the settlement of Sixecuas, are plantations of caco and sugar cane, which are cultivated with good results. Mr. Rojas, a planter, has 4,000 cacao trees, which produced this year 12,000 pounds of good cacao as the first crop. It sold at 50 cents per pound.

I next proceeded up the Wawa River, on whose banks are immense pine forests, which extend for many miles. Sugar cane, cacao, corn, potatoes and other products of the tropical zone are grown and yield abundantly. There is a species of wild cacao which, I was assured, grows and bears as well as any on the best lands of the department of Rivas. The Wawa pine is as good as the best pitch pine in the United States.

The Wauhi Segonia River has a vast amount of land well adapted to the cultivation of cereals and sugar cane. Some plantations of cacao and sugar cane giving good returns we found here.

This river, and also the Wawa, Rio Grande, Prinzipolea and Escondido, have the drawback of shallow bars, which can only be crossed by boats of light draft. The government should at once open these bars

If fast steamers of great draft could reach Rama bananas could be exported to Philadelphia and New York, and perhaps supply the markets of Europe.

Light houses are much needed at Cabo Gracias-á-Dios and Bluefields. In the collection of duties, the system by weight has been substituted for that of ad valorem. Under the old law a Bluefields merchant paid duty at the time of importation, and the same goods, if afterwards sold at Rama, etc., were subjected to a further duty. This abuse has been abolished, and hereafter a single duty will be paid at Bluefields.

The necessity for a telegraph line between Bluefields and the Bluff being very apparent, I have authorized its construction.

A higher court was organized at Bluefields.

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During the month of August last there were entered at Bluefields 33 boats or sloops, 27 schooners and 14 steamboats of 5,324 tons register, 332 crew, 203 passengers, 9 cases and 2 bags of mail, 203 pieces of baggage and 12,380 packages of merchandise.

The receipts for the month of October were \$37,719.83 and the expenses

\$26,698.26, leaving a balance of \$9,411.20.

Nine steamboats arrived during this month to load with bananas, taking 100,442 bunches.

I found the people of Mosquito Coast contented under the rule of the present administration, and urge the continuance in office of General Reyes, inspector-general.

# COFFEE STATISTICS.

The following statement regarding the importation of coffee into the United States in the year 1895, is from a report prepared by the United States Treasury Bureau of Statistics:

71	15 14	
From	Brazil217,935	tons
1.6	Venezuela 26,355	4.4
* 6	Mexico 17,631	4.6
6.6	Salvador 10,798	6.6
4.4	Costa Rica 8,666	4.6
6.6	Guatemala 8,115	4.6
4.4	Haiti 6,287	4.4
4.6	Colombia 5,444	6.6
4.6	Dutch East Indics 4,464	6 4
4	British West Indies 3,095	6.6
4	British East Indies	6.6
4	Nicaragua 1,577	4.4
6.6	Ecuador 535	6.6
4.4	Honduras 291	4.5

# VENEZUELA.

# CONTRACT FOR INTRODUCTION OF IMMIGRANTS.

The Department of State has received from Consul E. H. Plumacher, under date of Maracaibo, April 4th, the following translation of a contract for the introduction of immigrants into Venezuela:

#### [Translation.]

The Minister of Fomento, of the United States of Venezuela, fully authorized by the National Executive, and with the affirmative vote of the Council of Government, of the first part, and Doctor Manuel Maria Galavis, of the second part, have agreed in concluding the following contract:

ARTICLE 1. Dr. Manuel Maria Galavis binds himself to bring, within the period of seven years, 60,000 American, German, Swiss, Spanish, Irish, Italian and Dutch immigrants, of both sexes, all to be agriculturists and between the ages of ten and sixty years, with the object of establishing colonies in the public lands of Venezuela. (a) Upon the arrival at the port of disembarkation of each expedition of immigrants, the contractor will give notice thereof to the Government, in order that the number may be verified. (b) The contractor must present documents proving that the immigrants are agriculturists.

ART. 2. Dr. Galavis binds himself to furnish on his own account to the immigrants, for the period of at least six months after commencing their agricultural labors, clothing, food and medicines. He will also furnish them with the necessary shelter for one year, and with the farming tools, animals, seed, etc., that they may need for the first two years for the cultivation of the lands conceded by this contract.

ART. 3. The contracts that Galavis may make with the immigrants must conform to the immigration laws now in force.

ART. 4. The National Government cedes to Dr. Galavis six hectares\* of public land for each immigrant that he brings to the country, and who fills the conditions prescribed in Article 1, and these lands will be

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<sup>\*</sup>A hectare equals 2,471 acres.

cultivated according to the terms of Art. 26, of the law of Angust 26th, 1894, respecting immigration. (a) Galavis will select these lands at such place or places as, in his judgment, may be most suitable for the purposes of colonization, and is required to distribute one-half among the colonists according to Art. 27 of the law already cited.

ART. 5. The National Government will give to Dr. Galavis the property right to three hectares of public land for each immigrant as indemnification for the expenses of transport.

ART. 6. Should there be necessity of railways for the transport of products, merehandise, etc. the Government of the republic binds itself to give the preference to Dr. Galavis or his assigns for the construction of these works, with all the concessions permitted and granted by law, previous arrangement being made with the government respecting tariff rates and other details of operation.

ART. 7. When Dr. Galavis shall have finished his explorations for the selection of the lands where the colonies are to be established, he will give immediate notice thereof to the Government, and should it be necessary to construct railways, their starting points must be indicated, as well as their length, the zone of country through which they will pass and their terminals.

ART. S. Exemption from all customs dues will be granted for the instruments, tools, machinery, wood, seeds, rails and other accessories introduced for the development of the lands and in benefit of their products, as well as the articles for the construction of the houses of the colonists, warehouses, railways and wharves, the provisions of the law to be complied with in all cases.

ART. 9. Should it be necessary to establish one or more steamship lines, the Government will concede the free navigation of the rivers and interior lakes and of the sea adjacent to the territory of the republic, always in ease that Galavis comply with the provisions of law.

ART. 10. Galavis may freely work the mines and use the timber and other products found in the ceded lands, complying, in the case of mines and other natural products, with the requirements of the laws upon the subject.

ART. II. Galavis will be careful to arrange that in the various colonies that may be established, no one nationality among the colonists predominate as to numbers over those of the others.

ART. 12. In each colony the colonists shall have a right to elect their own police authorities, in conformity with Art. 34 of the immigration law of August 26, 1894.

ART. 13. In each colony there shall be a primary school for every 5,000 colonists. These schools shall be maintained by Dr. Galavis during the first three years, counting from the foundation of the colony.

ART. 14. In the contracts that Galavis may make with the immigrants there shall be a clause by which they bind themselves not to leave the country within two years from the time of their arrival, and the Government shall have the right to oblige them to remain during said period nuless they should repay the expenses which they may have caused to be incurred.

ART. 15. The National Government will extend to Dr. Galavis the property titles of the six hectares of land for each immigrant according to the terms of the law now in force upon the subject, and the titles of the lands for the indemnification referred to in Art. 5 of this contract will be extended upon the arrival of the immigrant at the colony to which he may be assigned.

ART. 16. The Government grants to Galavis the right of exemption from military service of all the laborers, artizans and employees of Venezuelan nationality engaged in the service of the railways and wagon roads, as well as of the vessels, steamships and wharves pertaining to the enterprise.

ART. 17. Galavis binds himself to construct the necessary wharves for the embarcation of passengers, products and other merchandise at all suitable points where the necessities of the enterprise demand. These wharves shall be subject, for public service, to a tariff which shall be fixed by agreement between the Government and the contractor, and shall be the property of the latter for a period of ninety years, counting from their readiness for service. At the expiration of this period they shall become the property of the nation without indemnification whatever, and must be delivered in a perfectly good condition.

ART. 18. The enterprise shall not be taxed by any class of national imposts.

ART. 19. Dr. Galavis binds himself to commence the explorations and examination for the selection of all or the greater part of the colony sites within the period of one year from the date of approval of this contract by the National Congress, or within one year more at the latest, if allowed, and the first expedition of immigrants within one year, counting from the expiration of the period granted for the exploration.

ART. 20. The company which may be formed according to this contract shall be incorporated in Venezuela.

ART. 21. In case that Dr. Galavis fails to comply with his obligations specified in Art. 19 of this contract, he will indemnify the Government for the damages thus caused, said indemnification in no case to exceed 50,000 bolivars.

ART. 22. The National Government will release Dr. Galavis from the payment of registry fees for the registration and transfer of the present contract.

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y 5,000 ng the ART. 23. The present contract may be transferred to another person or company, previous notice to be given the Government and with its consent, but it may not be transferred to a foreign government.

ART. 24. The doubts and controversies which may arise respecting the interpretation and execution of this contract shall be resolved by the tribunals of the republic, according to its laws, but in no case can they give rise to international reclamations.

Done in duplicate of one sole tenor at Caracas, March 10th, 1896.

(Signed),

F. TOSTA GARCIA, M. M. GALAVIS.

# LIST OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

		Executive Residence
Argentine ) Republie )	Señor Don José Evaristo Uriburu	(
Bolivia	Señor Don Mariano Baptista	
Brazil	Señor Don Prudente de Morães	Rio de Janeiro.
Chile	Señor Don Jorge Montt	
Colombia	Señor Don Miguel Antonio Caro	Bogotá.
Costa Rica	Señor Don Rafael Iglesias	San José.
Eeuador	Señor Don Eloy Alfaro	Quito.
Guatemala	Señor Don José María Reina Barrios.	
Haiti	Monsieur T. Simon Sam	Port au Prinee.
Honduras	Señor Don Poliearpo Bonilla	Tegueigalpa.
Mexieo	Señor Don Porfirio Diaz	City of Mexico.
Nicaragua	Señor Don José Santos Zelaya	Managua.
Paraguay	Señor Dou Juan B. Egusquiza	Asuneión.
Peru	Señor Don Nicolas de Piérola	Lima.
Salvador	Señor Don Rafael Antonio Gutierrez	San Salvador.
Santo Domingo	Señor Dou Ulises Heureaux	Santo Domingo.
United States		
Uruguay	Señor Don Juan Idiarte Borda	
	Señor Don Joaquin Crespo	

# 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.

reio de

Santos.

CHILE-

Antofagasta.

Arica.

Coquimbo.

Iquique.

Talcahuano.

Valparaiso.

Согомвіа-

Barranquilla.

Bogota.

Cartagéna.

Colon (Aspinwall).

Medillin.

Panama.

COSTA RICA-

San José.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-

Puerto Plata.

Samana.

Santo Domingo.

Ecuador-

Guayaquil.

Bahia de Carragues.

Esmeraldas.

Manta.

GUATEMALA-

Guatemala.

#### UNITED STATES CONSULATES.

HAYTI-

Cape Haitien.

Port au Prince.

HONDURAS-

Ruatan.

Tegucigalpa.

Mexico-

Acapulco.

Chihuahua.

Durango.

Ensenada.

Guaymas.

La Paz.

Matamoras.

Mazatlan.

Merida.

Mexico.

Nogales.

Nuevo Laredo.

Paso del Norte.

Piedras Negras.

Saltillo.

MEXICO—Continued.

Tampico.

Tuxpan.

Vera Cruz.

NICARAGUA-

Managua.

San Juan del Norte.

PARAGUAY-

Asunción.

Peru-

Callao.

Salvador—

San Salvador.

URUGUAY-

Colonia.

Montevideo.

Paysandu.

VENEZUELA-

La Guayra.

Maracaibo.

Puerto Cabello.

# BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS, No. 2 Jackson Place,

Washington, D. C.

Many communications are received by this Bureau indicating a misconception of the plan and scope of its work, as well as of the policy adopted in the distribution of its publications. As a full reply to those who believe themselves entitled to copies of every publication issued by the Bureau, the following extracts from recent Annual Reports are given:

# FROM ANNUAL REPORT, 1893.

There is, however, a more important reason for desiring the suecess of this effort to place the publications of this Bureau in the hands of those willing to pay for them. The letters received every day speak strongly of an increasing desire to receive something free at the general expense. Probably few of those who thus place themselves in the eategory of applicants for charity realize the true situation. But they must under-Stand the impossibility of supplying government publications at the general expense to all who apply. Perhaps, if questioned, they would declare themselves opposed to all forms of elass legislation. their demands for public documents they are helping to extend the most expensive sort of such legislation. Those who believe in a republican form of government have too great faith in the institutions of their eountry to oppose an effort looking to the defeat of tendencies toward the worst forms of centralization. All such will learn with pleasure of efforts to extend information upon proper lines. The Bureau has received many cordial expressions of approval of the new method of distributing its publications from those who have been for a long time recipients of copies of every edition printed.

#### FROM ANNUAL REPORT, 1894.

At the date of my last report there had been but a short trial of the experiment of selling the publications of the Bureau. As knowledge of this policy became more widely extended the sales constantly increased, and the Bureau is in receipt of abundant evidence that those having

need of its information are willing to pay the slight cost charged. There still remains in the minds of many applicants a misconception of the plan and scope of the work of the International Union of American Republics. In some cases application is made to members of Congress for full sets of the Bureau publications by constituents who assume that these are public documents, properly bound for library purposes and fitted to adorn shelves that might otherwise be empty. In others, librarians of public and institutional libraries, with a landable desire to secure for the libraries in their charge as full a line of documents as are available, assume that because they have been made depositories of government publications, they are entitled to copies of all documents issued by this Bureau for a distinct commercial purpose.

As to the first class, it is noted with pleasure that in a very large majority of cases the applicants, when furnished with a circular stating the policy of selling the Bureau publications, have responded by remitting the price named. Although it has been an unpleasant duty to refuse applications for these documents, I believe the best interests of every legislator are consulted by a strict adherence to the plan adopted. It is quite clear that every member who sends to a constituent free copies of the Bureau Handbooks increases the demand for the same favor from other constituents, who assume that they have an equal right with those they know to have been favored. As to the second class, there has been more difficulty. Recognizing the purely commercial character of the Bureau, and the soundness of the principle that no privileges should be granted to a favored class, the lists of libraries to which the Bureau sends its publications has been carefully revised. The aim has been to utilize these libraries for the double purpose of placing information within reach of the public and for the better extension of a knowledge of the work of the Bureau. Mistakes may have been made, but in considering them it must be remembered that the decision is in all cases made without regard to any supposed right of the applicant to receive, and solely on the ground of what might be the effect on the prosperity of the Bureau.

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February ['94].—Costa Rica at the World's Fair, and Railways in South America.

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May | '94|.-Tariff Modifications in Mexico.

June ['94].-Import Duties of Guatemala (revised).

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May ['95].—American Live Stock—continued; Brazil—New Internal Loan; Colombia—Tariff Changes; Ecuador—Statistics of Revenue and Commerce; Venezuela—Rules for Enforcing Immigration Law.

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September ['95].—Argentine Republic—Customs Law for 1895 (English, Spanish and Portuguese); Urugnay—Commerce and Trade, 1894; Treaty of Union between Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador (English, Spanish and Portuguese).

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February ['96].—Mexico—Cultivation of Cacao, Vanilla, Iudia-Rubber, ludigo and Bananas; Uruguay—Tariff Modifications (English, Spanish and Portuguese).

March ['96].—Peru—Amendment to Peruvian Patent Law; Modification of Tobacco Duties; Honduras—Trade with the United States.

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The Commercial Directories of the different Republics of Central and South America, issued some years ago by the Bureau, are no longer included in the above list, as they are not reliable.

CLINTON FURBISH, Director.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 1, 1896.

These publications may be purchased from Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago and New York.

# VALUE OF AMERICAN COINS.

The following table shows the value in United States gold, of coins representing the monetary units of the Central and South American republics, and Mexico, estimated quarterly by the Director of the United States mint, in pursuance of act of Congress:

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COUNTRIES.	STANDARD.	UNIT.	VALUE OF U. S. GOLD AND SILVER.	COINS.
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC	Gold and Silver.	Peso.	0.96,5 (flxed).	Gold-Argentine (\$4.82,4) and ½ Argentine (\$1.82,4) and ½ Argentine
BOLIVIA	Silver.	Boliviano.	0.49,3.	Silver-Bollviano and divisions.
BRAZIL		Milreis.	0.54,6 (flxed).	(Gold-5, 10 and 20 milreis, Sliver-1/2, 1 and 2 milreis.
CENTRAL AMERICA	Silver.	Peso.	0.49,3.	(Gold-Onza and divisions.)
Culle	Gold and Silver.	Peso.	0.91,2 (flxed).	(Gold—Escudo (\$1.82,4), doubloon (\$4.56), condor (\$0.12,3). Silver—Peso and divisions.
COLOMBIA	Silver.	Peso.	0.49,3.	(Gold-Condor (\$9.64,7), double condor. Silver-Peso and divisions.
CUBA	Gold and Silver.	Peso.	0.92,6 (fixed).	Gold—Donbloon (\$5.01,7).
ECUADOR	Silver.	Suere.	0,49.3.	(Gold-Condor (\$9.64,7) and divisions.
MEXICO	Silver.	Dollar.	0,53,6.	Gold—Dollar (\$0.98,3), 2½, 5, 10 and 20 dols. (Silver—Dollar (or peso) and divisions.
HAITI	Gold and Silver.	Gourde.	0.96,5.	Silver-Gourde.
Рек	Silver.	Zol.	0.49,3.	Silver-Sol and divisions.
VENEZUELA	Gold and Silver.	Bollvar.	0.19,3 (flxed).	0.19,3 (fixed). ; Gold—5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 bolivars.

Uruguay has the gold standard without a gold currency. One million dollars in silver of various denominations were coined two years ago,

# VALUE OF AMERICAN COINS.

and \$1,000,000 more are now being issued. This currency is accepted as legal tender.

Paraguay has no gold or silver coins of its own stamping. The silver peso of other South American republies circulates there, and has the same value as in the countries that issue them.

# WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following table gives the chief weights and measures in commercial use in Mexico and the republics of Central and South America, and their equivalents in the United States:

DENOMINATION.	Where Used.	U. S. Equivalents
Are	Metrie	0.02471 acre.
Arobe	Paraguay	25 pounds.
Arroba (dry)	Argentine Republic	25.3175 pounds.
do	Brazil	32.38 pounds.
do	Cuba	25.3664 pounds.
do	Venezuela	25.4024 pounds.
Arroba (liquid)	Cuba and Veuezuela	4.263 gallons.
	Argentine Republic and Mexico	20.0787 gallons.
Barril	Mexico and Salvador	
Carga	Central America	300 pounds.
Centavo		4.2631 gallons.
Cuadra	Argentine Republic	4.2 acres.
do	Paraguay	78.9 yards.
do	Paraguay (square)	8.077 square feet.
do	Uruguay	2 acres (nearly).
Cubic Meter	Metrie	35.3 cuble feet.
Fanega (dry)	Central America	1.5745 bushels.
do	Chile	2.575 bushels.
do	Cuba	1.599 bushels.
do	Mexico	1.54728 bushels.
do	Uruguay (double)	7.776 bushels.
do	Uruguay (single)	3.888 bushels.
do	Venezuela	
Frasco	Argentiue Republic	
do	Mexico	
Gram	Metric	
Hectare		
Hectoliter (dry)		
do (llquid).		
Kilogram (kilo)		
Kilometer		
League (land)		
Libra		
do	Central America	
do	Chile	
do	. Cuba	1.0161 pounds.
do	. Mexico	
do		
do	. Uruguay	
do	Venezuela	
Liter	Metrie	. 1.0567 quarts.
Livre	. Guiana	
Manzana	. Costa Rica	

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DENOMINATION.	WHERE USED.	U. S. EQUIVALENTS.
Marc	Bolivia	0.507 pouuds.
Mcter	Metric	39.37 inches.
Pie	Argentine Republic	0.9478 foot.
Quintal		101.42 pounds,
do	Brazii	130.06 pounds.
do	Chile, Mexico and Peru	101.61 pounds.
do	Paraguay	100 pounds.
do		220,46 pounds.
Suerte	Uruguay	2.700 Cuadras (see cuadra).
Vara	Argentine Republic	34.1208 inches.
do	Central America	38.874 inches.
do	Chile and Peru	33.367 inches.
do	Cuba	\$3.384 inches.
do	Mexico	33 inches.
do	Paraguay	34 inches.
do	Venezuela	33,384 inches.

# METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

#### METRIC WEIGHTS.

Milligram (1/1000 gram) equals 0.0154 grain.
Centigram (1/100 gram) equals 0.1543 grain.
Decigram (1/100 gram) equals 1.5432 grains.
Gram equals 15.432 grains.
Decagram (100 grams) equals 0.3527 ounce.
Hectogram (100 grams) equals 3.5274 ounces.
Kilogram (1,000 grams) equals 2.2046 pounds.
Myriagram (10,000 grams) equals 22.046 pounds.
Quintal (100,000 grams) equals 220.46 pounds.
Millier or tonnea—ton (1,000,000 grams) equals 2,204.6 pounds.

# METRIC DRY MEASURE.

Millimeter (1/1000 liter) equals 0.061 eubic inch. Centiliter (1/100 liter) equals 0.6102 eubic inch. Deciliter (1/10 liter) equals 6.1022 cubic inches. Liter equals 0.908 quart.

Decaliter (10 liters) equals 9.08 quarts.

Heetoliter (100 liters) equals 2.838 bushels.

Kiloliter (1,000 liters) equals 1.308 eubic yards.

# METRIC LIQUID MEASURE.

Millimeter (1/1000 liter) equals 0.27 fluid ounce. Centiliter (1/100 liter) equals 0.338 fluid ounce. Deciliter (1/10 liter) equals 0.845 gill. Liter equals 1.0567 quarts.

#### METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Decaliter (10 liters) equals 2.6417 gallous. Hectoliter (100 liters) equals 26.417 gallous. Kiloliter (100 liters) equals 264.17 gallous.

#### METRIC MEASURES OF LENGTH.

Millimeter (1/1000 meter) equals 0.0394 inch.
Centimeter (1/100 meter) equals 0.3937 inch.
Decimeter (1/100 meter) equals 3.937 inches.
Meter equals 39.37 inches.
Decameter (100 meters) equals 393.7 inches.
Heetometer (100 meters) equals 328 feet 1 inch.
Kilometer (1,000 meters) equals 0.62137 mile (3,280 feet 10 inches).
Myriameter (10,000 meters) equals 6.2137 miles.

#### METRIC SURFACE MEASURE.

Centare (1 square meter) equals 1,550 square inches. Are (100 square meters) 119.6 square yards. Hectare (10,000 square meters) equals 2,471 acres.

The metric system has been adopted by the following named countries: Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, United States of America, United States of Colombia and Venezuela.

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