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Monthly Bulletin

OF THE

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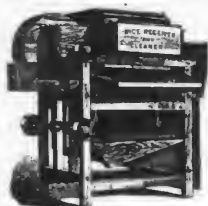
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JULY, 1899.

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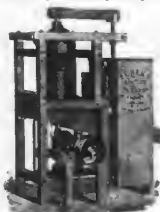
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GENERAL INDEX.

	Page.
Names of Advertisers	III
Presidents of the American Republics	IV
Latin-American Representatives in the United States	V
Editorial contents: { English	VI
{ Spanish	VIII
{ Portuguese	IX
{ French	XI
Publications of the Bureau	XII, XIV
United States Representatives in the Latin-American Republics	XV
Advertising Rates in the Monthly Bulletin	XX
United States Consulates	XXI
Metric Weights and Measures	XXII
Weights and Measures	XXIII

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ADVERTISERS.

For English and Spanish List of Articles Advertised, See Pages XVII-XIX.

PAGE.	PAGE.
American Dunlop Tire Co., The	Jeffrey Mfg. Co., The
Inside front cover.	Back of title-page (II).
Bird, F. W., & Son	XVII
Brown, John L., & Son	X
Central Manufacturing Co	Kansas City Hay Press Co
Inside front cover.	XIX
Colwell Lead Co	Kohlbusch, Herman, Sr.
Inside front cover.	XIX
Conley, John, & Son	Lambert Pharmaceutical Co
Cook's, Adam, Sons	XII
Egan Co., The	Leclanché Battery Co
XIX	X
Elliot, A. G., & Co	Miller Co., The Frank
XVII	XXIV
Export Iron and Steel Co	Milliken Brothers
XXIV	X
Fay, J. A., & Co	National Gramophone Co
XVIII	XIII
Goodell Co	Niagara Machine and Tool Works
XIX	XIII
Grace, W. R., & Co	Nordyke & Marmou Co
XXIV	Inside back cover.
Grand Rapids Brush Co	Perkins-Campbell Co., The
XIII	XIII
Hawthaway, C. L., & Sons	Southern Railway
VII	Inside back cover.
Hazard, E. C., & Co	Staley Works, The
XXIV	Inside front cover.
Hobbs Medicine Co	Sterling Cycle Works
X	Back of title-page (II).
Hoogland's, B. T., Sons	Thum, O. & W., Co., The
XIII	XVII
Hoves, S., Co., The	Troy Laundry Machine Co., Ltd
Back of title-page (II).	XVII
Iowa Farming Tool Works	United States Playing Card Co., The
X	XVI
	Weston Electrical Instrument Co
	XVIII
	Wheeler Reflector Co
	XVI
	Wonham, Fred. S.
	XVI

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
I.—APPOINTMENT OF W. W. ROCKHILL AS PERMANENT DIRECTOR.....	1
II.—ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.....	1
Trade returns—Agricultural products, first quarter, 1899—New governmental bureau—Deposits of borax, borate of soda, and borate of lime—Agricultural schools at Entre Rios—Trade with the United States—Underground electric railways—The wheat surplus.	
III.—BRAZIL.....	5
National industries in Rio Grande do Sul—Trade in leather. French consul's estimate of the coffee crop—Electrical progress of the Republic—Scarcity in the Ipeacamba market—Inauguration of a permanent exposition—Hospital ship for employees.	
IV.—CHILE.....	14
Coal for the Government railroads—Increase in the import trade of Valparaiso—Review of the financial situation—Report of the Antofagasta and Bolivia Railway—Demand for copper properties.	
V.—COLOMBIA.....	18
New telegraph cable—New railroads—Silkworm and yerba maté industry—Salt monopoly awarded—Exposition at Bogotá—Prospecting for gold—Water supply at Bogotá—Boundary line survey.	
VI.—CUBA.....	19
The outlook for sugar—Production of pineapples and bananas—Shipments of merchandise.	
VII.—DUTCH WEST INDIES.....	20
The colony of Curaçao.	
VIII.—ECUADOR.....	21
Custom-house returns of shoe imports—Resources of the country—Public school teachers from Europe—Agricultural and banking association.	
IX.—GUATEMALA.....	22
Encouragement of tobacco culture—Additions to the free list—The vinegar trade.	
X.—HAITI.....	24
Opportunities for United States business men—Undeveloped resources of the country.	
XI.—HONDURAS.....	26
New line of banana steamers.	
XII.—MEXICO.....	27
Industrial progress of the Republic—Conversion of the public debt—Active demand for manufactured goods—New cotton mill at Orizaba—Pulque as an anti-scorbutic—New steamship lines—The Milmo iron mines—Contract for sewer pipe—New railroad in Yucatan—The new national budget—Acatlan coal mines—Asphalt, a new article of export—Exploration of Tibouron—Imports from Mobile, Ala.—International boundary commission.	
XIII.—NICARAGUA.....	35
Control of the banana trade.	
XIV.—PERU.....	35
Permanent exposition at Lima—The most recent tariff changes—Supplementary decree to civil marriage law—Imports and exports in 1898—Recent discovery of copper ore—Caucho, or india-rubber tree—Demand for catalogues—New financial institution—Commercial college in Lima.	
XV.—SALVADOR.....	41
Export of silver—A decree.	
XVI.—UNITED STATES.....	41
Trade with Latin America—Tariff circulars with reference to Cuba—Statistics of the silk industry—Reciprocity treaty with Barbados—Receipts and expenditures in 1899—Production of gold—Reciprocity treaty with Jamaica—Recognition of foreign consuls—Duties on hides.	
XVII.—URUGUAY.....	54
Semiannual report of the principal railway system—Proposed harbor improvements at Montevideo—Heating and cooking stoves—April statement of the Bank of the Republic—Establishment of telephone lines.	
XVIII.—VENEZUELA.....	57
Imports from New York in May, 1899—Exports from Puerto Cabello—Contract for a railroad—Prospecting for pearls—Political divisions—Trade of Maracaibo, April, 1899—New postal cards—Reduction of bank capital.	
XIX.—BOOK NOTICES.....	60



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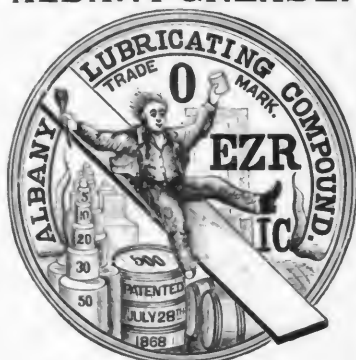
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ÍNDICE.

	Página.
I.—NOMBRAMIENTO DEL SEÑOR W. W. ROCKHILL COMO DIRECTOR PERMANENTE	63
II.—EL PORVENIR DEL CAFE	65
III.—REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.....	66
El comercio en productos agrícolas durante el primer trimestre de 1899.	
IV.—BRASIL.....	67
Progreso de la electricidad en la República.	
V.—CHILE.....	69
Informe sobre ferrocarril de Antofagasta y Bolivia.	
VI.—COLOMBIA.....	69
Nuevo cable colombiano.	
VII.—CUBA.....	70
Lo que promete la cosecha de azúcar—Producción de piñas y plátanos.	
VIII.—ANTILLAS HOLANDESES.....	70
Curaçao.	
IX.—HAÍTI.....	71
Riquezas del país aun no desarrolladas.	
X.—HONDURAS.....	72
Nueva línea de vapores bananeros.	
XI.—MEXICO	73
Progreso industrial de la República—Demanda activa por artículos manufacturados—El pulque como un antiescorbútico—Nuevas líneas de vapores—Nuevo presupuesto.	
XII.—NICARAGUA	76
Dominio del mercado de plátanos.	
XIII.—PERÚ	76
Últimos cambios en la tarifa—Reciente descubrimiento de mineral de cobre.	
XIV.—ESTADOS UNIDOS.....	78
Comercio con la América latina—Desarrollo en las construcciones navales—Datos estadísticos sobre la industria de seda—La industria de cuero y calzado—Tratado de reciprocidad con la Barbada—Condición de las cosechas principales—Producción de petróleo en el mundo—Ingresos y egresos en 1899—Producción de oro—Tratado de reciprocidad con Jamaica—Derechos sobre los cueros—Reconocimiento de Consules extranjeros—Fundición de acero al vacío—Patentes concedidas á Hispano-Americanos.	
XV.—URUGUAY	80
Líneas de teléfono.	
XVI.—VENEZUELA.....	80
Contrato para un ferrocarril.	
XVII.—NOTAS BIBLIOGRÁFICAS.....	90

INDICE.

	Pagina.
I.—NOMEAÇÃO DO Sr. W. W. ROCKHILL COMO DIRECTOR PERMANENTE	95
II.—O FUTURO DO CAFE	95
III.—REPUBLICA ARGENTINA	96
O commercio em productos agricolas durante o primeiro trimestre de 1899.	
IV.—BRAZIL	98
Commercio em couro.	
V.—CHILE	99
Resumo da situação economica.	
VI.—PERU	100
Decreto supplementario á lei de casamentos civis.	
VII.—ESTADOS UNIDOS	101
A industria de couro e cideado—Tratado de reciprocidade com a Barbada—Condição das collecções principaes—Produção de petroleo no mundo—Produção de ouro.	
VIII.—URUGUAY	106
Balanco do banco da republica em abril de 1899.	
IX.—NOTAS BIBLIOGRAPHICAS	106

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TABLE DES MATIÈRES.

	Page.
I.—NOMINATION DE M. W. W. ROCKHILL, COMME DIRECTEUR PERMANENT.....	109
II.—REPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.....	109
Rapports commerciaux—Produits agricoles, premier trimestre, 1899.	
III.—BRESIL.....	111
Commerce des cuirs—Rareté de l'ipécacuanâ sur le marché.	
IV.—CHILE.....	113
Décroissement du commerce d'importation à Valparaiso—Revue de la situation financière.	
V.—COLOMBIE.....	115
Modifications douanières.	
VI.—HAÏTI.....	116
Occasions qu'offre le Haïti au commerce américain—Ressources inexploitées du pays.	
VII.—MEXIQUE.....	118
Demande d'articles fabriqués—L'Asphalte comme nouvel article d'exportation.	
VIII.—PEROU.....	119
Dernières modifications douanières—Institutions de crédit—Loi monétaire—Découvertes récentes de minéral de cuivre.	
IX.—ETATS-UNIS.....	122
Traité de réciprocité avec la Barbade—Production de plomb—Traité de réciprocité avec la Jamaïque—Production générale du pétrole—Fonte de l'acier dans le vide.	
X.—BIBLIOGRAPHIE.....	126

PUBLICATIONS.

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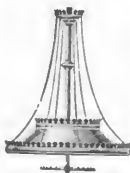
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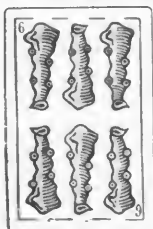
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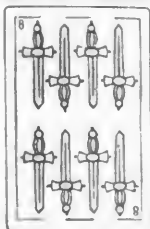
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MONTHLY BULLETIN
OF THE
BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,
International Union of American Republics.

VOL. VII.

JULY, 1899.

No. 1.

**APPOINTMENT OF W. W. ROCKHILL AS PERMA-
NENT DIRECTOR.**

Gen. RUSSELL HASTINGS, of Massachusetts, having been appointed permanent Director of the Bureau of the American Republics on March 20, 1899, and having resigned before assuming charge of the Bureau, as noted in the April number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, the Hon. W.W. ROCKHILL, late United States Minister to Greece, was appointed to succeed him by the Secretary of State of the United States, under the authority conferred upon him by the Executive Committee of the International Union of American Republics on the 7th of April, 1899.

Mr. ROCKHILL entered upon the discharge of his duties on May 20, 1899.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

**TRADE RETURNS—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, FIRST QUARTER
1899.**

Mr. ERNESTO DANVERS, special correspondent of the "Weekly Northwestern Miller," writes an interesting article to that journal (page 1147) from Buenos Ayres, under date of May 5, 1899, from which the following facts are called:

Congress met on May 1, and the result of the President's speech (a summary of which is published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for June, page 2145) was to send the gold premium up about ten points, but at the date of Mr. DANVERS'S letter the market had regained its ordinary calmness and the premium had again fallen. The writer stated that

the National Bank proposes to build up a large gold reserve and that a fixed rate will be decreed by Congress for changing the paper currency into gold, which rate is expected to be between 230 and 250.

In the commercial returns for the first quarter of the current year the imports amount to \$29,821,072, gold, an increase of \$3,740,876 over the corresponding period of 1898. The exports in the same time amount to \$47,532,893, an increase of \$3,562,088. The trade of Argentina with the United States shows an increase of \$1,616,664, gold, in imports, but a decrease of \$158,211 in exports. The imports of agricultural machinery were as follows: Plows, 14,399; shellers, 466; sickles, 14 tons; horse rakes, 918; reapers and binders, 53; other reapers, 1,117; threshers, 4; their total value being \$356,112, gold, an increase of \$286,000 as compared with the same period in 1898.

The agricultural products exported were: Wheat, 364,372 tons, valued at \$9,182,167, gold, an increase of 16,107 tons, but a decrease in value of \$1,962,312; flax, 905 tons, valued at \$3,090,777, a decrease of 4,866 tons and \$69,664 in valuation; flour, 8,439 tons, valued at \$354,457, an increase of 1,786 tons and of \$61,835; bran, 12,303 tons, valued at \$151,311, an increase of 5,244 tons and of \$75,790.

On May 1, 1898, wheat was quoted in the Rio market at \$12.50 per 100 kilograms (220.46 pounds), against \$5.20 on the same date in 1899. For the same dates flax was \$10 and \$7.20, respectively, per 100 kilograms. The gold premium on May 1, 1899, was 132, against 164 on May 1, 1898.

From the "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Ayres, May 13) the following statistics with regard to the imports and exports of the Argentine Republic for the first quarter of 1899 have been obtained:

Countries.	Imports.	Exports.
Great Britain	\$11,383,548	\$4,674,386
Italy	3,698,244	1,223,826
Germany	3,685,693	9,387,003
United States.....	3,513,086	1,553,968
France	2,827,638	11,910,470
Belgium	2,507,327	6,596,455
Brazil	1,040,970	1,713,048
Spain	645,742	354,823
Paraguay	292,607	52,997
Uruguay	129,607	731,643
Holland	27,356	130,139
Portugal.....	23,733	9,407
Chile	19,082	123,011
Bolivia	7,566	112,881
West Indies	4,275	52,438
Other countries	14,598	2,107,770
Orders.....		6,865,628
Total	29,821,072	47,532,893

NEW GOVERNMENTAL BUREAU.

The Bureau of the American Republics is informed by circular that there has recently been established in Buenos Ayres a bureau to be known as the "Demographic Bureau of the Republics," as a dependency of the Minister of the Interior. The duties of this Bureau are to

collect the demographic statistics of the capital, Territories, and Provinces, taking as a basis the data of the second national census; to draw up the forms for the collection of statistics; to distribute to the civil registrar of the capital, Governors of Territories, and Provinces the printed forms upon which are to be recorded monthly the recapitulations of the births, marriages, and deaths, with all the details necessary for a better understanding and study of such antecedents: to collect all statistics and forms and prepare general statements; to publish periodically the data so collected and compiled in a bulletin to be known as the "Boletín Demográfico Nacional" (National Demographic Bulletin); to collect and form a library of the demographic data published in the Republic.

This Bulletin will at the beginning be published as the data is forthcoming, and later on at regular periods, probably quarterly, until it can be published monthly. Until a special edition of this bulletin can be published in foreign languages for distribution in countries where Spanish is not spoken, the numerical statements will have headings in Spanish and French. It will be distributed gratis to all departments or bureaus as an exchange for their publications, to the public press, and also to writers and scientists, native and foreign, who have more especially devoted themselves to demographic and economic studies.

DEPOSITS OF BORAX, BORATE OF SODA, AND BORATE OF LIME.

In a communication published in the "Moniteur Officiel," of Paris, June 1, 1899, the French Vice-Consul at Rosario says:

Very rich deposits of borax, borate of soda, and borate of lime are found in the provinces of Salta, Jujuy, and Acatama, on the Chilean frontier; but as the development of these ores is still in its infancy, having been begun two years ago at the most, the commercial results of the exploitation are as yet unknown. The exports of these products in 1898 were limited to 114,000 kilograms, representing a value of about 28,500 francs (about \$5,700).

An important English syndicate was recently organized under the name of "The Borax Consolidated Company," with headquarters at London, for the purchase of all the deposits in these provinces. The capital of this company amounts to £1,100,000, divided into 80,000 ordinary shares of £10 each and 60,000 preferred shares, enjoying an immediate discount of 5½ per cent, the selling price of the latter being held also at £10.

In addition the company has a capital of £1,000,000 in bonds, so it can dispose at will of a capital of 60,000,000 francs. The borates of this country are rated as first-class in the European commercial centers.

The mining regions are directly connected without transshipment with the port of Rosario by the Northern Central Railroad, which already extends to the vicinity of the mines, and these will soon be crossed by the extension of the Bolivian line, passing by the defiles of Humahuaca and Taureau.

A company has been formed at Rosario, in view of the near exploitation of the mines, to take charge of the receiving, storing, and shipment of these ores at the fixed price of 1 piaster per ton (about \$0.50), according to the rate of exchange of Argentine paper money.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS AT ENTRE RIOS.

The administration of Dr. ECHAGÜE, Governor of the Province of Entre Ríos, recently determined to establish two practical schools for instruction in agriculture and cattle raising, to be founded, one at Victoria and the other in the Department of Nogoyá, in the model colony known as "La Llave."

Both of these schools will be under the charge of Benedictine Fathers, who have gained a great reputation in France for teaching young men in the two branches of industry named. The course of study will embrace theoretical and practical instruction in all the modern methods of soil treatment, sowing, etc., and practical lessons in the manufacture of butter, cheese, etc.

TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The exports from the United States to the Argentine Republic for ten months of the current fiscal year were \$7,807,222, of which amount \$1,378,034 represented the value of agricultural implements. It was expected that this year will exceed all others in exports of agricultural implements. In this connection it is interesting to note that a line of steamers to run direct from the port of New York to Buenos Ayres, Rosario, and Montevideo is about to be put in operation, and that six steamers of about 6,000 tons capacity each are approaching completion for this service. For several years past the carrying trade between the United States and the River Plate countries, so far as relates to the flag of the former, has been conducted by sailing vessels.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.

Concessions for underground electric railway lines have recently been granted to English companies in the Argentine Republic, and a short time ago the "Allgemeine Elektrizitäts Gesellschaft" of Berlin applied to the Government for the construction of a network of underground electric line between Retiro and Constitución stations and Oncea Station and Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Ayres. The shipments of electrical material to the Argentine Republic from New York for one week in July reached \$27,027 in value.

THE WHEAT SURPLUS.

Estimates from the Argentine Republic on the wheat crop surplus remaining for export range from 8,000,000 bushels to 16,000,000 bushels.

BRAZIL.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIES IN RIO GRANDE DO SUL.

The State of Rio Grande do Sul forms the southeastern extremity of Brazil and lies between the State of Paraná on the north, the Uruguay River on the west, and the Republic of Uruguay on the south and southwest, while the Atlantic Ocean forms its eastern and southeastern boundary. According to the "Commercial Directory of the American Republics" (p. 255), it has an area of 91,309 square miles, with a population at the last national census (1895) of 880,878. The State lies wholly within the south tropical zone, extending from 28° 9' to 33° 41' south. The principal products are beans, wheat, cotton, onions, rye, barley, oats, wine, and fruits peculiar to the temperate zone. The principal industry of the river districts is stock raising. At one time a large quantity of wheat was raised in this State, but owing to some disease its culture has been greatly curtailed. There are mines of gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, and coal. The São Jeronimo coal mines produce from 11,000 to 12,000 tons per year.

According to the report of Mr. THOMAS WORTHINGTON (England), "Special Commissioner appointed by the National Board of Trade to inquire into and report on the conditions and prospects of British trade in certain South American countries," the capital of the State, Porto Alegre, had about 90,000 inhabitants in December, 1898. This is the most important town in Brazil south of São Paulo. It is situated 30 miles from the mouth of the river Guahyba, at the north end of Lago Dos Patos. Other cities are Pelotas, with 30,000 inhabitants, a few miles up the Gonçalves River from the south end of the same lake, and Jaguarão, some miles up the river of the same name, which runs into Lago Mirim. All these cities are connected by steamers with the port of Rio Grande do Sul, containing 20,000 inhabitants, through which all the foreign trade, except that of Uruguay, passes. One feature of the State in its development is the number of European colonies. The most important are the German colonies in the Hamburgher district, the population of which is estimated at 110,000, and the Italian colonies in the Caxias district, with a population of 100,000. As a railway center, Porto Alegre is destined to become of great importance. The Porto Alegre and Uruguayan Railway has been leased by the Federal Government to the Sud-Ouest Brazilian Railway, and a concession has been granted for the building of a line to Caxias.

From Mr. WORTHINGTON'S report, which was published by the British Government in May, 1899, the following facts with reference to the commerce of the State have been obtained. The total foreign imports through the cities of Port Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, and Pelotas is estimated by the banks of these cities at not more than

£2,500,000 yearly. The buying power of the country has been decreased for a time by the low prices of agricultural products and by the destruction of the cattle during a local revolution a few years ago, from the effects of which the country is only now beginning to recover. The foreign merchants are principally Germans. The usual terms of payment in Porto Alegre are called six months, less 4 per cent in the dry goods trade—that is, the account made up, with 4 per cent deducted, is paid six months from the end of the month in which the sale is made, and a month's grace is given after that. In the hardware trade the terms are always understood to be cash. Accounts are made up at the end of the month, with 10 per cent deducted, and are supposed to be paid on the 15th of the following month. If payment be made within a week or two later, the discount is reduced at the rate of 1 per cent per month. Certain articles, however, are sold on this basis, but without any discount, the price being net. This includes tin plates, galvanized-iron sheets, wire, petroleum, rosin, and flour. Some houses which sell hardware throughout the interior have established for that trade a basis of four months, less 10 per cent, with an additional 1 per cent per month for earlier payments, making 14 per cent discount for cash.

As regards freight, Rio Grande do Sul markets are much in favor of German shippers, who have two lines of specially built steamers running from Hamburg. English goods have to be transhipped either at Hamburg to these steamers or at Rio de Janeiro to national coast steamers. The German route is especially preferred in case of rough goods. Goods arriving in the coasting steamers are unloaded at once in any kind of weather and the first lighters available, involving an increased custom-house store rent, transshipment, and additional lighter freight.

The largest national industries in the State are the "Xarqueadas," or jerked-beef establishments, from which are sent out jerked beef, salted hides, tallow, neats-foot oil, bone ash, etc. The jerked beef is put up in 60-kilogram bales for shipment to other parts of Brazil packed in "hessians" made in the port of Rio Grande do Sul, but sewn with Dundee twine. The salt comes mostly from Cadiz. Two-thirds of the hides are exported, the remainder being sold to local tanneries. The total number of cattle killed at Pelotas in 1898 was 214,000 head, while for the rest of the State there were probably 100,000 additional. Before the local revolution referred to the figures were nearly double this.

There are two cotton mills situated on the railway at the port of Rio Grande do Sul. One of these, although called a Brazilian company, is practically an Italian concern, having its spinning mill at Genoa, Italy, from whence it obtains all the yarns (colored) used. The machinery is all Italian and includes 200 looms for making 130-centimeter cotton goods. The product is mainly good-class trouserings;

a small quantity of narrow goods is made. The 300 operatives are Italian, brought out under contract, the weavers being paid by the piece. The other mill referred to manufactures both woolen and cotton goods, having 200 looms for cotton, making coarse colored goods. The principal hosiery factory is at Porto Alegre; the machinery in this is mostly German, but the yarn is imported in part from England and partly from Germany. The principal products are socks and stockings, of which about 300 dozen pairs is the daily output. There are about 110 European operatives. The Rio Grande do Sul woolen mill has 120 looms for wool, which, with the other machinery, is of English manufacture. This factory, wool and cotton together, employs from 900 to 1,000 operatives. Besides cloth, ponchos, blankets, etc., it also makes shapes for wool hats, which are finished at Pelotas. At the wool factory at Porto Alegre there are 70 spinning frames, with 360 spindles each, and 75 looms, which are mostly from Germany.

The annual consumption of wool is about 200,000 kilograms, equivalent to 100,000 kilograms of yarn, and about 100,000 kilograms of imported yarn from Germany is also consumed yearly. Its largest products are cashmeres, military cloth, fancy and common blankets, and ponchos. The operatives number from 130 to 250 and are mostly of European blood. At Pelotas there is a hat factory equipped with English, German, and American machinery. The output is 600 hats daily, 90 per cent of which are made from English and German rabbit hair. At Rio Grande do Sul there is a "hessian" mill (mill for making a certain kind of coarse sacking from jute). The monthly output is 200 bales of 10 pieces, each bale containing 1,000 meters. There are several comparatively important foundries and iron works. The one at Porto Alegre uses annually about 150 tons and the one at Rio Grande do Sul very much less, but small steam engines, from 3 to 4 horsepower, can be made at both places. At Porto Alegre a small iron steamer was built in 1898, which is stated to have proven a success. The machinery is mostly of German make.

The usual consumption of tin plate in the canning factories is estimated at 24,000 cases annually. One-third of the importations is used for various purposes, such as canning coffee and tobacco, etc., for the interior, and for making various kinds of utensils; the remaining two-thirds is required for the manufacture of lard cans. At Pelotas and Rio Grande do Sul there are some fruit-canning industries which are fitted, for the most part, with German machinery. In addition to fruit, they put up fried fish, pork, and other meats, which are sent to the northern States of Brazil. The total output is from 800,000 to 1,000,000 cans of all kinds, the larger part being fruits, chiefly peaches and pears. About 140 operatives are employed regularly, but the number is larger in the fruit season.

At the time of Mr. WORTHINGTON'S report the lard industry was under a cloud, owing to the local refineries having spoiled their own

market in Rio by mixing too much water in the product; consequently Rio merchants have turned to the United States for their supply of this article. There are two glass factories at Porto Alegre and one at Pelotas. Only one of the former is in operation, and its product only amounts at present to from £2,000 to £4,000 per annum. The works are under English control, and supply a good grade of lamp chimneys and manufacture fruit or flower stands and soda-water bottles with ball stoppers, employing 40 operatives. The soap and tallow-candle factory at Pelotas is equipped for turning out annually 500,000 kilograms of common soap, which sells at prices varying from 200 to 500 reis per kilogram. The daily output of tallow candles is about 60 boxes of 15 kilograms each. In connection with this factory there is a complete installation of Dutch butter machinery. The supply of milk from the neighborhood is good, and the factory turns out the butter in tins made and lithographed on its own premises. Oleomargarine is also manufactured at this place. In addition, glue is made from the nerves and sinews of the cattle and neatsfoot oil is extracted from their bones. The machinery used is nearly all of German manufacture.

In Pelotas there is a successful boot and shoe factory, containing German, American, and English machinery. The sole leather and enameled cowhide used are of national manufacture, the other leathers being mostly French, with some English. Elastic cloth is brought from England and the linen thread is of French make. About 140 persons are employed, and the product is about 400 pairs daily, which are all sold in the State. A bisuit factory has been recently established at Rio Grande do Sul. When in full force about 160 operatives are employed. The tins for incasing the product are manufactured by twelve women and boys who, with the aid of machinery, turn out about 2,000 boxes per day. There are several important breweries in the principal ports, besides smaller ones throughout the country, all of them working on the German plan. The hops and malt both come from Germany. At Rio Grande do Sul there is a flour mill under English management, equipped with English machinery, which works constantly and turns out 1,000 quarter sacks (about 22 kilograms each) daily. A match factory is erected on the railway from Porto Alegre to Novo Hamburgo, which turns out a limited quantity of matches for home consumption.

TRADE IN LEATHER.

An interesting article is published in the "Moniteur Officiel," Paris, in its issue of May 11, prepared by Mr. GEORGE RITT, French Consul at Rio de Janeiro, on the trade in leather and leather articles in Brazil.

From this it appears that while France formerly had almost a monopoly of this trade, with Great Britain and Austria as its strongest competitors, recently Germany and the United States have secured such a foothold that the French imports have decreased considerably. During the first six months of 1898 the German port of Hamburg shipped

to Brazil 141,000 kilograms (310,848.6 pounds) of leather and leather goods, including 40,000 kilograms (88,184 pounds) of shoes, worth in all about 2,000,000 francs (\$386,000). During the same period the shipments from New York amounted to 391 cases of leather articles and 714 bales of prepared skins, as against 378 cases and 256 bales of the same articles in the entire year of 1897.

The shipments from England decreased to some extent. During the first six months of 1898 the value of the receipts of leather and leather goods from Great Britain, including £20,000 in shoes, amounted to £38,000 (\$184,908), as against £61,000 in shoes and £23,000 in other leather goods, a total of £84,000 (\$408,744) for the year 1897.

Mr. RITT says that the introduction of prepared hides and skins has become very important since the growth of the local industry, which now manufactures from United States imports articles which were formerly received in a manufactured condition from abroad. In 1894, Rio de Janeiro alone imported prepared hides and skins having a total weight of 529,208 kilograms, valued at 4,500,000 francs (\$868,500). In this total France is represented by 351,564 kilograms, while the English products do not exceed 94,956 kilograms, Germany and Austria 75,132 kilograms, and North America 8,288 kilograms. At present the imports of prepared hides and skins for the entire Republic exceed 1,300,000 kilograms, of which 800,000 kilograms are for Rio alone. The shipments from France, which formerly represented from 60 to 65 per cent of the total, to-day form a little more than 40 to 50 per cent.

It appears that one of the French specialties—waxed and varnished calfskins—has suffered more than any other branch of leather goods, because of the competition with a similar product from Hamburg and the "vaquétte" of New York, which offer the advantage of cheapness.

The duties on prepared hides and skins, according to the article quoted, are as follows: Skins—beaver, seal, and ermine, 7,600 reis (1,000 reis, or 1 milreis, equals 54.6 cents in United States currency) per kilogram (2.2046 pounds); other skins, not specified, 2,500 reis per kilogram; natural prepared hides—"vaquette," 1,800 reis per kilogram; morocco, 2,200 reis per kilogram; not specified, natural color, 1,400 reis per kilogram; not specified, colored, 2,200 reis; "varnished and waxed hides"—Russian grained calfskins, 6,000 reis; smooth Russian grained calfskins and all other smooth or grained calfskins, 3,000 reis per kilogram.

Most of the leather trunks, bags, satchels, etc., come from France. The local manufacturers construct, more or less crudely, valises and trunks, covered with natural skins, on which the hair remains. Both at Rio de Janeiro and Santos there are a number of shoe factories which are conducted quite successfully, many of them being worked by steam.

The manufacture of shoes has become a national industry, consequently the importation of fine footwear is becoming more and more limited. The sale of native shoes, moreover, is favored by the customs

regulations, which require foreign importations to pay heavy duties, in some instances representing more than 60 per cent of the value of the article. These duties are as follows: Boots, 15,000 to 20,000 reis per pair, according to size and quality; shoes, 3,000 to 7,000 reis per pair; low shoes or slippers, 1,700 to 3,200 reis; sandals and bedroom slippers, 700 to 1,400 reis. Besides these import duties, a tax has been levied indiscriminately on both foreign and domestic shoes since January 1, 1899. This tax, ranging from 11 cents to \$0.546, according to quality, requires the placing of a stamp on each pair of shoes.

According to the customs statistics for 1894, the latest available, the entries of foreign shoes into Rio de Janeiro were 996,926 pairs, valued at 4,500,000 francs (\$868,500).

Harness and saddlery are manufactured in the States of Rio Grande do Sul and Minas Geraes. These are mounted in silver, are very much appreciated in the country, and are sometimes of very great value. Most of the harness for draft horses and for use in private and street carriages are imported.

FRENCH CONSUL'S ESTIMATE OF THE COFFEE CROP.

The "Moniteur Officiel" of Paris, in its issue for June 22, 1899, publishes the report to the French Government of Mr. DESMARTIS, Consul for France at Sao Paulo, on the production of coffee in Brazil and in the world. The figures given by this authority differ to some extent from those heretofore published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN (see Vol. VI, pp. 48, 592, 1419, 1575, and 1939), and, contrary to the opinion of other writers quoted, Mr. DESMARTIS believes there will be no diminution in the coffee production of Brazil for several years at least. The following items are taken from his report:

During the year 1897 the total value of the exports of Brazil arose to 831,806,918 milreis, and of this amount, coffee, the principal resource of Brazil, counts for 509,190,000 milreis, or about five eighths of the entire exports.

The exports of rubber, which comes immediately after in order of importance, only figure for 149,691,325 milreis, or about one-sixth of the exports. All of this goes to show that coffee is now and for a long time will be the principal source of the revenue of this Republic.

The state of São Paulo, in particular, which twenty-five years ago scarcely furnished 700,000 bags of 60 kilograms each, produced in 1897 about 5,500,000 bags, and about a third of its plants had not, according to the statement of the bureau of statistics of the capital, begun to yield. In view of the fact that the coffee tree begins to yield about the fourth or fifth year and does not cease producing until about the fifteenth year, it follows that there will be an increase for a number of years to come, even supposing that the planters do not renew their plantations in the near future. According to statistics which seem reliable, the production of coffee in Brazil in 1875-76 amounted to 3,505,000 bags of 60 kilograms, while that of the whole world was

7,185,000 bags, the proportion being 48½ per cent. From that time on to 1890 the production increased gradually, with the exception of the year 1887-88, when the Brazilian coffee crop fell to 3,006,000 bags, and that of the world to 7,077,000 bags, causing a considerable rise in price. In the year 1890-91 the total production of the world amounted to 9,297,000 bags, of which Brazil furnished 5,308,000 bags, and in 1896-97 this Republic furnished 8,680,000 bags of the world's production of 12,608,000 bags, or 68 per cent.

According to estimates, the production of Brazil for 1897-98 was 9,900,000 bags, and the world's production 13,760,000 bags, or 72 per cent; in 1898-99, Brazil produced 9,400,000 bags, out of a total of 13,265,000 bags, or 71 per cent. The average production of the world for the last three years has been 13,211,000 bags.

Thus, during a period of a little more than twenty years the production of Brazil rose from 48 per cent of the entire production to 71 or 72 per cent, while the total production almost doubled itself.

The largest crop attained in Brazil was in 1897-98, when it rose to 9,900,000 bags, and it is asserted that this figure is below the actual production, which amounted really to 10,500,000 bags.

According to estimates made, the production of the world for 1898-99, excepting Brazil, will be, in all probability, 8,865,000 bags of 60 kilograms, while in 1897-98 the production was 3,860,000 bags, and 3,928,000 bags in 1896-97.

While the general production of coffee has increased about 26 per cent in less than twenty-five years (9,297,000 bags in 1871 to 12,608,000 in 1897), the consumption has by no means remained stationary, and the same tendency toward increase can be observed, although in proportions slightly different.

During the same period the consumption rose from 8,546,898 to 10,388,700 bags, or an increase of about 18 per cent on the total consumption. Taking into consideration the fact that only the consumption of the largest markets is considered, and that a great amount of the stock is in storehouses or en route to different places, it will be seen that the production and consumption follow about the same lines, although the average of the crops for the three years, 13,211,000 bags, has not been reached.

The consumption of the great markets of Europe, to wit: Germany, England, Austria, Belgium, France, Switzerland, during the seven years, 1891-97, amounted to 32,649,989 bags, and the consumption of the United States during the same periods to 31,124,412 bags, the average consumption for the seven years being 9,110,626 bags.

ELECTRICAL PROGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC.

In a communication to his Government, published in a French journal of June 15, the Consul of France at Rio de Janeiro says:

Up to the present moment, at least, the United States and German houses have been exclusively engaged in organizing in the large centers of Brazil the installa-

tion of electrical machinery and apparatus necessary to the service of electric lighting, the transportation of street cars, and the motive power of certain industries.

The oldest one of these electrical companies actually established at Rio is the "General Electric Company," a United States company, with branches in all the neighboring States, with a very large plant and capital at its disposal. It has for a long time, through its influence and importance of its clientele, dominated the market. To it is also due the establishment of the first tele-phones and a part of the electric cars of Battete and Santa Thereza. The Germans, however, have lost no time in entering into keen competition with this company. At first a German house, representing KRUPP & SCHUCKER, succeeded in putting on the market for the German trade a large quantity of electrical apparatus and machinery, much desired and appreciated on account of their low prices, and in the last three years a new German house, encouraged by the success of the first one, has entered the market with a capital of 5,500,000 marks. This enterprise intends to buy up the electric car lines of Bahia and the telephone service of Rio. Another German company is desirous of obtaining possession of the street-car lines of Sao Christovao.

A new German electric company, entitled the "Brasilianische Elektrizitäts Gesellschaft," has been formed in Brazil, and is authorized by a decree of April 7, 1899, published in the *Diario Oficial*, to operate in Brazil. This company, whose headquarters are in Berlin, and which has a capital of 5,000,000 marks, seems destined to absorb all the other German electrical companies, thus forming one large syndicate. The representatives of this syndicate are now negotiating for the purchase of the principal waterfalls near this capital, assuring to the projected enterprises all the necessary water-power facilities in the future.

A French house in Rio competes successfully with the Germans and North Americans, and furnished more than 6,000 of the 12,000 electric lamps used in the city of Petropolis.

Below is given, according to the customs statistics for the first two months of the present year (1899), the imports in Rio of those articles pertaining to electricity—machines, apparatus, brass wire, etc.

These articles do not figure in the general customs tariff under one heading, and it has been necessary to make the approximative list in referring to the figures of numbers 127, 178, and 186 of the tariff.

Electrical articles (apparatus, wire, material for apparatus and machinery) introduced on the market of Rio in January and February, 1899.

Countries.	Value.	United States equivalent.
	<i>Francs.</i>	
United States.....	55,000	\$11,000
Germany.....	21,000	4,200
England.....	15,000	3,000
Belgium.....	8,000	1,600
France.....	2,500	500
Other countries.....	4,000	800
Total.....	105,500	21,100

In this connection it may be pertinent to say that the J. G. BRILL COMPANY, of Philadelphia (U. S. A.), has recently received an order for 130 electric street cars which are to be used on the São Paulo electric railroad, now under construction.

SCARCITY IN THE IPECACUANHA MARKET.

The "American Druggist and Pharmaceutical Record," of June 26 (p. 341), contains an article entitled "Rio and Carthagenia Ipecae." The first-named variety is well known to the drug trade of the United States, while the importation of the second is prohibited by the customs authorities. But the increasing scarcity of the Rio variety has directed attention to the Carthagenia or New Granada root, which, in appearance, does not materially differ from the Brazilian root, excepting that the rings which characterize ipecae are less conspicuous.

It is in its physiological effects that the Carthagenia ipecae is supposed to differ from the Brazilian variety, the former containing less "emetine" than the latter, and owing its activity more to the active principle "cephaline," which is understood to have a different action from that of emetine. * * * The prohibition of Carthagenia ipecae is no doubt justifiable in view of the meager information in our possession regarding the physiological action of the drug as compared with Rio ipecae, on which the efficacy of ipecae as a therapeutic agent is based. * * * It is surprising * * * that physiological research to determine the action of cephaline, the alkaloid which distinguishes the Carthagenia variety, has not been earlier undertaken. In this respect the history of the two varieties of ipecacuanha is in contrast with that of many other remedial agents which have been the subject of pharmacological study.

Ipecacuanha is a low, creeping, perennial plant growing wild in Brazil, having a faint, peculiar odor and a bitter, subacid, nauseous taste, the root of which is largely used as an emetic. This root is small and wrinkled, being marked by regular protuberances or rings. Since the collection of rubber in Brazil has assumed such proportions, those who formerly occupied themselves with gathering and preparing roots for market have generally abandoned the latter occupation for the former, which is more profitable and less laborious. The result has been to greatly curtail the supply of ipecacuanha; in fact, practically none is now gathered. The possibility of an early scarcity of the drug was foreseen by United States dealers, who have now almost a monopoly of the market. Prices have been advancing steadily for ten years. In 1888 the price per pound was \$1.25, but now it is \$4.25. In view of the great increase in price the Brazilian gatherers might, for a time, find the gathering of ipecae a more profitable employment than the collection of rubber.

INAUGURATION OF A PERMANENT EXPOSITION.

From "O Paiz," of May 31, 1899, it is learned that the Commercial Association of Rio de Janeiro recently established a permanent exposition of the agricultural and natural products of Brazil on plans similar to the Commercial Museum of Philadelphia. The inaugural ceremonies took place on May 30 in one of the rooms of the spacious "Commercial Associations" building. Among those present were the American Minister, Col. CHARLES PAGE BRYAN and Mr. W. H.

SCHOFF, representative of the Commercial Museums of Philadelphia. The exhibits consist of specimens of the valuable woods of the country, coffee, sugar, cotton, corn, and maté, all carefully labeled and classified. Other natural products and samples of the manufactures of the Republic will be added from time to time.

HOSPITAL SHIP FOR EMPLOYEES.

From the "New York Tribune" of June 29, it is learned that the United States clipper bark *Jacob A. Stamler* is being fitted up as a hospital ship at Stapleton, Staten Island, N. Y. It is said that when the improvements are completed the ship will be taken to the coffee plantations owned by ARBUCKLE BROTHERS in Brazil for the reception of their employees who may be taken ill. The vessel is 175 feet in length, 39 feet beam, and 23.3 feet in depth, with a displacement of 1,000 tons, and was built in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1856.

CHILE.

COAL FOR THE GOVERNMENT RAILROADS.

The "Diario Oficial," or official gazette of Chile, has recently been publishing an advertisement calling for bids to furnish 40,000 tons of Australian coal—Wolsen, green label—for the use of the Government railways during this year. "El Mercurio," one of the leading newspapers of South America, published in Valparaiso, devotes considerable space to editorial comment upon this advertisement in its issue of May 19, 1899. The article is in part as follows:

The first impression made by the reading of this advertisement is anything but favorable when one considers that Chile is essentially a coal-producing country, and consequently it was to be expected that the national industry should be sufficiently active to produce all the coal we need for our domestic consumption.

It seems that this is not the case, since the Government railway enterprise, which now includes in its annual estimates an item of two and a half millions of pesos for the purchase of coal, has asked for bids for 40,000 tons from abroad.

This is to say that the Government railways can not furnish themselves in the country with more than two-thirds of the coal they need for their use, and that the remaining third has to be secured abroad.

The article proceeds to state that it is very strange for a Government enterprise to overlook Chilean coal miners in calling for bids, thus preventing them from competing with foreign coal producers. It seems to the Chilean contemporary that Chilean producers should have been invited to appear and state whether or not they are able to supply these 40,000 tons, and it goes on to say:

Should it result that the Government railway enterprise is asking for bids to supply foreign coal because the national mines really can not deliver with promptness

and regularity more than two-thirds of the fuel necessary for its annual consumption, this fact would suggest a very depressing thought regarding the capacity of our industry to supply our own consumption of articles with which nature has so bountifully endowed our soil.

Some twenty-five years ago, about the year 1874 or 1875, the coal producers of our country entered upon an energetic campaign to have foreign coal burdened with import duties, it being alleged that the coal produced in Chile far exceeded the requirements of the domestic demand, and that foreign importations would ruin the Chilean miners, because an oversupply of coal would fatally affect its price.

It is patent that in those years the national production of coal sufficed for our consumption, since it was possible to reduce foreign importations in 1875 to 37,831 tons, while in 1896 they rose to 683,196 tons and in 1897 to 513,421 tons, which shows that our production of coal has not developed in harmony with the other industries and national enterprises which need this fuel to keep up their activity.

From these figures it is deduced that in the years 1871 and 1875 our coal industry was in a better condition to meet our industrial requirements than it is now, calling for an importation of 5,000,000 pesos at 38 pence, or annually more than 10,000,000 of our present gold pesos at 18 pence.

It thus became necessary to devise means to increase our coal production, and one of the means indicated in the premises is in the bill pending in the Senate declaring coal deposits situated in private lands "denounceable," conditioned upon the payment to the owner of the ground of a premium of some cents for each ton of coal taken out.

The article says that what is noticeable in the case of coal is also characteristic of other productions of the country which, despite the ease with which they can be developed, are not yet sufficiently exploited to fully meet the demands of home consumption, and cites a number of articles which were imported from abroad in the year 1897, although they could be easily produced in the country. These articles are: Cattle, animal fat, olive oil, Chile peppers, condensed milk, corn, tallow, coal, linseed oil, barley, lumber, and composition candles.

"El Merencio" considers that all these articles should be produced in the country in sufficient quantity to fully meet the necessities of home consumption, and thinks that it is a far easier task to promote their production and compete at home with similar articles introduced from abroad than to be artificially promoting an export trade, and be compelled to pay freight, insurance, commissions, and customs duties in seeking a foreign market. By promoting the home production all the advantages would be on the side of Chile, because the foreign goods, burdened with all these charges, would have to encounter the rivalry of similar articles produced in Chile.

DECREASE IN THE IMPORT TRADE AT VALPARAISO.

A leading French journal, on April 27, 1899, published a communication from Mr. ROBIN, manager of the French consulate at Valparaiso, on the custom-house entries at this port and the causes of the decrease in the import trade.

The following table, published by the customs administration, gives the entries month by month for the last two years, showing that the

receipts at this port for 1898 were 2,090,311 piasters less than those for 1897:

Month.	1897.	1898
	<i>Piasters.</i>	<i>Piasters.</i>
January	845,008.98	1,300,146.26
February	959,389.53	1,113,952.29
March	1,894,978.21	1,620,295.63
April	1,400,298.74	1,216,610.83
May	1,278,783.93	1,169,346.69
June	1,134,584.72	995,255.26
July	1,361,377.03	429,104.43
August	1,359,326.76	1,861,024.01
September	1,345,776.20	1,311,150.47
October	1,494,792.64	1,104,265.36
November	1,512,739.77	1,046,789.21
December	2,088,831.81	1,393,527.45
Total	16,666,824.38	14,576,512.89

The Chilean Government attributes this condition to two causes:

(1) The great amount of merchandise imported into Chile during the months of November and December, 1897, in order to avoid the payment of higher duties established by the new customs law which went into effect the 1st of January; and,

(2) The disturbance produced in the import trade during the month of last July by the closing of the banks, by the law of "delay" (moratoria), by the establishment of the forced circulation of paper money, and by the obligatory payment of the customs duties in gold.

No doubt these causes have contributed to the present unsatisfactory condition, but the real cause will be found in the high duties which the administration has established, and which, at the present time, are absolutely prohibitive for a great number of foreign products.

Since the month of July the import trade has been absolutely depressed. The custom-house wharf, which formerly was constantly filled with merchandise from abroad, is to-day scarcely busy three or four days a week. Vessels coming from Europe now only bring to Valparaiso a minimum freight. These facts are easily explained: The depreciation of the paper money decreases the buying power of the salaries and wages; the greater part of the population finds itself obliged to cut down its expenses.

From the above table it will be seen that the custom-house at Valparaiso collected up to June 30, 7,512,999 piasters in 1897, and 7,425,606 in 1898, so that the decrease of 2,090,311 piasters, which occurred in the entries for 1898, comes almost entirely from the receipts for the last six months, when the new issue of paper money took place.

Up to the present time everything indicates that the customs receipts for 1899 will be even less than those for the year just finished.

REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The latest advices from Chile are to the effect that considerable improvement is noticeable in the financial situation in that Republic. At the beginning of the present year exchange was at 12½ pence and the price of gold at 144 per cent. At the end of May exchange fluctuated between 15 and 16 pence and the price of gold between 115 and 120 per cent. In January drafts on London payable in gold would only bring 17½ to 17¾ pence for each peso, while at the date mentioned 18½ pence were obtainable for each peso; gold—that is to say, one-quar-

ter of a penny above par—which means gold can be no longer exported from Chile, but rather that it is advisable to import it.

“El Mercurio,” of Valparaiso, under date of May 22, 1899, endeavors to discover the causes which have brought about this improvement, and among others mentions as the prime factor the rise in the price of copper, saying that it has been calculated that if the price is maintained during the year 1899 around £70 per ton, even should the production not increase during this period, the rise in price alone would give the Chilean market something like £600,000 to £700,000 more than in the year 1898. This fact alone suffices to greatly improve the financial situation. Another potent factor contributing to this better state of affairs is that the imports for 1897 exceeded the exports by 1,589,698 pesos, while in 1898 the reverse was the case—the exports exceeded the imports by 65,807,373 pesos.

The newspaper cited gives other reasons which are of a domestic nature and have no international bearing upon the case, and feels gratified that the economic situation should have improved merely through the ordinary course of events.

REPORT OF THE ANTOFAGASTA AND BOLIVIA RAILWAY.

The report of the directors of the Antofagasta and Bolivia Railway for the year ended December 31, 1898, states that the working of the line was conducted with regularity throughout the year. The gross receipts were \$5,611,863. The company's percentage of the proceeds has been converted month by month into pounds sterling at the average exchange, which for the year was about 15½, and amounts to £160,506. To this must be added the net receipts of the waterworks, £4,623, making a total of £165,129. The decreased receipts, as compared with 1897, is mainly attributable to the fall in exchange. The service of the debenture stock, the 6 per cent dividend on the capital stock, and the administration expenses amounted to £172,643. Of the gross receipts, the amount arising from the traffic of the Huanchaca Company was \$2,063,525, or 36.77 per cent, the balance of \$3,548,338, or 63.23 per cent, being from the general public. The approximate receipts of the railway from January 1 to April 30 of the year 1899 were \$2,333,000, as compared with \$1,525,000 in the same period of 1898. The returns for the month of March were the largest yet obtained. With a view of improving the water supply, the directors have decided that it is advisable to carry out as soon as possible the work of extending the piping referred to in previous reports as being necessary, and they are in negotiation with the Huanchaca Company on the subject.

DEMAND FOR COPPER PROPERTIES.

The recent rise in the value of copper has called the attention of speculators to Chile, where vast quantities of the metal are known to exist. Advices received in the United States are to the effect that

abandoned mines have been reopened in that Republic, and that many of those that were filled are being pumped out, while there is a number of mines on the market for sale. Chile's sources of wealth are many, and her vast deposits of borate of lime and sulphur are inviting attention. A short time ago a syndicate was formed at Pisagua to develop and work some of these deposits, though the lack of railway communication with the interior militates somewhat against the undertaking. The boom in mines in this advanced southern Republic will lead to railroad construction, which will replace animal transportation in many localities.

COLOMBIA.

A NEW TELEGRAPH CABLE.

The Government of Colombia has made a contract with a foreign company granting it the right to lay and work a submarine telegraph cable between the port of Rio Hacha, Department of Magdalena, and Colon, connecting with the ports of Santa Marta, Colombia, and Cartagena. All these ports are on the Atlantic side. The company binds itself to open the cable to public service within eighteen months from the date of approval of the said contract. The Government reserves the right of censor over messages sent by the line in time of war, and it is further stipulated that, pursuant to the laws of the country, only Colombian courts shall have jurisdiction over questions arising between the Government and the concessionaire.

NEW RAILROADS.

A contract has been signed by the Minister of the Treasury of Colombia and Don PABLO PINZON for the construction of a railroad to connect the district of Boecas del Toro and Chiriqui, in the Department of Panama. The work is to be completed within ten years and the concessionaire is to receive from the Government a subsidy of 5,000 pesos per kilometer. Work on the Cauca railroad is actively progressing, and with financial aid from the Government it is said the road could be carried as far as El Valle within the next four years.

SILKWORM AND YERBA MATÉ INDUSTRIES.

Señor ELADIO FERRER, of Cartagena, informs the Bureau of the American Republics that he is at present engaged in promoting the silkworm industry in Colombia, and that his interest in yerba maté has been aroused through recent articles on the subject in the MONTHLY BULLETIN. He has urged the Minister of the Interior to request the Government of Brazil to send samples of the plant to Colombia, with a view to domesticating the entire of the product.

SALT MONOPOLY AWARDED.

The Minister of the Treasury has granted to Señor RICARDO ARIAS the right to work the deposits of sea salt existing in the Department of Panama, conditioned upon the payment to the national treasury of a duty of 37.9 cents for each 12½ kilograms (27.56 pounds) of salt taken out. It is claimed that this concession constitutes an absolute monopoly in behalf of the concessionaire.

EXPOSITION AT BOGOTÁ.

On July 20 an exposition was opened at Bogota, comprising six sections: Literature, art, industry, instruction, agriculture, and floriculture. A credit of \$10,000 has been placed for the purpose at the disposal of a board of directors composed of Señores MANUEL ANTONIO ANGEL, MARTINEZ SILVA, GARAY and CASIANO SALCEDO.

PROSPECTING FOR GOLD.

Advices from Cartagena are to the effect that two parties of prospectors under Mr. HAYWOOD and Mr. HENRY B. GRANGER have recently gone to the Atrato River for the purpose of taking out gold from the sand in its bed.

WATER SUPPLY AT BOGOTÁ.

The question of furnishing a water supply for Bogotá has again been revived, and an English engineer will shortly leave London for the purpose of looking over the ground and preparing plans for the carrying into effect of this improvement.

BOUNDARY LINE SURVEY.

The work of surveying the boundary line between Colombia and Venezuela, pursuant to the arbitration award of the Queen Regent of Spain, will soon begin, a commission of engineers being named for the purpose by each Government.

CUBA.**THE OUTLOOK FOR SUGAR.**

Reports from the island are to the effect that in the Province of Havana and the eastern parts of the Province of Pinar del Rio the crop conditions are fairly satisfactory. The sugar cane crops are vigorous, although the rains have been neither general nor copious. The drought still continues in the central and extreme western portions of Pinar del Rio. Local estimates give the sugar crop at Sagua la Grande for the year as 200,000 sacks.

PRODUCTION OF PINEAPPLES AND BANANAS.

Indications point to a largely increased production of pineapples and bananas in the near future in Cuba. Several parties from the United States have gone into the fruit raising industry on the island during the past six months, although it is the opinion of experts that it will take many months yet to build up the plantations devastated by the recent insurrection.

SHIPMENTS OF MERCHANDISE.

The total value of general merchandise shipped from New York for Cuba for the week ending July 5 was \$204,484. It is claimed by competent judges that the exports of manufactured goods for Cuba will average a weekly value of half a million dollars during the month of July.

DUTCH WEST INDIES.

THE COLONY OF CURAÇAO.

The "Monthly Illustrator," of New York, for June, 1899, contains an interesting article handsomely illustrated, written by Mr. WILLIAM BENEDICT REILLY, on Curaçao, Dutch West Indies. The Dutch colony of Curaçao includes the islands of that name, the adjacent islands of Aruba and Bonaire, the two islands of the Windward group, some 600 miles to the northeast, known as Saba and St. Eustatius, a part of the island of St. Martin, also of the Windward group.

The seat of government and the residence of the Governor is at Curaçao. The Governor is appointed by the Dutch Crown and has a council of twelve members, called the "Colonial Court," who are also appointed by the Crown upon nomination by the Governor. From this court the Governor selects three members who constitute an advisory council. There is also a judicial court which consists of one presiding judge, and two assistants appointed by the King and one assistant appointed by the Governor.

The port is Curaçao and import duties are merely nominal. The chief revenue is derived from export duties, and the revenues from phosphate exports have for years been the chief support of the colony. Curaçao has a population of about 30,000 people, only about 4,000 of whom are white. On account of the dryness of the atmosphere and the equability of the temperature the climate is especially favorable for persons suffering from pulmonary and bronchial troubles and rheumatism.

Curaçao is a point touched by the "Red D Line" of steamers, which is composed entirely of United States ships having the mail contract between the ports of New York and La Guaira, Venezuela. The principal commodities exported from the country are phosphate rock, salt,

divi-divi, aloes, orange peel, goatskins, peanuts, and straw hats. The bulk of its provisions and a goodly share of all its other lines of merchandise, especially shoes, hardware, machinery, and agricultural implements, are imported from the United States. The value of all the merchandise imported during 1896 was \$1,185,066; for 1897 it was about the same.

ECUADOR.

CUSTOM-HOUSE RETURNS OF SHOE IMPORTS.

Mr. PERRY M. DE LEON, Consul-General of the United States at Guayaquil, on April 24 sent a report to the Department of State at Washington on the shoe trade of Ecuador. This was in response to inquiries from the board of trade of one of the cities of the State of Massachusetts.

The total value of the footwear of leather imported by Ecuador during 1897 was \$92,275 silver, or \$41,431.47 gold, valuing the peso or silver dollar at 44.9 cents gold. In 1898 the imports were less than half those of the previous year, \$42,692 silver, or \$17,973.34 gold, valuing the peso at 42.1 cents.

In 1897 the import value (gold) of shoes from the United States was \$10,973.11; in 1898 the total was \$2,645.99. The greater part of the imports—\$21,637.31 gold—in 1897 was from France, but the importations from that country declined to \$3,523.35 in 1898. England furnished \$6,182.28 worth in 1897 and \$9,358.14 in 1898; Germany, \$2,077.52 in 1897 and \$1,254.58 in 1898; Belgium, \$22.45 in 1897 and \$210.50 in 1898; Peru, \$538.80 in 1897 and nothing in 1898; Spain, nothing in 1897 and \$980.51 in 1898.

Mr. DE LEON says duties are charged on the gross weight of the packages at the rate of \$1.67 (silver) per kilogram (2.2046 pounds) equal to 72.5 cents in United States currency, taking the value of the peso at the figures given by the Director of the United States Mint, April 1, 1899, 43.4 cents gold. The Consul says there is no prejudice against United States products, and the shoes are considered of higher grade and cost a little more than the shoes from other countries. Imported shoes are retailed at from \$3.50 to \$8 gold per pair, according to finish. A number of prominent firms in Ecuador carry small lines of shoes of United States manufacture. A New York salesman is credited with having recently received a large order in Guayaquil, and as expressing his surprise at the ease with which it was obtained. Mr. DE LEON states that the merchants of Guayaquil "are exceptionally substantial, and representatives of American firms who have visited this country find results very satisfactory. They would be much more so were our commerce not handicapped by excessive freight rates via the Isthmus, double and triple those from Europe. An 'Isthmian canal' is the only 'open sesame' to trade on this coast."

Competent salesmen are advised to visit Ecuador "in order to obtain knowledge of requirements and scope of trade." Catalogues and other printed matter are valueless unless printed in the Spanish language, with the values of the goods expressed in the money of the country.

RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY.

Consul-General DE LEON, writing to a Kansas correspondent, under date of Guayaquil, May 2, 1899, says the field for American enterprise, capital, and modern machinery, once transportation facilities are provided, can not possibly be better. The foothills of the Andes are especially adapted to sheep raising on a large scale. In the warm districts cotton grows wild and coffee is of the finest grade; sugar cane will thrive on the lands now covered by forest at the base of the Andes. The supply of water power is abundant; timber is scarce, but the contemplated railway to Quito will place the interior in easy communication with the vast forests of the Pacific slope. The fuel supply is deficient, although rich veins of coal and petroleum wells are reported from the undeveloped sections of the country. The temperature of the inter-Andean region varies according to the locality. In 1896 there were but 28 days of the year which were not partially cloudy. Rain fell on 170 days and the temperature varied 45°. Seismic phenomena are not infrequent, and houses are built with a view to this emergency. Near Quito the land is said to be held at \$100 an acre, but there are vast tracts along the proposed railway which can be purchased at reasonable figures. Those contemplating purchases should first make a personal investigation.

PUBLIC-SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM EUROPE.

Señor MIGUEL ANGEL CARBO, Consul-General of Ecuador at Paris, has been instructed by his Government to secure in Europe teachers of both sexes for the public schools of Ecuador.

AGRICULTURAL AND BANKING ASSOCIATION.

Several land owners and capitalists of Ecuador have formed an association with a capital of 1,000,000 sucres for the purpose of developing the agricultural industry and founding an agricultural bank.

GUATEMALA.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF TOBACCO CULTURE.

The Government of Guatemala, recognizing that the principal source of wealth of the nation is agriculture, and that one of the articles to the cultivation of which the eastern towns have devoted themselves is tobacco, and that restrictive legislation has prevented the development

of this industry, has promulgated a law to the effect that from and after the 1st day of July next the sowing, cultivation, and elaboration of domestic tobacco shall be free from all tax, national or municipal. Imported or domestic tobacco leaf or manufactured, shall only be sold in shops thereunto authorized, which shall pay a monthly license of from 5 to 20 pesos, according to the importance of the locality in which they are established. The exportation of leaf or manufactured tobacco is free; imported tobacco should be taken to customs warehouses and may remain there one month without being subject to storage dues; at the expiration of the month the dues shall be 1 cent per pound per month, and if the tobacco is not withdrawn within sixty days it will be sold at auction to cover duties and storage dues, the surplus being turned over to the owner. Imported leaf tobacco shall pay 1 peso per pound, gross weight; imported manufactured tobacco, in whatsoever form, 2 pesos per pound including weight of package.

ADDITIONS TO THE FREE LIST.

Under date of June 9, 1899, the President of Guatemala promulgated a decree which is intended to encourage and protect agriculture. By the said decree the following articles are declared to be admitted into the country free of duty, namely: Plows and loose parts, mattocks and hoes, barbed wire and its accessories, pruning hooks and knives, scythes, axes, ordinary machetes or cane knives, without any steel in their composition; machinery for rice, coffee, sugar cane, lumber, and wheat; iron or tin molds of all kinds for the manufacture of sugar, wooden shovels, kettles and caldrons, iron or copper, for sugar mills; rakes and harrows for agriculture, iron or copper rivets for boilers, empty bags or sacks for exporting produce, circular and endless saws for machinery, hand saws for woodsmen.

THE VINEGAR TRADE.

From a communication of the French Minister at Guatemala, on the vinegar trade, published in "Revue du Commerce Extérieur" of June 3, 1899, the following facts are taken. The vinegar trade in Guatemala is very large, the white vinegar of Orléans especially being in great demand. The import duties are 10 centavos (about 5 cents United States currency) per liter, plus 15 per cent and 30 per cent, payable in gold. The vinegar is sent either in casks or bottles, the casks, however, being preferable on account of cheapness and less liability to breakage. The current prices, f. o. b., are: The barrel containing 225 liters, 55 to 80 francs (about \$11 to \$16); the case of 12 bottles, containing 75 centiliters each, 6 to 8 francs (about \$1.20 to \$1.60).

HAITI.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNITED STATES BUSINESS MEN.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to Mr. WILLIAM WOEL, United States Consular Agent at Gonaives, for a communication relative to the openings presented to American cotton goods in Haiti. The following is a summary of his observations:

It is only a short time since American industries have been represented in the Haitian markets otherwise than by provisions, such as pork, flour, and codfish, and by soap and timber; but for about twenty years cotton goods have entered into competition with the Manchester productions, which until then held the undisputed monopoly. American articles, such as denims, prints, checks, and gingham, are gaining a firmer foothold in this country, thanks to their real merit, enabling them to compete advantageously with English articles, in which often the manufacturers, in their endeavors to obtain the best selling price, conceal the quality of the goods by the use of sizing, which disappears at the first washing. By this subterfuge they have defeated their object, for the consumers have learned to place greater confidence in the American article, though it may cost a little more.

A complete victory for American cotton goods might already be assured if the manufacturers would observe certain small details which the customs of the market have rendered necessary. For instance, the lengths of the tissues should strictly measure $12\frac{1}{2}$ or 25 yards. The former dimension has become very popular in recent years, and to it is due at least 50 per cent of the importations.

In the prints the American manufacturer shows too much uniformity, his assortment containing too few designs and not enough contrast in colors. Besides, the packing would prove more suitable if, instead of cases containing bolts measuring from 2,500 to 3,000 yards each, bolts measuring 625 yards were sent; that is, so that 25 pieces of 25 yards, or 50 pieces of $12\frac{1}{2}$ yards, could be sold. The bleached or unbleached cotton, checks, or gingham would also increase in favor if they were sent in pieces of 625 yards, to be resold in packages containing 4 to 6 pieces. Manchester occupies first place for blue handkerchiefs and Union Madras handkerchiefs. An enormous number of these are used in the interior, where all the country people, and many in the towns (men, women, and children), use them as a headdress.

The finer qualities of colored batiste handkerchiefs are made especially for this trade in Belfast, Ireland.

The following linen articles, or those in linen and cotton mixed—Brabant, batiste, cambric, Peotillé, drills, linen ducks—are practically monopolized by the Irish manufacturers. Among the finer goods are light-weight woollens which come from France, England, and Germany.

Personally the writer is of the opinion that the American manufacturers could find very good openings in Haiti for the following articles: Hosiery; shoes for men, women, and children; straw or felt hats for same; hollow ware, tinware, pottery, and china ware.

Transactions between the two countries are hampered by terms of credit, which are considered too short. While the European manufacturers allow six months, the American manufacturers must be paid in sixty days, rarely granting more than ninety days. The trade of the Haitian importer being generally based on credit, with no fixed time for payment, he is naturally influenced by the offers of traveling men sent to this country by the European houses.

The American manufacturer ought also to send commercial travelers who speak French, who could visit twice a year the different markets of the country with samples.

It is also thought that a much larger share of the Haitian trade would flow toward the United States if, in the local banking business, there were some American houses making a specialty of exchange transactions between the two countries. France, Germany, and England have the monopoly, in a certain measure, of this branch of banking business in the country, and it is not believed that Haiti will enter thoroughly in the line of progress marked out by the International American Congress until American bankers are themselves represented in the country.

It is true that certain interested papers, as well as some Europeans established in Haiti, try to divert competition in reporting that the economic and moral situation of the country is bad, undoubtedly without considering that the reader can well ask why they themselves should stay in the Republic.

When the rapidity with which the European houses which are engaged in this banking business prosper, in Port-au-Prince and in other cities, is taken into consideration, it is astonishing that not an American is among them; all the more so because their presence in this branch of business could not fail to exercise an influence, a prepotency which only awaits the opportunity to make itself felt, and in which the Department of State at Washington can not but be interested.

UNDEVELOPED RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY.

Prof. EDMOND ROUMAIN, a son of ERNEST ROUMAIN, who established the Haytian legation at Washington, during the Administration of President LINCOLN, came to the United States during the month of June to interest capitalists in the exploitation of mines in Haiti. Professor ROUMAIN is a member of the faculty of the Medical and Pharmaceutical School at Port-au-Prince, and has devoted much time to the geological formations of his country. In an interview, as reported

in the "New York Tribune" of June 29, the following reference was made to the rich but undeveloped resources of the Republic:

In the northern part of Haiti, and within a radius of several leagues, one finds copper, iron, nickel, gypsum, sulphurated waters, stratified limestones, and porphyry. A fortune can be made out of almost any one of these products, and yet not a single one of them has been developed. When the French were in control of our country they kept the mines under cover for fear of exciting the cupidity of the English, and after the Republic was formed no effort was made to take out the enormous riches that repose in Haitian soil. I have with me enormous specimens of ore which I picked up from the surface and which I intend to have analyzed at the Columbia University, New York. The Government will give the concession to mine in this region to me, and what I want to do is to form a company of American capitalists to start operations as soon as possible. The Government can not sell its mines. It can sell the surface of the ground, but everything underneath the surface belongs to the Government and is inalienable. The ground must be reated.

In Volume VI of the MONTHLY BULLETIN there are a number of references to the mineral wealth of Haiti. On page 19 is a report on the coal fields by HENRI THOMASSET, an engineer, furnished the Bureau of the American Republics by M. J. N. LEGÉR, Minister from Haiti to the United States, who comments favorably on the report. On page 460 is a report from the United States Minister, Mr. POWELL, on the discovery of iron ore, and on page 1773 he refers to the coal, iron, and copper deposits, and again on page 2166 to the copper and iron mines. In an article beginning on page 1613 the United States Minister speaks of the desire of the Haitian Government to induce the investment of United States capital in the Republic to "assist in developing the unknown resources of the country."

HONDURAS.

NEW LINE OF BANANA STEAMERS.

The "New Orleans Picayune" of July 2 contains an account of a very important contract which was closed on July 1 between the Bluefields Steamship Company and the independent planters of Honduras. This, the writer says, assures to the port of New Orleans the greater part of the fruit exportation of the Republic of Honduras. A committee of three, holding the power of attorney for 165 planters, visited New Orleans, and, on the date named, all the arrangements for freight and fruit were consummated. Under the contract the Bluefields Company is to receive a supply of 130,000 bunches per month of the best bananas of Honduras.

The planters interested are from the neighborhood of the port of Ceiba, but there will be plenty of fruit from other ports. The contract stands good for the next four years and assures to the Bluefields Company the freight to and from the Republic of Honduras, and includes the ports of Puerto Cortes, Ceiba, and Truxillo. These are the three

known ports of the coast, and the fruit controlled by the planters in this section is fully seven-eighths of the fruit exported and freight imported.

Mr. LOUIS BIER, of Ceiba, who will probably become the agent for the Bluefields Company, says that he feels confident that he will be able to increase the guaranteed amount of fruit to nearly 200,000 bunches per month. He reports that one planter near Puerto Cortes ships 50,000 bunches each month. The Picayune says that among the local fruit dealers the contract is considered one of the most important made in a number of years. It includes the estates of 165 planters, and these estates represent over 200 plantations in the very heart of the banana country.

MEXICO.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC.

According to a French consular report published in Paris, June 8, 1899, a company has been formed for the establishment of a thread and cotton-goods factory in the district of Atlixco, to be known under the name of "Fábrica de San Agustín," the official name being "Noreiga Sanchez y Compañía."

It is also stated that a company from the United States intends to establish a large hat factory in Mexico and has authorized its agent to buy the ground on which the factory is to be constructed.

It is reported on the same authority that a large syndicate has just been formed in London, whose object is to build large houses for Mexico after the most modern plans and according to the latest hygienic laws. This syndicate will dispose of a capital of £10,000,000.

A stock company organized in Mexico for the erection of a large paper mill has just bought from the Lanzarote farm, near Cuautitlan, the necessary land for the establishment of the plant. The machinery and material were ordered to be purchased immediately, and will be bought very soon in Europe.

The representatives of a large Mexican syndicate have just made application to the Ministry of Fomento for a concession for the establishment of three new industries, viz, a factory for the manufacture of rubber articles, one for the manufacture of apparatus for electric light, and a factory for the transmission and utilizing of motor power.

Under date of June 3 the Legislature of the State of Mexico granted the joint stock company known as "El Progreso Industrial," engaged in the manufacture of paper from the "maguey" fiber, exemption from all State taxes and contributions for the term of ten years. The company's mills are situated in the districts of Tlalnepantla and Cuautitlan. About 1,600 men are now engaged in erecting the buildings. The engines will be moved by hydraulic power of 1,500 horsepower. The mills will be able to produce in large quantities all kinds of paper, especially

those of a superior quality. The stockholders in the company are in greater part Spanish capitalists.

Among the new firms incorporated under the laws of New Jersey (U. S. A.) on June 29 last is "The Mexican Coal and Coke Company," with an authorized capital of \$6,000,000. The company is formed to operate coal mines and oil and gas wells in the Republic of Mexico. The incorporators are: JAMES F. GARDINER, HOWARD DUTCHER, and JOHN L. ELLIOTT, of New York; OSCAR BERGSTROM, of San Antonio; CHARLES M. CLARK, of New Brunswick; JAMES H. DEWEY, of Hoboken, and E. VETOR FROTHINGHAM, of Brooklyn.

The city of Monterey is making rapid strides in an industrial and commercial way. There have recently been finished, or are now in process of construction, 322 new buildings in the city, and many of the old edifices are being rebuilt to be in touch with the new order of things prevailing there.

There are 8,299 mining properties in Mexico, divided into twenty classes, as follows: Gold, 828; gold and silver, 156; silver and lead, 1,035; silver and iron, 42; silver and magnesium, 2; copper, 173; copper and lead, 6; copper and iron, 22; lead, 19; lead and iron, 7; iron, 99; antimony, 19; tin, 8; mercury, 95; sulphur, 20; opal, 13; rock salt, 2.

President ROBINSON, of the Mexican Central Railway, is reported to have estimated that Mexico will produce, during the present year, gold to the value of \$12,000,000, and is said to hold the opinion that when the richer mines get railway connection Mexico's gold production will rise to \$30,000,000 annually.

Large deposits of petroleum have recently been discovered at Cuetzala, near Puebla. A Mexican company is now being formed to work the deposits.

The new Central Bank in the City of Mexico will soon issue coupon bonds of small denominations, and will pay 5 per cent on yearly deposits. In this connection it has been estimated that the hoarded wealth in the capital is between 50 millions and 100 millions of pesos.

There are in the Republic of Mexico 130 cotton mills, which will pay into the National Treasury for the half year from July to December, 1899, the sum of \$849,911.50. Mexican money, in the way of a stamp tax.

Hardly a day passes in Mexico without petitions being filed in the Department of Promotion for the use of the waters of several rivers for motive power or irrigation purposes. The orographic conformation of the territory of the Republic and the lack of great waterways have been the cause of backwardness in the agricultural industries and render necessary, if not indispensable, artificial aids.

CONVERSION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The "Daily Journal of Finance," of New York City, on July 12, 1899, contained the announcement that the formal contract has been signed whereby Messrs. J. P. MORGAN & Co., in New York; Mr. S. BLEICH-

ENER, the Deutsche Bank, and the Dresdner Bank in Berlin, and Messrs. J. S. MORGAN & Co., in London, undertake the conversion of the entire foreign debt of the Republic of Mexico, viz: Six per cent loans of 1888, 1890, and 1893, and the 5 per cent Tehnau-tepec loan heretofore issued in London and Berlin, into a 5 per cent consolidated external gold loan due within forty-five years at par by semiannual drawings, which may be increased after the year 1909, the first one to take place in June 1900, or by purchase in the market if same can be made under par. Principal and interest of the bonds payable in gold in Germany, London, Amsterdam, Berlin, or New York, in the last city at the rate of \$4.85 per pound sterling. Bonds to be issued in denominations of from £20 to £1,000, at the option of the subscriber. The bonds are secured by a special hypothecation of 62 per cent of the import and export duties of the Republic of Mexico, such duties having amounted, as officially stated by the financial agent of the Mexican Government in the years 1897-98, to \$22,582,437 silver, of which 62 per cent would amount to over \$14,000,000 silver, and in 1898-99 (eleven months only) \$24,709,076, of which 62 per cent would amount to over \$15,000,000. The annual interest and sinking fund requirement for the entire external debt of Mexico, as consolidated by the new issue of bonds, is about \$6,200,000 gold, or, at present exchange, about \$13,000,000 of silver, the total amount of the issue being £22,700,000, of which £5,000,000 are reserved for allotment in the United States and in Holland. The issue in England and Germany at the present time will be limited in favor of holders of the existing bonds, who will be given the right of conversion. Applications will be made in due time for the listing of the bonds on the New York Stock Exchange, as well as on the stock exchanges of London, Berlin, Frankfort, and Amsterdam. Subscription books were opened at the office of J. P. MORGAN & Co., in New York City, at 10 a. m., Wednesday, July 12, and will close on notification from Berlin or London.

General POWELL CLAYTON, Ambassador from the United States to the Mexican Government, writes to the Department of State at Washington, from the City of Mexico, under date of June 8, 1899, in regard to the conversion of the foreign debt. According to the Ambassador's statement a 5 per cent loan has been effected for £25,000,000 (\$111,929,500), guaranteed by the customs, redeemable in forty-five years, and inconvertible for ten years. The bonds are to be taken in England, the United States, and Germany, the larger part in the latter country, on account of the fact that most of the old debt was held by subjects of the German Empire.

In 1885 Europe quoted Mexico's gold 6 per cent bonds at nineteen cents on the dollar; to-day the 5 per cent bonds into which they have been funded are selling at par.

ACTIVE DEMAND FOR MANUFACTURED GOODS.

The "New York Journal of Commerce" for June 13 contains an article with reference to the activity of the business relations between the United States and Mexico. The writer says that while iron and steel goods, together with machinery and railway iron and equipments, make up a large share of the trade of the two Republics, there is an active demand for all sorts of manufactured goods. Within a week, 125 secondhand horse cars were bought in the city of New York for shipment to various parts of Mexico. Merchants were unable to place contracts for new cars, and after notifying their customers of the state of affairs in the car industry were obliged to purchase secondhand vehicles.

The situation with regard to steel rails is reported to be giving considerable annoyance to export merchants. It was with difficulty that even a carload of rails could be obtained for shipment, owing to the extraordinary demand from home and foreign markets. Contracts for bridge material are also reported to have been delayed, as well as for other articles composed of iron and steel. The difficulty, however, is not with the price, but with the delivery, it being almost impossible for the mills to supply the extraordinary demand.

The week ending July 1 showed a total value of shipments from New York to Mexico of \$225,631. The articles making the best showing in these shipments were those of manufactured iron, steel rails figuring in the list to the extent of \$50,400 worth, which is the largest one week's shipment in many months. The shipments of bridge material were valued at \$14,000; copper wire, \$7,000; railway material, \$7,000, and other articles of manufactured iron, \$12,000.

NEW COTTON MILL AT ORIZABA.

Mr. WILLIAM W. CANADA, United States Consul at Vera Cruz, has transmitted (May 18, 1899) to the Department of State at Washington newspaper descriptions of a new cotton mill located in Orizaba, about 82 miles west of Vera Cruz, on the Mexican Railway. These contain the following information:

The company interested in the new concern consists mainly of French capitalists. The capital is \$2,200,000. Work on the building was commenced December 1, 1896. In the latter part of August, 1898, the first turbine wheel was installed. The power is derived from a fall in the Rio Blanco—a height of 82 feet—5,000 liters per second. The water is stored up in a tank containing 1,200 cubic meters, moving two turbine wheels of 500 horsepower each. From the turbine pit, 135 feet deep, the water flows through a tunnel 670 meters in length and is used again by the cotton factory at Nogales, another suburb of Orizaba. The factory occupies an area of 170 square meters. The buildings are lit with 1,200 incandescant lamps and 20 arc lights. The company generates its own electricity. In addition to the power derived from the turbine wheels, there is a magnificent steam engine of English make; capacity, 450 horsepower. There are 8 Northrop American looms. The balance of the machinery,

with the exception of the electrical plant, is English. The electrical part is French. This factory is now the second largest in the Republic, the largest being that at Nogales. This concern employs some 950 operatives—men, women, and children—but the help so far is almost entirely male, girls and women being scarce in the district.

Germans and Frenchmen are in charge of the printing. Six colors are printed simultaneously, with fine engrossed English cylinders. The capacity of the mill is 1,500 bolts a day. The mills are turning out various grades of goods, from common manta to prints. At present they are not making a very high class of goods, but when the help gets more intelligent they will do so.

PULQUE AS AN ANTISCORBUTIC.

One of the great national products of Mexico, which is the fermented juice of the magney, and known as "pulque," has for some time past furnished a subject of study for two scientists sent out by the National Museum at Washington. In the pursuit of their investigations Dr. J. N. ROSE and Dr. WALTER HOUGH, the scientists referred to, have learned that Dr. FRANCISCO MARTÍNEZ BACA, a Mexican physician, has discovered that the great national drink possesses hitherto unknown medical properties, and that he has successfully used the same in eradicating the germs of scurvy, a disease which has always been particularly inimical to the Mexican Indians. Pulque has so often been treated of in the columns of the MONTHLY BULLETIN that its general properties need not be rehearsed again; but the interesting discovery that the drink swarms with bacteria, having but recently been made, is a matter claiming attention. The theory of Dr. BACA is that the bacteria introduced into the system by the drinking of pulque attack and conquer those existing in the scorbutical blood, thus eradicating the disease. At the request of the Mexican Government, Drs. ROSE and HOUGH will closely investigate the new discovery, and their report in the premises will be of engrossing interest.

Several attempts have been made in past years to preserve pulque so as to make it an article of export, but efforts in this direction have usually proved abortive. Recent advices are to the effect that the well-known capitalist, Señor SALVADOR MALO, has solicited of the Ministry of Promotion a patent for a process for preserving pulque for a certain period of time.

NEW STEAMSHIP LINES.

A new steamship service will be established between the port of Boston and Mexican ports on July 15, when a steamer will probably sail for Campeche, Vera Cruz, and Progreso, via Havana and Matanzas. It is announced that the sailings will be fortnightly. The name of the new company is the "Boston, Havana and Mexican Line," which is the local agency of NATHAN DE SZANGARI É HIJO, of Campeche, who has agents in all parts of Mexico and advantageous rates over all railroad lines in that Republic. The company has chartered two steamers of

about 1,500 tons net, and will increase this number as the volume of business may warrant.

The National Congress recently approved the contract entered into between the Secretary of Communications and Public Works and Mr. ADAM BIRREL, representing the English Steam Navigation Company and the South American Steamship Company, to extend to the Pacific ports of Mexico the service the steamers of these companies now carry on along the coasts of South America. The concessionaires are the same that at present carry on navigation between Cape Horn and Panama.

THE MILMO IRON MINES.

A correspondent of the "Engineering and Mining Journal" for July (p. 20) reports that the iron mines on the estate of PATRICIO MILMO, on the Golondrinas ranch, near the line of the Mexican National Railroad, are to be worked extensively. A company, capitalized at \$10,000,000, was recently formed in Mexico to erect and operate a foundry in Monterey in connection with the mines. The company consists of EUGENE KELLEY, of New York (son-in-law of the late PATRICIO MILMO); VINCENTE FERRARAS, of Monterey; MANUEL BASAGOITI and LEON SIGNORET, of Mexico City. The mines are 4 miles from Golondrinas station and 100 miles north of Monterey. A cable line for handling the ore will make connection with the railroad. These mines are said to be the richest iron deposits in Mexico, and the ore is easily worked. The foundry is to be a modern establishment, with facilities for turning out all kinds of castings. The number of employees will be 1,000 each at the mines and foundry, and it is expected that the enterprise will give a great impetus to the mining industries of the Republic.

CONTRACT FOR SEWER PIPE.

The "Kansas City Manufacturer" for June 13, says the City of Mexico, the city of Guadalajara, and the city of Chihuahua have made contracts for 560 carloads of sewer pipe to be manufactured in Kansas City. Ever since January 1, 1899, these goods have been shipped southward, and in April an entire train, consisting of 26 big box cars, each loaded with a cargo of 30,000 pounds of pipe, was dispatched to the cities named. In a newspaper interview, Mr. W. S. DICKEY, of the clay manufacturing company bearing his name, said that the desire of Mexican cities for modern sanitation will not rest at sewer pipe alone; that there were indications along the whole line of improvements and the opening up of a field for hundreds of articles of American production. Among those specified are house refrigerators, patent plumbing appliances, springless locks, brass goods, doors, sashes, tanks, and filters. With regard to the Mexican trade, Mr. DICKEY says that the secret of making sales to Mexicans is giving them what they want, sent to them the way they want it, and billed to them in their money and measurements.

NEW RAILROAD IN YUCATÁN.

In Mérida, Yucatán, on May 21, 1899, the shareholders of the new corporation, "Compañía de los Ferrocarriles Sur-Orientales de Yucatán" (Yucatán South-Eastern Railways Company) held their first meeting for organization and election of officers. The council of administration is composed of eleven members, who held a meeting on the 22d and elected the following officers: Director-general (provisional), Sr. Don MANUEL SIERRA MÉNDEZ; auditor, Sr. Don MIGUEL NOGUÉS; attorney, Sr. Lic. Don EMILIO GARCÍA F. The boards of directors in New York and the City of Mexico are composed as follows: New York, Messrs. H. P. BOOTH, W. D. MUNSON, T. N. MOTLEY, J. G. BRILL, and FELIPE G. CANTÓN; City of Mexico, Señores JOAQUÍN D. CASASUS, ROSENDO PINEDA, JUSTO SIERRA, E. C. CREEL, and H. SCHERER. The roads to be built will open up vast uncultivated regions in the old Maya peninsula and carry civilization and peace to the Indian tribes now in revolt against the Government. The capital of the company is \$1,000,000, Mexican money.

THE NEW NATIONAL BUDGET.

The budget of the Mexican Government showing the estimates of expenditures for the fiscal year 1899-1900 divides the expenses of the Government among its various departments as follows:

Legislative power, \$1,020,443.35; Executive power, \$82,468.75; Judicial power, \$449,450.80; Department of Foreign Relations, \$575,717.15; Department of the Interior, \$3,934,284.40; Department of Justice and Public Instruction, \$2,469,721.75; Department of Promotion, Colonization, and Industry, \$941,222.21; Department of Communications and Public Works, \$6,294,935.63; Department of Treasury and Public Credit, Departmental Service, \$6,333,998.80; public debt, \$21,449,600; Department of War and the Navy, \$12,476,786.76—making a total for the maintenance of the Government during the ensuing fiscal year of \$56,028,629.60. The Treasury now has a surplus on hand of between \$10,000,000 and \$12,000,000.

ACATLAN COAL MINES.

An English company has just been formed with a capital of £600,000 for the development of coal deposits in the district of Acatlan, State of Puebla. The company has acquired the right of exploiting the under soil for an area of 20 square leagues. The coal is said to be of superior quality, and to be found in sufficiently large quantities to justify mining. Mr. PAUL LE ROYAL and four English engineers are at Acatlan preparing for the installation of the necessary mining machinery, a part of which is already at Matamoros. A branch line of one of the existing railroads will be constructed to the district. The borings will be extended to a depth of 500 meters. If the devel-

opment of the mines meets the anticipations of the prospectors, much of the coal trade of Mexico with the United States and England will be cut off.

ASPHALT, A NEW ARTICLE OF EXPORT.

The "Mexican Trade Review," in its issue for June 14 (p. 141), contains an interesting item with regard to the possible future of Mexico as an exporter of asphalt. Hitherto, all the asphalt used in the Republic has been imported, but a Texas company, organized to work the deposits on the Gulf coast, recently shipped from Tampico to the United States sixty barrels of asphalt to be used, for test purposes, in paving the streets of some of the cities of that country. The promoters are satisfied both as to the quantity and quality of the product. It is also reported that large deposits of asphalt are to be found on the proposed route of the "Gran Pacifico" railroad.

EXPLORATION OF TIBURÓN.

It will be recalled that the island of Tiburón, off the coast of Sonora, in the Gulf of California, was visited by some United States officials about a year ago, whose report was published throughout the United States. It is now stated that Mr. W. J. LYONS, of Hermosillo, Sonora, has secured a concession for the exploration of the island, and that next November he will fit out an expedition for that purpose. It seems that the island is rich in grasses and furnishes excellent pasturage for cattle; that the mineral resources are also considerable, consisting of gold, silver, and copper veins, none of which, however, have been worked. The waters surrounding the island teem with fish and crustaceans.

IMPORTS FROM MOBILE, ALA.

Mr. WILLIAM A. LE BARRON, Vice-Consul for Mexico at Mobile, Ala., sends the Bureau of the American Republics the following reports of the value of the shipments of merchandise to Mexican ports from the United States port named:

To Progreso, on June 1, \$2,710.32; June 16, \$4,795.75; total, \$7,506.07.
To Tampico, June 9, \$29,676.

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

On May 26 the work of the International Boundary Commission, charged with settling the divisional line between Mexico and Guatemala, was brought to a close. It is expected that the final agreement, which will terminate this very interesting question to the two countries concerned will be reached in a very short time.

NICARAGUA.

CONTROL OF THE BANANA TRADE.

The following statement made by United States Consul SORSBY, of San Juan del Norte, in a dispatch to the Department of State of the United States, under date of May 10, 1899, is of interest to dealers and consumers of bananas:

The fruit trust, operating in the West Indies and Central America, the principal associates of which are the Boston Fruit Company, of Boston; MINOR C. KEITH, of Costa Rica, and others, have entered the banana fields of the Department of Zelaya (Bluefields and Rama districts), Nicaragua. Their representative, Mr. J. LAMOTTE MORGAN, arrived at Bluefields on the 28th ultimo, and, going into the heart of the banana district, secured contracts from nearly all of the larger planters. Mr. MORGAN tells me that it is the purpose of his people to put on a line of steamers immediately, with the view of controlling all the banana trade of Nicaragua. The advent of this new corporation will probably have the effect, at least for the present, of advancing the price of bananas and cheapening freights on incoming and outgoing cargoes. Mr. MORGAN states that the freight and passenger service of the new line will be in every respect superior to that of the old company, and it is probable that a small but fast steamer will be run as an auxiliary between Port Limon, Costa Rica, and San Juan del Norte, Bluefields, and Cape Gracias, Nicaragua.

PERU.

THE PERMANENT EXPOSITION AT LIMA.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN for April, 1897, contained an article relating to the "Permanent Exposition of Machinery" which was inaugurated on July 28, 1897, at Lima, Peru, and it has been referred to from time to time in these columns since that date. A pamphlet recently issued by the exposition authorities has been received at the Bureau of the American Republics. It contains certain explanations and instructions to intending exhibitors, which for their benefit are here reproduced in substance:

1. Exhibitors have nothing to pay for the space assigned them and occupied by them in the building.
2. A maximum area of 40 meters square is the utmost usually granted to each exhibitor, but more space may be obtained on special application.
3. The Government of Peru having decreed, under date of April 9, 1898, that the exhibition is to be not only of machinery, but also of all kinds of manufactured goods, the management is ready to receive manufactured articles of all kinds and to extend to them the same privileges and facilities as are enjoyed by the machinery exhibits.

4. Parties desiring to exhibit machinery of any kind or manufactured goods in general may forward the same at any time, taking care, however, that the articles forwarded shall not, when installed, occupy more space than 40 meters square.

5. Articles subject to duty imported for exhibition at the Permanent Exhibition of Lima are exempted from the payment of the same unless the articles are sold on the ground; and to guarantee the payment of said duties the agent of the importer will furnish a satisfactory bond to pay the amount of said duties at the expiration of the six months during which the articles may be exhibited, or at the conclusion of the longer period which the Government may grant in certain cases.

6. The greater part of the machinery imported through Peruvian ports is free of duty.

7. The only expenses exhibitors are called upon to incur upon the arrival of the articles at Peru are port charges, transportation to Lima, and cost of installation, which are insignificant.

8. The office of the Exposition in Lima and all Peruvian Consuls abroad will furnish all further information that may be desired and dispel any doubts that may arise.

9. All goods sent to the Exposition should be accompanied by the corresponding bill of lading and invoice and be marked as follows: "Exposición Permanente, Lima, Perú."

10. Goods sent to the Exposition by manufacturers or exporters having an agent in Lima may be sold through the said agent, should the owner so desire.

11. The Exposition authorities will also see to the dispatching at the custom-house of all goods consigned to the Exposition, attend to its transportation to Lima and to its installation in the Exposition building, all at the expense of the exhibitor.

12. The authorities will also make sales of such goods, per account of the shipper, charging the commission the latter may designate, the purchaser paying the price to the Bank of Peru and London, where the proceeds of the sale will remain at the disposal of the owner.

13. The same authorities will in due time forward the account of expenses, etc., and whenever a sale is made will give immediate notice thereof, so that the exhibitor may replace the article sold by another, better or more improved, if possible.

14. Lastly, it is necessary and indispensable that the exhibitors, on forwarding their exhibits, should send therewith a description, price list, and discounts, as also minute and detailed instructions regarding their application, power, weight, dimensions, method of working, it machinery, etc., sending at the same time catalogues, plans, cuts, and other data that may help in the study and management of the machinery.

THE MOST RECENT TARIFF CHANGES.

From the "International Customs Journal," of Brussels, the following translations of laws relating to tariff changes in the Republic of Peru have been received:

I. Extract from the law of December 31, 1898, relative to consumption duties on alcoholic beverages of all kinds:

In virtue of articles 1 and 2 of the aforesaid law the under-mentioned alcoholic beverages, proceeding from abroad (the importation of these beverages by land is prohibited), shall, on clearance from maritime or river custom-houses, be liable to the consumption duties established in the following schedule:

Alcoholic beverages of foreign origin.

Beer	liter..	0.07
Absinthe, aniseed brandy, cognac, kirsch, bitters, rum, and all other alcoholic beverages except wine	liter..	.40
Wines, red or white, Burgundy, Rhine, Cyprus, Sherry, Madeira, Port, "Cereza," Frontignan, "Pajarete," Malmsay, Muscatel, "Pedro Jimenez," "Peralta," and other generous wines; Asti and all sparkling wines other than Champagne, and vermouth	liter..	.30
Wines, red or white, Claret, "Carlon," Catalogue, "Priorato," "San Vincente," and the like	liter..	.25
Champagne	do....	.50

II. Extract from the law of January 14, 1899, modifying the régime applicable to the importation, consumption, and exportation of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes:

ART. 1. The import duties, applicable to tobacco of all kinds, cigars, and cigarettes imported from abroad into the territory of the Republic, shall be specific. They shall be collected in all custom-houses conformably to the following tariff:

Tobacco of contiguous regions, in the leaf, raw, in packets and carrots, kilogram net	kil. net..	0.25
Tobacco of any other origin, in the leaf, raw, in packets and carrots, kilogram net	do....	.50
Tobacco of whatever origin, including contiguous regions, chewing, snuff, cut or chopped, and, in general, tobacco manufactured in any manner other than cigars or cigarettes	kil. net..	1.00
Cigars, Italian	do....	4.00
Cigars of any other origin	do....	7.00
Cigarettes of whatever origin, in boxes or packets not containing more than 24 cigarettes	thousand packets..	75.00

ART. 2. In future a duty shall be collected throughout the Republic and in every place of consumption on all kinds of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes according to the following table:

1. Tobacco of national production, in the leaf, raw, in packets, carrots, or in any other form	kil. net..	2.00
2. Tobacco of Mexico and Central America	do....	2.20
3. Tobacco of contiguous regions, in the leaf, raw, in packets or carrots	do....	2.10
4. Tobacco, foreign, of any other origin, in the leaf, raw, in packets or carrots	kil. net..	3.20
5. Tobacco, foreign, chewing or snuff	do....	2.00

6. Tobacco, foreign, cut or chopped, in packets, cigarettes, etc. kil. net..	Sol.	3.00
7. Cigars of whatever foreign origin, in boxes or bulk..... do.....		2.50

ART. 4. In case of exportation abroad of tobacco of all kinds, manufactured in the country into cigars, cigarettes, snuff, cut or chopped tobacco, the exporter shall, after verification by the customs of the contents of the packages and after ascertaining that the exportation has really been effected, be entitled to a drawback of consumption duties at the following rates:

Tobacco, national or foreign, exported after having been chopped, for cigarettes..... kil. net..	Sol.	1.00
The same tobacco, in finished cigars and cigarettes, in boxes, packets, or bulk..... kil. net..		2.00

This drawback shall not be granted when the manufactured products are made by machinery.

ART. 7. All laws, general or special, contrary to the present dispositions are repealed.

SUPPLEMENTARY DECREE TO CIVIL-MARRIAGE LAW.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received from the Department of State of the United States a copy of a dispatch from Hon. IRVING B. DUDLEY, United States Minister to Peru, under date of May 24, 1899, inclosing a translation of a supreme presidential decree, promulgated May 9, 1899, supplementary to the civil-marriage law of December 23, 1897.

The purpose of this decree is to prescribe a mode of legal proof to be followed by persons desiring to marry outside of the Roman Catholic Church by availing themselves of the provisions of the civil-marriage law. This law legalizes civil marriages when both parties are non-Catholics, and when, one only of the parties being of that church, the ecclesiastical authority refuses to perform the ceremony. Reference is made to this law in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for April, 1899 (p. 1789), in an article entitled "Legal rights of foreign residents in Peru."

The translation of the supreme decree reads as follows:

Whereas the laws existing up to 1897 only permitted marriages between Catholics, the sole object of the law of December 23 of the same year being the habilitation of non-Catholics;

The said law not containing any provision prescribing the manner of proving the non-Catholicity of the contracting parties, an essential and primary condition of its application;

This, in execution of the law, has led to discussion and created obstacles the suppression of which is urgent, by the prescription of legal and ready means for the previous presentation of the requisite proofs;

Neither has any kind of proceeding been established to facilitate the carrying out of the law, in case of a denial by the ecclesiastical authorities of permission to marry in case of a diversity of creeds;

In exercising the faculty paragraph 5 of article 94 of the Constitution confers upon me (the President of the Republic), I decree:

ARTICLE 1. Non-Catholics having recourse to the judicial authorities for the

object of contracting matrimony in accordance with the said law shall accompany their petition with a document probatory of the religion to which they belong.

ART. 2. Persons belonging to no religion, or who are able only with great difficulty to produce the required probatory document, shall substitute for the same a sworn written declaration, accompanied with those of at least two persons of well-known standing, residents in the place, testifying to the fact of the petitioners not having been baptized in the Catholic Church.

ART. 3. The Judge shall personally receive the sworn verbal ratification of the petitioner's statements and of the witnesses' declarations, and shall extend the corresponding documents.

ART. 4. If the petitioners are unable to present the necessary witnesses at the place where their petition is presented, but give the assurance of the existence of the same, either in the Republic or abroad, the corresponding requisitorial letters shall be extended for the taking of the declarations.

ART. 5. Persons petitioning for a civil marriage on account of the ecclesiastical authority having refused to them the dispensation of the impediment offered by a diversity of creeds shall accompany their petition with an authentic proof (certificate) of the said refusal.

In the case of the petitioners showing the impossibility for them to obtain the required certificate, the Judge shall personally demand the same of the competent ecclesiastical authority and on receipt of the reply shall give the corresponding decree.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS IN 1898.

The following table from "Courier du Perou" of June 8, 1899, gives the imports and exports of Peru for 1898, from which it is seen that the United States occupies the third place. The great preponderance in favor of the Anglo-Saxons is attributed to the enterprise of the traveling men and representatives sent to this country, and to the great amount of advertising which they do. The amounts are given in sols, a sol having the value of 43.6 cents in United States currency.

Countries.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	<i>Sols.</i>	<i>Sols.</i>	<i>Sols.</i>
England	6,821,969.78	15,648,310.56	22,470,280.14
Germany	3,060,436.37	2,322,023.74	5,382,454.11
United States	1,647,527.04	1,392,623.37	3,040,150.41
France	1,306,978.34	1,181,312.07	2,488,293.41
Chile	1,207,410.60	5,753,074.22	6,960,484.82
Italy	632,957.23	38,964.95	671,922.18
China	598,027.82	32,000.00	630,027.82
Belgium	536,676.61	8,786.00	545,462.61
Spain	110,031.19	11,965.24	121,996.43
Central America	82,888.79	40,546.48	123,435.27
Ecuador	72,943.35	1,207,596.83	1,280,450.18
Colombia	34,212.96	452,193.77	486,406.73
Uruguay	19,102.87	.....	19,102.87
Australia	11,787.28	.....	11,787.28
Brazil	3,718.50	9,010.00	12,728.50
Portugal	830.00	500.00	1,330.00
Argentina	389.85	421,080.00	5,382,454.11
Bolivia	105.00	56,683.01	56,788.01
Mexico	62.00	2,871.00	3,533.00
Iquitos	16,128,640.58	28,168,452.84	44,297,102.42
.....	1,875,399.19	2,856,929.33	4,732,329.52
Total	18,004,048.77	31,025,382.17	49,029,430.94

RECENT DISCOVERY OF COPPER ORE.

A correspondent of the "Engineering and Mining Journal" sends the following report, which is published in the Journal on page 663 of its issue for June 3:

I recently found a good vein of copper ore on Isla de Santa, 4 miles north of Chimbote. I am shipping ore carrying 25 per cent copper and 1 ounce gold per ton from the dump by launches, and the ore, f. o. b. steamer, costs \$1 per ton, while extraction expenses are \$15 gold per ton. I have found also several promising veins on the mainland, carrying copper with from one-fourth to as much as 3 ounces gold per ton. Samples of oxychloride ore give as high as 46 per cent copper. Mr. DUFOURGE is here representing a New York syndicate, promoted by Mr. N. L. SELLECK, and is looking into some of the properties. The syndicate also interests itself in coal. Plenty of coal is found up the river Santa, 105 kilometers from Chimbote, and it may induce the continuation of the Chimbote railroad, as Chimbote is the best port on the coast. Such a road will open up not only the coal, but the rich gold placers and mines of Casa and Pataz and the copper, gold, and other mines of the whole department of Ancachs. Mr. DUFOURGE's party includes a civil engineer, Major ALFRED SEARS, and it is expected that active work will begin when the examination is completed.

THE CÁUCHO, OR INDIA-RUBBER TREE.

Mr. HUBER, a botanist on the scientific staff of the Museum of Pará, Brazil, recently returned from a visit to the Ucaÿli region in Peru, has authoritatively settled the disputed point as to the botanical group to which belongs the tree which produces the india rubber exported from Peru through Pará under the name of "cáucho." He has discovered that the tree is a *Castilloa*, and he purposes making comparisons to determine whether it is the same as the *Castilloa elastica* of Mexico and Central America, or a variety of the same genus. The india-rubber trees growing in Brazil belong to the *Hevea guianensis* family, and are mostly confined to the lowlands periodically inundated by the Amazon River. The usual custom is to extract the rubber from the cáucho tree by felling, while the Heveas are always tapped.

DEMAND FOR CATALOGUES.

The French Legation at Lima gives notice to French exporters that there is a demand in Peru for catalogues of steam pumps, hydraulic machinery, boilers, sugar machinery, implements and machinery for mining and metallurgical foundries, chemical apparatus, and in general, all machinery and apparatus which can be employed in mining, in metallurgical foundries, sugar mills, weaving, dyeing, paper mills, cloth factories, and in the preparation of provisions, etc.

These catalogues (published in Spanish with monetary terms used in Peru) should give lowest prices with discounts and conditions of payment, packing, etc.

NEW FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.

At the initiative of Señor Don HERNÁN DE VIVERO, of Lima, a new financial institution to be known as the "Banco Popular," has been organized in the ancient seat of the Incas. The purpose of this new bank is to make loans to small tradesmen and artisans and save them from the clutches of the usurer. It is organized upon the same plan as the similar bank at Buenos Ayres.

COMMERCIAL COLLEGE AT LIMA.

On April 1 Señor CANDAMO, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Lima, Peru, inaugurated the English Commercial College, founded by Dr. WOOD. A competent corps of professors has been appointed, and as the college is under the patronage of the Chamber of Commerce, and will receive financial assistance therefrom, it is expected that it will give gratifying results.

SALVADOR.**EXPORT OF SILVER—A DECREE.**

Under date of May 21, 1899, Mr. JOHN JENKINS, United States Consul at San Salvador, writes the Department of State at Washington regarding the exportation of silver from the Republic. According to a decree just issued by the President, the laws prohibiting the export of silver coin and silver in bars, which the National Assembly enacted on March 18 and 20, are to be suspended until the next meeting of the Assembly.

UNITED STATES.**TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.****STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.**

The following is the latest statement, from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, O. P. AUSTIN, Chief, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin-American countries. The report is for the month of May, 1899, corrected to June 28, 1899, with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the previous year; also for the eleven months ending May, 1899, compared with the corresponding period of the fiscal year 1898. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month,

are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for May, for example, are not published until some time in July.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (<i>Palo campeche; Pau campeche; cam- peche</i>)—				
Mexico		\$2,406	\$21,700	\$21,338
Coal, bituminous (<i>Carbón bituminoso; Cuenraño beta- minoso; Charbon de terre</i>):				
Mexico	\$19,565	20,922	180,351	219,308
Cocoa (<i>Cacao; Coco nu Cacaou cru; Cacao</i>):				
Brazil	8,909	3,748	170,115	632,952
Other South America	69,237	211,642	1,058,986	1,246,892
Coffee (<i>Café; Cafè; Cafè</i>):				
Central America	695,237	1,091,602	4,192,716	4,927,028
Mexico	425,786	491,433	3,435,647	2,450,908
Brazil	3,310,080	3,002,762	38,554,238	32,343,871
Other South America	965,656	824,546	8,553,215	6,537,482
Cotton, unmanufactured (<i>Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Colon, non manufacturé</i>):				
South America	8,913	12,953	121,653	133,474
Fibers:				
Sisal grass (<i>Henequen; Henequen; Henequen</i>)—				
Mexico	454,434	981,867	4,098,587	8,361,243
Philippine Islands	106,260	619,774	2,779,086	3,333,646
Fruits:				
Bananas (<i>Platanos; Bananas; Bananes</i>)—				
Central America	176,657	207,855	1,370,397	1,587,553
South America	72,787	123,415	518,596	586,205
Oranges (<i>Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges</i>)—				
Mexico	56	155	134,674	137,110
Fur skins (<i>Pieles finas; Pelles; Fourrures</i>):				
South America	71	5,638	78,848	132,261
Hides and skins (<i>Curros y pieles; Courns e pelles; Cuir et peau</i>):				
Central America	14,600	21,490	177,959	247,315
Mexico	84,197	198,074	1,578,990	1,736,324
South America	649,584	850,037	8,112,398	8,997,305
India rubber, crude (<i>Goua elastica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc brut</i>):				
Central America	14,890	82,514	382,736	783,059
Mexico	3,932	24,669	33,838	126,980
Brazil	948,388	1,608,942	14,463,751	16,126,975
Other South America	43,453	79,830	573,257	883,394
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (<i>Plomo en galapagos, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.</i>):				
Mexico	103,992	210,515	1,521,474	1,769,995
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (<i>Zucrar, no superior al No. 16 de la escala holandesa; Assuerr nio superior ao No. 16 de padrão holandês; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16</i>):				
Central America	76,863	28,125	156,777	103,651
Mexico	16,298	17,881	38,132	42,729
Cuba	1,070,712	3,607,127	9,607,391	13,805,875
Brazil	291,183	140,149	2,125,368	810,276
Other South America	99,231	142,038	3,630,774	5,089,136
Philippine Islands	90,918		314,509	969,323
Hawaiian Islands	2,445,690	2,346,637	11,528,484	14,383,997
Tobacco, leaf (<i>Tabaco en rama; Tabaco em folha; Tabac en feuilles</i>):				
Mexico	16,191	7,506	230,676	228,381
Cuba	7,739	363,252	2,822,451	4,480,925

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Wool magueany (Cacha; Mogno; Acajou):				
Central America.....	\$6	\$50,005	\$139,122	\$364,122
Mexico.....	11,881	44,134	280,507	342,976
Cuba.....	933	15,444	1,766	23,047
South America.....			41,457	14,759
Wool (Lana; Lã; Laine):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing).....	64,528	61,467	829,532	284,553
Class 2 (combing).....			9,598	106
Class 3 (carpet).....	189,990	15,602	668,383	328,167

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural Implements (Instrumentos de agricultura; Insitrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles):				
Central America.....	\$115	\$176	\$14,597	\$6,078
Mexico.....	10,591	28,363	114,292	201,873
Santo Domingo.....			1,056	591
Cuba.....		10,641	7,817	31,692
Porto Rico.....		240	2,594	2,270
Argentina.....	27,201	75,200	361,805	1,452,234
Brazil.....	195	707	23,066	31,327
Colombia.....	848	99	3,796	1,535
Other South America.....	17,138	19,287	175,801	272,825
Animals:				
Cattle (Guaño vacuno; Gado; Bétail)—				
Central America.....	40	165	7,058	3,485
Mexico.....	10,020	5,060	68,700	99,870
South America.....	250		7,212	5,193
Hogs (Cerdos; Poccus; Cochons)—				
Mexico.....	76	2,801	44,442	61,486
Horses (Caballos; Cavallos; Chevaux)—				
Central America.....	1,465	338	12,045	6,028
Mexico.....	2,965	8,175	78,065	78,054
South America.....			5,700	3,839
Sheep (Carneros; Carneiros; Moutons)—				
Mexico.....	400		9,510	11,492
South America.....	180		10,314	7,770
Books, maps, engravings, etc. (Libros, mapas, grabados, etc.; Livros, mapas, gravuras, etc.; Livres, cartes de géographie, gravures, etc.):				
Central America.....	529	10,204	33,831	40,419
Mexico.....	7,681	7,331	119,148	55,876
Santo Domingo.....		990	455	10,472
Cuba.....		7,788	22,566	39,091
Porto Rico.....		2,228	1,332	14,885
Argentina.....	457	2,452	25,192	18,045
Brazil.....	1,087	2,752	151,812	43,987
Colombia.....	304	403	16,925	47,060
Other South America.....	2,290	4,958	37,924	117,841
Breadstuffs:				
Corn (Maiz; Milho; Maïs)—				
Central America.....	11,544	4,584	66,389	34,077
Mexico.....	1,258	13,173	42,404	47,769
Santo Domingo.....		88	166	256
Cuba.....		45,553	415,803	202,290
Porto Rico.....		63	80	63
South America.....	1,074	1,343	36,843	21,127
Wheat flour (Harina de trigo; Farina de trigo; Farine de blé)—				
Central America.....	137,723	68,646	1,096,301	921,045
Mexico.....	9,194	8,909	73,548	120,623
Santo Domingo.....	1,469	4,828	149,156	152,390
Cuba.....		144,901	1,160,736	1,528,973
Porto Rico.....		28,422	450,493	444,212
Brazil.....	229,762	264,348	3,010,661	3,103,331
Colombia.....	47,609	31,046	486,321	371,925
Other South America.....	118,269	96,468	1,582,875	1,256,396

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Breadstuffs—Continued.				
Wheat (<i>Trigo; Trigo; Blé</i>)—				
Central America.....	\$4,144	\$1,763	\$39,793	\$30,210
South America.....	95,745	453	1,629,128	190,826
Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (<i>Carrozas, carros y sus accesorios; Carrozapens, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties</i>):				
Central America.....	6,680	848	41,923	36,302
Mexico.....	13,669	35,174	483,130	415,535
Santo Domingo.....			23,374	21,687
Cuba.....		19,272	25,194	117,230
Porto Rico.....		594	5,821	5,011
Argentina.....	7,077	16,898	201,480	513,905
Brazil.....	26,381	1,058	533,987	194,303
Colombia.....	1,702	1,303	38,038	23,969
Other South America.....	8,369	2,597	77,483	49,424
Cycles and parts of (<i>Biciclos y sus accesorios; Bicy cles e accesorios; Bicyclettes et leurs parties</i>):				
Central America.....	581	869	7,333	5,692
Mexico.....	6,410	3,278	59,976	40,682
Santo Domingo.....			1,134	253
Cuba.....		1,965	9,214	15,031
Porto Rico.....		344	3,359	2,689
Argentina.....	8,166	22,150	80,629	204,051
Brazil.....	8,612	3,407	88,849	52,066
Colombia.....	340	1,638	15,031	8,288
Other South America.....	4,129	7,559	46,374	40,910
Clocks and watches (<i>Relojos de pared y de bolsillo; Relojos de pared e de bolso; Pendules et montres</i>):				
Central America.....	341	295	6,923	2,590
Mexico.....	1,655	1,457	18,685	25,318
Argentina.....	570	632	24,915	22,664
Brazil.....	1,130	6,261	38,633	61,358
Other South America.....	4,989	7,104	80,167	81,900
Coal (<i>Carbón, Carbón; Charbon</i>):				
Central America.....	391	1,576	19,135	12,114
Mexico.....	111,236	127,404	852,390	1,130,893
Santo Domingo.....	1,445		10,729	11,019
Cuba.....		63,454	459,805	628,642
Porto Rico.....		2,160	21,014	45,098
Brazil.....	10,050	18,687	74,596	149,432
Colombia.....		2,454	32,434	34,459
Other South America.....	600	4,798	18,300	161,743
Copper (<i>Cobre; Cobre; Cuivros</i>):				
Mexico.....	2,765	2,271	21,470	26,703
Cotton, unmanufactured (<i>Algodón no manufacturado; Algodón não manufacturado; Coton non manufacturé</i>):				
Mexico.....	37,803	5,819	1,312,175	1,039,409
Cotton cloths (<i>Tijidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé</i>):				
Central America.....	20,974	54,584	355,927	489,094
Mexico.....	37,450	55,463	379,831	449,759
Santo Domingo.....	741	16,338	91,194	152,937
Cuba.....		82,154	12,163	251,947
Porto Rico.....		38,075	2,206	104,419
Argentina.....	12,057	8,523	161,991	173,434
Brazil.....	28,586	38,391	485,447	496,474
Colombia.....	23,001	37,357	255,997	339,296
Other South America.....	127,115	105,970	1,002,309	1,293,439
Weaving apparel (<i>Ropa de algodón; Ropa de algodón; Tejerada en coton</i>):				
Central America.....	25,977	25,342	197,699	290,179
Mexico.....	28,756	56,869	291,231	363,475
Santo Domingo.....		55	17,895	24,065
Cuba.....		16,925	11,715	98,294
Porto Rico.....		5,831	1,678	22,512
Argentina.....	4,968	2,511	39,465	62,612
Brazil.....	1,446	3,950	46,225	39,559
Colombia.....	6,069	3,481	49,051	49,677
Other South America.....	2,557	2,958	32,791	47,802

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Fruits and nuts (<i>Frutas y nueces; Frutas e nozes;</i> <i>Fruits et noix</i>):				
Central America	\$1,554	\$2,128	\$33,893	\$25,041
Mexico	5,242	4,894	52,730	71,942
Santo Domingo		40	1,347	1,769
Cuba		4,152	38,175	59,170
Porto Rico		497	2,748	4,241
Argentina	1,058	1,985	8,718	10,082
Brazil	117	963	10,845	16,521
Colombia	753	1,049	10,061	7,622
Other South America	1,060	2,061	22,852	21,370
Hides and skins (<i>Courus y pieles; Courus e pelles;</i> <i>Cours et peaux</i>):				
Central America				
Mexico	312	215	2,306	2,056
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (<i>Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Aparelhos electricos e scientificos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques</i>)—				
Central America	4,479	3,820	55,932	76,904
Mexico	23,483	48,882	258,649	389,947
Argentina	17,449	27,589	104,548	210,361
Brazil	1,977	5,942	84,320	167,335
Other South America	10,972	9,888	117,030	109,977
Iron and steel, manufactures of:				
Steel rails (<i>Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier</i>)—				
Central America	105		10,824	33,627
Mexico	45,633	41,510	504,514	497,644
South America	46,544	29,748	160,583	240,780
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (<i>Materiales de suelta para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras, e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies, et outils</i>)—				
Central America	5,033	8,558	76,288	75,824
Mexico	35,563	43,505	397,979	320,873
Santo Domingo	10	742	11,900	10,526
Cuba		32,395	56,961	224,100
Porto Rico		4,220	9,429	14,288
Argentina	11,778	13,259	129,514	199,065
Brazil	8,975	21,188	148,456	203,336
Colombia	6,329	6,593	80,857	97,802
Other South America	17,820	24,116	191,213	218,947
Sewing machines and parts of (<i>Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Máquinas de coudre e acessórios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties</i>)—				
Central America	2,850	1,277	28,696	18,160
Mexico	7,179	44,080	188,618	256,991
Santo Domingo		56	1,236	2,246
Cuba		2,575	2,785	8,292
Porto Rico		732	3,120	2,479
Argentina	5,570	787	75,786	119,516
Brazil	4,616	11,158	84,102	109,949
Colombia	4,021	6,191	74,497	60,693
Other South America	6,811	12,626	92,286	119,011
Typewriting machines and parts of (<i>Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Máquinas de escribir e acessórios; Machines d'écrire et leurs parties</i>)—				
Central America	10	47	2,320	2,165
Mexico	2,643	3,917	25,208	39,904
Santo Domingo			90	188
Cuba		3,551	1,457	18,748
Porto Rico		323	65	3,946
Argentina	1,401	2,214	14,172	30,068
Brazil	447	60	4,930	5,485
Colombia	217	334	4,083	3,656
Other South America	735	4,381	14,767	23,335

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Leather, other than sole (<i>Cuero, distinto del de suelo; Couira não para sola; Cuir, autres que pour semelles</i>):				
Central America.....	\$95	\$1,955	\$4,282	\$10,222
Mexico.....	287	1,439	8,599	9,772
Santo Domingo.....		109	569	1,534
Cuba.....		1,330	2,298	9,082
Porto Rico.....		1,195	1,394	7,173
Argentina.....		4,875	4,360	32,045
Brazil.....	5,229	4,019	51,189	40,731
Colombia.....		1,092	3,181	3,231
Other South America.....	638	2,567	12,192	27,886
Boots and shoes (<i>Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures</i>):				
Central America.....	7,366	12,541	83,056	94,876
Mexico.....	8,622	34,920	69,832	188,142
Colombia.....	4,610	3,612	37,420	29,760
Other South America.....	1,805	2,198	25,004	35,852
Naval stores:				
<i>Rosin, tar, etc. (Resina y alquitran; Resina e alcitrão; Résine et goudron)</i> —				
Central America.....	992	964	14,469	12,749
Mexico.....	1,217	888	9,351	8,077
Santo Domingo.....		73	5,517	3,714
Cuba.....		965	7,543	8,403
Porto Rico.....		211	814	1,204
Argentina.....			72,329	73,037
Brazil.....	6,928	11,026	181,955	212,863
Colombia.....	869	363	11,042	12,239
Other South America.....	5,396	6,741	85,408	76,212
Turpentine, spirits of (<i>Aguarrás; Aguarraz; Teré- benthine</i>):				
Central America.....	200	550	3,812	3,353
Mexico.....	299	448	2,958	4,019
Santo Domingo.....		26	447	517
Cuba.....		4,169	15,352	30,683
Porto Rico.....		553	1,618	3,836
Argentina.....			110,665	34,246
Brazil.....	15,420	3,383	61,689	47,248
Colombia.....	3,083	634	4,040	6,312
Other South America.....	10,091	11,125	47,446	40,257
Oils, mineral, crude (<i>Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos mineraes, crus; Huiles minerales, brutes</i>):				
Mexico.....	34,781	38,475	317,433	335,548
Cuba.....		7,695	297,649	196,773
Porto Rico.....			51,808	
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (<i>Aceites mineraes refinados ó manufacturados; Oleos mineraes, refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles mineraes, raffinés ou manufacturés</i>):				
Central America.....	10,196	6,091	106,471	121,594
Mexico.....	16,733	26,967	167,831	166,890
Santo Domingo.....	20	346	49,784	28,991
Cuba.....		4,208	31,358	120,531
Porto Rico.....		4,196	22,677	56,177
Argentina.....	101,112	105,528	902,899	673,432
Brazil.....	127,661	92,174	1,342,233	1,420,045
Colombia.....	12,265	9,393	91,867	109,249
Other South America.....	101,962	145,636	786,876	813,927
Oils, vegetable (<i>Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetaes; Huiles végétales</i>):				
Central America.....	625	1,309	2,926	4,753
Mexico.....	32,357	26,412	321,566	417,679
Santo Domingo.....	392	3,581	26,686	26,614
Cuba.....		4,027	2,774	16,728
Argentina.....		2,337	4,188	26,036
Brazil.....	10,578	18,071	226,337	185,049
Other South America.....	11,120	9,324	91,166	88,717
Paraffin and paraffin wax (<i>Parafina y cera de para- fina; Paraffina e cera de parafina; Paraffine et cire de cette substance</i>):				
Central America.....	1,088	3,869	19,066	29,039
Mexico.....	8,637	35,024	147,231	229,267
Brazil.....	886	877	10,124	11,471
Other South America.....	473	294	5,793	6,457

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
<i>Beef, canned (Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vaca en latas; Beef conserve)—</i>				
Central America	\$1,639	\$1,381	\$26,112	\$18,778
Mexico	1,208	1,212	13,241	17,148
Santo Domingo		51	33	117
Cuba		356	6,412	13,228
Porto Rico			30	50
Argentina	52	225	409	1,352
Brazil	601	782	16,548	16,376
Colombia	1,099	841	6,255	4,521
Other South America	956	1,731	11,556	11,598
<i>Beef, salted or pickled (Carne de vaca, salada ó en salauera; Carne de vaca, salgada ou em salmoura; Beef, salt or in saumure)—</i>				
Central America	3,901	2,946	37,308	31,121
Mexico			492	580
Santo Domingo		880	1,643	3,777
Cuba		5,975	13,720	31,270
Porto Rico		150	859	1,075
Brazil		89	1,112	2,486
Colombia	1,698	1,695	11,500	12,521
Other South America	17,856	11,601	150,727	160,405
Tallow (Sebo; Sebo; Suif)—				
Central America	8,872	13,140	87,879	84,343
Mexico	780	2,570	22,481	51,589
Santo Domingo	321	66	26,160	15,822
Cuba		45	13,231	19,137
Porto Rico			287	347
Brazil	519	1,898	25,070	36,788
Colombia	1,312	1,854	18,173	12,092
Other South America	1,752	14,369	11,976	33,254
Bacon (Tocino; Toinho; Lard foiné)—				
Central America	1,214	1,357	14,976	16,079
Mexico	734	2,982	8,874	15,218
Santo Domingo		206	1,412	1,583
Cuba		80,278	672,008	548,206
Porto Rico		6,963	33,013	66,792
Brazil	19,871	14,120	496,995	408,405
Colombia	219	57	1,273	1,554
Other South America	829	2,673	25,966	16,376
Hams (Jamon; Presunto; Jambon)—				
Central America	2,237	1,791	26,377	20,765
Mexico	1,999	2,310	20,247	28,982
Santo Domingo	69	608	5,400	6,938
Cuba		59,941	365,242	486,975
Porto Rico		723	50,941	11,204
Brazil	274	276	3,196	3,473
Colombia	1,718	1,875	12,824	13,865
Other South America	4,777	7,064	78,385	77,678
Pork (Carne de puerco; Carne de Puro; Porc)—				
Central America	6,036	4,006	66,078	56,993
Santo Domingo	264	816	3,468	4,784
Cuba		6,090	14,103	35,177
Porto Rico		17,255	176,219	156,640
Brazil	1,400	40	1,955	5,880
Colombia	1,684	881	7,919	8,103
Other South America	19,516	19,978	191,316	220,583
Lard (Mantea; Banha; Saindoux)—				
Central America	19,226	17,437	136,102	145,781
Mexico	16,920	14,015	170,065	155,180
Santo Domingo	485	2,530	19,029	23,255
Cuba		161,855	1,027,657	1,273,588
Porto Rico		37,960	190,630	228,532
Argentina		477	2,954	3,481
Brazil	60,321	111,018	942,318	1,118,869
Colombia	16,018	10,037	110,178	83,429
Other South America	96,507	68,867	609,260	568,930
Oil and oleomargarine (Grasa y Oleomargarine; Oleo e oleomargarina; Uleo et oleomargarine)—				
Central America	148	222	1,006	2,324
Mexico	66	60	889	731
Colombia	758	377	7,290	9,072
Other South America	1,150	3,445	14,733	20,085

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1898.	1899	1898.	1899.
Provisions, comprising meats and dairy products—				
Continued.				
Butter (<i>Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre</i>)—				
Central America.....	\$4,115	\$3,825	\$44,814	\$42,222
Mexico.....	4,956	3,590	39,359	46,767
Santo Domingo.....		811	6,151	10,241
Cuba.....		4,283	8,087	94,340
Porto Rico.....		857	2,407	7,738
Brazil.....	9,803	21,185	86,873	157,387
Colombia.....	2,296	1,094	18,818	13,391
Other South America.....	10,493	18,506	80,020	124,089
Cheese (<i>Queso; Queso; Fromage</i>)—				
Central America.....	1,539	1,293	16,340	15,992
Mexico.....	1,018	2,197	13,224	18,066
Santo Domingo.....		375	3,252	4,157
Cuba.....		4,732	25,888	73,747
Porto Rico.....		3,387	1,535	24,385
Brazil.....			257	638
Colombia.....	1,223	807	10,439	7,222
Other South America.....	788	499	15,868	12,345
Seeds (<i>Semillas; Semences; Semene</i>):				
Central America.....	373	1,139	5,020	4,447
Mexico.....	158	302	29,079	15,394
Santo Domingo.....	78	17	742	206
Cuba.....		204	2,612	3,526
Porto Rico.....		100	19	497
Argentina.....	20	439	368	7,791
Brazil.....		36	858	1,035
Colombia.....	16	3	1,532	1,352
Other South America.....	237	373	2,006	2,228
Sugar, refined (<i>Azúcar refinado; Assuár refinado; Sucre raffiné</i>):				
Central America.....	2,702	1,369	17,488	17,601
Mexico.....	128	8,555	13,541	25,248
Santo Domingo.....		41	1,504	1,116
Colombia.....	1,312	1,098	25,513	13,598
Other South America.....	123	131	5,141	2,042
Tobacco, unmanufactured (<i>Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé</i>):				
Central America.....	1,855	3,694	29,849	24,375
Mexico.....	15,142	4,898	129,563	131,511
Argentina.....	1,200	2,345	5,104	22,425
Colombia.....	786	506	7,218	5,485
Other South America.....	6,013	7,359	89,912	87,320
Tobacco, manufactures of (<i>Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué</i>):				
Central America.....	6,831	4,689	44,026	50,706
Mexico.....	339	9,234	17,725	18,313
Cuba.....		13,917	116,292	116,072
Argentina.....	537		2,344	4,176
Brazil.....			500	500
Colombia.....	128	1,030	3,112	5,382
Other South America.....	9,102	8,904	73,178	80,094
Wool, unmanufactured (<i>Madera no manufacturado; Madeira não manufacturada; Bois brut</i>):				
Central America.....	522	691	48,884	27,388
Mexico.....	28,673	21,926	231,789	231,445
Cuba.....		3,151	14,862	36,507
Argentina.....		4,577	7,085	18,000
Brazil.....			7,278	4,533
Colombia.....	1,344	1,588	23,737	25,187
Other South America.....	240		49,540	26,192
Lumber (<i>Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction</i>):				
Central America.....	2,195	6,477	35,279	56,631
Mexico.....	73,798	63,950	773,528	712,417
Santo Domingo.....	4,181	4,212	36,370	30,636
Cuba.....		87,479	258,076	695,093
Porto Rico.....		11,020	51,129	56,527
Argentina.....	74,113	74,298	829,997	912,671
Brazil.....	18,171	6,710	593,583	390,940
Colombia.....	5,927	9,962	54,277	45,300
Other South America.....	75,970	73,716	462,223	472,343

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	May—		Eleven months ending May—	
	1898.	1899.	1898.	1899.
Furniture (Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles):				
Central America.....	\$1,810	\$3,258	\$71,516	\$33,376
Mexico.....	13,297	24,758	143,001	221,224
Santo Domingo.....		542	10,666	7,224
Cuba.....		19,769	24,910	78,472
Porto Rico.....		3,532	6,041	19,453
Argentina.....	473	2,246	59,967	59,925
Brazil.....	1,978	3,329	35,073	29,474
Colombia.....	2,183	2,768	31,383	26,361
(Other South America).....	7,796	9,390	70,059	64,577

TARIFF CIRCULARS WITH REFERENCE TO CUBA.

The following tariff circulars have been published by Hon. G. D. MEKLEJOHN, Acting Secretary of War for the United States, "by direction of the President:"

No. 71—May 25, 1899.—The regulations entitled "Coasting Trade of Cuba," on page 9 of the "Amended Customs Tariff and Regulations for Ports in Cuba in Possession of the United States," are hereby amended by the addition of the following paragraph:

Officers of the customs in the Island of Cuba may authorize the clearance for foreign ports or ports of the United States of vessels under the distinctive signal and coasting permit of Cuba. In granting such clearances officers of customs will advise masters or owners that the United States does not assume any obligation for the protection of the vessel and the clearance does not exempt the vessel in foreign ports or ports of the United States from penalties or forfeitures of any description which may be incurred.

No. 72—June 2, 1899.—Paragraph 6 (tonnage dues), on page 8 of the "Amended Customs Tariff and Regulations for Ports in Cuba in Possession of the United States," is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

6. At all ports or places in Cuba there shall be levied the following tonnage dues until further orders:

- | | Per net ton. |
|--|--------------|
| (a) On entry of a vessel from a port or place not in Cuba..... | \$0.20 |
| (b) On entry of a vessel from another port or place in Cuba engaged at the time of entry in the coasting trade of Cuba..... | .02 |
| (c) The rate of tonnage dues on a vessel which enters in ballast shall be one-half of the rate imposed by subdivision (a) or (b), and one-half the tonnage dues imposed on a vessel entering with cargo shall be refunded if the vessel clears in ballast. | |
| (d) The tonnage tax on entries of a vessel from a port or place not in Cuba shall not exceed in the aggregate \$2 per net ton in any one year, beginning from the date of the first payment. | |

The tonnage tax on entries of a vessel from other ports or places in Cuba shall not exceed 40 cents per net ton in any one year, beginning from the date of the first payment.

No. 73—June 4, 1899.—Rules 10, 11, and 12 of Disposition VI, on pages 41 and 42 of the "Amended Customs Tariff and Regulations for Bull. No. 1—4

Ports in Cuba in Possession of the United States," are hereby amended so as to read as follows, in one consolidated paragraph:

10, 11, and 12. When in one container merchandises are imported with pay by net weight with others which pay by gross weight or by unities, whether they have the same or different tares, said merchandise will pay the duties that correspond to them by net or dutiable weight, without any benefit of tare, and the exterior container will be appraised by its total weight by the paragraph corresponding to the matter of which it is made.

No. 74—June 1, 1899.—The rules relating to surtax on classes 6 and 7 of the "Amended Customs Tariff Regulations for Ports in Cuba in Possession of the United States" is hereby abolished.

No. 75—June 7, 1899.—Subdivision (a) of paragraph 8, on page 47 of the "Amended Customs Tariff and Regulations for Ports in Cuba in Possession of the United States," is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

- (a) A product from petroleum known under the name of cordage oil, imported by and used exclusively for cordage works in their manufacture of rope and cordage, provided that the importation be made at the direct demand of the president of the cordage company, and that the latter submit their works at all times to the inspection of the customs authorities, and that the importer give such bond as may be regarded necessary by the acting collector, G. W., 100 kil \$0.70

STATISTICS OF THE SILK INDUSTRY.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received from the "Silk Association of America," founded in New York City in 1872, a copy of its annual report, in which is incorporated the addresses delivered on the occasion of the "anniversary banquet" of the association on February 2, 1899. The secretary in his annual report says that the year 1898 was "an eventful" one in the history of the silk industry in the United States. "It has witnessed the first year's operation of the Dingley Tariff Act, approved by President MCKINLEY July 24, 1897. By that act specific duties are largely applied to imported silk goods instead of exclusively ad valorem rates, as heretofore. The first noticeable result is that although the volume of foreign textiles imported decreased \$3,500,000 in its first year, the revenue duty collected by the Government was about the same. The second * * * is that the average rate of duty on all foreign silk goods entering into home consumption in the year ended June 30, 1898 (eleven months under the new act), is higher than it has been for fifteen years, and is 7½ per cent greater than for the year 1897. * * * Silk threads, or yarns, or spun, were entered for consumption to the value of \$1,224,854, and paid an average duty reduced to *ad valorem* of 37.8 per cent; all classes of textiles, including velvets, plushes, laees, embroideries, knit goods, and wearing apparel to the value of \$21,410,192, paid an average duty of 55 per cent reduced to *ad valorem*. Specific duties have also opened up to our domestic industry a number of articles which, under the former *ad*

ralorem rates of duty were considerably undervalued, and which could not previously be profitably manufactured" in the United States.

Silk weaving in the United States is best illustrated by the following table of production, compiled by the association:

Year.	Broad goods.	Ribbons.
1873.....	\$2,847,917	\$2,652,011
1880 (census year).....	11,224,895	6,023,100
1881.....	13,332,194	6,213,804
1883.....	13,989,310	9,034,050
1890 (census year).....	25,096,776	17,081,447
1898 (estimated).....	40,000,000	20,000,000

The growth of the industry in the United States in recent years is shown by the greatly increased consumption of raw silk and by the diminishing volume of imported silk goods.

In January, 1899, there were silk mills in 28 States, ranging in number from 1 to 257. The total number of mills was 861, located in 228 towns. Of the total number of mills nearly six-sevenths (657 out of 851) were in the States of New Jersey (257), New York (228), and Pennsylvania (172). These employ over 27,000 power looms for broad silk weaving and 6,000 power looms for ribbon weaving. The number of new mills and firms added to the industry in 1898 aggregated 49. In the State of Pennsylvania alone mills for broad silk weaving have been established in the past two years in 16 towns and villages, and plants for throwing and ribbon weaving in 13 additional towns. The importation of raw silk in 1898 aggregated 10,315,162 pounds, valued at \$31,446,800, which was an increase of 3,791,550 pounds and \$12,959,856 over the imports of 1897.

RECIPROCITY TREATY WITH BARBADOS.

A reciprocity treaty between the United States and Great Britain in relation to the trade between the United States and the British Colony of Barbados was signed at the Department of State in Washington on June 16, 1899. This is the first treaty framed in accordance with section 4 of the Dingley tariff law, and the first of a series of treaties which the British colonies to the south of the United States are trying to effect. The treaty with Barbados is for a term of five years, but as the treaty must be submitted to the Senate for advice and consent, the Department of State is not in a position to make its terms public for the present.

Section 4 of the existing tariff law provides for the reduction "of not more than 20 per centum (of the duties) upon such goods, wares, and merchandise as may be designated therein of the country or countries with which such treaty or treaties shall be made, as in this section provided for; or shall provide for the transfer during such period from the dutiable list of this act to the free list thereof of such goods and

merchandise, being the natural products of such foreign country or countries and not of the United States."

Sugar is the chief product of Barbados, the trade of 1898 amounting to \$2,208,000. The articles sent to the island by the United States are principally foodstuffs. Almost all the manufactured goods have heretofore come from Great Britain. In times past the United States Consuls have called attention to the demand in Barbados for butter, canned goods, carriages, bicycles, electrical equipments, and cement.

Consul MACALLISTER says, in the "Commercial Relations of the United States for 1898," page 108, that the imports at Bridgetown in 1897 were \$5,043,495, against \$5,244,435 in 1896. The imports from the United States for that year showed a decrease of \$175,886. Foodstuffs to the value of \$1,253,895 came from the United States in 1897, against \$483,755 received from Great Britain. On the other hand, the manufactured goods furnished by Great Britain amounted to \$658,785, while the United States supplied only \$116,600 worth.

The exports for 1897, according to the same authority, exceeded those of 1896 by \$90,674, making a grand total of \$3,680,000. The total quantity of sugar exported in 1897 was 67,609 hogsheads. Manioc (tubers of a plant resembling the yuca of Venezuela) was shipped to the value of \$18,800, of which the United States took \$12,967 worth.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES IN 1899.

Contrary to the anticipations of the officials of the Treasury Department, the Government expenditures during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1899, exceeded the receipts by nearly \$88,875,989.26. On June 1 the officials predicted that the deficit might not exceed \$100,000,000, but at no subsequent time was it expected that the amount would be reduced below \$95,000,000.

The smaller amount is accounted for by the exceptionally heavy receipts from customs and internal revenue sources and the marked falling off in expenditures during June. Receipts for the month of June were: Customs, \$18,466,907; internal revenue, \$25,606,859; miscellaneous, \$3,073,147; total, \$47,126,915. The disbursements during the month were \$31,382,762. For the entire year the receipts were divided as follows: Customs, \$206,507,812.15; internal revenue, \$273,142,490.30; miscellaneous, \$36,566,442.97; total, \$516,216,474.42. The disbursements during the year were grouped under the following heads: Civil and miscellaneous, \$119,225,598.68; war, \$229,041,001.99; navy, \$64,734,479.78; Indians, \$12,799,983.70; pensions, \$139,394,945.51; interest, \$39,896,925.02; total, \$605,092,734.68. The receipts exceed those of the fiscal year 1898 by \$111,705,664. Of this increase, \$56,688,218 was due to customs and \$103,199,451 to internal revenue, while the miscellaneous receipts decreased \$48,182,005. The cash balance in the Treasury at the end of the fiscal year stood at \$281,380,468.

PRODUCTION OF GOLD.

At the beginning of this year the Director of the Mint published some preliminary figures relating to the production of gold in 1898. According to the estimates made, the total production of the United States, including Alaska, was then \$65,782,677, which shows an increase of \$8,400,000 over the preceding year. The said official has just published his final statement, which confirms in many respects what was previously published, although it differs as regards the total production, which was about \$1,400,000 less than the original estimate.

The principal gold-producing sections of the country in the year mentioned were, in the order of their importance, the following: Colorado, California, South Dakota, Montana, Nevada, Alaska, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, New Mexico, Georgia, and South Carolina.

With respect to the production of silver, an increase has also been noticed, though slight. The principal States producing this metal were Colorado, Montana, Utah, Idaho, and California. Other sections of the country also produced silver, though in smaller quantities. The production of this metal in 1898 amounted to 54,438,000 fine ounces.

It is believed that the amount of gold which will be produced by the United States in 1899 will, more or less, equal that of the last year. It is estimated that from the Klondike region in Alaska alone there will be taken out this year yellow metal to the value of \$20,000,000.

RECIPROCITY TREATY WITH JAMAICA.

A reciprocity treaty between Great Britain, for Jamaica, and the United States was concluded at the Department of State at Washington on July 1, 1899. The details were arranged by Hon. JOHN A. KASSON, Special Commission Plenipotentiary under the United States tariff act, and Mr. REGINALD TOWER, the British chargé d'affaires. The treaty has been forwarded to Kingston for the approval of the colonial authorities, and when this is given, the formal signing of the instrument will occur. The details will not be made public until after the ratification of the treaty by Congress.

RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CONSULS.

On July 6, 1899, a notice was issued by the Department of State that President MCKINLEY had officially recognized the following Central and South American consular officers: MÓNICO CORDOVA SEBRA as Consul-General, and E. HERMÁNDEZ as Vice Consul for Honduras, at New Orleans, La.; FIDEL GARCÍA, as Consul-General of Ecuador, at New York City; EUGENE ALEXANDER BRESLER as honorary Consul of Venezuela, at Detroit, Mich.; and H. RENJES as Consul for Chile at Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands.

DUTIES ON HIDES.

According to the "Butchers' Advocate," June 21, the following changes have been made by the appraiser of the Port of New York in the duties assessed on imported hides:

Progreso wet-salted hides, 14 cents per pound; City of Mexico wet-salted, 35 cents per kilogram; Païta, Pern flint-dry, 23 to 24 cents per pound; dry-salted, 20 to 21 cents; Limon, C. R. dry-salted, 55 cents per kilogram; Savanilla and Carthagena, \$8.50 to \$9 (paper) per kilogram, an advance from \$7.

URUGUAY.

SEMIANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL RAILWAY SYSTEM.

Under date of April 19, 1899, Hon. WILLIAM R. FINCH, United States Minister to Uruguay, transmitted to the Department of State at Washington a report on the earnings of the Central Uruguayan Railway and its northern and eastern extensions. This is the principal railway system in the Republic. The length in miles of the main road is 199, having an invested capital of \$13,760,421 (United States currency). The Northern Extension is 182 miles long, with a capital of \$7,960,490. The Eastern Extension is 360 miles in length, with \$14,780,374 capital. This gives a grand total of 741 miles of road and a combined capital of \$36,501,285. According to a report submitted by Mr. ALBERT W. SWALM, United States Consul at Montevideo (April 2, 1899); in addition to the Central, there are the following other railway systems in Uruguay, taking them in the order of their capital: Western Railway Company, 323 miles, \$12,150,000 capital; Great Eastern Company, 260 miles, \$10,192,951; Midland Company, 196 miles, \$7,703,989; Northwestern Company, 110 miles, \$4,935,500; Central Northeastern Company, 77 miles, \$3,888,000; Northern Company of Uruguay, including branch (1.8 miles) to San Eugenio, 71.8 miles, \$2,857,867; Northern Railway Company, 14 miles, \$740,440; Interior Company, 385 miles (not yet built), \$15,011,187. Including the last-named company, the total length of the railways of the Republic is 2,177.8 miles, with a capital of \$93,971,179.

With regard to the railways of the Republic, Mr. SWALM, in his report, heretofore referred to, says:

The railway system of Uruguay is well planned for the service of the State, and the State has been and is yet the guarantor of interest—at one time at the rate of 5 per cent, but now 3½ per cent—on a value of £5,000 (\$24,432) per kilometer (0.621376 mile) on the bonds outstanding. * * * The railways are permitted to make their own tariffs. The Government recognized the right of capital employed to earn a protective interest. If it fails in this, the Government must make up the difference.

This deficit has amounted to \$5,875,628.20 in the seven years from and including the years 1892 and 1898, or an average of \$839,375.46

per year. The least amount paid was in 1895—\$775,286.15—and the greatest in 1897—\$894,602.70.

All the fuel for the motive power of the roads is imported from Wales, and the machinery, rails, and general outfitings come from England. * * * The construction of the lines can be classed from excellent to first class, and the best of English methods somewhat conservative, yet safe, have been employed. * * * The rolling stock is good, but it does not compare in any way with the equipment on similar lines in the United States. On none of the lines at present is a through passenger train operated; the trains are all mixed, that is, freight and passenger cars in the same train. * * * Some of the passenger equipment is of American manufacture (Hollingsworth) and it gives the best of service and satisfaction. One can not fail to appreciate the scrupulous cleanliness that marks the care of the passenger equipment at all times. The general station at Montevideo is the most modern and complete in South America. * * * In its general arrangement it deserves to rank with first-class stations of the larger cities and would be deemed a great credit to any railway company in the United States. * * * It was opened to the public service July 15, 1897. * * * The mechanical staff, heads of departments, engine men, and machine-shop chiefs are almost exclusively Europeans (English and Scotch predominating); but many young men, native to the country, are working into positions of responsibility. Station masters as a rule are natives, but in all larger stations Englishmen and native assistants are found. A very thorough and constant inspection is kept up and great care is shown in the operating department, an accident or derailment being rare.

The opportunities for North Americans obtaining employment on the railway lines in Uruguay are few and not at all certain. The wages paid do not compare favorably with those in the United States, and the standard of living is also low, the labor markets being principally supplied by Italians.

The report submitted by Mr. FINCH says that—

The gross receipts of the Central Uruguayan Railway (which has its headquarters in Montevideo) for the half year have been £148,885, against £139,838 in 1897, and the working expenses £85,987, against £72,314, leaving the net receipts £62,898, against £67,521 in 1897. Adding interest, etc., and deducting debenture interest, rents, etc., there is a disposable balance of £24,905. The past half year has been characterized by continual political unrest pending the Presidential election, which greatly disorganized the ordinary commercial business of the country, but in spite of this there has been a fair increase in the traffic of the line generally, and the gross earnings consequently show an improvement as against those of the corresponding period; but the board regret that owing to the increase in the expenses the actual results of working the railway for the first six months of the financial year show a falling off of £4,625. This is due to various unavoidable causes, and the board think that, taking all the circumstances into consideration, the net results must not be looked upon as wholly unsatisfactory. The board have decided to pay an interim dividend for the half year at the rate of 2 per cent per annum, free of income tax, carrying forward a balance of £4,905.

Central Uruguay, northern extension.—After providing for debenture interest, the net revenue account to December 31, 1898 (made up of the profits of working and the moneys received under the amended guaranty arrangement), shows a balance of £17,256, out of which the directors have to pay an interim dividend of 3 shillings per share on the share capital of the company (at the rate of 3 per cent per annum), carrying forward a balance of £2,266.

Central Uruguay, eastern extension.—After providing for the debenture interest, the net revenue account of December 31, 1898 (made up of the profits of working and

the moneys received under the amended guaranty arrangement), shows a balance of £15,318, out of which the directors have decided to pay an interim dividend of 3 shillings 6 pence per share, free of income tax, on the company (at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum), carrying forward a balance of £3,068.

PROPOSED HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS AT MONTEVIDEO.

Hon. WILLIAM R. FINCH writes to the Department of State at Washington from Montevideo, under date of May 12, 1899, in regard to the proposed harbor improvements at that port.

In the MONTHLY BULLETIN for September, 1898 (p. 447), there was published a report from ALBERT W. SWALM, United States Consul, relative to these improvements. At that time the necessary funds for the completion of the works were not available, but it now appears from the Minister's report that the Minister of Public Works of Uruguay has matured a scheme for providing money to pay the cost of construction, and has approved the plans and specifications on which intending bidders shall base proposals. The National Congress has these plans under consideration, and, as soon as adopted, copies will be sent to the Department of State at Washington. The expenditure involved will not be less than \$15,000,000, and may possibly reach \$20,000,000.

Mr. HOWARD, the Vice-Consul at Montevideo, urges that a representative of some United States firm be sent at once to Uruguay equipped with documents bearing official indorsement to satisfy President CUESTAS and his Cabinet of the financial ability, skill, and capacity of the parties whom he represents to carry out the work in accordance with the plans and specifications. He says that the representatives from France and England will be in Montevideo provided with such indorsements, and that they have already given notice that money is available, and that the work shall be prosecuted and completed under the direction of the most skillful engineers. Mr. FINCH says that citizens of the United States sent on this mission with suitable indorsements will be shown every courtesy in Uruguay. Mr. SWALM reports that the conditions of the harbor at Montevideo are not very dissimilar to those at Galveston, Texas, in the United States.

HEATING AND COOKING STOVES.

Mr. ALBERT W. SWALM, United States Consul at Montevideo, under date of May 10, sends the Department of State at Washington a communication containing the result of his investigations relative to the prospect for an increased trade in stoves between the United States and Uruguay. The Consul says that fully 95 per cent of the houses in Uruguay have no heating arrangements, consequently during the winter season, from April to October, the dampness is more unpleasant than crisp and snappy cold would be. As a result, there is an enlarged percentage of deaths from pulmonary troubles, and a death rate out of all proportion to the general salubrity of the climate. Simpler forms of United States heating stoves are about the only ones seen in the

houses in Montevideo, and but one dealer in the city keeps them for sale. The oil stoves of the United States have found a good market in Uruguay, and bring about twice as much as their Belgian competitor. The cooking stoves are of heavy wrought iron, made in local factories from imported plate. They require about 50 per cent more fuel than those made in the United States. The latter are now being imported, and are especially preferred by the Europeans who have located in the country. The native stoves sell at from \$20 to \$70. The duty on stoves is 8 cents per kilogram (2.2046 pounds), including the package. This augments the cost so that an ordinary heating stove, costing from \$7 to \$8 retail in the United States, sells for three times as much in Uruguay. The cook stoves sell for about the same as those made in the country. They must be carefully and securely packed for shipment to the south.

APRIL STATEMENT OF THE BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Montevideo "Nación" publishes the balance sheet of the Bank of the Republic on April 30 (statement for the previous month was published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for June, p. 2196), of which the following are the principal items:

Credit.—Unissued shares of second series, \$5,000,000; unissued bonus shares, \$1,962,366.30; various debtors of main office and branches, \$8,195,018.98; value of deposits, \$3,218,738; guarantee of judicial deposits, \$750,000 nominal, in bonds of the extraordinary loan of 1897, at 64 per cent, \$480,000; cash on hand, \$4,986,039.42; total, \$23,812,158.49.

Debit.—Nominal capital, \$12,000,000; various creditors, \$3,234,005.31; value of deposits, \$3,218,733.29; judicial deposits, \$397,416.64; service of the extraordinary loan, payments by the direction general of direct taxes, \$81,168.55; notes in circulation, \$1,720,202; reserve fund, \$37,633; provision fund, \$150,000; total, \$23,842,158.49.

ESTABLISHMENT OF TELEPHONE LINES.

The French legation at Montevideo has informed the French Government, according to the "British Trade Journal" of June 1 (p. 257), that several projects for the establishment of telephone lines at the State's expense are being considered by the Uruguayan Government. All communications and offers of supplies should be addressed to the "Dirección de Correos y de Telégrafos" at Montevideo.

VENEZUELA.

IMPORTS FROM NEW YORK IN MAY, 1899.

Mr. ANTONIO E. DELFINO, Consul-General of Venezuela in New York, has forwarded the Bureau of the American Republics a copy of his report of the goods shipped to Venezuelan ports from the port of New York during the month of May, 1899. Accompanying this is a résumé of the statement of like shipments during the corresponding month of

1898. From these statistical tables it is learned that the net increase for 1899 was \$63,386.23, which included \$50,000 in gold coin, or a net increase in merchandise of \$13,386.23 over the month of May, 1898.

The weight of the exports was 2,498,825.25 kilograms in 1898, and 3,260,892.17 in 1899. The total values were, respectively, \$209,900.68 and \$273,286.91. The amounts sent to each port in May, 1899, with the increase or decrease for each were as follows: La Guaira (including \$50,000 in gold coin), \$157,093.21; increase, \$35,758.67. Maracaibo, \$47,129.68; increase, \$3,468.09. Puerto Cabello, \$35,875.78; increase, \$23,355.02. Ciudad Bolívar, \$16,272.48; increase, \$2,895.48. La Vela, \$7,702.11; decrease, \$2,608.89. Carúpano, \$5,886; increase, \$258. Guanta, \$1,889.76; increase, \$323.97. Onmaná, \$927.84; decrease, \$488.16. Caño Colorado and Guiría, \$510.05; increase, \$424.05.

The articles of merchandise shipped having a total valuation of more than \$1,000 each were: Wheat flour, \$37,833; lard, \$36,979; groceries, \$15,088.69; butter, \$14,263.67; kerosene, \$12,356; drugs and perfumery, \$11,738.63; notions, \$11,289.77; calicoes, \$9,690.85; mbleached cottons, \$8,906; printed and white cottons, \$8,681.82; hardware, \$8,197.49; cigarette tobacco, \$7,733; cordage, \$6,567.45; chewing tobacco, \$5,582.44; machinery, \$5,276.23; coal, \$3,904; leaf tobacco, \$3,175.59; paints and oil, \$2,237.93; sails and sailcloth, \$2,211; barbed wire, \$2,164; axes and agricultural implements, \$2,102; glassware and lamps, \$1,454.35; small fruits, \$1,453; soap and candles, \$1,210; sewing machines, \$1,078; rough lumber, \$1,005.

EXPORTS FROM PUERTO CABELLO.

Under date of April 5, Mr. LUTHER T. ELLSWORTH, United States Consul at Puerto Cabello, transmits to the Department of State at Washington a carefully tabulated summary of the exports from the district which he represented. In addition, the names of the exporters and the different countries to which the products were shipped are included. From this report (published in full in the Consular Reports for June 27, 1899) the following statistics, representing the actual exports as detailed in the books and papers on file at the custom-house at Puerto Cabello, have been obtained:

Value of shipments: To France, \$634,059; Cuba, \$358,754; Germany, \$155,724; United States, \$124,725; Spain, \$6,643; Italy, \$6,004.

The goods purchased by France included coffee, cocoa, cacao, and copper ore; Cuba, jerked beef, cattle, and cassava; Germany, coffee, cacao, copra, and timber; Spain, coffee; Italy, coffee, cacao, and dividivi. The shipments to the United States were: Coffee, 930,648 pounds, valued at \$74,669; oxhides, 251,000 pounds, valued at \$36,648; goat-skins, 38,341 pounds, valued at \$11,806; tonka beans, 485 pounds, valued at \$245; deerskins, 196 pounds, valued at \$196.

The article of greatest value exported was coffee, of which there were 6,459,328 pounds, valued at \$844,931. Of this amount France

took 1,344,006 pounds, valued at \$606,379; and Germany, 1,108,667 pounds, valued at \$152,418. The item next in importance was 11,627 head of cattle, valued at \$353,963, all of which were shipped to Cuba. All of the oxhides, goatskins, and deer hides were taken by the United States.

CONTRACT FOR A RAILROAD.

Mr. EUGENE H. PLUMACHER, United States Consul at Maracaibo, under date of April 29, 1899, forwarded to the Department of State the Spanish text and English translation of a contract entered into by the Government of Venezuela and LOUIS MUÑOZ FEBAR for the construction of a railroad. This road is to connect Puerto Cabello with Yaritagna, with San Felipe as a point for the termination of each of the two sections. The work of construction is to be commenced in ten months from the date of signing (April 12, 1899), and the first section is to be completed within two years and the second section within four years. The Government has agreed to allow the introduction, free of duty, of all materials, machinery, tools, and other articles necessary for the construction, preservation, and management of the railway, with the exception of such articles as are produced in the country. After the expiration of 99 years the railway, with all its appurtenances, is to become the property of the Government.

PROSPECTING FOR PEARLS.

A recent decree of the Department of Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce of Venezuela grants the right to a United States corporation to examine the pearl beds existing on the coast. Pearl fishing, when Venezuela was a Spanish colony, was one of the great industries of that part of Spain's cis-Atlantic possessions, and the island of Margarita, now forming a portion of Venezuela, got its name from the number of pearls found on its coast. The new company is prohibited from fishing with rakes.

POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

An important law, looking to the amendment of the Constitution so as to revive the former political divisions of the country, has just been passed in Venezuela. The purpose is to revive the twenty States of Apure, Aragua, Barcelona, Barinas, Barquisimeto, Carabobo, Cojedes, Coro, Cumaná, Guárico, Guayana, Maracaibo, Maturín, Mérida, Margarita, Portuguesa, Táchira, Trujillo, Yaracuy, and Zulia, which constituted the Venezuelan Union in 1864.

TRADE OF MARACAIBO, APRIL, 1899.

The trade movement of the port of Maracaibo for the month of April, 1899, the figures of which are just to hand, shows that the articles shipped to New York were coffee, cacao, hides, goat and deer skins,

fish bladders, zapatero wood, lambs' wool, and heron feathers. The weight of the shipments was 1,241 tons, the greatest part being represented by 16,282 bags of coffee. The values are not given.

NEW POSTAL CARDS.

The following items are from the "Venezuela Herald" of June 13, 1899:

The former stock of postal cards having been exhausted, the Government has placed an order with the American Bank Note Company, of New York, for 25,000 single postal cards and 5,000 with answer prepaid.

REDUCTION OF BANK CAPITAL.

In accordance with the power granted by Congress on the 5th of May last to the President to modify the preliminary article of the contract made by the Government with the Bank of Venezuela on the 16th of March, 1897, and in view of the petition of the general body of shareholders of that institution, dated the 5th instant, the President of the Republic has consented that the capital of the bank may be reduced from 15,000,000 bolivars (\$2,895,000) to 12,000,000 bolivars (\$1,956,000).

BOOK NOTICES.

The Government of Mexico has just published the revenue law and budget (*Ley de Ingresos y Presupuesto de Egresos del Erario Federal*) for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1899. It makes a quarto volume of 200 pages.

The Bureau of the American Republics has received the report of the second census of the Argentine Republic, taken May 10, 1895. The report is most exhaustive, being published in three large volumes, covering 1,963 pages. It will be noticed more at length in the August number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN.

"Notes about Mexico" (*Notizen über Mexico*), by Count HARRY KESSLER (F. Fontane & Co., Berlin, 1898), is the modest title of an exceedingly handsome volume of some 200 pages, descriptive of a journey through Mexico. Chiefly in the form of a diary the author has, in a charming manner, given most entertaining descriptions of life and customs of Mexico.

This Bureau has just received copies of the first edition, issued June 8, 1899, of the "Courrier du Pérou." This newspaper, which deals with economical, political, and social subjects, is published weekly at Lima, Peru, in the French language. The scope of this publication, as set forth in the editorial column, has for its object to make known in Europe and elsewhere the real political, economical, and social conditions of Peru, and, secondly, to increase in every possible way, the commercial, industrial, and financial relations between France and this Republic, and vice versa.

The American Academy of Political and Social Science (Philadelphia) has published the addresses of THEODORE S. WOOLSEY, E. W. HUFFCUTT, A. LAWRENCE LOWELL, W. ALLEYNE IRELAND, CARL SCHURZ, W. C. FORD, ROBERT T. HILL, JOHN BASSETT MOORE, His Excellency WU TING FANG, and others, at the annual meeting of the academy on April 7-8, 1889, together with a report of the discussion following each address. This forms a volume of 216 pages, and is an important presentation of the arguments for and against the policy of national expansion.

Mr. ROBERT P. PORTER, who recently served as special commissioner for the United States to Cuba and Porto Rico, has made a careful study of present commercial and industrial conditions in Cuba, with reference to the opportunities presented there for American capital, enterprise, and labor. The results of his investigations, which, from the fact that the writer had special and unusual facilities for securing it, embody the freshest and most reliable information, are published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, in a volume of 428 pages, under the title "Industrial Cuba."

In the "Anglo-American Magazine" (New York and London) for July, 1899, Prof. WILLET M. HAYS has an article on "Wheat in the Northwest." The writer says that wheat has not received its due share of attention. "More energy has been expended upon improving pansies and orchids than upon the wheat plant, and those plants have been more profoundly changed in directions desired by man." But yet a reader of the most excellent article will discover from his description of the work carried on at the "experiment stations" of the Northwest that much has been done, not only to improve the cultivation of wheat and simplify the harvesting of the crops, but that there has been a great improvement in the varieties of the grain. Mr. HAYS describes the classes of wheat, how the grain is grown, the machinery used in harvesting and preparation for market, the methods of producing wheat hybrids, of cross-pollenating and improving the varieties, and of testing wheat on the farm, at the experiment station, the elevator, and in the mills.

"Political Constitution of the Republic of Chile, Promulgated May 25, 1833, with the Amendments Down to May 1, 1899," is the somewhat lengthy title of a pamphlet, pp. 36, issued from the press of "The Herald," Urbana, Ill., by Mr. C. W. TOOKE. With reference to this work its translator says: "It was made primarily for the use of a class in comparative constitutional law" (presumably for a college at Urbana). The fact that no such translation, including the recent amendments, had yet been printed in English is the excuse for presenting this pamphlet to the public.

With reference to the Constitution itself, he says:

It is, perhaps, not unfair to assert that the Constitution of Chile is more advanced than that of any other Spanish-American Republic, in the sense that its form

approaches more nearly to the actual governmental condition. The Constitution frankly recognizes the principle of centralization, and all questions as to the relative power of the executive and legislative departments were settled by the amendments adopted subsequent to the civil war of 1891. Similarity of institutions is not to be measured by the servile imitation of constitutional provisions, but the business of the statesman is to adapt the structure of government to the conditions that present themselves. The merit of having worked out a consistent system of government belongs to the statesmen of Chile, and the merit is none the less because the progress has been conservative and some of the reforms have been adopted only after a period of civil strife.

Announcement is made in PETERMANN'S *Mitteilungen* (No. 45, 1899, Volume V) of the measurement of the Bolivian Andes, by Sir MARTIN CONWAY during his journey in that country in the years 1898-99. The measurements were accomplished through triangulation by means of a 6-inch theodolite.

The following results are given:

	English feet.	Meters.
Mount Sorato:		
Ullampu	21,523	6,560
Ancoluma	21,710	6,617
Aucobuua	20,738	6,220
Aucobuua (lower peak)	19,700	6,005
Next summit south	20,820	6,350
Chetacomani	20,090	6,120
Next summit south	19,540	6,080
Condoriri	20,560	6,270
Cresaca	18,980	5,785
Mamrata	21,015	6,405
Illimani		

As these measurements coincide practically with those formerly made by MINCHINS, the result is considered very satisfactory.

The supplementary number (127) of Dr. A. PETERMANN'S "Mitteilungen" (JUSTUS PERTHES' Geographische Anstalt, Gotha, 1899), consists of a treatise in regard to the mountain formations and soil of northern Central America. It is from the pen of Dr. CARL SAPPER, who has produced it as the result of his investigations during the years 1888-1897. The work is a continuation of previous ones by the same authority, viz, "The Physical Geography of Guatemala" (PETERMANN'S *Mitteilungen*, supplementary, No. 113, 1893), "The Physical Geography of Chiapas, Tabasco, and Yucatan" (Boletín No. 3 del Instituto Geológico de México, 1859), and further a report to the Government of British Honduras (1896) not yet published. In the present volume the above-mentioned works are woven into a complete whole, to which is added the results obtained from a journey through Salvador and the western part of Honduras, extending from the western border of the Mexican States of Chiapas and Tabasco to the boundaries of Central America between Puerto Cortez and the Bay of Fonseca. The author states that he has confined his labors chiefly to the geology, orography, hydrography, and soil of the several districts, having heretofore treated cartographically the area of vegetable formation and the most important rain regions of northern Central America ("Das nördliche Mittelamerika," Brunswick, 1897; also PETERMANN'S *Mitteilungen*, 1897, vol. 6.

The contribution to scientific literature which Dr. SAPPER has made in his latest effort is most important, especially since he gives a careful review of the prevailing conditions and the state of present knowledge, supplemented by his own recent investigations. While primarily Dr. SAPPER has written for the scientist, and his readers will undoubtedly be found chiefly among colleagues engaged in kindred work, there is much to interest the general reader seeking information upon the countries treated.

The following maps are included in the volume:

- I. Original Map of Northern Central America. Scale, 1:1,100,000.
- II. Geological Map of Northern Central America. Scale, 1:1,100,000.
- III. Sketch of a Surface Map of Northern Central America. Scale, 1:3,000,000.
- IV and V. Geological Profile through Yucatan, Chiapas, Tabasco, Guatemala, etc. Scale of lengths, 1:250,000; scale of heights, 1:100,000. No. 1, Profile through Yucatan (1:800,000 and 1:40,000). Nos. 2 to 9, Profile through Chiapas and Tabasco. No. 9^a, Profile through British Honduras. Nos. 10 to 23, Profile through Guatemala. Nos. 24 and 25, Profile through Honduras.

The last volume of the "Statistical Yearbook" for the German Empire (*Statistisches Jahrbuch für das Deutsche Reich, 1899*) has recently appeared. Important changes are noted in this year's publication, especially in regard to the statistics in reference to the foreign trade of Germany. The following tables show the value of German trade with Central and South America (expressed in millions of marks) for the year 1897 as compared with the two preceding years. From these statements it appears that German trade with Latin America had fallen off considerably in 1897 from previous years.

Exports, 1897.

[Expressed in millions of marks. One German mark is equal to \$0.238]

To—	Value.	Per cent.		
		1897.	1896.	1895.
Brazil.....	50.2	1.3	1.6	2.2
Argentina.....	35.8	.9	1.2	1.1
Chile.....	27.0	.7	.9	1.3
Mexico.....	17.5	.5	.4	.5
Colombia.....	8.6	.2	.2	.1
Guatemala.....	3.3			
Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador.....	2.4	.2	.3	.3
Costa Rica.....	1.9			
Peru.....	6.4	.2	.2	.2
Cuba and Porto Rico.....	5.8	.2	.1	.1
Uruguay.....	5.6	.1	.3	.3
Venezuela.....	5.5	.1	.2	.2
Ecuador.....	2.9	.1	.1	
Philippines.....	2.3	.1	.1	.1
Haiti.....	1.4	.1		.1
Dominican Republic.....	.6			
Bolivia.....	1.7		.1	.1
Total.....	178.9	4.7	5.7	6.6

Imports, 1897.

[Expressed in millions of marks. One German mark is equal to \$0.238.]

From—	Value.	Per cent.		
		1897.	1896.	1895.
Argentina	109.3	2.2	2.4	2.8
Brazil	109.4	2.1	2.2	2.7
Guatemala	29.0			
Costa Rica	4.4	.7	.9	.9
Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador	2.4			
Cuba and Porto Rico	12.9	.3	.3	.3
Mexico	12.7	.3	.3	.3
Haiti	8.6	.2	.3	.4
Dominican Republic	2.7			
Venezuela	10.9	.2	.3	.4
Uruguay	10.8	.2	.2	.2
Colombia	7.8	.2	.2	.2
Ecuador	7.5	.1	.1	.1
Peru	3.8	.1	.1	.1
Bolivia	2.9	.1		
Total	326.1	6.7	7.3	8.4

In March, 1899, the Field Columbian Museum, of Chicago, published a valuable pamphlet of 56 pages (publication 33, Geological Series, Vol. I, No. 3) entitled "The Ores of Colombia from Mines in Operation in 1892," prepared by Henry Windsor Nichols, S. B., assistant curator. This is a description of the collection of ores, rocks, and minerals which was prepared by F. Pereira Gamba, a mining engineer of Bogotá, and exhibited at the World's Columbian Exposition. This collection, the major part of which was afterwards donated to the Field Museum, merits attention for the light it throws upon the nearly unknown nature and mode of occurrence of the ores of one of the important gold-producing countries of the world; also because it approaches more nearly than is usual the ideal of what a collection in economic geology should be. The specimens which were left in the Field Museum have been studied by Mr. Nichols and the results of his investigations incorporated in the pamphlet referred to. In addition to the comprehensive catalogue, there is a description of the physical features and general geology of Colombia and of the different mining districts; also a list of the more valuable of the recent works bearing upon the geology and mineral resources of Colombia, together with some of the more useful older works, and a map of the mining regions of the Department of Antioquia and Tolima, compiled from standard atlases, the map published by the Bureau of the American Republics, and numerous other maps.

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No. 1.

NOMBRAMIENTO DEL SEÑOR W. W. ROCKHILL, COMO DIRECTOR PERMANENTE.

Como el General RUSSELL HASTINGS, de Massachusetts, que fué nombrado Director permanente de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas el 20 de marzo de 1899, renunció antes de haber tomado posesión de su cargo, según se dijo en el BOLETÍN MENSUAL correspondiente al mes de abril, el Honorable W. W. ROCKHILL, ex-Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Grecia, fué nombrado por el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos para suceder al mencionado Señor, de conformidad con las facultades que le fueron conferidas por la Comisión Ejecutiva de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas el 7 de abril de 1899.

El Señor ROCKHILL tomó posesión de su empleo el 20 de mayo próximo pasado.

EL PORVENIR DEL CAFÉ.

Las noticias últimamente recibidas sobre los daños ocasionados por las heladas á la cosecha de Santos, han demostrado cuán sensible es el mercado de café y cómo flaquea al impulso de cualquier acontecimiento que tienda á alterar las relaciones entre la oferta y la demanda. Sabido es que por más de dos años el precio de este importante artículo de comercio ha bajado notablemente, y es de suponer que cualquiera cosa que pueda reducir la cosecha del año próximo, dará por resultado un cambio completo en el aspecto del mercado y una alza considerable en los precios.

Aún no se ha olvidado la extraordinaria elevación en los precios que se verificó entre el mes de junio de 1886 y el de 1887. En el primero de estos dos años el precio de 8 centavos por libra, poco más ó menos, casi se mantuvo fijo, mientras que en el segundo la fluctuación fué enorme, de tal suerte que de junio de 1896 á junio de 1897 hubo una diferencia de trece centavos y cuarto por libra. La principal causa que ocasionó este cambio fué la mala cosecha del Brasil en 1887, pues en vez de ser de 6,000,000 sacos, como se esperaba, fué solamente de 2,000,000. Lo que en aquella época ocurrió puede ocurrir otra vez, si sobreviene algún desastre á las cosechas que se aguardan. Todo parece indicar que el café de Rio, conocido con el nombre de No. 7, ha llegado al precio más bajo á que se venderá por algún tiempo. En orden á mostrar la fluctuación que ha sufrido el café en el mercado de Nueva York, se pone á continuación una lista de los precios del café de Rio No. 7 desde 1884 hasta el año corriente, inclusive:

Junio.	Centavos.	Junio.	Centavos.
1884.....	8	1892.....	11½
1885.....	6½	1893.....	15½
1886.....	7½	1894.....	15½
1887.....	20½	1895.....	14½
1888.....	11½	1896.....	12½
1889.....	13½	1897.....	6½
1890.....	16½	1898.....	6½
1891.....	16½	1899.....	6

REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

EL COMERCIO EN PRODUCTOS AGRÍCOLAS DURANTE EL PRIMER TRIMESTRE DE 1899.

El Señor ERNESTO DANVERS, corresponsal especial del "Weekly Northwestern Miller," ha escrito de Buenos Aires, con fecha 5 de mayo de 1899, un interesante artículo que corre inserto en la página 1147 de dicho periódico, del cual se ha hecho el siguiente extracto:

El 1 de mayo se reunió el Congreso y el resultado del discurso del Presidente (del cual publicó un sumario el BOLETÍN MENSUAL de junio, página 2145) fué hacer subir como diez puntos la prima del oro; pero, para la fecha de la carta del Señor DANVERS, el mercado había recobrado su calma ordinaria y vuelto á bajar el premio. Dice el autor que el Banco Nacional va á acumular una gran reserva de oro y que el Congreso decretará una rata fija para el cambio de papel moneda por oro, rata que se cree estará entre 230 y 250.

Según las estadísticas comerciales correspondientes al primer trimestre del año en curso, las importaciones alcanzan á \$29,821,072 en oro, ó sea un aumento de \$3,740,876 comparado con el período correspondiente de 1898. Las exportaciones durante el mismo tiempo alcanzaron á \$47,532,893, indicando un aumento de \$3,562,088. El comercio de la Argentina con los Estados Unidos arroja un aumento de \$1,616,759 en oro, en el ramo de importaciones y una baja de \$158,211, en las exporta-

ciones. Las importaciones de maquinaria agrícola fueron como sigue: arados, 44,399; descascaradoras de maíz, 466; hoces, 14 toneladas; rastrillos de caballo, 918; gnañañadoras y agavilladoras, 53; otras gnañañadoras, 1,117; trilladoras, 4; cuyo valor total alcanzó á \$356,112 en oro, lo que arroja un aumento de \$286,000 comparado con el mismo período de 1898.

Los productos agrícolas exportados fueron: trigo, 364,372 toneladas, avaluadas en \$9,182,167, oro; ó sea un aumento de 16,107 toneladas, aún cuando el valor disminuyó en \$1,962,312; lino, 90,905 toneladas, avaluadas en \$3,090,727, disminución, 4,866 toneladas y \$69,664 en cuanto al valor; harina de trigo, 8,439 toneladas, avaluadas en \$354,457, aumento, 1,786 toneladas y \$61,935 en cuanto al valor; salvado ó afrecho 12,303 toneladas, por valor de \$151,321, aumento 5,244 toneladas y \$75,790 en cuanto al valor.

Para el 1º de mayo de 1898 se cotizaba el trigo en el mercado de Río á \$12.50 por 100 kilogramos, contra \$5.20 en la misma fecha de 1899. Para las mismas fechas, el lino valía \$10 y \$7.20 respectivamente por 100 kilogramos. La prima del oro para el 1 de mayo de 1899 era 132 contra 164 en mayo 1 de 1898.

Las siguientes estadísticas referentes á las importaciones y exportaciones de la República Argentina, durante el primer trimestre de 1899, se han sacado de la publicación "Review of the River Plate" de Buenos Aires, correspondiente al 13 de mayo.

Paises.	Importaciones.	Exportaciones.
Reino Unido	\$11,383,548	\$4,674,386
Italia	3,698,244	1,223,826
Alemania	3,685,693	9,387,003
Estados Unidos	3,513,086	1,553,968
Francia	2,827,638	11,910,470
Belgica	2,507,327	6,536,455
Brasil	1,040,970	1,713,048
España	645,742	354,823
Paraguay	292,607	52,997
Uruguay	129,607	734,643
Holanda	27,356	120,139
Portugal	23,733	9,407
Chile	19,082	123,011
Bolivia	7,566	112,881
Las Antillas	4,275	52,434
Otros paises	14,598	2,107,770
Orientes		6,865,628
Totales	29,821,072	47,532,893

BRASIL.

PROGRESO DE LA ELECTRICIDAD EN LA REPÚBLICA.

En una comunicación dirigida á su Gobierno, y que ha sido publicada en un periódico francés con fecha 15 de junio, el Cónsul de Francia en Río Janeiro dice lo siguiente:

Hasta la fecha, solamente casas norte-americanas y alemanas se han ocupado en la instalación, en los grandes centros del Brasil, de maquinaria eléctrica y de los aparatos necesarios para el alumbrado eléctrico, la tracción de carros urbanos y la fuerza motriz de algunas fábricas.

La más antigua de estas compañías eléctricas establecidas en Río es la "General Electric Company," corporación norteamericana, con sucursales en todos los Estados vecinos y que dispone de un gran establecimiento y de mucho capital. Debido á su influencia y á la importancia de su clientela, ha dominado por largo tiempo el mercado. También se debe á ella el establecimiento de los primeros teléfonos y de una parte del tranvía eléctrico de Battete y Santa Thereza. Los alemanes, sin embargo, no han perdido tiempo en entrar en activa competencia con esta compañía. Al principio, una casa alemana, representante de KRUPP & SCHUKERT, introdujo al mercado, por cuenta de comerciantes alemanes, gran cantidad de maquinaria y aparatos eléctricos, que fueron muy buscados y apreciados á causa de su bajo precio, y en estos últimos tres años una nueva casa alemana, estimulada por el buen éxito que tuvo la primera, se ha presentado en el mercado con un capital de 5,500,000 de marcos, y piensa comprar los tranvías eléctricos de Bahía y los teléfonos de Río. Otra compañía alemana desea hacerse dueña de los ferrocarriles de Sao Christovao.

Una nueva compañía eléctrica alemana, llamada la "Brasilianische Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft," se ha organizado en el Brasil y ha sido autorizada por decreto de 7 de abril de 1899, publicado en el "Diario Oficial," para hacer negocios en el país. Esta compañía, cuyo domicilio es en Berlín, y que cuenta con un capital de 5,000,000 de marcos, parece destinada á agrupar á su alrededor á todas las otras compañías alemanas que negocian en artículos eléctricos y á formar un gran sindicato. Los representantes de esta corporación están ahora tratando de comprar las principales cascadas en los alrededores de la capital, á fin de que las empresas proyectadas puedan disponer de toda la fuerza hidráulica que hayan de necesitar en lo futuro.

Una casa francesa de Río Janeiro compete ventajosamente con las casas alemanas y norteamericanas, y ha provisto á la ciudad de Petrópolis de más de la mitad de las 12,000 lámparas eléctricas que allí se usan.

Seguendo los datos estadísticos de la aduana durante los dos primeros meses del año corriente, 1899, se dan abajo las cantidades de artículos eléctricos (máquinas, aparatos, alambre de latón, etc.) importadas en Río Janeiro.

Estos artículos no figuran bajo un solo encabezamiento en el arancel general de aduanas, y ha sido necesario hacer un cálculo aproximativo, refiriéndose á las cifras correspondientes á las secciones 127, 178, y 186.

Artículos eléctricos (aparatos, alambres, materiales para aparatos y máquinas) introducidos en el mercado de Río Janeiro en enero y febrero de 1899.

Países.	Valor.	Equivalente en los Estados Unidos.
	Francos.	
Estados Unidos.....	55,000	\$11,000
Alemania.....	21,000	4,200
Inglaterra.....	15,000	3,000
Belgica.....	8,000	1,600
Francia.....	2,500	500
Otros países.....	4,000	800
Totales.....	105,500	21,100

A este respecto, es oportuno mencionar que la J. G. BRILL COMPANY de Philadelphia ha recibido un pedido de 130 carros urbanos eléctricos para el ferrocarril eléctrico de Sao Paulo, Brazil, que está ahora en construcción.

CHILE.

INFORME SOBRE FERROCARRIL DE ANTOFAGASTA Y BOLIVIA.

El informe de los directores del Ferrocarril de Antofagasta y Bolivia para el año que terminó el 31 de diciembre de 1898 dice que la línea funcionó con toda regularidad durante el año. Las entradas totales fueron de \$5,611,863. El tanto por ciento que corresponde á la Compañía ha sido reducido á libras esterlinas cada mes, según el tipo medio de cambio, el cual durante el año fué como de 15 $\frac{3}{8}$, y la cantidad ascendió á £160,506. A esto debe agregarse lo que produjeron las obras hidráulicas, á saber, £4,623, lo cual arroja un total de £165,129. La disminución en las entradas, comparadas con las de 1897, se atribuye principalmente á la baja en el cambio. El servicio de las acciones hipotecarias, el dividendo de seis por ciento sobre el capital social, y los gastos de administración ascendieron á £172,643. De las entradas totales, el tráfico de la Compañía de Huanchaca produjo \$2,063,525, ó sea el 36.77 por ciento, y el resto, que fué de \$3,548,338, ó sea el 63.23 por ciento, provino del público en general. Aproximadamente, las entradas del ferrocarril desde el 1° de enero hasta el 30 de abril de 1899 fueron por valor de \$2,333,000, contra \$1,525,000 en el mismo período de 1898. Las entradas en el mes de marzo fueron las más grandes de todas. Con el fin de mejorar el servicio de agua, los directores han resuelto que conviene extender lo más pronto posible la cañería, de conformidad con lo expuesto en informes anteriores, y con este objeto en mira han entrado en negociaciones con la Compañía de Huanchaca.

COLOMBIA.

NUEVO CABLE COLOMBIANO.

El Gobierno de Colombia ha celebrado un contrato con una compañía extranjera en el que otorga á ésta el derecho de tender y explotar un cable submarino entre el puerto de Riohacha, Departamento de Magdalena, y Colón, haciendo conexiones con los puertos de Santa Marta, Colombia, y Cartagena. Todos estos puertos quedan al Atlántico. La compañía se compromete á abrir el cable al servicio público dentro de diez y ocho meses contados desde la fecha de la ratificación del contrato. El Gobierno se reserva el derecho de censura sobre los despachos que se envíen por esta línea en tiempo de guerra, y se estipula además que, de conformidad con lo que disponen las leyes del país, solamente los tribunales colombianos tendrán jurisdicción para resolver las cuestiones que ocurran entre el Gobierno y el concesionario.

CUBA.

LO QUE PROMETE LA COSECHA DE AZÚCAR.

Según informes llegados de Cuba, la condición de las cosechas en la provincia de la Habana y en la parte oriental de la de Pinar del Río es bastante satisfactoria. Los cañaverales se han desarrollado perfectamente, aunque las lluvias no han sido generales y copiosas. La sequía continúa aun en la parte central y en el extremo occidental de Pinar del Río. En Sagua la Grande se calcula que la producción de azúcar durante el año ascenderá á 200,000 sacos.

PRODUCCIÓN DE PIÑAS Y PLÁTANOS.

Todo parece indicar que la producción de piñas y bananas en Cuba aumentará notablemente dentro de poco tiempo. Algunas personas de los Estados Unidos se han dedicado desde hace seis meses al cultivo de frutas en la isla, pero en opinión de hombres entendidos en la materia, se necesitan muchos meses todavía para restablecer las plantaciones destruidas por la última insurrección.

ANTILLAS HOLANDESA.

CURAÇAO.

El periódico "The Monthly Illustrator," de Nueva York, en su número de junio de este año, publica un interesante artículo sobre Curaçao, con hermosos grabados, escrito por Mr. BENEDICT REILLY.

La colonia holandesa de Curaçao comprende á la isla de este nombre, á las islas adyacentes de Aruba y Bonaire, á las dos islas situadas en el Paso de los Vientos, como 600 millas al noroeste, conocidas con el nombre de Sava y San Enstaquio, y parte de la isla de San Martín, también en el Paso de los Vientos.

El asiento del Gobierno y residencia del Gobernador es Curaçao. Dicho funcionario es nombrado por la Corona holandesa, y tiene un Consejo de doce miembros, llamado Corte Colonial, los cuales también son nombrados por el Soberano, después de haber sido designados por el Gobernador. Tres miembros de esta Corte son escogidos por el Gobernador para formar lo que se llama el Consejo Consultor. Hay también una Corte de Justicia, que se compone de un presidente, de dos magistrados nombrados por el Rey, y de otro nombrado por el Gobernador. El puerto de entrada es Curaçao, y los derechos de aduana son simplemente nominales. La renta principal proviene de los derechos de exportación, y los del fosfato han sido por años enteros

la primera fuente para el sostenimiento de la colonia. Curaçao tiene una población de cerca de 30,000 habitantes, de los cuales solamente unos 4,000 son blancos. Debido á lo seco de la atmósfera y á la uniformidad de la temperatura, el clima es muy favorable para las personas que padecen de reumatismo ó de afecciones pulmonares.

Los vapores de la línea "Red D," que son todos americanos, y que llevan las malas de Nueva York á La Guayra, tocan en Curaçao. Los principales productos de exportación de la isla son fosfatos, aloe ó acibar, sal, dividivi, corteza de naranja, pieles de cabra, cacahates y sombreros de paja. La mayor parte de las provisiones y una cantidad considerable de otras mercaderías, especialmente calzado, ferretería, maquinaria ó instrumentos agrícolas son importadas de los Estados Unidos. El valor de toda la importación en 1896 fué de \$1,185,066, y casi otro tanto en 1897.

HAÍTÍ.

RIQUEZAS DEL PAÍS AUN NO DESARROLLADAS.

El Profesor EDMUNDO ROUMAIN, hijo de ERNESTO ROUMAIN, que estableció en Wáshington la Legación de Haití durante la Administración del Presidente LINCOLN, vino á los Estados Unidos en el mes de junio, con el objeto de interesar algunos capitalistas en la explotación de minas en aquel país. El Profesor ROUMAIN es miembro de la Facultad de Medicina y Farmacia de Port au Prince, y ha dedicado mucho tiempo al estudio de las formaciones geológicas de su tierra. En una entrevista de que dió cuenta el periódico "The New York Tribune," del 29 de junio, se expresó como sigue al hablar de las riquezas aun no desarrolladas de aquella República:

En la parte norte de Haití y dentro de un círculo de varias leguas, se encuentran depósitos de cobre, hierro, níquel y yeso, aguas sulfurosos, piedra caliza estratificada y pórfido. Con cualquiera de estos productos se puede hacer una fortuna, y, sin embargo, ninguno ha sido explotado. Cuando los franceses dominaban el país, mantenían ocultas las minas á fin de no excitar la codicia de los ingleses, y desde la fundación de la República no se ha hecho esfuerzo alguno para extraer la inmensa riqueza que el suelo de Haití encierra. He traído conmigo muestras de minerales tomadas de la superficie de la tierra, y que deseo hacer analizar en la Universidad de Columbia de Nueva York. El Gobierno me dará una concesión para explotar minas en esta región, y quiero organizar una compañía de capitalistas americanos á fin de dar principio á las operaciones lo más pronto posible. El Gobierno no puede vender sus propias minas, pero sí puede vender la superficie del terreno, y aunque todo lo que yace debajo le pertenece, no puede enajenarlo. Hay que arrendar los terrenos.

En el tomo sexto del BOLETÍN MENSUAL se hacen numerosas referencias á la riqueza mineral de Haití. En la página 19 hay un informe sobre los depósitos de carbón de piedra, escrito por el ingeniero HENRI THOMASSET, y que fué enviado á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Ameri-

casas por M. J. N. LÉGER, Ministro de Haití en los Estados Unidos, quien hizo favorables comentarios sobre este particular. En la página 460 aparece un informe del Ministro de los Estados Unidos, Mr. POWELL, sobre el descubrimiento de mineral de hierro, y en la página 1773 este señor habla de los depósitos de carbón, hierro y cobre. También hace referencia, en la página 2166, á las minas de cobre é hierro. En un artículo que comienza en la página 1613, el Ministro de los Estados Unidos dice que el Gobierno de Haití desea que se invierta en la República capital americano que "ayude al desarrollo de las riquezas desconocidas del país."

HONDURAS.

NUEVA LÍNEA DE VAPORES BANANEROS.

El periódico "The New Orleans Picayune," en su número de 2 de julio, da una relación sobre un importante contrato que se firmó el día primero del mismo mes entre la Bluefields Steamship Company y los plantadores independientes de Honduras. Dice el escritor que esto hará que la mayor parte de los bananos que se exportan de Honduras venga al puerto de Nueva Orleans. Una comisión compuesta de tres personas, con un poder en debida forma para representar á 165 plantadores, vino á Nueva Orleans, y, en la fecha mencionada, se terminaron todos los arreglos para la transportación de dicha fruta. De conformidad con el contrato, la Bluefields Steamship Company recibirá cada mes 130,000 racimos de los mejores bananos de Honduras.

Los plantadores interesados en el negocio se hallan en la vecindad del puerto de Ceiba, pero también vendrán bananos de otros lugares. El contrato durará por cuatro años, y garantiza á la Bluefields Steamship Company el transporte de la carga de Honduras á Nueva Orleans y vice versa. Los puertos hondureños comprendidos en el contrato son Puerto Cortés, Ceiba, y Trujillo. Estos son los tres puertos principales de la costa, y la carga perteneciente á los plantadores de esta sección representa las siete octavas partes de lo que se exporta é importa.

Mr. LOUIS BIER, que reside en Ceiba, y que probablemente será el agente de la Bluefields Steamship Company, se manifiesta seguro de poder aumentar la cantidad de bananos que se exportará mensualmente hasta 200,000 racimos. Dice que un plantador de la vecindad de Puerto Cortés exporta 50,000 racimos cada mes. El "Picayune" asegura que entre los traficantes en bananos de Nueva Orleans, el contrato es considerado como uno de los más importantes que se han hecho en muchos años. En él están interesados 165 plantadores, enyas propiedades comprenden más de 200 plantaciones en el corazón mismo de la región donde la fruta se produce.

MÉXICO.

PROGRESO INDUSTRIAL DE LA REPÚBLICA.

Según un informe consular francés publicado en París el día 8 de junio de 1899, se ha formado una compañía con el objeto de establecer en el distrito de Atlixco una fábrica de hilos y tejidos de algodón, con el nombre de "Fábrica de San Agustín," que girará bajo la razón social de NORIEGA SANCHEZ Y COMPAÑÍA.

También se dice que una compañía americana piensa establecer en el país una gran fábrica de sombreros, habiendo autorizado ya á su agente para comprar los terrenos en donde ha de construirse dicha fábrica.

La misma autoridad anuncia que se acaba de formar en Londres un gran sindicato, cuyo objeto es fabricar grandes casas según los planos más modernos, sujetas á las más perfeccionadas leyes higiénicas. Dicho sindicato dispondrá de un capital de £10,000,000.

Se ha organizado en México una compañía anónima para la construcción de una gran fábrica de papel y acaba de comprar de la propiedad Lanzavote, cerca de Cuantitlán, los terrenos necesarios para el establecimiento de la planta. La maquinaria y los materiales, que se dió orden de comprar inmediatamente, serán comprados en Europa.

Los representantes de un gran sindicato mexicano han dirigido una solicitud al Ministerio de Fomento pidiendo una concesión para establecer en México tres industrias nuevas, que son: una fabrica de objetos de caucho, ó hule; otra para la fabricación de aparatos para alumbrado eléctrico y otra para la transmisión y empleo de fuerza motriz.

Entré las nuevas corporaciones constituidas según las leyes del Estado de New Jersey, figura la MEXICAN COAL AND COKE COMPANY, organizada el 29 de junio próximo pasado con un capital autorizado de \$6,000,000. La compañía se ha formado para explotar minas de carbón y depósitos de petróleo y de gas en la República de México. Los fundadores son: JAMES F. GARDINER, HOWARD DUTCHER y JOHN L. ELLIOTT, de Nueva York; OSCAR BERGSTROM, de San Antonio, CHARLES M. CLARK, de New Brunswick; JAMES H. DEWEY de Hoboken, y E. VETOR FROTHINGHAM, de Brooklyn.

Se dice que el Presidente del Ferrocarril Central Mexicano, Mr. ROBINSON, calcula que México producirá oro en este año por valor de \$12,000,000, y que en su opinión la producción alcanzará á \$30,000,000 anualmente cuando las minas más ricas tengan comunicación por ferrocarril.

DEMANDA ACTIVA POR ARTÍCULOS MANUFACTURADOS.

El "New York Journal of Commerce" de 13 de junio publica un artículo referente á la actividad de las relaciones mercantiles entre los Estados Unidos y México. Dice el autor que aun cuando los efectos

de hierro y acero y maquinaria y efectos para ferrocarriles forman gran parte del comercio entre las dos Repúblicas, también hay activa demanda por artículos manufacturados de todas clases. En el espacio de una semana llegaron á la ciudad de Nueva York con destino á varios puntos de México 125 carros de tranvías, ya usados, para caballos. Los comerciantes no pudieron colocar contratos para nuevos carros y después de notificar á sus marchantes del estado de cosas en la industria de la fabricación de estos carros, se vieron obligados á comprarlos de relance.

La situación, por lo que respecta á rieles de acero, según se dice está produciendo alguna inquietud entre los comerciantes exportadores. Debido á la demanda extraordinaria que han tenido del país y del extranjero, fué con dificultad que lograron conseguir un wagón de carga completa que despachar á México. También se dice que la sufrido retardo el cumplimiento de contratos por materiales para puentes y otros productos de hierro y acero. La dificultad no depende del precio, sino de la entrega, pues es casi imposible para las fábricas abastecer la demanda extraordinaria.

En la semana que terminó el 1º de julio, se embarcaron de Nueva York para México mercancías con un valor total de \$225,631. Los artículos principales fueron las manufacturas de hierro. Los rieles de acero exportados representaron un valor de \$50,400, que es la cantidad más grande que se ha embarcado en una sola semana durante muchos meses. Materiales para puentes representaron un valor de \$11,000; alambre de cobre, \$7,000; material para ferrocarril, \$7,000, y otros efectos de hierro, \$12,000.

EL PULQUE COMO UN ANTIESCORBÚTICO.

Uno de los grandes productos nacionales de México, el jugo fermentado del maguey, conocido con el nombre de pulque, ha sido por algún tiempo objeto de estudio por dos hombres de ciencia enviados por el Museo Nacional de Washington. En el curso de sus investigaciones, los Doctores J. N. ROSE y WALTER HOUGH, que son los dos hombres de ciencia atrás mencionados, han averiguado que el Dr. FRANCISCO MARTÍNEZ BACA, médico mexicano, ha descubierto que la gran bebida nacional posee propiedades medicinales que hasta la fecha eran desconocidas, y que este facultativo la ha usado con buen éxito para erradicar los gérmenes del escorbuto, enfermedad de que los indios mexicanos han sufrido siempre. Se ha escrito tanto sobre el pulque en el BOLETÍN MENSUAL, que no hay necesidad de repetir lo que se ha dicho acerca de sus propiedades generales; pero el curioso descubrimiento hecho últimamente de que dicha bebida abunda en bacteria merece llamar la atención. La teoría del Dr. BACA es que la bacteria introducida en el sistema cuando se bebe el pulque, ataca y destruye los gérmenes del escorbuto y erradica la enfermedad del sistema. Á

ruego del Gobierno mexicano, los Doctores ROSE y HOUGH investigarán con cuidado el nuevo descubrimiento, y el informe que den á este respecto será de sumo interés.

Durante años pasados, se han hecho esfuerzos para conservar el pulque y convertirlo en artículo de exportación, pero, en lo general, los resultados no han sido favorables. Avisan de México que el conocido capitalista Señor SALVADOR MALO ha solicitado de la Secretaría de Fomento una patente para un nuevo procedimiento mediante el cual el pulque puede conservarse por algún tiempo.

NUEVAS LÍNEAS DE VAPORES.

El Congreso mexicano acaba de aprobar un contrato celebrado entre el Secretario de Comunicaciones y Obras Públicas y Mr. ADAM BIRREL, representante de la Pacific Steam Navigation Company y de la Compañía Sudamericana de Vapores, con el fin de extender hasta los puertos mexicanos del Pacífico el servicio de vapores que estas compañías hacen ahora en la costa sudamericana. Los concesionarios son los mismos que en la actualidad tienen los vapores que hacen la carrera entre el Cabo de Hornos y Panamá.

Un nuevo servicio de vapores va á establecerse del 15 de julio en adelante entre Boston y los puertos mexicanos. En la fecha mencionada saldrá probablemente un vapor para Campeche, Veracruz y Progreso, tocando en la Habana y Matanzas. Se anuncia que las salidas serán cada quince días. El nombre de la nueva compañía es The Boston, Havana and Mexican Line. Esta compañía sirve de agencia en Boston á NATHAN DE SZANGARI é HIJO, de Campeche, que tienen agentes en todas partes de México y gozan de tarifas ventajosas en todas las líneas férreas de la República. La compañía ha fletado dos vapores de un porte neto de 1,500 toneladas cada uno, y aumentará el número de sus barcos á medida que los negocios lo permitan.

NUEVO PRESUPUESTO.

El presupuesto de egresos del Gobierno mexicano para el año económico de 1899-1900 divide los gastos entre los diversos departamentos del Gobierno del modo siguiente:

Poder legislativo, \$1,020,443.35; Poder ejecutivo, \$82,468.75; Poder judicial, \$449,450.80; Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, \$575,717.15; Secretaría de Gobernación, \$3,934,284.40; Secretaría de Justicia é Instrucción Pública, \$2,469,721.75; Secretaría de Fomento, Colonización é Industria, \$941,222.21; Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Obras Públicas, \$6,294,935.63; Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público: Servicios administrativos, \$6,333,998.80; Deuda Pública, \$21,449,600.00; Secretaría de Guerra y Marina, \$12,476,786.76, lo cual da un total de \$56,028,629.60 para el año fiscal. La Tesorería tiene en la actualidad un excedente de diez á doce millones de pesos.

NICARAGUA.

DOMINIO DEL MERCADO DE PLÁTANOS.

Los siguientes informes enviados por el Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en San Juan del Norte, Mr. SORSBY, en una comunicación dirigido al Departamento de Estado de los Estados Unidos, fechado á diez de mayo de 1899, interesa á los comerciantes y consumidores de plátanos:

El monopolio de frutas que explota las Antillas y la América Central, cuyos principales asociados son el "Boston Fruit Co.," de Boston, MINOR C. KEITH, de Costa Rica, y otros, ha extendido sus operaciones hasta los platanales del Departamento de Zelaya (Distritos de Bluefields y Rama), en Nicaragua. Mr. J. LAMOTTE MORGAN, su representante, llegó á Bluefields el 28 del pasado y dirigiéndose al centro del distrito platanero, celebró contratos con casi todos los grandes agricultores de esta fruta. Mr. MORGAN me informa que el objeto de la sociedad que representa es establecer inmediatamente una línea de vapores con el objeto dominar todo el comercio en plátanos de Nicaragua. La aparición de esta nueva corporación probablemente dara por resultado, por lo menos al presente, una alza en los precios del plátano y una baja en el de los fletes de la carga que se importa ó que se exporta. Dice Mr. MORGAN que el servicio de fletes y pasajeros de la nueva línea será por todos respectos superior á los de la antigua compañía, siendo probable que se ponga un vapor pequeño, pero rápido, como buque auxiliar para hacer la carrera entre Puerto Limón, Costa Rica y San Juan del Norte, Bluefields y Cabo de Gracias, en Nicaragua.

PERÚ.

ÚLTIMOS CAMBIOS EN LA TARIFA.

En el Boletín Internacional de Aduanas de Bruselas, aparecen los siguientes extractos de leyes relativas á los cambios ocurridos en las disposiciones aduaneras de la República del Perú:

1. Extracto de la ley de 31 de diciembre de 1898, relativa á los derechos de consumo aplicables á las bebidas alcohólicas de todas clases.

En virtud de los artículos 1 y 2 de la expresada ley, las bebidas alcohólicas que á continuación se expresan, procedentes del extranjero y cuya internación por tierra queda prohibida, adendarán en el acto de su despacho en las Aduanas marítimas ó fluviales los derechos señalados en la siguiente tarifa:

Para los artículos importados del extranjero.

	Sol
Cerveza .....	.litro.. 0.07
Ajenjo, anisado, cognac, kirsch, bitters, ron y amargos, y demás bebidas alcohólicas que no sean vinos .....	.litro.. .40
Vino tinto ó blanco de Borgoña, del Rhin, Chipre, Jerez, Madera, Oporto, Cereza, Frontignan, Pajarete, Malvasia, Moscatel, Pedro Jimenez, Peralta y demás vinos generosos; el Asti y demás espumosos, que no sea Champagne, y el Vermouth .....	.litro.. .30
Vino blanco ó tinto de Burdeos, el Carlón, Catalán, Priorato, San Vicente y demás de esta clase.....	.litro.. .25
Champagne	do... .50

II. Extracto de la ley de 11 de Enero de 1899, modificando el régimen aplicable á la importación, al consumo y á la exportación del tabaco, de los cigarros y cigarrillos

ART. 1. Los derechos de importación sobre el tabaco de todas clases y sobre los cigarros y cigarrillos que se introduzcan del extranjero al territorio de la República, sean específicos y en adelante se recaudarán en todas las aduanas conforme á la tarifa siguiente:

	Sol.
Tabacos de las zonas limítrofes en hoja, rama, guaña ó mazos.....kil. neto..	0.25
Tabaco de cualquiera otra procedencia, en hoja, rama, guaña ó mazos...do....	.50
Tabaco de cualquiera procedencia, inclusive de las zonas limítrofes, de mascar, en polvo, picado ó de hebra y en general, el manufacturado en cualquiera forma que no sea la de cigarros puros y cigarrillos.....kil. neto..	1.00
Cigarros puros italianos.....do.....	1.00
Cigarros puros de cualquiera otra procedencia.....do.....	7.00
Cigarrillos de cualquiera procedencia, en cajetillas que no contengan más de veinticuatro cigarrillos.....millar de cajetillas..	75.00

ART. 2. Se cobrará en adelante en toda la República, una contribución en los lugares de consumo á toda clase de tabacos, cigarros y cigarrillos conforme á la siguiente escala:

	Sol.
1. Tabaco de procedencia nacional, en hoja, rama, guaña, mazo ó cualquiera otra forma.....kil. neto..	2.00
2. Tabaco de Méjico y Centro América.....id....	2.20
3. Tabaco de las zonas limítrofes, en hoja, rama, guaña, mazo.....id....	2.10
4. Tabaco extranjero de cualquiera otra procedencia, en hoja, rama, guaña, mazo.....kil. neto..	3.20
5. Tabaco extranjero de mascar ó en polvo.....id....	2.00
6. Tabaco extranjero picado ó de hebra ó en paquetes ó cigarrillos, etc...id....	3.00
7. Cigarros puros importados de cualquiera procedencia extranjera, en cajas ó á granel.....kil. neto..	2.50

ART. 4. Sobre todo tabaco manufacturado en el país en la forma de cigarros, cigarrillos, picado ó en hebra que se exporte para el extranjero, se devolverá al exportador, comprobado que sea el contenido de los envases y la importación á territorio extranjero, parte ó el total del impuesto, como sigue:

	Sol.
Tabaco nacional ó extranjero que se exporte ya picado para fabricar cigarrillos.....kil. neto..	1.00
El mismo ya enteramente manufacturado, en cigarros puros ó en cigarrillos en cajas ó en cajetillas ó á granel.....kil. neto..	2.00

Esta devolución no se hará cuando los artículos exportados hayan sido fabricados con máquinas.

ART. 7. Quedan derogadas todas las leyes de carácter general ó especial en cuanto se opongan á la presente.

RECIENTE DESCUBRIMIENTO DE MINERAL DE COBRE.

Un corresponsal del "Engineering and Mining Journal" ha enviado el siguiente informe, que publica dicho periódico en la página 663 del número correspondiente á junio 3:

"En la Isla de Santa, 4 millas al norte de Chimbote, encontré recientemente una vena de mineral de cobre. Me ocupo en despachar, en lanchas, dicho mineral que contiene 25 por ciento de cobre y una onza

de oro por tonelada de escoria. El mineral embarcado, libre de gastos á bordo del vapor, cuesta \$1 por tonelada mientras que los gastos de extracción son \$15 oro por tonelada. He encontrado también varias venas que prometen, cuyo mineral de cobre contiene desde un cuarto hasta tres onzas de oro por tonelada. Las muestras de mineral oxidoclórico dan hasta 46 por ciento de cobre. Mr. DUFOURGE se encuentra aquí, en representación de un sindicato de Nueva York del cual Mr. N. L. SELLECK es uno de los promotores, y se ocupa en examinar algunas de las propiedades. Dicho sindicato se interesa también en minas de carbón, del cual hay mucho en la parte superior del río Santa, á 105 kilómetros de Chimbote, lo cual puede fomentar el desarrollo del ferrocarril de Chimbote pues este es el mejor puerto de la costa. Dicho ferrocarril no sólo serviría para el fomento de la región carbonífera, sino también para el de los ricos placeres y minas de oro de Paleasa y Pataz y de las otras minas de cobre y oro de todo el Departamento de Ancachs. La partida que acompaña á Mr. DUFOURGE cuenta entre otros al ingeniero civil, Mayor ALFREDO SEARS, y se espera que tan pronto como haya terminado el examen se dará principio á los trabajos activos.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

RELACIÓN DE LAS IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 42 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento del Tesoro de los Estados Unidos, cuyo jefe es Mr. O. P. AUSTIN. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de mayo de 1899, corregida en junio 28 del mismo año, comparada con la del período correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los nueve meses que terminaron en mayo de 1899, comparados con igual período de 1898. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben en el Departamento del Tesoro hasta el 20 del próximo mes, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación ó impresión, de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de mayo, por ejemplo, no se publican sino en julio.

DESARROLLO EN LAS CONSTRUCCIONES NAVALES.

El informe del Comisionado de la Navegación en el Ministerio de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos, para el año fiscal que terminó el 30 de junio de 1899, demuestra el desarrollo sin paralelo en la historia de

la construcción naval en América. Actualmente se están construyendo en los astilleros de este país para los Estados Unidos y para el extranjero, más de 50 buques de guerra, avaluados en más de \$40,000,000, sin contar blindaje y armamento, y más de 200 buques mercantes de gran tamaño, cuyo valor, en conjunto, excede de \$30,000,000. Durante el tercio de siglo empleado en el desarrollo de la industria de construcciones navales de hierro y acero en los Estados Unidos, no ha ocurrido ni solo año en el cual se haya desarrollado tan rápidamente ó hayan sido tan numerosas ó radicales las innovaciones introducidas como en el año pasado. Los triunfos recogidos por los Estados Unidos en el comercio extranjero están convenciendo á todo el país de que el desarrollo de los intereses navales no es asunto que concierna tan solamente al constructor ó al propietario de buques. El desarrollo de la marina mercante y de la industria de la construcción naval en los Estados Unidos, han corrido parejas bajo el estímulo ambas de la gran actividad industrial que ha seguido á la guerra ibero-americana. La industria de la construcción de buques recibió beneficios especiales de la gran demanda sobre la propiedad particular hecha por el Gobierno, al comprar para buques auxiliares de su flota naval todos aquellos de que tuvo necesidad.

En las esferas navales debe reconocerse la utilidad que se desprende de los acontecimientos más notables de la citada guerra, por cuanto respecta á la importancia del empleo de maderas á prueba de fuego, la necesidad de buques adjuntos á todos los escuadrones navales, provistos de cuanto es necesario para la reparación de los navíos, y la necesidad de tener buques transportes construidos especialmente para él de las tropas. El Ministerio de Marina de los Estados Unidos ha continuado cumpliendo el programa naval más extenso que jamás haya tenido, y el Congreso ha autorizado la adopción de otro, más extenso aun, que debe llevarse á cabo durante los próximos dos ó tres años. En él que acaba de terminar se ha completado una flota respetable por cuanto se refiere al número y al tamaño de los buques para el servicio de la costa del Atlántico, en la cual se cuentan las flotas pertenecientes á las líneas "Cromwell," "Morgan," "Ward," "Merchants and Miners," "Old Dominion," "Plant," "Old Bay," y casi todas las principales que hacen el servicio costanero. Para él de la costa del Pacífico se están fabricando mayor número de buques modernos de acero para carga y pasajeros, de lo que se ha construido en los tres años anteriores juntos. En los ríos del oeste han hecho su aparición cascos de acero, y parece que la flota fluvial se reconstruirá prácticamente según este plan. Los astilleros de todo el país tienen pedidos suficientes para continuar trabajando todavía de uno á tres años.

En los astilleros de los Estados Unidos se encuentran al presente los buques mercantes y navíos de guerra más grandes que se han construido en el continente americano. Todos los astilleros, grandes y pequeños, se están desarrollando. En Newport News, Virginia, solo las mejoras que se están haciendo costarán \$2,000,000. El nuevo dique

seco de madera que está en vía de construcción para la NEWPORT NEWS SHIP-BUILDING AND DRY DOCK COMPANY, será tan superior á cualquier otro de su clase, que podrá contener, simultaneamente, dos buques de guerra de tamaño ordinario. El dique flotante del Gobierno que se estacionará en Algiers, Louisiana, será superior á los otros que para Stettin y la Habana idearon sus fabricantes. En Delaware se está montando un astillero de \$3,000,000, y en proyecto hay la construcción de uno con un capital de \$1,000,000. La compañía conocida con el nombre de MARYLAND STEEL COMPANY se vió obligada por presión de trabajo á abrir otra vez sus talleres, en los cuales, seis meses después, tenía en vía de construcción siete vapores de acero. La energía desplegada por la WILLIAM R. TRIGG COMPANY ha convertido á Richmond, Virginia, en un puerto para construcciones navales. La extensión general del empleo de instrumentos neumáticos para la construcción de buques de acero es uno de los rasgos característicos del progreso alcanzado en el año, así como también lo es la introducción de armazones del sistema de modillones ó "cantilever" y otros aparatos empleados para reducir el costo, facilitando las operaciones que se ejecutan en los astilleros.

En los Grandes Lagos los principales talleres de construcción naval se han refundido en la compañía denominada AMERICAN SHIP-BUILDING COMPANY, que tiene á su cargo el desempeño de varios pedidos por buques de carga de 9,000 toneladas netas de capacidad y 18 pies de calado que no habrán de entregarse hasta mayo de 1900, pero cuyo trabajo debe comenzarse á la mayor brevedad, pues habrán de costar aproximadamente \$350,000 cada uno. El total de buques que se construyen hoy en los astilleros de los Grandes Lagos representa un valor de \$6,000,000, y todo indica que continuará así por dos años más, no obstante el alza en el precio que hoy alcanza al trabajo, el material y toda especie de efectos.

WILLIAM CRAMP & SONS, de Filadelfia, y THE UNION IRON WORKS, de San Francisco, han terminado los primeros buques de guerra fabricados desde hace muchos años en los astilleros americanos para potencias extranjeras. Han comenzado á fabricarse en los Estados Unidos vapores para el uso de compañías sin escala fija. Los distritos de Nueva Inglaterra esperan que haya mucha actividad en la construcción de buques de madera, habiéndose hecho un pedido de un buque de seis mástiles y 5,500 toneladas de peso muerto. Puede también mencionarse el vapor de poco calado y meda á popa de cuyo tipo se han construido muchos en las costas del Atlántico y del Pacífico para el servicio en las aguas de poco fondo de Alaska; y en los Grandes Lagos se fabricaron vapores de cerca de 3,000 toneladas de capacidad y 14 pies de calado para el comercio especial de los lagos, y que también pueden llevarse por los canales de Welland y San Lorenzo á las aguas del Atlántico, en donde parece que habrá buen comercio por algún tiempo no sólo entre los puertos de la costa oriental sino también entre Nueva York, Cuba y Puerto Rico.

También se han hecho progresos, no menos rápidos, en la construcción de buques de recreo. La fábrica que lleva el nombre de "Bath Iron Works," de Bath, Me., hace poco terminó el yate de vapor de mayor potencia que se ha fabricado para un particular, y el número de pedidos recibidos durante el año alcanza á cerca de 40 yates de vapor, que varían de 60 á 303 pies de largo, ya terminados ó en construcción en los astilleros de los Estados Unidos. La construcción del *Columbia* por los Herreshoff's para la regata internacional que se verificará en el otoño de 1899 indica el interés general que todavía hay por los buques de vela.

Los Estados Unidos han aprendido mucho de los constructores de buques extranjeros, y por lo que parece los fabricantes ingleses se inclinan á prestar mayor atención al desarrollo de los acontecimientos en este país. Una casa de los Estados Unidos acaba de enviar á los fabricantes de Belfast una gran consignación de planchas para el *Oceanic*, que es el buque más grande que se ha construido hasta ahora, y la prensa técnica á una voz conviene en que los Estados Unidos serán rivales futuros de la Gran Bretaña en cuanto se refiere á construcción y el número de buques de su propiedad.

Lo anterior es en resumen un artículo publicado en la "Marine Review" de Cleveland, Ohio, reproducción de los informes que aparecen en la edición del "Blue Book of American Shipping for 1899," publicado por el "Marine Review Publishing Company." Dicho "Blue Book" tiene más bellas ilustraciones este año y su forma es más manuable que nunca. No sólo es un libro de referencia para los constructores y dueños de buques, arquitectos navales, comerciantes y fabricantes interesados en la materia, sino que contiene también 100 ó más páginas dedicadas á estadísticas del comercio por las vías acuáticas é informes generales acerca de la marina mercante y de guerra. La parte del directorio contiene informes detallados sobre buques americanos de vela y de vapor, con los nombres y señas de los propietarios, divididos entre buques costaneros, los de los ríos del oeste y los grandes lagos; también contiene listas de los dueños de buques, constructores de buques y maquinaria, arquitectos navales é ingenieros navales, capitanes de buques y miembros de varias asociaciones, á que pertenecen individuos de la marina mercante y de guerra; informes acerca de los buques de guerra americanos, directores de las oficinas del Gobierno, tanto en los Estados Unidos como el Canadá, relacionadas con la marina de vapor y de vela, comprendiendo los buques que viajan al extranjero, y dando detalles acerca del servicio, los mejores buques y los nombres y señas de los gerentes de las respectivas compañías.

DATOS ESTADÍSTICOS SOBRE LA INDUSTRIA DE SEDA.

La Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas ha recibido una copia del Informe Anual de la sociedad conocida con el nombre de "Silk Association of America," que fué fundada en Nueva York en 1872. En Bull. No. 1—6

dicho informe vienen incluidos los discursos pronunciados en el banquete que se verificó el 2 de febrero de este año, con motivo del aniversario de la fundación de la sociedad. El Secretario dice en su informe anual que el año de 1898 fué un año extraordinario en la historia de la industria de seda en los Estados Unidos. Durante ese año el nuevo Arancel de Aduanas, aprobado por el Presidente MCKINLEY el 24 de julio de 1897, estaba ya vigente. Según este arancel, los géneros de lana pagan derechos específicos en vez de pagarlos ad valorem, como antes. El primer resultado notable á que esto dió lugar, fué que, á pesar de que disminuyó la cantidad de tejidos extranjeros importados en un valor de tres y medio millones de pesos en el primer año, los derechos recaudados fueron los mismos. También es de notar que el promedio de los derechos sobre todos los géneros de seda extranjeros que se importaron en el año que terminó el 30 de junio de 1898—esto es, durante once meses desde que empezó á regir el nuevo arancel—es mayor que lo había sido durante quince años, y es siete y un cuarto por ciento más alto que en 1897. Hilos ó hilazas de seda fueron introducidos en cantidad valorada en \$1,224,854, y pagaron por término medio derechos que ad valorem corresponden á 37.8 por ciento. Todas las clases de tejidos de seda, incluyendo terciopelo, felpilla, encajes, bordados, punto y efectos de uso personal, que representaron un valor de \$21,410,192, pagaron por término medio 55 por ciento ad valorem. Los derechos específicos han contribuido también á que se fabriquen en el país muchos artículos que, cuando se pagaban derechos ad valorem, eran valuados por mucho menos de su valor real, lo cual hacía imposible que se les fabricara en los Estados Unidos con provecho.

En la tabla siguiente, compilada por la sociedad ya mencionada, se pone de manifiesto la producción de tejidos de seda en los Estados Unidos:

Año.	Géneros.	Cintas.
1873.....	\$2,847,917	\$2,652,011
1880 (año del censo).....	11,224,895	6,023,100
1881.....	13,332,194	6,213,804
1883.....	12,569,310	9,034,650
1890 (año del censo).....	25,096,776	17,081,447
1898 (cantidad calculada).....	40,000,000	20,000,000

El desarrollo de esta industria en los Estados Unidos durante los últimos años se demuestra con el mayor consumo de seda en rama y con la disminución en la cantidad que se importa de géneros de seda.

En enero de 1899 había fábricas de tejidos de seda en 28 Estados de la Unión, y el número variaba desde 1 hasta 257. El número total de las fábricas era de 861, situadas en 228 poblaciones. De esta cantidad cerca de las seis séptimas partes, ó sea 657 de las 851 fábricas, se hallaban en los Estados de New Jersey (257), Nueva York (228) y Pennsylvania (172). Empleaban más de 27,000 telares de fuerza motriz para

hacer géneros de seda y 6,000 para cintas. El número de nuevas fábricas y compañías que tomaron parte en la industria de seda en 1898 ascendió á 49. En el solo Estado de Pennsylvania se han establecido fábricas para la manufactura de telas de seda durante los últimos dos años en 16 pueblos y aldeas, y para seda torcida y cintas en trece pueblos más. La importación de seda en rama en 1898 fué de 10,315,162 libras, valoradas en \$31,446,800, lo cual es un aumento de 3,791,550 libras en cuanto al peso y de \$2,959,856 en cuanto al valor sobre la importación de 1897.

LA INDUSTRIA DE CUERO Y CALZADO.

Entre las industrias que han tenido notable desarrollo en los Estados Unidos durante los últimos años, merecen mencionarse las de cuero y calzado. Según los datos que da la Oficina de Estadística del Ministerio de Hacienda, la exportación de calzado en los diez meses que terminaron en abril del año corriente, ascendió á \$2,049,047. En el mismo período del año anterior fué solamente por valor de \$1,439,512, y hace dos años en ese mismo espacio de tiempo la cantidad exportada fué apenas de \$1,389,355. Salta á la vista cuán considerable es el aumento que ha habido en la exportación del mencionado artículo en los diez meses que se vencieron en abril próximo pasado. La exportación á la Gran Bretaña, que en el período correspondiente á 1897 fué de \$224,690, y en 1898 de \$244,536, se elevó en 1899 á \$344,817. En el año de 1897 se exportó á Francia por valor de \$11,957; en 1898 la cantidad ascendió á \$21,479, y en 1899 á \$33,350. Alemania tomó calzado americano en 1897 por valor de \$11,069; en 1898, por valor de \$55,945, y en 1899 la suma fué de \$72,293. El aumento de lo que se mandó á los otros países europeos fué igual al que se verificó en el tráfico con Francia; pero con ninguna nación ha aumentado este comercio tanto como con Alemania. Durante los diez meses correspondientes á 1897, la exportación de calzado al Canadá y otras posesiones inglesas en la América del Norte representó un valor de \$200,450; en 1898 fué de \$234,446, y en 1899 de \$338,216. Un aumento parecido se verificó en el tráfico con las Antillas y las Bermudas, pues las cifras fueron de \$230,511 en 1897, de \$249,042 en 1898, y de \$363,244 en 1899. A México se exportó calzado en 1897 por valor de \$48,065; en 1898 la exportación ascendió á \$61,210, y en 1899 á \$153,222.

La exportación en abril de este año muestra también aumento de importancia, comparada con la del mismo mes del año pasado, pues en 1898 fué, en el mencionado mes, de \$163,241, y en 1899 de \$346,366. La diferencia es como sigue: á la Gran Bretaña se exportó calzado en abril de 1898 por valor de \$33,607, y en el mismo mes de 1899, \$89,717; á las posesiones inglesas en la América del Norte, \$33,074 en 1898, y \$47,785 en 1899; á las Antillas y las Bermudas, \$23,689 en 1898, y \$86,728 en 1899; á México, \$5,901 en 1898, y \$25,837 en 1899. A Australia se

mandó en abril de 1898 por valor de \$14,488, y en el mismo mes del año en curso la exportación subió á \$37,863. La exportación total para aquel país durante los diez meses que terminaron en abril, fué en 1899 de \$344,598, mientras que en el mismo periodo de 1898 no pasó de \$184,151.

La exportación de cuero de suela durante los diez meses que terminaron en abril de 1899 fué de 31,621,856 libras con un valor de \$5,333,213. Otras clases de cuero fueron exportadas en el mismo periodo correspondiente á 1898 en cantidades valoradas en \$11,102,863.

El gran desarrollo á que ha llenado en los Estados Unidos la industria de calzado se debe á que este artículo se fabrica aquí con más perfección que en otros países y á los mismos precios. Hoy los Estados Unidos casi no importan calzado de ninguna parte, y en cambio lo exportan á la Gran Bretaña, Francia, Alemania, el Canadá, la América Central y del Sur, Australia, el África meridional, etc., y la exportación va aumentando de día en día. En la ciudad de París la cantidad de calzado americano que se consumió durante el presente año económico fué casi doble á la consumida en el año anterior. En todos los países donde el calzado de los Estados Unidos ha sido introducido, se reconoce ya el hecho de que es más elegante, duradero y cómodo que el que se fabrica en otras partes del mundo, sin que por esto sea su precio mayor.

TRATADO DE RECIPROCIDAD CON LA BARBADA.

El 16 de junio de 1899 se firmó en el Departamento de Estado en Washington un tratado de reciprocidad celebrado entre los Estados Unidos y la Gran Bretaña referente al comercio entre aquel país y la Colonia Británica de la Barbada. Este es el primer tratado negociado de acuerdo con la Sección 4 de la Ley de Tarifa de Dingley, y también el primero de la serie que las Colonias británicas que quedan al sur de los Estados Unidos están tratando de negociar. Dicho tratado con la Barbada es por el término de cinco años, pero como hay que someterlo al Senado para su aprobación, el Departamento de Estado no puede publicar aún los términos en que está concebido.

La Sección 4 de la Ley de Tarifa vigente dispone la reducción de "no más del 20 por ciento (de los derechos) sobre dichos efectos géneros ó mercancías que se designen allí como procedentes del país ó de los países con que dicho tratado ó tratados se celebren, en virtud de lo prescrito en esta sección; ó siempre que se disponga que durante el mencionado período pasen de la lista de artículos grabados á la de artículos libres los referidos efectos, géneros ó mercancías, que sean productos naturales de dicho país ó países extranjeros y no de los Estados Unidos."

El producto principal de la Barbada es el azúcar, cuyo comercio en 1898 alcanzó á \$2,208,000. Los principales artículos que los Estados Unidos exportan para la isla son productos para la alimentación y casi

todo lo referente al ramo de mercancías manufacturadas lo ha recibido hasta ahora de la Gran Bretaña. En el pasado los cónsules americanos en la Barbada han llamado la atención á la demanda que allí existe por mantequilla, conservas en latas, coches, bicicletas, efectos para la electricidad y cemento.

El Cónsul MACALLISTER dice en las "Commercial Relations of the United States" para 1898, página 108, que las importaciones hechas por Bridgetown en 1897 alcanzaron á \$5,043,495, contra \$5,244,435 en 1896. Las importaciones hechas de los Estados Unidos durante dicho año arrojaron una diferencia de \$175,886 menos. En 1897, las importaciones de comestibles de los Estados Unidos montaron á \$1,253,895, contra \$483,755 procedentes de la Gran Bretaña. Por otra parte, los productos manufacturados importados de la Gran Bretaña alcanzaron á \$658,785, mientras que los Estados Unidos sólo enviaron por valor de \$116,600.

Según la misma autoridad citada, las exportaciones en 1897 fueron mayores que las de 1896 en la cantidad de \$90,674 lo arrojan un total general de \$3,680,000. La cantidad de azúcar exportado en 1897 alcanzó á 67,609 bocoyes. El manioc, especie de yuca, se exportó por valor de \$18,800, de los cuales correspondieron \$12,967 á los Estados Unidos.

CONDICIÓN DE LAS COSECHAS PRINCIPALES.

Los informes recibidos en el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos indican que el número de acres sembrados de maíz es como 5 por ciento mayor que el de 1898. De los veintinueve Estados que tienen bajo cultivo un millón de acres ó más, tres solamente indican que ha habido disminución, aun cuando es muy pequeña. El promedio de la condición es 86.5, comparada con 90.5 el 1º de julio de 1898; correspondiendo á 82.9 á la misma fecha en 1897, y al promedio medio del mes de julio en los últimos diez años, 91.1. La condición de los Estados principales es la que sigue: Ohio y Missouri, 85; Indiana, 90; Illinois, 86; Iowa, 81; Kansas, 92, y Nebraska, 93.

Por lo que se refiere al trigo la condición de las variedades de invierno demuestra mayor disminución, pues que para julio de 1899 era 65.6, comparado con 86.7 y 81.2 en los de 1898 y 1897, respectivamente, y 82.4 el promedio medio de los meses de julio durante los últimos diez años. Por término medio la condición del trigo de primavera es 91.7, comparada con 91.4 en junio 1º, 1899, y 95 en julio 1º, 1898; para el mismo mes en 1897 fué 91.2, y el promedio medio del mes de julio en diez años se computa en 88.7.

El promedio de la condición del centeno de invierno alcanza á 83.3, comparada con 93.8 el 1º de julio de 1898; en el período correspondiente á 1897 fué 95, y el promedio medio del mes de julio por diez años fué 90.5. Por lo que se refiere al centeno de primavera, la condición por término medio es 89.7, contra 96.9 en 1º de julio de 1898; para julio 1º, 1897, fué 90, y el promedio medio por diez años, 90.6.

La condición de la cosecha de avena es, por término medio, 90 contra 88.7 el 1º de junio 1899 y 92.8 el 1º de julio 1898, siendo el promedio medio, por diez años, 87.7. En cuanto á la cebada su condición por término medio es 92 contra 85.7 el 1º de julio 1898 y 88.3 el promedio medio por diez años. Ha aumentado en 1 por ciento el número de acres de cultivo de papas ó patatas y la cosecha promete buenos resultados. Los informes relativos á la lana indican que el promedio del peso del vellón es 5.95 libras ó sea un aumento de .15 de libra sobre 1898. Los informes relativos al algodón indican que el promedio de la condición es 87.8 comparado con 91.2 el 1º de julio de 1898, siendo el promedio medio, por diez años, 88.

Según el "New York Journal of Commerce" las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos, durante las dos semanas que terminaron el 8 de julio, indica un enorme movimiento de las cosechas, alcanzando la de trigo á 2,864,000 bushels; la de maíz, 5,096,000 bushels; centeno, 117,000 bushels y avena, 825,000 bushels. En la historia de las transacciones de trigo no tiene paralelo el aumento que tuvo lugar en el mes de junio. La cantidad que habia en los Estados Unidos y el Canadá para el 1º de julio alcanzó cerca de 50,000,000 bushels ó sea más de 4,000,000 de bushels en exceso durante el mes de junio, contra una disminución en junio de 1898 de más de 11,000,000 bushels. Las existencias europeas tuvieron una baja de cerca de 2,500,000 bushels durante el mes. El total de las existencias de los Estados Unidos, Canadá, Europa, Australia y los puertos principales de la República Argentina alcanzaba á 133,501,000 bushels ó sea 1,000,000 de bushels de aumento desde el 1º de junio contra una disminución en las existencias del mundo para junio de 1898 de más de 90,000,000 bushels.

Las existencias americanas son hoy más del doble de lo que eran hace un año, mientras que las de Europa son 10,000,000 bushels más grande y las existencias del mundo 48,000,000 bushels en exceso de lo que habia el 1º de julio de 1898. Las exportaciones de trigo hechas de todos los países para Europa desde el 1º de agosto, 1898, á junio 24 de 1899, fueron 342,840,000 bushels, ó sea 54,600,000 bushels ménos que el año anterior.

PRODUCCIÓN DE PETRÓLEO EN EL MUNDO.

Según los datos estadísticos últimamente publicados por la Oficina de Estadística del Ministerio de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos, la producción anual de petróleo en todo el mundo asciende á más de 5,000,000,000 de galones, y de esta cantidad los Estados Unidos producen 2,500,000,000, Rusia 3,250,000,000, y el resto sale de varios otros países, que son Austria, Sumatra, Java, Canadá, Rumania, India, Japón, Alemania, el Perú ó Italia. Aunque la producción de petróleo crudo es casi igual en los Estados Unidos y en Rusia, la cantidad de aceite refinado para alumbrar que produce el primero de estos dos países es casi doble de la que produce el segundo. Esto se debe á que

una cantidad dada de petróleo americano da tres cuartas partes de su volumen de aceite refinado, mientras que el petróleo ruso produce solamente cosa de las tres octavas partes. Después de Rusia, es Sumatra el país que hace mayor competencia á los Estados Unidos en dicho artículo, porque su petróleo crudo rinde la mitad de su volumen de aceite refinado, y porque, además, se encuentra más cerca de las naciones orientales que figuran entre los principales mercados para este producto. Hasta la fecha, sin embargo, la cantidad de petróleo producida en Sumatra es pequeña, si se la compara con la que sale de los Estados Unidos ó de Rusia, pues en 1897 aquella isla solamente produjo 72,258,000 galones. La Gran Bretaña consume más petróleo americano que ninguna otra nación del globo. Durante el último año económico se exportaron para aquel país 212,265,563 galones. La cantidad de aceite refinado para alumbrar exportada de los Estados Unidos en 1898 fué de 900,998,875 galones, mientras que Rusia solamente exporto como la tercera parte.

El periódico "Le Nouvean Monde," que se publica en Paris, anuncia, en su número correspondiente al 17 de junio de este año, que se han descubierto en México, cerca de Puebla, grandes depósitos de petróleo, y que se está organizando actualmente una compañía mexicana para explotarlos.

INGRESOS Y EGRESOS EN 1899.

Contra lo que esperaban los empleados del Ministerio de Hacienda, los gastos del Gobierno durante el año económico que terminó el 30 de junio de 1899 excedieron á las entradas solamente en una cantidad de cerca de \$88,875,989.26. Dichos empleados predijeron el 1º de junio que el déficit quizá no pasaría de \$100,000,000, pero jamás se pensó que fuera menos de \$95,000,000.

El que dicho déficit haya sido menor de lo que se esperaba, se atribuye á la extraordinaria cantidad que han producido las aduanas y la renta interna, así como á la reducción en los gastos durante el mes de junio. Los ingresos en el mes de junio fueron como sigue: Aduanas, \$18,466,907; renta interna, \$25,606,859; entradas diversas, \$3,073,147—total, \$47,126,915. Los gastos durante el mes ascendieron á \$31,382,762. Los ingresos durante el año fueron como sigue: Aduanas, \$206,507,812.15; renta interna, \$273,142,490.30; entradas diversas, \$36,566,442.97—total, \$516,216,474.42. Los gastos durante el año fueron los siguientes: Servicio civil y gastos misceláneos, \$119,225,598.68; guerra, \$229,041,001.99; marina, \$64,734,479.78; indios, \$12,799,983.70; pensiones, \$139,394,945.51; intereses, \$39,896,925.02—total, \$605,092,734.68. Las entradas excedieron á las del año económico de 1898 en \$111,705,664. De este aumento se debió á las aduanas la suma de \$56,688,218, y á la renta interna \$103,199,451. Las entradas diversas disminuyeron en \$48,182,005. El balance en caja en la Tesorería, al terminar del año económico, era de \$281,380,468.

PRODUCCIÓN DE ORO.

A principios de este año el Director de la Moneda publicó algunos datos preliminares relativamente á la producción de oro en 1898. Según los cálculos hechos, entonces la producción total de los Estados Unidos, incluido Alaska, fué de \$65,782,677, lo cual muestra un aumento de \$8,400,000 sobre el año precedente. El funcionario en referencia acaba de dar á luz sus cálculos finales, los cuales confirman en muchos respectos los anteriormente publicados, aunque difieren en cuanto á la producción total, que fué cosa de \$1,400,000 menos de lo que se calculó al principio.

Las principales secciones del país productoras de oro en el año referido, fueron, en el orden de su importancia, las siguientes: Colorado, California, Dakota del Sur, Montana, Nevada, Alaska, Arizona, Utah, Oregon, el Estado de Washington, Nuevo México, Georgia y la Carolina del Sur.

En cuanto á la producción de plata, también se ha notado aumento, aunque ligero. Los principales Estados productores de este metal fueron Colorado, Montana, Utah, Idaho, y California. Otras secciones del país produjeron también plata, pero en cantidades menores. La producción de este metal en 1898 ascendió á 54,438,000 onzas.

Se cree que la cantidad de oro que los Estados Unidos producirán en 1899 será, más ó menos, igual á la del año pasado. Se calcula que de la sola región de Klondike, en Alaska, se sacará en este año del metal amarillo por valor de \$20,000,000.

TRATADO DE RECIPROCIDAD CON JAMAICA.

Un tratado de reciprocidad entre la Gran Bretaña, en representación de Jamaica y los Estados Unidos, fué concluido en el Departamento de Estado en Washington el 1º de julio de este año. Los detalles relativos á este asunto fueron arreglados entre el Hon. JOHN A. KASSON, nombrado Comisionado Especial y Plenipotenciario de conformidad con lo que dispone el Arancel de Aduanas de los Estados Unidos, y Mr. REGINALD TOWER, Encargado de Negocios de la Gran Bretaña. El tratado ha sido enviado á Kingston, á fin de que lo apruebe la autoridad colonial, y cuando esto haya sido hecho el instrumento será firmado en debida forma. Los detalles de este tratado no se publicarán sino hasta que haya sido ratificado por el Congreso.

DERECHOS SOBRE LOS CUEROS.

Según el periódico "The Butchers' Advocate," correspondiente al 21 de junio, el Aforador del puerto de Nueva York ha hecho los siguientes cambios en el aforo de los cueros importados, para el pago de los derechos de aduana.

Cueros en salmuera de Progreso, 14 centavos por libra. Cueros en salmuera de la ciudad de México, 35 centavos por kilo. Cueros secos de Paíta, Perú, de 23 á 24

centavos por libra; secos salados, de 20 á 21 centavos. Cueros de Limón, Costa Rica, secos salados, 55 centavos por kilo. Cueros de Savanilla y Cartagena. \$8.50 á \$9 (papel) por cada cuero, en lugar de \$7.

RECONOCIMIENTO DE CÓNSULES EXTRANJEROS.

El Departamento de Estado dió aviso, con fecha 7 de julio de este año, de que el Presidente MCKINLEY habia reconocido oficialmente á los siguientes empleados consulares de América Central y del Sur: MÓNICO CÓRDOVA SERRA, como Cónsul-General de Honduras, y E. HERNANDEZ, como Vice-Cónsul del mismo país en Nueva Orleans, La.; FIDEL GARCÍA, como Cónsul-General del Ecuador en la ciudad de Nueva York; EUGENE ALEXANDER BRESLER, como Cónsul honorario de Venezuela en Detroit, Mich., y H. RENJES, como Consul de Chile en Honolulu, Islas de Hawaii.

FUNDICIÓN DE ACERO AL VACÍO.

El "Scientific American," en su edición de 24 de junio, dice que se ha formado una compañía con un capital de \$150,000 para determinar si el acero puede ó no fundirse en el vacío por medio de la liquefacción del hidrógeno. Si el plan tiene éxito, se espera que las burbujas de aire que producen desperfectos y debilitan las fundiciones desaparezcan, consiguendo así homogeneidad en las piezas fundidas. Parece que comienza á dar frutos el éxito obtenido por el Profesor DEWAR.

PATENTES CONCEDIDAS Á HISPANO-AMERICANOS.

La Oficina de Patentes de los Estados Unidos expidió el 4 de julio de 1899, dos patentes á favor de ciudadanos de países hispano-americanos, á saber: una á favor de JOHN W. FLETCHER, de Tocapilla, Chile, por un instrumento de cortar tubos, y la otra á favor de HENRY MILLAR, de Buenos Aires, República Argentina, por un calentador de agua de alimentación.

URUGUAY.

LÍNEAS DE TELÉFONO.

Dice el periódico "The British Trade Journal," en su número del 1º de junio, página 257, que la Legación francesa en Montevideo ha informado á su Gobierno de que el del Uruguay tiene bajo consideración varios proyectos para el establecimiento de líneas de teléfono á expensas del Estado. Todas las comunicaciones sobre este particular deben dirigirse á la Dirección de Correos y de Telegrafía en Montevideo.

VENEZUELA.

CONTRATO PARA UN FERROCARRIL.

Mr. EUGENE H. PLUMACHER, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Maracaibo, ha escrito al Departamento de Estado con fecha 29 de abril de 1899, remitiendo copia en español, al mismo tiempo que la traducción inglesa, del contrato celebrado entre el Gobierno de Venezuela y LUIS MUÑOZ FEBAR para la construcción de un ferrocarril que unirá á Puerto Cabello con Yaritagua. San Felipe será el término de ambas secciones. Los trabajos de construcción comenzarán dentro de diez meses á contar de la fecha en que el contrato fué firmado (12 de abril de 1899), debiendo concluirse la primera sección dentro de dos años, y la segunda dentro de cuatro. El Gobierno permite la introducción, libre de derechos, de todos los materiales, maquinaria, herramientas y otros artículos necesarios para la construcción, mantenimiento y manejo del ferrocarril, con excepción de aquellos artículos que se producen en el país. Después de 99 años el ferrocarril, con todas sus dependencias, pasará á ser propiedad del Gobierno.

NOTAS BIBLIOGRÁFICAS.

La excelencia que el público ha estado acostumbrado á encontrar en los manuales de Baedeker se conserva en el presente volumen, debido á la pluma de Mr. J. F. MUIRHEAD, que de entonces acá ha escrito otro sumamente interesante bajo el título de "The Land of Contrasts" (La Tierra de los Contrastes), que para los americanos, por lo menos, es una buena descripción de la vida y costumbres en los Estados Unidos.

Este manual, como todos los de la serie, empieza con varios capítulos referentes á diversos asuntos de interés relativos á los Estados Unidos, todos escritos por autoridades reconocidas en la materia. Sólo podemos mencionar el que aparece bajo el título de "A Short History of American Politics" (Breve Historia de la Política en los Estados Unidos), por el Professor JOHN BACH McMASTER; "Constitution and Government of the United States" (Constitución y Gobierno de los Estados Unidos), por el Honorable JAMES BRYCE, autor de "The American Commonwealth" (El Estado Americano), y otro por el Professor N. S. SHALER, de la Universidad de Harvard, sobre la "Physiography of North America" (Fisiografía de Norte América).

El libro en referencia no sólo trata de los Estados Unidos, incluyendo desde luego Alaska, sino que también trae una excursión a la Ciudad de México y á Veraacruz. Los 19 mapas y 24 planos de las varias ciudades de los Estados Unidos que acompañan dicho volumen han sido preparados con el cuidado que siempre se nota en los manuales de Baedeker, y en este caso especial, bajo la dirección de Mr. HENRY GANNETT del Cuerpo de Ingenieros de la Oficina Geológica de los Estados Unidos.

Mr. ROBERT P. PORTER, que hace poco desempeña el cargo de Comisionado Especial de los Estados Unidos en Cuba y Puerto Rico, ha hecho un estudio minucioso de la situación comercial é industrial de Cuba en la actualidad con relación á las ventajas que ofrece al capital, al espíritu de empresa y al trabajo americanos. El resultado de sus investigaciones para las que acudió á las fuentes más fidedignas, puesto que dispuso de facilidades especiales á ese fin, ha sido publicado por G. P. Putnam's Sons, de Nueva York, en un tomo de 428 páginas, con este título: "Industrial Cuba."

La Academia Americana de Ciencias Políticas y Sociales, de Filadelfia, ha publicado los discursos pronunciados por los Señores TEODORO S. WOOLSEY, E. W. HUFFCUTT, A. LAWRENCE LOWELL, W. ALLEYNE IRELAND, CARL SCHURZ, W. C. FORD, ROBERT T. HILL, JOHN BASSETT MOORE, S. E. WU TING FANG y otros, en la sesión anual de la Academia, que se verificó en los días 7 y 8 de abril de este año. Asimismo ha publicado un informe sobre las discusiones á que cada discurso dio lugar. Todo esto forma un tomo de 216 páginas, y en el se exponen de una manera interesante argumentos en pro y en contra de la política de expansión nacional.

En el número correspondiente al mes de julio de este año, del periódico "Anglo-American Magazine," que se publica en Nueva York y en Londres, hay un artículo del Profesor WILLET M. HAYS con este título: "El Trigo en el Noroeste." Dice su autor lo siguiente: "El trigo no ha recibido la atención que merece. Se ha puesto más cuidado en el cultivo de la violeta tricolor ó pensamiento y de las orquídeas que en el del trigo, y se han operado en aquellas plantas cambios más completos, según los deseos del hombre." Sin embargo, el que lea este excelente artículo verá por la descripción de los trabajos que se hacen en las granjas de experimentos agrícolas en el noroeste, que ya se ha alcanzado mucho, no sólo en cuanto á mejorar el cultivo del trigo y á hacer más fácil la recolección de la cosecha, sino también en cuanto á mejorar las diversas clases de dicho grano. Mr. HAYS describe las diferentes clases de trigo y su desarrollo, la maquinaria que se emplea en la cosecha y en la preparación del grano para el mercado, los diversos métodos seguidos para mezclar el polen de las diferentes variedades á fin de mejorarlas, y el modo de probar el trigo en las heredades, en las granjas de experimentos agrícolas, en los elevadores y en los molinos.

En periódico llamado "PETERMANN'S Mitteilungen" (No. 45, 1899, Vol. V) anuncia que los Andes bolivianos fueron medidos por Sir MARTIN CONWAY durante sus viajes en Bolivia en los años de 1898 y 1899. Las medidas se hicieron por medio de la triangulación, valiéndose del teodolito de seis pulgadas.

A continuación se dan los resultados de las medidas:

	Pies Ingleses.	Metros.
Monte Sorato:		
Ullampu.....	21,523	6,590
Ancoboma.....	21,710	6,617
Ancoboma (pico más bajo).....	20,738	6,320
Pico del sur.....	19,700	6,005
Chacacountui.....	20,820	6,350
Pico del sur.....	20,090	6,120
Candoriri.....	19,940	6,080
Casaca.....	20,560	6,270
Murcata.....	18,980	5,785
Hillman.....	21,015	6,405

Como estas medidas coinciden prácticamente con las que antes fueron hechas por MINCHINS, el resultado es muy satisfactorio.

"La Constitución Política de la República de Chile, promulgada el 25 de mayo de 1833, con reformas hasta el 1° de mayo de 1899," tal es el título de un tanto largo de un folleto de 36 páginas publicado en la tipografía del "Herald," de Urbana, Ill., por el Professor C. W. TOOKE. Refiriéndose a este trabajo, el traductor dice lo siguiente: "Fue hecho primitivamente para la clase de estudios comparativos de derecho constitucional" (probablemente para un colegio de Urbana). "Sirva de excusa para ofrecer al público este folleto, el hecho de que hasta la fecha no se había publicado en inglés una traducción de dicho documento con sus reformas." Al hablar de la Constitución misma, el escritor se expresa así:

Quizá es justo afirmar que la Constitución de Chile es más adelantada que cualquiera de las otras de la América española, en el sentido de que en su forma se acomoda más al sistema de gobierno existente. La Constitución reconoce francamente el principio de centralización, y todas las cuestiones que versan sobre la relación entre el Poder Ejecutivo y el Legislativo han sido resueltas por las reformas adoptadas después de la guerra civil de 1891. Limitarse á copiar las disposiciones constitucionales de un país no basta para fundar instituciones semejantes, y el hombre de estado debe adaptar la forma de gobierno de una nación á las condiciones existentes. Los estadistas chilenos tienen el mérito de haber establecido un sistema político conforme á las condiciones del país, y el crédito que merecen no es menor por el hecho de que el progreso ha sido paulatino y de que algunas de las reformas fueron adoptadas solamente después de de una lucha intestina.

El Museo Colombino Field de Chicago ha publicado un importante folleto de 56 páginas (publicación 33—Series Geológicas, Vol. 1, No. 3), con este título: "Los Minerales de Colombia sacados de Minas en Explotación en 1892." La obra fué preparada por Mr. HENRY WINDSOR NICHOLS, B. C., Subconservador del Museo. Es ésta una descripción

de la colección de quijos, rocas y minerales hecha por F. PEREIRA GAMBA, ingeniero de minas de Bogotá, y la cual fué exhibida en la Exposición Universal Colombina. La colección, que en su mayor parte fué donada al Museo Field, es digna de atención por la luz que arroja sobre la naturaleza casi desconocida y la formación de los minerales de uno de los primeros países productores de oro, así como por aproximarse más de lo usual en estos casos á lo que debe ser una colección geológica. Las muestras que quedaron en el Museo Field han sido examinadas por Mr. NICHOLS, y el resultado de sus investigaciones se encuentra en el folleto ya mencionado. Además de un catálogo comprensivo, hay una descripción de las condiciones físicas y de la geología general de Colombia, así como de los diversos distritos mineros. Contiene también dicha publicación una lista de las obras más útiles y recientes sobre la geología y las riquezas minerales de Colombia, así como los nombres de algunas de las obras antiguas más valiosas. Acompaña al folleto un mapa de las regiones mineras de Antioquia y Tolima, para preparar el cual se hizo uso de los mejores atlas, del mapa publicado por la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas y de muchos otros.

El número suplementario, 127, del "Mittheilungen" del Dr. A. PETERMANN (Justus Perthes' Geographische Anstalt, Gotha, 1899), contiene un tratado acerca de la formación de las montañas y del suelo de la parte norte de la América Central, debido á la pluma del Dr. CARL SAPPER y al resultado de sus investigaciones durante los años corridos entre 1888-1897. Este trabajo es la continuación de otros debidos al mismo autor y que son: Geografía Física de Guatemala (PETERMANN'S Mittheilungen, Suplemento, No. 113, 1893); Geografía Física de Chiapas, Tabasco y Yucatán (Boletín No. 3 del Instituto Geológico de México, 1859), y también un informe acerca del Gobierno de Belize (1896) que no se ha publicado aún. En la presente obra están comprendidas las anteriores formando un todo completo, al cual se añaden los resultados obtenidos en un viaje por el Salvador y la parte occidental de Honduras desde el límite occidental de los Estados Mexicanos de Chiapas y Tabasco hasta los linderos de la América Central, entre Puerto Cortez y la Bahía de Fonseca. Dice el autor que ha circunscrito sus trabajos principalmente á la geología, orografía, hidrografía y suelo de los diferentes lugares, habiendo hasta ahora preparado la cartografía del area de formación vegetal y de las regiones pluviales más importantes de la parte norte de Centro América. ("Das nördliche Mittelamerika" Brunswick, 1897), y también (PETERMANN'S Mittheilungen, 1898, vol. 6). Esta contribución hecha por el Dr. SAPPER á la literatura científica en su última obra, es de la mayor importancia desde luego que hace una revista cuidadosa de las condiciones actuales y del actual estado de conocimientos á los cuales se añade el resultado de sus recientes investigaciones. Ann cuando la obra del Dr. SAPPER ha sido escrita para los hombres de ciencia, quienes indudablemente

formarán el mayor núcleo de sus lectores, hay mucho de interés para los lectores en general que deseen obtener informes acerca de los países en cuestión.

Los siguientes mapas están incluidos en el volumen:

I. Mapa Original de la Parte Norte de Centro América; escala, 1:1100000.

II. Mapa Geológico de la Parte Norte Centro América; escala, 1:1100000.

III. Esbozo de un Mapa Superficial de la Parte Norte de Centro América, escala, 1:3000000.

IV. Perfil Geológico de Yucatán, Chiapas, Tabasco, Guatemala, etc.; escala de longitudes, 1:250000; escala de altitudes, 1:100000. No. 1, perfil de Yucatán (1:800000 and 1:40000). No. 2-9, perfil de Chiapas y Tabasco. No. 9^a, perfil de Belize. No. 10-23, perfil de Guatemala. No. 24 y 25, perfil de Honduras.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

SECRETARIA DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.

União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

VOL. VII.

JULHO DE 1899.

No. 1.

NOMEAÇÃO DO SR. W. W. ROCKHILL COMO DIRECTOR PERMANENTE.

Como o General RUSSELL HASTINGS, de Massachusetts, que foi nomeado Director permanente da Secretaria das Republicas Americanas a 20 de Março de 1899, pediu demissão antes de haver-se encarregado da administração da Secretaria, segundo se noticiou no BOLETIM MENSAL correspondente ao mez de Abril, o Honrado W. W. ROCKHILL, ex-ministro dos Estados Unidos na Grecia, foi nomeado pelo Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos para lhe succeder, de conformidade com as faculdades que lhe foram conferidas pela Comissão Executiva da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas a 7 de Abril de 1899.

O Senhor ROCKHILL entrou no exercicio do seu cargo no dia 2 de Maio de 1899.

O FUTURO DO CAFÉ.

As noticias ultimamente recebidas sobre os danos occasionados pelas geadas á colheita de Santos, têm demonstrado quão sensível é o mercado de café e como enfraquece ao impulso de qualquer acontecimento que tenda a alterar as relações entre a offerta e a demanda. É sabido que por mais de dous annos o preço deste importante artigo de commercio tem baixado notavelmente e é de suppor que qualquer cousa que possa reduzir a colheita do anno proximo, dará em resultado uma completa mudança no aspecto do mercado e uma alta consideravel nos preços.

Ainda não se tem esquecido a extraordinaria elevação nos preços que se verificou entre o mez de Junho de 1886 e o de 1887. No primeiro destes dous annos o preço de 8 centavos por libra, pouco mais ou menos, quasi se manteve fixo, enquanto que no segundo a fluctuação foi enorme, de tal sorte que de Junho de 1896 a Junho de 1897 houve uma differença de treze centavos e quarto por libra. A causa principal disto foi a má colheita do Brazil em 1887, pois em vez de ser de 6,000,000 saccos, como se esperava, foi sómente de 2,000,000. O que naquella epocha occorreu pode occorrer outra vez, si sobreven algum desastre ás colheitas que se aguardam.

Tudo parece indicar que o café do Rio conhecido com o nome de No. 7, tem chegado ao preço mais baixo a que será vendido por algum tempo. Para mostrar a fluctuação que tem soffrido o café no mercado de Nova York, dá-se em seguida uma lista dos preços do café do Rio No. 7, desde 1884 até o anno corrente, inclusive:

Junho.	Centavos.	Junho.	Centavos.
1884.....	8	1892.....	11½
1885.....	6½	1893.....	15½
1886.....	7½	1894.....	15½
1887.....	20½	1895.....	14½
1888.....	11	1896.....	12½
1889.....	13	1897.....	6½
1890.....	16½	1898.....	6½
1891.....	16½	1899.....	6

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

O COMMERCIO EM PRODUCTOS AGRICOLAS DURANTE O PRIMEIRO TRIMESTRE DE 1899.

O Senhor ERNESTO DANVERS, correspondente especial do "Weekly Northwestern Miller," tem escripto de Buenos Ayres, com data de 5 de Maio de 1899, um interessante artigo, publicado na pagina 1147 do dito periodico, do qual se tem feito o seguinte extracto:

O Congresso reuniu-se no dia 1º de Maio e o resultado do discurso do Presidente (do qual publicou um summario o BOLETIM MENSAL de Junho, pagina 2145) foi fazer subir como dez pontos o premio do ouro; mas na data da carta do Senhor DANVERS, o mercado tinha recobrado sua calma ordinaria e voltou a baixar o premio. Diz o auctor que o Bancó Nacional vai a accumular uma grande reserva de ouro e que o Congresso decretará uma taxa fixa para o cambio de papel moeda por ouro, taxa que se cre´ estará entre 230 e 250.

Segundo as estatisticas commerciaes correspondentes ao primeiro trimestre do anno corrente, as importações alcançam a \$29,821,072 em ouro, ou seja um augmento de \$3,740,876 comparado com o periodo correspondente de 1898. As exportações durante o mesmo tempo alcançaram a \$47,532,893, indicando um augmento de \$3,562,088. O com.

mercio do Brazil com os Estados Unidos mostra um augmento de \$1,616,759 em ouro, no ramo de importações e uma diminuição de \$158,211, nas exportações. As importações de machinas agricolas foram como segue: arados, 14,399; debulhadores de milho, 466; foicees, 14 toneladas; ancinhos á força animal, 918; ceifeiras e engaveladores, 53; outras machinas de ceifar, 1,117; debulhadores, 4; alcançando o seu valor total a \$356,112, em ouro, o que mostra um augmento de \$286,000 comparado com o mesmo periodo de 1898.

Os productos agricolas exportados foram: Trigo, 364,372 toneladas, avaliadas em \$9,182,167, ouro, ou seja um augmento de 16,107 toneladas, ainda quando o valor diuinuin em \$1,962,312; linho, 90,905 toneladas, avaliadas em \$3,090,727, ou uma diminuição de 4,866 toneladas e de \$69,664; farinha de trigo, 8,439 toneladas, avaliadas em \$354,457, ou um augmento de 1,786 toneladas e de \$61,935; farelo, 12,303 toneladas, por valor de \$151,321, ou um augmento de 5,244 toneladas e de \$75,790.

Para o 1º de Maio de 1898 se cotava o trigo no mercado do Rio a \$12.50 por 100 kilogrammas, contra \$5.20 na mesma data de 1899. Para as mesmas datas o linho foi avaliado em \$10 e \$7.20 respectivamente por 100 kilogrammas. O premio do ouro para o 1º de Maio de 1899 era 132, contra 164 em Maio 1º de 1898.

Do numero da "Review of the River Plate" correspondente a 13 de Maio foram extrahidas as seguintes estatisticas sobre as importações da Republica Argentina durante o primeiro trimestre de 1899.

Paizes.	Importações.	Exportações.
Reino Unido	\$11,383,548	\$4,674,386
Italia	3,608,244	1,223,826
Allemanha	3,685,693	9,387,003
Estados Unidos	3,513,086	1,553,968
França	2,827,638	11,910,470
Belgica	2,507,327	6,536,455
Brazil	1,040,970	1,713,648
Espanha	645,742	354,823
Paraguay	292,607	52,997
Frangay	129,607	734,643
Hollanda	27,356	120,139
Portugal	23,733	9,407
Chilo	19,082	123,011
Bolivia	7,566	112,681
A* Antilhas	4,275	52,438
Outros paizes	14,598	2,107,770
Ordens		6,865,628
Total	29,821,072	47,532,893

BRAZIL.

COMMERCIO EM COURO.

O "Moniteur Officiel," de Paris, em seu numero de 11 de Maio, contém um artigo interessante preparado pelo Sr. GEORGE RITT, consul francez em Rio de Janeiro, sobre o commercio em couro e artigos de couro no Brazil.

Deste artigo parece que, ainda que a França outr'ora gozava de quasi um monopolio deste commercio, fazendo-lhe concorrência só a Grã Bretanha e a Austria, agora a concorrência allemã e americana tem feito diminuir consideravelmente as importações da França. Durante o primeiro semestre de 1898 foram embarcados do porto de Hamburgo com destino ao Brazil 141,000 kilogrammas de couro e objectos de couro e 40,000 kilogrammas de calçado, no valor de cerca de \$386,000. No mesmo periodo foram embarcados de Nova York 391 caixas de objectos de couro e 714 fardos de pelles preparadas, contra 378 caixas e 258 fardos dos mesmos artigos no anno de 1897.

Houve alguma diminuição nos carregamentos procedentes da Inglaterra. Durante os primeiros seis mezes de 1898 os embarques de couro e seus objectos effectuados da Grã Bretanha foram no valor de \$184,680, dos quaes \$97,200 correspondem ao valor dos embarques de calçado. No anno de 1897 se embarearam artigos de couro e calçado por valor de \$408,744.

Diz o Sr. RITT que a importação de couros e pelles preparados é muito importante e que agora se fabricam no paiz de couro americano artigos que antigamente se importavam manufacturados. Em 1894, só no porto do Rio de Janeiro se importaram 529,208 kilogrammas de couros e pelles preparados no valor de \$868,500. Deste total 351,564 kilogrammas correspondem á França, 94,956 kilogrammas á Inglaterra, 75,132 kilogrammas á Allemanha e Austria e 8,288 kilogrammas aos Estados Unidos. Na actualidade a Republica do Brazil importa annualmente mais de 1,300,000 kilogrammas de couros e pelles preparados, dos quaes 800,000 kilogrammas importam-se pelo porto de Rio. Os carregamentos da França, que anteriormente representavam de 60 a 65 por cento do total, hoje formam pouco mais de 40 ou 50 por cento.

Parece que a importação de bezerro encerado e envernizado, que é uma especialidade franceza, soffren maior diminuição que qualquer outra classe de couro, devido á concorrência que lhe fizeram um producto semelhante de Hamburgo e a vaqueta de Nova York, que são mais baratos.

Segundo o artigo citado, os impostos sobre couros e pelles preparados são os seguintes:

Pelles de castor, de phoca e de arminho pagam 7,600 rs. por kilogramma; outras pelles não especificadas, 2,500 rs. por kilogramma.

Conros curtidos—vaqueta, 1,800 rs. por kilogramma; marroquim, 2,200 rs.; couro não especificado, de côr natural, 1,400 rs. por kilogramma; conro colorido não especificado, 2,200 rs. Couros encerados e envernizados—bezerro granulado da Russia, 6,000 rs.; bezerro lizo e granulado da Russia e todos os outros bezerros lizos ou granulados, 3,000 rs. por kilogramma.

As malas, saccos, etc., de conro, vem em quasi sua totalidade da França. Os fabricantes nacionaes fazem mais ou menos imperfeitamente baliús e malas de mão, os quaes são cubertos de pelles crías com o pello. Ha em Rio e em Santos grande numero de fabricas de calçado, as quaes são movidas por vapor e têm obtido exito.

A fabricação de calçado é uma das industrias nacionaes e consequentemente a importação de calçado fino torna-se cada vez mais reduzida. A venda do calçado manufacturado no paiz é favorecida pelos regulamentos aduaneiros que gravam as importações estrangeiras com pesados impostos, os quaes representam algumas vezes mais de 60 por cento do valor do artigo. Estes impostos são os seguintes. Botas pagam 15,000 rs. a 20,000 rs. por par, segundo tamanho e qualidade; sapatos, 3,000 rs. a 7,000 rs. por par; sapatos baixos ou chinellas, 1,700 rs. a 3,200 rs.; sandalias e chinellas para a cama, 700 rs. a 1,400 rs.

Segundo as estatisticas para 1894, que são as mais recentes que se podem obter, se importaram no Rio de Janeiro 996,926 pares de sapatos estrangeiros, avaliados em \$868,500.

Fabricam-se arreios e sellins nos Estados de Rio Grande do Sul e Minas Geraes. Estes tem gnarniões de prata, são muito estimados no paiz e algumas vezes tem muito valor. Importam-se em sua maior parte os arreios para cavallos de tiro e os que se usam nas carruagens particulares e publicas.

CHILE.

RESUMO DA SITUAÇÃO ECONOMICA.

As noticias ultimamente recebidas do Chile dizem que a situação economica tem melhorado consideravelmente naquella Republica. Ao principio do anno corrente a taxa de cambio foi de 12½d. e o preço de ouro, 144. No fim de Maio a taxa fluctuou entre 15d. e 16d., e o preço de ouro entre 115 e 120. Em Janeiro saques sobre Londres pagaveis em ouro foram negociados a 12½d. e 17¾d. por peso, enquanto que na data mencionada o peso foi cotado a 18¼d. ou ao par mais ¼d.; isto quer dizer que o ouro não deve ser exportado do Chile, mas ao contrario, deve ser importado.

“El Mercurio” de Valparaiso, em data de 22 de Maio de 1899, trata das causas que tem produzido esta melhora, e entre outras menciona como a causa principal a alta no preço do cobre, dizendo que se tem

verificado que si o preço do cobre fosse mantido a cerca de £70 por tonelada durante o anno de 1899, ainda si a produção não augmentasse durante este periodo, só a alta no preço daria ao Chile de 600,000 a 700,000 libras esterlinas mais que no anno de 1898. Só esse facto é sufficiente para dar uma melhora consideravel na situação economica. Outro factor importante que tem contribuido para este melhor estado de consas é que as importações para 1897 excederam ás exportações por 1,589,698 pesos, enquanto que em 1898 as exportações excederam ás importações por 65,807,373 pesos.

O periodico citado dá outras razões de caracter nacional e diz que sente muita satisfação por ter melhorado a situação economica simplesmente pelo curso ordinario dos acontecimentos.

PERU.

DECRETO SUPPLEMENTARIO Á LEI DE CASAMENTOS CIVIS.

A Secretaria de Estado dos Estados Unidos tem recebido uma communicação do Honrado IRVING B. DUDLEY, nosso Ministro no Peru, com data de 24 de Maio, na qual remette uma traducção de um Decreto Supremo supplementario á Lei de Casamentos Civis de 23 de Dezembro 1899 que foi promulgado em 9 de Maio de 1899.

O objecto deste Decreto é preservar a maneira legal de comprovar a não catholicidade dos que desejarem contrahir casamento fóra da Igreja Catholica, em conformidade com as disposições da Lei de Casamentos Civis. Esta lei reconhece a validade dos casamentos civis contrahidos entre os acatholicos e entre os de diferentes cultos no caso de que a auctoridade ecclesiastica recuse a fazer a cerimonia. Faz-se referencia a este lei no BOLETIM MENSAL correspondente ao mez de Abril 1899 (pagina 1786), em um artigo intitulado "Condição Legal dos Estrangeiros no Peru."

Eis a traducção do Decreto:

CASAMENTO ENTRE OS ACATHOLICOS.

O PRESIDENTE DA REPUBLICA,

Considerando que não permitindo as leis existentes até 1897 outro casamento que o de catholicos, a de 23 de Dezembro do dito anno teve por objecto unico prover ao dos acatholicos,

Que a dita lei nada tem estatuido sobre a maneira de comprovar a não catholicidade dos contrahentes, condição essencial e primeiro para sua applicação.

Que isto tem dado lugar, na execução da lei, á debates e entorpecimentos que é urgente supprimir, prescrevendo maneira legal e expedita de fazer aquella previa comprovação.

Que não se tem prescripto procedimento que facilite o emprimento da lei, no caso de denegação pela auctoridade ecclesiastica de permissão para o casamento, por causa de disparidade de cultos.

Em exercicio da attribuição que me confere o parágrafo 5º do artigo 91 da Constituição, decreto:

ART. 1º. As pessoas que, por ser acatholicos, recorram, para contrahir casamento, á auctoridade judicial, em conformidade com a citada lei, acompanharão á sua petição doemmentos que proveem a religião a que pertencem.

ART. 2º. As pessoas que não pertençam a nenhuma religião, ou não possam, sem grave impedimento, produzir aquella prova instrumental, lhe substituirão declaração jurada, escripta e acompanhada da de, pelo menos, duas pessoas de alta consideração, residentes no lugar, que attemem o facto de não haverem sido os peticionarios baptizados na Igreja catholica.

ART. 3º. O juiz receberá, por siu mesmo, a ratificação verbal jurada da affirmação dos peticionarios e a declaração das testemunhas, estendendo a diligencia correspondente.

ART. 4º. Si no lugar em que se apresenta a petição para o casamento, não tiverem os interessados testemunhas que apresentar, mas assegurarem havel-as, em outro ponto, dentro ou fóra da Republica, se expedirão as cartas de requisição, para que se recebam as declarações.

ART. 5º. Os que solicitassem contrahir casamento civil, por haver-lhes denegado a auctoridade ecclesiastica a dispensa do impedimento de disparidade de cultos, acompanharão certidão authentica d'essa negação.

Si os interessados expuzerem que não lhes tem sido possivel obter essa certidão, o juiz a pedirá directamente á auctoridade ecclesiastica competente, e, com sua resposta, expedirá a resolução que corresponder.

Dado na casa do Governo, em Lima, a 9 de Março de 1890.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

A INDUSTRIA DE COURO E CALÇADO.

Entre as industrias que tem tido notavel desenvolvimento nos Estados Uúidos durante os ultimos annos, devem ser mencionadas as de couro e calçado. Segundo os dados estatisticos da Repartição de Estatistica da Secretaria da Fazenda, a exportação de calçado nos dez mezes que terminaram em Abril do anno corrente, ascendeu a \$2,049,047. No mesmo periodo do anno anterior foi sómente por valor de \$1,439,512, e ha dous annos nesse mesmo espaço de tempo a quantidade exportada foi apenas de \$1,389,355. Salta á vista quão cousideravel é o augmento que tem havido na exportação do mencionado artigo nos dez mezes que terminaram em Abril proximo passado. A exportação para a Grã Bretanha, que no periodo correspondente a 1897 foi de \$224,690, e em 1898 de \$244,536, elevou-se em 1899 a \$344,817. No anno de 1897 a exportação para a França foi por valor de \$11,957; em 1899 ascendeu a \$21,479, e em 1899 a \$33,350.—Allemauha tomou calçado americano em 1897 por valor de \$11,069; em 1898, por valor de \$55,945, e em 1899 a somma foi de \$72,293.

O augmento do que se mandou para os outros paizes europeos foi igual ao que se verificou no commercio com a França; uas com nenhuma nação tem augmentado este commercio tanto como com a Allemanha. Durante os dez mezes correspondentes a 1897, a exportação

de calçado para o Canadá e outras possessões inglezas na America do Norte representou um valor de \$200,450; em 1898 foi de \$234,446, e em 1899 de \$338,216. Semelhante augmento verificou-se no commercio com as Antilhas e as Bermudas, pois as cifras foram de \$230,511 em 1897, de \$249,042 em 1898, e de \$363,244 em 1899. Para o Mexico se exportou calçado em 1897 por valor de \$48,065; em 1898 a exportação ascendeu a \$61,210, e em 1899 a \$153,222.

A exportação em Abril deste anno mostra tambem augmento de importancia, comparada com a do mesmo mez do anno passado, pois em 1898 foi, no mencionado mez, de \$163,241, e em 1899 de \$346,366. A differença é como segue: Para a Grã Bretanha se exportou calçado em Abril de 1898 por valor de \$33,607, e no mesmo mez de 1899, \$89,717; para as possessões inglezas na America do Norte, \$33,074 em 1898, e \$47,785 em 1899; para as Antilhas e as Bermudas, \$23,689 em 1898, e \$86,728 em 1899; para o Mexico, \$5,901 em 1898, e \$25,837 em 1899. Para a Anstralia a exportação em Abril de 1898 foi por valor de \$14,488, e no mesmo mez do anno em curso, de \$37,863. A exportação total para aquelle paiz durante os dez mezes que terminaram em Abril, foi em 1899 de \$344,598, em quanto que no mesmo periodo de 1898 não passou de \$184,151.

A exportação de couro de sola durante os dez mezes que terminaram em Abril de 1899 foi de 31,621,856 libras, com um valor de \$5,333,213. Outras classes de couro foram exportadas no mesmo periodo correspondente a 1898 em quantidades avaliadas em \$11,102,863.

O grande desenvolvimento a que tem chegado nos Estados Unidos a industria de calçado é devido a que este artigo fabrica-se aqui com mais perfeição que em outros paizes e aos mesmos preços. Hoje os Estados Unidos quasi não importam calçado de nenhuma parte, e em troca o exportam para a Grã Bretanha, França, Allemanha, o Canadá, a America Central e a America do Sul, Anstralia, a Africa Meridional, etc., e a exportação vai augmentando de dia em dia. Na cidade de Paris a quantidade de calçado americano que se consumin durante o presente anno economico, foi quasi o duplo da consumida no anno anterior. Em todos os paizes em que o calçado dos Estados Unidos tem sido introduzido, reconhece-se já o facto de que é mais elegante, duradeiro e comodo do que o que se fabrica em outras partes do mundo, sem que por isto seja seu preço maior.

TRATADO DE RECIPROCIDADE COM A BARBADA.

Em 16 de Junho de 1899 se firmou na Secretaria de Estado em Washington um tratado de reciprocidade celebrado entre os Estados Unidos e a Grã Bretanha referente ao commercio entre aquelle paiz e a Colonia Britannica da Barbada. Este é o primeira tratado negociado de accordo com a Secção 4 da Lei de "Tarifa de Dingley," e tambem o primeiro da serie que as colonias britannicas que estão situadas ao sul

dos Estados Unidos estão tratando de negociar. O dito tratado com a Barbada é pelo prazo de cinco annos, mas como ha de ser submittido ao Senado para sua approvação, a Secretaria de Estado não pode publicar ainda os termos em que está concebido.

A Secção 4 da Lei de Tarifa vigente dispõe a redução de "não mais de 20 por cento (dos direitos) sobre os ditos artigos, productos ou mercadorias que se designem alli como procedentes do paiz ou paizes com os quaes se celebrou o dito tratado ou tratados segundo presereve esta secção; ou sempre que se dispuzer que durante o mencionado periodo os ditos artigos, productos ou mercadorias sejam transferidos da lista dos artigos onerados com direitos para a lista dos artigos livres de direitos, que sejam productos naturaes de tal paiz ou taes paizes estrangeiros, e não productos dos Estados Unidos."

O assucar é o principal producto da Barbada, cujo commercio em 1898 alcançou a \$2,208,000. Os artigos que os Estados Unidos exportam para a illa são, em sua maior parte, productos alimenticios. Quasi todos os artigos manufacturados teem viudo até agora da Grã Bretanha. No passado os consules americanos na Barbada teem chamado a attenção para a procura que ha alli por manteiga, conservas em lata, carruagens, bicyelettas, effectos para a electricidade e cimento.

O Consul MACALLISTER diz nas "Relações Commerciaes dos Estados Unidos para 1898," pagina 108, que as importações feitas por Bridgetown em 1897 alcançaram a \$5,043,495 contra \$5,244,435 em 1896. As importações dos Estados Unidos durante o dito anno mostraram uma diminuição de \$175,886. Em 1897 importaram-se dos Estados Unidos productos alimenticios no valor de \$1,253,895, contra \$483,755 procedentes da Grã Bretanha. Por outra parte, os productos manufacturados importados da Grã Bretanha alcançaram a \$658,785, enquanto que os Estados Unidos só enviaram por valor de \$116,600.

Segundo a mesma auctoridade, as exportações em 1897 foram maiores do que as de 1896, na quantia de \$90,674, perfazendo um total de \$3,680,000. A quantidade total de assucar exportado em 1897 alcançou a 67,609 toneis. A mandioca foi exportada por valor de \$18,800, dos quaes corresponderam \$12,967 aos Estados Unidos.

CONDIÇÃO DAS COLHEITAS PRINCIPAES.

Segundo as estatisticas preliminares da Secretaria da Agricultura dos Estados Unidos, a extensão do terreno semeado em milho este anno excede á do anno de 1898 em 5 por cento. A extensão total do terreno em cultivo nos vinte e um Estados é de 1,000,000 geiras. Todos estes Estados, com a excepção de tres, mostram um augmento na extensão do terreno semeado. A condição média da colheita é de 86.5 comparada com 90.5, em 1º de Julho de 1898 e 82.9 na data correspondente de 1897; 91.1 é a condição média para o mez de Julho nos ultimos dez annos. A condição da colheita nos principaes Estados é como se segue: Ohio e

Missouri, 85; Indiana, 90; Illinois, 86; Iowa, 81; Kansas, 92, e Nebraska, 93.

Quanto ao trigo, a condição das variedades de trigo de inverno mostra ainda maior diminuição, sendo 65.6 em 1° de Julho de 1899, comparada com 86.7 e 81.2 nos annos de 1898 e 1897 respectivamente, e 82.4 a condição média da colheita nos ultimos dez annos.

A condição média do centeio de inverno é de 83.3, comparada com 93.8 em 1° de Julho de 1898; 95, na data correspondente do anno de 1897, e 90.5 a condição média para o mez de Julho nos ultimos dez annos. Quanto ao centeio de primavera, a condição média é de 89.7, contra 96.9 em 1° de Julho de 1898, e 90, da data correspondente de 1897, e 90.6, a média dos ultimos dez annos.

A condição média da colheita de aveia é de 90. Foi de 88.7 em 1° de Julho de 1899, 92.8 na data correspondente de 1898, e 87.7 a média dos ultimos dez annos. A condição média da cevada é de 92, comparada com 85.7 de 1° de Julho de 1898, e 88.3 a média dos ultimos dez annos. Houve um augmento de 1 por cento na extensão do terreno semeado em batatas e a colheita promette ser boa. Segundo as noticias recebidas sobre a colheita de lã, o peso médio da tosquia é de 5.95 libras, o qual mostra um augmento de 0.15 libras sobre o do anno passado. A condição média do algodão é de 87.3, comparada com 91.2 em 1° Julho de 1898, e 88 a média nos ultimos dez annos.

Segundo o "Journal of Commerce" de Nova York, houve grande movimento na exportação de cereaes dos Estados Unidos nas duas semanas fiudas em 8 de Julho; a exportação total de trigo foi de 2,864,000 alqueires; milho, 5,096,000 alqueires; centeio, 117,000, e aveia, 825,000. O augmento no *stock* do trigo americano durante o mez de Junho foi o maior na historia do paiz. O *stock* de trigo nos Estados Unidos e no Canadá, em 1° de Julho foi de cerea de 50,000,000 alqueires, o qual mostra um augmento de 4,000,000 alqueires para o mez de Junho, contra uma diminuição de mais de 11,000,000 alqueires em Junho de 1898. O *stock* da Europa diminuiu em cerea de 2,500,000 alqueires durante o mez. O *stock* total do mundo armazenado nos Estados Unidos, Canadá, Europa, Anstralia e nos portos principaes da Argentina, ascendeu a 133,501,000 alqueires, o qual mostra um augmento de 1,000,000 alqueires durante o mez de Junho, contra uma diminuição do *stock* do mundo em Junho de 1898 de mais de 19,000,000 alqueires.

O *stock* total americano em 1° de Julho foi mais que o dobro do da data correspondente do anno passado. O *stock* da Europa mostra um augmento de 10,000,000 alqueires sobre o de 1° de Julho de 1898, e o *stock* do mundo um augmento de 48,000,000 alqueires. O total da exportação de trigo de todos os paizes para a Europa no periodo decorrido entre 1° de Agosto de 1898 e 24 de Junho de 1899, attingin a 342,840,000 alqueires, ou uma diminuição de 54,600,000 alqueires sobre a exportação total do anno anterior.

PRODUÇÃO DE PETROLEO NO MUNDO.

Segundo os dados estatísticos ultimamente publicados pela Repartição de Estatística da Secretaria da Fazenda dos Estados Unidos, a produção annual de petroleo em todo o mundo ascende a mais de 5,000,000,000 de galões, e desta quantidade os Estados Unidos produzem 2,500,000,000; Russia, 2,250,000,000, e o resto sae de varios outros paizes, que são Austria, Sumatra, Java, Canadá, Rumania, India, Japão, Allemanha, o Peru e a Italia. Ainda que a produção de petroleo crú é quasi igual nos Estados Unidos e na Russia, a quantidade de oleo refinado para illuminação que produz o primeiro destes dois paizes é quasi dobre da que produz o segundo.

Isto deve-se a que uma quantidade dada de petroleo americano dá tres quartas partes de seu volume de oleo refinado, enquanto que o petroleo russo produz sómente tres oitavas partes. Depois da Russia, Sumatra é o paiz que faz maior concorrência aos Estados Unidos no dito artigo, porque seu petroleo crú dá a metade de seu volume de oleo refinado, e porque, além disto, encontra-se mais cerca das nações orientaes que figuram entre os principaes mercados para este producto. Até a data, sem embargo, a quantidade de petroleo produzida em Sumatra é pequena, si se a compara com a que saé dos Estados Unidos ou da Russia, pois em 1897 aquella ilha sómente produziu 72,258,000 galões.

A Grã Bretanha consome mais petroleo americano que qualquer outra nação do globo. Durante o ultimo anno economico se exportaram para aquelle paiz 212,265,563 galões. A quantidade de oleo refinado para a illuminação exportada dos Estados Unidos em 1898 foi de 900,998,875 galões, enquanto que a Russia sómente exportou como a terça parte.

O periodico "Le Nouveau Monde," que se publica em Paris, annuncia, em seu numero correspondente ao 17 de Junho deste anno, que se tem descoberto no Mexico, cerca de Puebla, grandes depositos de petroleo, e que se está organizando actualmente uma companhia mexicana para exploral-os.

PRODUÇÃO DE OURO.

Ao principio deste anno o Director da casa da moeda publicou alguns dados preliminares relativamente á produção de ouro em 1898. Segundo os calculos feitos então, a produção total dos Estados Unidos, incluindo a Alaska, foi de \$65,782,677, o qual mostra um augmento de \$8,400,000 sobre o anno precedente. O funcionario em referencia acaba de dar a luz seus calculos finais, os quaes confirmam em muitos respeitos os anteriormente publicados, ainda que differem em quanto á produção total que foi cerca de \$1,400,000 menos do que se calculou ao principio.

As principais secções do paiz productoras de ouro no anno referido, foram, na ordem de sua importancia, as seguintes: Colorado, California, Dakota do Sul, Montana, Nevada, Alaska, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, o Estado de Washington, Novo Mexico, Georgia e a Carolina do Sul.

Quanto á produçõo de prata, tambem se tem notado um augmento, ainda que ligeiro. Os principais Estados productores deste metal foram Colorado, Montana, Utah, Idaho e California. Outras secções do paiz produziram tambem prata, mas em quantidades menores. A produçõo deste metal em 1898 ascenden a 54,438,000 onças.

Crê-se que a quantidade de ouro que os Estados Unidos produziram em 1899 será, mais ou menos, igual á do anno passado. Calcula-se que da só região de Klondike em Alaska, se extrahirá neste anno o metal amarello por valor de \$20,000,000.

URUGUAY.

BALANÇO DO BANCO DA REPUBLICA EM ABRIL DE 1899.

A "Nacion" de Montevideo publica o balanço do Banco da Republica em 30 de Abril (o balanço do mez anterior foi publicado no *BOLETIM MENSAL* correspondente ao mez de Junho, pagina 2196) que compõe-se das seguintes sommas:

Credito.—Acções não emittidas de 2ª serie, \$5,000,000; acções de bonus não emittidas, \$1,982,366.30; diversos devedores da Caixa Matriz e das Caixas Filiaes, \$8,195,018.98; valor dos depositos, \$3,219,738; apolices do Empréstimo Extraordinario de 1897 do valor nominal de \$750,000 a 61 por cento, em garantia dos depositos judiciaes, \$180,000; dinheiro em caixa, \$4,986,039.42; total, \$23,842,158.49.

Debito.—Capital nominal, \$12,000,000; diversos credores, \$3,234,005.31; valor dos depositos, \$3,218,733.29; depositos judiciaes, \$397,416.64; serviço do Empréstimo Extraordinario, pagamentos feitos pela Direcção Geral de Taxas Directas, \$84,168.55; notas em circulaçõo, \$4,720,202; fundo de reserva, \$37,633; fundo de previsõo, \$150,000; total, \$23,842,158.49.

NOTAS BIBLIOGRAPHICAS.

"Mannal dos Estados Unidos e o Mexico para os Viajantes, publicado por Karl Baedeker. Leipzig, 1899."—O alto grão de excellencia a que o publico por tanto tempo tem sido acostumado nos manuaes de Baedeker, é mantido neste volume, escripto pelo Sr. J. F. MURHEAD, quem, desde a preparaçõo deste, tem escripto em outro volume muito interessante sobre a vida e os costumes nos Estados Unidos, intitulado "A Terra de Contrastes."

Esse livro comprehende, além de uma descripçõo dos Estados Unidos e da Alaska, uma exeursõo á cidade de Mexico e Veraeruz.

Os dezenove mappas e vinte e quatro planos de diversas cidades dos Estados Unidos que acompanham a este volume foram cuidadosamente preparados sob a inspecção do Sr. HENRY GANNETT, da Repartição de Estudos Geologicos dos Estados Unidos.

Nesse manual, como nos outros da serie, ha alguns capitulos de introdução sobre varios assumptos de interesse relativos aos Estados Unidos, escriptos por auctoridades reconhecidas, taes como "Uma Curta Historia da Politica Americana," por Professor JOHN BACH McMASTER; "Constituição e Governo dos Estados Unidos," pelo Honrado JAMES BRYCE, auctor da "Communidad Americana," e a "Physiographia da America do Norte," pelo Professor N. S. SHALER, da Universidade de Harvard.

Um numero supplementario (127) do "Mitteilungen" do Dr. A. PETERMANN'S (JUSTUS PERTHES' Geographischer Anstalt, Gotha, 1899) contem um tratado acerca da formação das montanhas e do solo da parte septentrional da America Central, escripto pelo Dr. CARL SAPPER, como resultado de suas investigações durante os annos corridos entre 1888-1897. Esta obra é a continuação de outras escriptas pelo mesmo auctor e que são: "Geographia Physica de Guatemala" (PETERMANN'S Mitteilungen-Supplemento, No. 113, 1893); "Geographia Physica de Chiapas, Tabasco e Yucatan" (Boletim No. 3 do Instituto Geologico do Mexico, 1895) e tambem um relatorio ao Governo de Belize (1896) que ainda não tem sido publicado. Na presente obra estão comprehendidas as anteriores formando um todo completo, ao qual se juntam os resultados obtidos de uma viagem pelo Salvador e a parte occidental de Honduras desde o limite occidental dos Estados Mexicanos de Chiapas e Tabasco até os limites da America Central, entre Puerto Cortez e a Bahía de Fonseca.

O auctor diz que tem limitado seus trabalhos principalmente á geologia, orographia, hydrographia e solo dos diferentes lugares, havendo já preparado a cartographia do area de formação vegetal e das regiões pluvias mais importantes da parte septentrional da America Central ("Das Nördliche Mittelamerika" Brunswick, 1897, e tambem Petermann's Mitteilungen, 1897, vol. 6).

Esta contribuição feita pelo Dr. SAPPER á litteratura scientifica em sua ultima obra, é da maior importancia desde logo que faz uma revista cuidadosa das condições actuaes e do actual estado de conhecimentos aos quaes se acresce o resultado de suas recentes investigações. Ainda que a obra do Dr. SAPPER tem sido escripta para os homens de sciencia, quem indubitavelmente formarão o maior núcleo de seus leitores, ha muito de interesse para os leitores em geral que desejem obter informações acerca dos paizes em questão.

O volume contem os seguintes mappas:

I. Mappa original da Parte Septentrional da America Central, compilado e traçado pelo Dr. CARL SAPPER. Escala, 1: 1,100,000.

II. Mappa Geologico da Parte Septentrional da America Central, pelo Dr. CARL SAPPER. Escala, 1: 1,100,000.

III. Esboço de um Mappa Superficial da Parte Septentrional da America Central, pelo Dr. CARL SAPPER, 1897. Escala, 1: 3,000,000.

IV e V. Perfil, Geologico de Yucatán, Chiapas, Tabasco, Guatemala, etc., compilado e traçado pelo Dr. CARL SAPPER. Escala de longitudes, 1: 250,000; escala de alturas, 1: 100,000. No. 1, Perfil de Yucatán (1: 800,000 e 1: 40,000); No. 2-9, Perfil de Chiapas e Tabasco; No. 9^a, Perfil de Belize; No. 10-23, Perfil de Guatemala; No. 24 e 25, Perfil de Honduras.

BULLETIN MENSUEL
DU
BUREAU DES RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES,
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VOL. VII.

JUILLET, 1899.

No. 1.

**MR. W. W. ROCKHILL EST NOMMÉ DIRECTEUR DU
BUREAU DES RÉPUBLIQUES AMÉRICAINES.**

Monsieur le Général RUSSELL HASTINGS, de Massachusetts, qui avait été nommé Directeur du Bureau des Républiques Américaines, le 20 mars 1898, ayant donné sa démission avant d'être entré en fonctions, ainsi que le BULLETIN MENSUEL du mois d'avril l'a fait connaître, le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères des Etats-Unis, en vertu de l'autorité qui lui a été conférée par le Comité Exécutif de l'Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines, a nommé à ce poste, le 7 avril 1899, W. W. ROCKHILL, ex-Ministre des Etats-Unis en Grèce.

Monsieur ROCKHILL est entré en fonctions le 20 mai 1899.

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

**COMMERCE EN PRODUITS AGRICOLES PENDANT LE PREMIER
SEMESTRE DE 1899.**

M. ERNESTO DANVERS, correspondant spécial du "Weekly Northwestern Miller," a écrit de Buenos-Ayres en date du 5 mai 1899, un intéressant article, auquel nous empruntons les faits suivants :

Le Congrès chilien s'est réuni le 1^{er} mai, et le discours du Président (dont un résumé est publié dans le BULLETIN MENSUEL de juin, page 2145) a eu pour résultat de faire monter la prime de l'or d'environ dix points, mais à la date de la lettre de Mr. DANVERS, le marché avait retrouvé son calme ordinaire et la prime avait baissé de nouveau.

L'auteur dit que la Banque Nationale doit créer un large fonds de réserve en or, et que le Congrès va décréter un taux fixe pour la conversion en or du papier-monnaie, qui sera fixé, croit-on, à 230 ou 250.

Dans le rapport des transactions commerciales pour le premier trimestre de l'année en cours, les importations figurent pour une somme de \$29,821,072 en or, soit une plus-value de \$3,740,876 sur la période correspondante de 1898. Les exportations pour la même période s'élèvent à \$47,532,893, soit une augmentation de \$3,562,088. Le commerce du Brésil montre un accroissement de \$1,616,759 en or, pour le compte des importations, et une diminution de \$158,211 dans les exportations. Les importations de machines agricoles ont été les suivantes: Charrues, 14,399; égrenoirs de maïs, 466; faucilles, 14 tonnes; râtaeux à chevaux, 918; moissonneuses et relieurs, 53; autres moissonneuses, 1,117; batteuses mécaniques. 4. La valeur totale de ces articles s'est élevée à \$356,112 en or, soit une plus-value de \$286,000 en comparaison avec la même période de l'année 1898.

Les exportations de produits agricoles ont été comme suit: Blé, 364,372 tonnes, évaluées à \$9,182,167, soit une augmentation de 16,107 tonnes, mais une diminution en valeur de \$1,962,312; chanvre, 90,905 tonnes, évaluées à \$3,090,777, une diminution de 4,866 tonnes et de \$69,664 en évaluation; farine, 8,439 tonnes, d'une valeur de \$354,457, soit une augmentation en quantité de 1,786 tonnes et de \$61,835 en valeur; son, 12,303 tonnes, évaluées à \$151,311, une augmentation de 5,244 tonnes et de \$75,790 en valeur.

Le 1^{er} mai 1898, le blé était coté sur la place de Rio à \$12.50 par 100 kilogrammes, contre \$5.20 à la même date en 1899. Les cours du chanvre aux mêmes dates étaient de \$10 et \$7.20 respectivement par 100 kilogrammes. La prime sur l'or le 1^{er} mai 1899, était de 132 contre 164 le 1^{er} mai 1898.

La "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos-Ayres, 13 mai) a fourni les statistiques suivantes relativement aux importations et exportations de la République Argentine pour le premier trimestre de 1899.

Pays.	Importations.	Exportations.
Royaume-Uni.....	\$11,383,548	\$4,674,386
Italie.....	3,698,244	1,221,826
Allemagne.....	3,685,693	9,387,003
Etats-Unis.....	3,513,086	1,553,968
France.....	2,827,638	11,910,470
Belgique.....	2,507,327	6,536,435
Bresil.....	1,040,970	1,713,048
Espagne.....	645,742	354,823
Paraguay.....	292,607	52,807
Uruguay.....	129,607	734,643
Hollande.....	27,356	120,139
Portugal.....	23,733	9,407
Chili.....	19,082	123,011
Bolivie.....	7,566	112,881
Indes Occidentales.....	4,275	52,428
Autres pays.....	14,598	2,107,770
Commandes.....		6,865,628
Total.....	29,821,072	47,532,893

BRÉSIL.

COMMERCE DES CUIRS.

M. GEORGES RITT, Consul de France à Rio de Janeiro, vient de faire paraître dans le "Moniteur Officiel," de Paris, du 11 mai, un intéressant article sur le commerce des cuirs et articles en cuir au Brésil.

Il paraît, d'après cet article, qu'autrefois la France possédait, pour ainsi dire, le monopole de ce genre de commerce, n'ayant pour concurrents sérieux que l'Angleterre et l'Autriche. Aujourd'hui l'Allemagne et les États-Unis sont entrés en lice, occasionnant une diminution très importante dans les importations françaises. Au cours des six premiers mois de l'année 1898, le port allemand de Hambourg a expédié à destination du Brésil 141,000 kilogrammes de cuir et d'articles en cuir, dont 40,000 kilogrammes de chaussures, le tout représentant 2,000,000 de francs environ. Pendant le même semestre de 1898, les envois de cuir de New-York se sont élevés à 391 caisses d'articles en cuir et 714 balles de peaux préparées, contre 378 caisses et 256 balles des mêmes articles pour toute l'année 1897.

Les envois d'Angleterre ont plutôt diminué. Pendant les six premiers mois de 1898, la valeur des importations de cuir et d'articles en cuir provenant de l'Angleterre, dont 20,000 livres sterling de chaussures, a atteint le chiffre de 38,000 livres sterling contre 61,000 livres de chaussures et 23,000 livres d'articles divers, formant un total de 84,000 livres sterling pour l'année 1898.

M. RITT dit que l'importation de peaux préparées a pris une grande importance depuis l'essor de l'industrie locale qui fabrique aujourd'hui avec les cuirs provenant du dehors des articles qu'on recevait autrefois tout fabriqués de l'étranger. En 1894, le seul port de Rio de Janeiro avait importé des cuirs et peaux préparés, formant un poids total de 529,208 kilogrammes, représentant une valeur de 4,500,000 francs. Sur ce total la France était représentée par 351,564 kilogrammes, tandis que les provenances anglaises ne dépassaient pas 94,956 kilogrammes, les provenances d'Allemagne et d'Autriche 75,132 kilogrammes, et les provenances nord-américaines 8,288 kilogrammes. Aujourd'hui les importations de cuirs et de peaux préparés pour toute la République sont supérieures à 1,300,000 kilogrammes, dont 800,000 kilogrammes pour Rio seulement. Les envois de France qui représentaient autrefois 60 à 65 pour cent du total, ne représentent plus guère aujourd'hui que 40 à 50 pour cent. Il paraît que l'une des spécialités françaises—les veaux cirés et vernis—aurait été plus atteinte que toute autre branche des articles en cuir, à cause de la concurrence du produit analogue de Hambourg et de la "vaquette" de New-York, qui offre l'avantage du bon marché.

Les droits sur les cuirs et peaux préparés d'après l'article cité sont les suivants:

Peaux: castor, loutre et hermine, 7:600 reis le kilogramme; autres cuirs, non spécifiés, 2:500 reis le kilogramme. Cuirs préparés naturels: "vaquette," 1:800 reis le kilogramme; maroquinerie, 2:200 reis le kilogramme; non spécifiés, couleur naturelle, 1:400 reis le kilogramme; non spécifiés, teints, 2:200 reis le kilogramme. Cuirs vernis ou cirés: cuirs à grains, dits de Russie, 6:000 reis le kilogramme; cuirs lisses de Russie et tous autres cuirs à grains ou lisses, 3:000 reis le kilogramme.

La plupart des malles, sacs, valises, etc., en cuir sont de provenance française. Les fabricants locaux fabriquent, plus ou moins grossièrement, des valises et malles, dont la plupart sont recouvertes de peaux naturelles conservant tous leurs poils. Tant à Rio qu'à Santos, il y a un grand nombre d'usines à vapeur pour la fabrication de chaussures. Ces usines fonctionnent avec un certain succès.

La fabrication de chaussures est devenue une industrie nationale limitant par conséquent de plus en plus l'importation de chaussures fines. La vente des chaussures indigènes est d'ailleurs favorisée par le régime douanier, dont les droits sur les chaussures d'importation étrangère représentent en certains cas plus de 60 pour cent de la valeur de l'article. Ces droits sont les suivants: bottes, 15:000 à 20:000 reis la paire, suivant la dimension et qualité; bottines, 5:000 à 7:000 reis la paire, suivant la dimension et qualité; souliers découverts ou brodequins, 1:700 à 3:200 reis la paire, suivant la dimension et qualité.

En outre de ces droits d'importation les chaussures étrangères ou nationales indistinctement, sont frappés depuis le 1^{er} janvier 1899 d'un droit variant de \$0.11 à \$0.546, suivant la qualité; cet impôt exige qu'un timbre soit apposé sur chaque paire de chaussures.

D'après les statistiques douanières de 1894, les dernières qu'on ait pu obtenir, les entrées de chaussures étrangères à Rio de Janeiro avaient été de 996,926 paires, évaluées à 4,500,000 fraues.

Dans les Etats de Rio Grande do Sul et de Minas Geraes on fabrique des selles et harnais dont les garnitures en argent sont très appréciées par les habitants du pays. Ces articles ont quelquefois une grande valeur. On importe la plus grande partie des harnachements pour chevaux de trait, pour équipages de maître, ainsi que pour voitures de place.

RARETÉ DE L'IPÉCACUANA SUR LE MARCHÉ.

Le "American Druggist and Pharmaceutical Record" contient, dans son numéro du 20 juin (page 341), un article intitulé ("The Ipecae of Rio and Cartagena.") La variété citée en premier lieu est bien connue dans le commerce des drogues des Etats-Unis, tandis que l'importation de la seconde variété est défendue par les autorités de la douane. Mais comme l'espèce provenant de Rio devient de plus en plus rare, on a

recherché celle de Carthagène, ou nouvelle racine de la Nouvelle-Granade, dont l'aspect ne diffère pas matériellement de celui de la racine brésilienne. On remarque seulement pour toute différence que les anneaux qui caractérisent l'ipécacuana sont moins prononcés.

C'est dans les effets physiologiques qu'on suppose que l'ipécacuana de Carthagène diffère de la variété brésilienne; la première, contenant moins d'émétine que la dernière, doit plutôt son efficacité au principe actif de céphaline, qui produit un effet différent de celui de l'émétine. * * * Si l'on défend l'importation de l'ipécacuana de Carthagène, c'est sans doute à cause du peu de renseignements que l'on possède au sujet de ses effets physiologiques en comparaison de l'ipécacuana de Rio, sur lequel on base l'efficacité de l'ipécacuana comme agent thérapeutique. * * * Il est étonnant * * * qu'on n'ait pas commencé plus tôt des recherches physiologiques pour déterminer l'action de la céphaline, l'alkaloïde qui distingue la variété de Carthagène. A cet égard l'histoire des deux variétés d'ipécacuana est en contraste avec celle de plusieurs autres agents réparateurs qui ont été le sujet d'études pharmacologiques.

L'ipécacuana est une plante grimpante vivace qu'on trouve à l'état sauvage au Brésil. Cette plante a une odeur particulière et un goût un peu âcre, nauséabond. On emploie beaucoup la racine comme émétique. Cette racine est petite, étant marquée par des protubérences régulières ou anneaux. Depuis que la récolte du caoutchouc a pris tant d'importance au Brésil, ceux qui autrefois s'occupaient de la récolte et de la préparation de racines pour le marché ont en général abandonné cette dernière occupation en faveur de la première, qui est plus profitable et moins pénible. Il en est résulté que la quantité d'ipécacuana a beaucoup diminué et on n'en récolte même pas maintenant. Aux États-Unis les marchands qui avaient prévu la possibilité d'une rareté de la drogue ont maintenant presque le monopole du marché. Les prix ont constamment augmenté ces dix dernières années. En 1898, le prix par livre était de \$1.25, mais maintenant il est de \$4.25. A cause de cette grande augmentation de prix les cultivateurs brésiliens pourraient, pour quelque temps au moins, trouver plus de profit dans la récolte de l'ipécacuana que dans celle du caoutchouc.

CHILI.

DÉCROISSEMENT DU COMMERCE D'IMPORTATION À VALPARAISO.

“Le Moniteur Officiel” publie dans son numéro du 27 avril une communication de Mr. ROBIN, gérant du Consulat français à Valparaiso, sur les entrées de la douane dans ce port et sur les causes du décroissement du commerce d'importation.

Le tableau suivant, publié par l'administration des douanes, donne, mois par mois, le chiffre des entrées pendant les deux dernières années.

Il ressort de ces chiffres que les entrées dans ce port étaient en 1898 de 2,090,311 piastres de moins qu'en 1897 :

Mois.	1897.	1898.
	<i>Piastres.</i>	<i>Piastres.</i>
Janvier	845,008.98	1,309,146.26
Février	959,389.53	1,113,952.29
Mars	1,894,978.21	1,630,295.63
Avril	1,400,298.74	1,216,610.83
Mai	1,278,783.93	1,169,346.69
Juin	1,134,584.72	995,256.26
Juillet	1,361,377.03	429,104.43
Août	1,350,326.76	1,861,024.01
Septembre	1,345,776.26	1,311,150.47
Octobre	1,494,792.64	1,104,265.36
Novembre	1,512,720.77	1,046,789.21
Décembre	2,088,831.81	1,335,527.45
Total	16,666,824.38	14,576,512.89

Le Consul, commentant sur ces données, dit que l'Administration chilienne prétend que les causes de cette diminution sont au nombre de deux :

1^o. La quantité extraordinaire de marchandises importées au Chili pendant les mois de novembre et de décembre 1897, dans le but d'éviter le paiement des droits plus élevés établis par la nouvelle loi douanière, mise en vigueur le 1^{er} janvier, et

2^o. La perturbation produite dans le commerce d'importation pendant le mois de juillet dernier par la fermeture des banques, par la loi dite "de délai" (*moratoria*), par le rétablissement du cours forcé du papier-monnaie et par le paiement obligatoire en or des droits de douane.

Il est sans doute vrai que ces causes ont contribué à la condition actuelle, si peu satisfaisante, mais il faut en chercher la vraie cause dans les droits élevés que l'Administration a établis et qui sont actuellement pour un grand nombre de produits étrangers absolument prohibitifs.

Depuis le mois de juillet dernier, les affaires d'importation ont sensiblement diminué. Le môle fiscal, qui naguère était rempli de marchandises venant de l'étranger, travaille à peine trois ou quatre jours par semaine. Les navires venant de l'Europe n'apportent plus à Valparaiso qu'un fret minime. L'explication de ces faits est facile à trouver: la dépréciation du papier-monnaie diminue la puissance d'achat des traitements et des salaires, et la grande majorité de la population se voit dans l'obligation de restreindre ses dépenses. D'après le tableau qui précède, il résulte que la douane de Valparaiso a encaissé, jusqu'au 30 juin, 7,512,999 piastres en 1897 et 7,425,606 en 1898, de sorte que la moins-value de 2,090,311 piastres sur les entrées en 1898 provient presque entièrement des recettes du deuxième semestre quand la nouvelle émission de papier-monnaie a eu lieu.

Tout d'ailleurs, dit Mr. ROMAN, en terminant son rapport, fait jusqu'à présent supposer que les entrées douanières de 1899 seront inférieures à celles de l'année qui vient de s'écouler.

SITUATION FINANCIÈRE DU CHILI.

D'après les dernières nouvelles reçues du Chili, il paraît qu'une amélioration sensible se fait sentir dans la situation financière de cette République. Au commencement de l'année en cours, le taux du change était de 12½ pence et le prix de l'or de 144 pour cent. A la fin du mois de mai le cours du change variait de 15 à 16 pence et le prix de l'or était entre 115 et 120 pour cent. En janvier des traites sur Londres

payables en or ne rapportaient que de 17½ à 17¾ pence pour chaque peso-or, tandis qu'à la date citée plus haut, on obtenait 18¼ pence, c'est-à-dire, un quart d'un sou au-dessus du pair, ce qui montre qu'on ne peut plus exporter de l'or du Chili, mais qu'on en conseille plutôt l'importation.

"El Mercurio" de Valparaiso, en date du 22 mai 1899, essaie de découvrir les causes qui ont amené cette amélioration, et entre d'autres il cite en premier lieu, la hausse dans le prix du cuivre et dit que, d'après les calculs faits, si le prix se maintient pendant l'année 1899, à environ 70 livres sterling par tonne, même si la production n'augmentait pas pendant cette période, la hausse de prix seulement, rapporterait au marché chilien une somme dépassant de 600,000 à 700,000 livres sterling la somme obtenue en 1898. Ce fait seul suffit à porter remède à la situation financière. Les importations pour 1897 ont dépassé les exportations de 1,589,698 pesos, tandis qu'en 1898 les exportations dépassaient les importations de 65,807,373 pesos.

Le journal cité donne d'autres raisons qui sont d'un caractère domestique, n'ayant aucune importance internationale et il se montre très satisfait de voir la situation économique améliorée simplement par le cours ordinaire des événements.

COLOMBIE.

MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES.

Le "Bulletin International des Douanes" vient d'envoyer à ce Bureau le supplément suivant contenant les dernières modifications apportées aux lois de douane:

I. ORDONNANCE MINISTÉRIELLE DU 30 DÉCEMBRE 1898 AUTORISANT L'IMPORTATION DES ALLUMETTES.

En vertu d'une ordonnance ministérielle en date du 30 décembre 1898, sont autorisés la fabrication, l'importation et le commerce des allumettes moyennant l'observation des lois en vigueur.

II. ORDONNANCE MINISTÉRIELLE DU 4 JANVIER 1899 RELATIVE AU RÉGIME APPLICABLE À LA STÉARINE.

En vertu d'une ordonnance ministérielle en date du 4 janvier 1899, la stéarine rangée sous le n° 87 du tarif est assimilée à l'acide stéarique et suivra le régime de ce dernier produit tarifé, d'après le n° 90 du tarif, à raison de 1 centaro le kilogramme.

HAÏTI.

RESSOURCES INEXPLOITÉES DU PAYS.

M. le Professeur EDMOND ROUMAIN, fils d'ERNEST ROUMAIN qui a établi la Légation d'Haïti à Washington sous l'administration du Président LINCOLN, est venu aux Etats-Unis en juin dernier pour intéresser les capitalistes dans l'exploitation de mines à Haïti. Le Professeur ROUMAIN, qui est membre de la faculté de l'École Médicale Pharmaceutique de Port-au-Prince, a consacré beaucoup de temps à l'étude des formations géologiques de son pays. Au cours d'une entrevue, publiée par le "New York Tribune" du 29 juin, il s'est exprimé ainsi au sujet des grandes ressources inexploitées de la République:

On trouve dans la partie nord d'Haïti et sur un rayon de plusieurs lieues, des gisements de cuivre, de fer, de nickel, de gypse, de pierres à chaux stratifiées et de porphyre et de saux sulfureuses. Un de ces produits suffirait pour faire fortune et cependant on n'a pas encore essayé d'en exploiter un seul. Lorsque les Français étaient maîtres de ce pays, ils cherchaient à cacher l'existence de ces mines de peur d'exciter la cupidité des Anglais et après l'établissement de la République on n'a fait aucun effort pour l'exploitation des richesses énormes qui gisent dans le sol d'Haïti.

J'ai apporté de magnifiques échantillons de minerais que j'ai ramassés à la surface du sol et que j'ai l'intention de faire analyser à l'Université de Columbia à New York. Le Gouvernement m'accordera la concession de l'exploitation minière de cette région et mon désir est de former une compagnie de capitalistes américains pour commencer cette exploitation le plus tôt possible. Le Gouvernement ne peut pas vendre les mines. Il peut vendre la surface du sol, mais tout ce qui se trouve en dessous lui appartient et est inaliénable. Il faut louer le terrain.

Dans le 6^e volume du BULLETIN MENSUEL, on trouve d'amples renseignements au sujet de la richesse minérale d'Haïti, et à la page 19 il y a un rapport sur les gisements houillers, par HENRI THOMASSET, ingénieur. Ce fut à l'obligeance de Monsieur J. N. LÉGER, Ministre d'Haïti aux Etats-Unis que le Bureau dut la connaissance de ce rapport auquel le Ministre donna son approbation. Page 460, il y a un rapport du Ministre des Etats-Unis, Monsieur POWELL, sur la découverte du minerai de fer; page 1773, sur des gisements de charbon, de fer et de cuivre, et enfin page 2116 sur les mines de cuivre et de fer.

Nous savons aussi (BULLETIN VI p. 1613) que le Gouvernement d'Haïti a le plus grand désir d'encourager le placement de capitaux des Etats-Unis dans la République en vue d'aider au développement des richesses inexploitées du pays.

OCCASIONS QU'OFFRE LE HAÏTI AMÉRICAIN AU COMMERCE.

Le Bureau des Républiques Américaines doit à l'amabilité de Mr. WILLIAM WOEL, agent consulaire des Etats-Unis à Gonaïves, Haïti, la communication suivante sur les débouchés qu'offre cette République aux marchandises américaines:

Il n'y a pas bien longtemps encore l'industrie américaine n'était guère représentée dans les marchés d'Haïti que par des articles de comestibles, tels que porc,

farine, morne, savon et bois de construction; mais depuis une vingtaine d'années, les cotonnades sont venues mettre fin au monopole exercé jusque-là par les produits de Manchester.

Les articles américains tels que denims, indiennes, calicots, gingas ont gagné plus en plus de terrain, grâce à leurs qualités réelles, luttant avantageusement contre les articles analogues anglais, où souvent le fabricant, en vue d'atteindre le plus bas prix de revient possible dissimule la qualité des tissus par des apprêts artificiels qui disparaissent dès la première lessive. De cette façon, les consommateurs ont vite appris à avoir plus de confiance dans l'article américain, même lorsqu'il lui coûte un peu plus cher.

La victoire pourrait être déjà complète pour les cotonnades américaines si les fabricants observaient certains petits détails que l'usage du marché a rendu nécessaires. Aussi les pièces de tissus doivent mesurer strictement 25 ou 12½ yards. Cette dernière dimension est devenue très populaire depuis quelques années et détermine au moins pour moitié les importations.

Pour les indiennes les fabricants américains mettent trop d'uniformité dans les dessins, trop peu de dessins dans les assortiments, et pas assez de couleurs différentes dans ces dessins.

En outre l'emballage conviendrait mieux si au lieu des caisses d'annages, variant de 2,500 à 3,000 yards, on faisait des ballots de 625 yards, soit 25 pièces de 25 yards ou 50 pièces de 12½ yards. Les calicots gingas gagneraient aussi si on les envoyait en ballots de 625 yards, quitte à réemballer en colis de 4 à 6 ballots.

Manchester tient le premier rang pour les mouchoirs bleus et les mouchoirs batiste couleur. (Union Madras handkerchiefs). On en consomme des quantités énormes dans le pays, où tous les campagnards et même beaucoup de gens des villes (hommes, femmes et enfants) s'en servent pour coiffure. Les qualités supérieures de mouchoirs batiste en couleurs se fabriquent surtout à Belfast, Irlande.

Nous pouvons noter les articles de lin ou lin et coton, tels que brabant, batiste cambrai, peotillé, drills, ducks de fil dont le monopole est aux fabricants irlandais. Il y a aussi les lainages légers qui rentrent dans le commerce des articles de luxe et arrivent de France ou d'Angleterre et même d'Allemagne. Nous croyons que l'industrie américaine trouverait de larges débouchés en Haïti pour les articles suivants: bonneterie, chaussures pour enfants, hommes et femmes; chapeaux, paille ou feutre; chaudronnerie, ferblanterie, poterie, faïences.

Les transactions entre les deux pays sont aussi réglées par de trop courts crédits; alors que les manufacturiers européens se paient dans six mois de terme, les manufacturiers américains doivent être payés dans 60 jours et dans de rares cas en 90 jours.

L'importateur haïtien dont la clientèle locale est en général basée sur des ventes au crédit, le plus souvent même sans échéance fixe, est volontairement porté à écouter les offres des voyageurs que les maisons européennes envoient dans le pays. Les fabricants américains devraient eux aussi envoyer des commis voyageurs parlant le français qui feraient deux fois par an le tour des marchés avec échantillons à l'appui de leurs offres.

Nous pensons aussi qu'une plus grande partie du commerce haïtien se dirigerait vers les Etats-Unis si le commerce local de banque comportait des représentants américains, c'est-à-dire des maisons américaines faisant une spécialité de transactions de change entre les deux pays. La France, l'Allemagne, l'Angleterre monopolisent en quelque sorte cette branche de commerce de banque dans le pays et nous croyons que le Haïti ne rentrera effectivement dans la voie tracée par le "Commercial Congress" que lorsque les Américains (banquiers) seront eux-mêmes représentés dans le pays.

Il est vrai que certains journaux intéressés, ainsi que des Européens établis au Haïti, cherchent parfois le moyen d'éloigner la concurrence en faisant passer la situation économique et morale du pays pour mauvaise, sans réfléchir que le lecteur pourrait bien se demander pourquoi donc ils y restent.

Lorsque l'on considère avec quelle rapidité les maisons européennes qui font ce négoce de banque prospèrent à Port-au-Prince et dans d'autres villes de la République, on est positivement étonné de ne pas pouvoir y compter d'Américains, d'autant plus que leur présence ne saurait manquer d'accroître une influence, une prépondérance qui ne demandent qu'à naître, et auxquelles le Ministère des Relations Extérieures ne pourrait pas se montrer sans intérêt.

MEXIQUE.

DEMANDE D'ARTICLES FABRIQUÉS.

Le "New York Journal of Commerce," dans son numéro du 13 juin, publie un article ayant trait à l'activité des relations commerciales entre les États-Unis et le Mexique. L'auteur de cet article s'exprime ainsi :

Tandis que les articles en fer et en acier, aussi bien que les machines et le matériel pour chemins de fer forment une partie considérable du commerce des deux Républiques, il y a une demande pressante pour toutes sortes d'articles fabriqués. Dans le courant d'une semaine à New York on a acheté d'occasion 125 tramways à chevaux pour expédier dans plusieurs localités du Mexique. Les fabricants n'ont pas pu s'engager à construire des tramways neufs, et après avoir fait connaître à leurs clients l'état de presse dans lequel se trouvait cette industrie, ces derniers ont été obligés d'acheter des voitures d'occasion.

On constate que la situation actuelle de l'industrie des rails d'acier embarrasse beaucoup les commerçants exportateurs. On a eu beaucoup de peine à se procurer un wagon de rails pour l'expédition, à cause de la demande énorme des marchés nationaux et étrangers. Des commandes de matériel pour construction de ponts ont été retardées, ainsi que d'autres articles composés de fer et d'acier. Toutefois la difficulté n'est pas due au prix, mais à la livraison, les fabriques se trouvant presque dans l'impossibilité de remplir les demandes extraordinaires qui leurs sont adressées.

L'ASPHALTE COMME NOUVEL ARTICLE D'EXPORTATION.

Le "Mexican Trade Review" contient, dans son numéro du 14 juin (page 141), une note intéressante sur l'avenir possible du Mexique comme pays exportateur d'asphalte. Jusqu'ici on a importé tout l'asphalte dont on se servait dans la République, mais dernièrement une compagnie du Texas, organisée en vue d'exploiter les gisements sur la côte du Golfe, a expédié de Tampico aux États-Unis soixante barils d'asphalte pour servir, à titre d'essai, à paver les rues de plusieurs villes.

Les promoteurs de l'entreprise se montrent satisfaits de la quantité, ainsi que de la qualité du produit. On dit aussi qu'on trouve de grands gisements d'asphalte sur la route projetée du chemin de fer "Gran Pacífico."

PÉROU.

DERNIÈRES MODIFICATIONS DOUANIÈRES.

Le "Bulletin International des Douanes," à Bruxelles, vient de nous transmettre les traductions suivantes des lois relatives aux modifications douanières :

I. Extrait de la loi du 31 décembre 1898, relative aux droits de consommation applicables aux boissons spiritueuses de toute sorte :

En vertu des articles 1 et 2 de la loi susindiquée, les boissons spiritueuses ci-après dénommées, de provenance étrangère et dont l'introduction par voie de terre est interdite, acquitteront, au moment de leur expédition dans les douanes maritimes et fluviales, un impôt de consommation dont le montant est fixé dans le tableau ci-après.

Boissons spiritueuses de provenance étrangère.

	Sols.
Bière.....	0.07
Absinthe, eau-de-vie à l'anis, cognac, kirsch, bitters, rhum, amers et toutes boissons spiritueuses autres que les vins .....	.40
Vins rouges ou blancs de Bourgogne, du Rhin, de Chypre, de Xérès, de Madère, de Porto, de cerises, de Frontignon, de Pajarete, de Malvoisie, de Muscat, de Pedro Jimenez, de Peralta et autres vins généreux, vin d'Asti ainsi que tous vins mousseux autres que le champagne, et vermouth .....	.30
Vins blancs ou rouges de Bordeaux, de Carlon, de Catalogne, de Priorato, de San Vincente et autres similaires .....	.25
Champagne.....	.50

II. Extrait de la loi du 14 janvier 1899, modifiant le régime applicable à l'importation, à la consommation et à l'exportation du tabac, des cigares et des cigarettes :

ARTICLE PREMIER. Les droits d'importation, applicables au tabac de toute espèce, aux cigares et aux cigarettes importés de l'étranger sur le territoire de la République, seront spécifiques, ils seront perçus dans toutes les douanes conformément au tarif ci-après :

	Sols.
Tabacs des régions limitrophes, en feuilles, côtes, carottes ou paquets, kilo- gramme net.....	0.25
Tabacs de toute autre provenance, en feuilles, côtes, carottes ou paquets, kilo- gramme net.....	.50
Tabacs de toute provenance, y compris les régions limitrophes, à mâcher, à priser, coupé ou haché et en général le tabac manufacturé sous toute forme autre que les cigares ou les cigarettes	1.00
Cigares italiens.....	4.00
Cigares de toute autre provenance	7.00
Cigarettes de toute provenance, en boîtes ou paquets ne contenant pas plus de 24 cigarettes.....	75.00

ART. 2. A l'avenir, il sera perçu dans toute la République et dans tous les points de consommation mêmes un impôt applicable à toutes espèces de tabacs, cigares et cigarettes dont le montant est fixé dans le tableau ci-après :

	Sols.
1 ^o . Tabac de provenance nationale, en feuilles, côtes, carottes ou paquets ou sous toute autre forme	kilogramme net.. 2.00
2 ^o . Tabac de Mexique et du centre de l'Amérique	id.... 2.20
3 ^o . Tabac des régions limitrophes, en feuilles, côtes, carottes ou paquets	id.... 2.10
4 ^o . Tabac étranger de toute autre provenance, en feuilles, côtes, carottes ou paquets	kilogramme net.. 3.20
5 ^o . Tabac étranger, à mâcher ou à priser	id.... 2.00
6 ^o . Tabac étranger, coupé ou haché, en paquets, en cigarettes, etc	id.... 3.00
7 ^o . Cigares de tout provenance étrangère, en boîtes ou en vrac	id.... 2.50

ART. 4. En cas d'exportation vers l'étranger de tabac de toute sorte, manufacturé dans le pays sous forme de cigares, cigarettes, tabac à priser, tabac coupé ou haché, la taxe de consommation sera restituée à l'exportateur comme ci-après, après qu'on aura vérifié le contenu des colis et constaté que l'exportation s'est réellement effectuée.

	Sols.
Tabac national ou étranger exporté après avoir été haché pour servir à la fabrication des cigarettes	kilogramme net.. 1.00
Le même tabac complètement manufacturé en cigares ou cigarettes, en boîtes, paquets ou en vrac	kilogramme net.. 2.00
Ce drawback ne sera pas accordé si les produits manufacturés ont été fabriqués à la machine.	

ART. 7. Sont abrogées toutes les lois, générales ou spéciales, contraires à la présente.

INSTITUTIONS DE CRÉDIT.

La legation française à Lima a récemment envoyé à son gouvernement à Paris, un rapport sur les "Institutions de Crédit" au Pérou. Ces institutions sont comme suit :

La Banco del Peru y Londres, au capital de 2,000,000 de soles, divisé en actions de 150 soles, a été formée par la fusion, au 1^{er} juillet 1897, de la Banco du Callao avec la succursale à Lima de la London Bank of Mexico and South America, Limited.

Elle possède des succursales à Callao, Arequipa, Trujillo, Piura, Chiclayo, et Ica. Sa section hypothécaire est constituée sur un capital de 40,000 livres sterling.

La Banque Italienne (Banco Italiano), fondée en 1889, a un capital de 750,000 soles divisé en actions nominales de 20 livres. Elle a une succursale au Callao.

La Banque Internationale (Banco International), dont l'établissement remonte à peine à une quinzaine de mois, est au capital de 2,000,000 de soles divisé en actions de 100 soles nominales.

À la suite de ces trois banques on peut encore citer diverses sociétés financières, telles que :

L'Acumulativa, au capital de 250,000 soles, divisé en actions de 100 soles nominales qui procède au tirage mensuel de certificats d'une valeur de 500 soles.

La Sociedad Recaudadora de Impuestos, créée par décret du 9 janvier 1896, qui a pour objet la perception pour le compte de l'Etat des impôts sur les alcools, tabacs, opium, timbres fiscaux, etc.

LOI MONÉTAIRE.

Par rapport à la loi monétaire on dit :

Le décret du 9 avril 1897 et celui du 24 juin 1897 suspendant la frappe de la monnaie d'argent et prescrivant le paiement de droits de douane en livres sterling, à raison d'une livre par dix soles, en attendant l'émission d'une monnaie nationale, émission qui a eu lieu à la suite de la promulgation de la nouvelle loi monétaire du 18 décembre 1897, a eu pour but principal et pour résultat d'établir la stabilité du change, à raison de 24 pence pour un sol.

La nouvelle monnaie nationale frappée à la Monnaie de Lima et qui porte le nom de livre péruvienne consiste en un disque de 22 millimètres de diamètre au titre de neuf cent seize millièmes et deux tiers (916.67), du poids de sept grammes neuf cent quatre vingt-huit milligrammes. Elle porte, sur la face, le buste du fondateur de l'Empire des Incas avec le légende "Vérité et Justice" à la partie supérieure, et l'inscription "une livre" dans la partie inférieure. Au revers se détache l'écusson national, sans trophées, couronné par un soleil levant et rayonnant, une palme et un lanier avec la devise République Péruvienne.

Jusqu'à ce jour la frappe des livres péruviennes à la Monnaie de Lima a atteint le chiffre de 34,000 livres.

La nouvelle pièce d'or péruvienne se négocie couramment dans les maisons de change entre dix soles et 25 centavos.

DÉCOUVERTES RÉCENTES DE MINÉRAI DE CUIVRE.

Un correspondant du "Engineering and Mining Journal" envoie le rapport suivant, publié par le journal dans son numéro du 3 juin 1899, page 663 :

J'ai trouvé dernièrement un bon filon de minerai de cuivre dans l'Isle de Santa, à 4 milles au nord de Chimbote. J'expédie de la mine, par chaloupes, du minerai renfermant 25 pour cent de cuivre et 1 once d'or par tonne. Ce minerai, franco à bord du vapeur, coûte \$1 par tonne, et les dépenses de l'extraction sont de \$15 par tonne. J'ai aussi trouvé sur le continent plusieurs veines renfermant une certaine quantité de cuivre, ainsi qu'une quantité d'or variant de $\frac{1}{4}$ à 3 onces par tonne. Des échantillons de minerai oxychloride donnent 46 pour cent de cuivre.

M. DUFOURGE, représentant un syndicat de New-York, organisé par Mr. N. L. SELLECK, est ici pour examiner plusieurs propriétés. Le syndicat s'intéresse aussi aux charbons. On trouve beaucoup de charbon sur la rivière Santa, à 105 milles de Chimbote, ce qui peut auener le prolongement du chemin de fer de Chimbote, car ce dernier endroit est le meilleur port de la côte. Le prolongement de cette route ouvrirait non seulement les gisements houilliers, mais aussi les placers aurifères et les mines de Palcasu et de Pataz, ainsi que les mines de cuivre, d'or et d'autres minerais de tout le Département d'Ancachs. Parmi les personnes qui accompagnent M. DUFOURGE, on remarque un ingénieur civil, le Major ALFRED SEARS, et on compte que le travail commencera aussitôt qu'on aura examiné les propriétés.

ETATS-UNIS.

CONDITIONS DES PRINCIPALES RÉCOLTES.

Les rapports préliminaires, reçus au Ministère de l'Agriculture des Etats-Unis, indiquent une augmentation d'environ 5 pour cent dans la superficie ensenencée de maïs sur celle de 1898. Sur les vingt-et-un Etats ayant 100,000 acres ou plus en culture, tous, à l'exception de trois, accusent une augmentation, et la diminution qui a eu lieu dans ces trois Etats est très petite. La condition moyenne accuse 86,5 pour cent contre: 1^o, 90,5 le 1^{er} juillet 1898; 2^o, 82,9 le 1^{er} juillet 1897, et 3^o, 91,1, moyenne des récoltes pour le mois de juillet pendant les dix dernières années. Voici la condition des récoltes dans les principaux Etats: Ohio et Missonri, 85; Indiana, 90; Illinois, 86; Iowa, 81; Kansas, 92 et Nebraska, 93.

Quant aux blés, la condition des blés d'hiver accuse encore une diminution, étant de 65,6 le 1^{er} juillet 1899, contre 86,7 pour l'année 1898, et de 81,2 pour l'année 1897, soit une moyenne de 82,4 pour le mois de juillet pendant les dix dernières années. La condition moyenne des blés de printemps est de 91,7 contre 91,4 le 1^{er} juin 1899, 95 le 1^{er} juillet 1898, 91,2 pour le même mois 1897, et 88,7, moyenne pour le moi de juillet pendant dix ans.

La condition moyenne du seigle d'hiver accuse 83,3 contre 93,8 le 1^{er} juillet 1898; 95 le 1^{er} juillet 1897, et 90,5, moyenne du mois de juillet pendant dix ans. Quant au seigle de printemps, la condition moyenne accuse 89,7 contre 96,9 le 1^{er} juillet 1898; 90 le 1^{er} juillet 1897, et 90,6, moyenne pendant dix ans.

La condition moyenne de la récolte d'avoine est de 90 contre 88,7 le 1^{er} juin 1899; 92,8 le 1^{er} juillet 1898, et 87,7, moyenne pendant 10 ans. La condition moyenne de l'orge accuse 92 contre 85,7 le 1^{er} juillet 1898, et 88,3, moyenne pendant dix ans. On constate une augmentation de un pour cent dans la superficie d'acres de pommes de terre, et la condition de la récolte est satisfaisante. Les rapports sur la laine indiquent un poids moyen par toison de 5,98 livres, soit une augmentation de 0,15 de livre sur l'année dernière. Le rapport sur le coton accuse une condition moyenne de 87,8, pour contre 91,2 1^{er} juillet 1898, et 88, moyenne pour dix ans.

D'après le "New York Journal of Commerce," le commerce d'exportation des Etats-Unis, pendant les deux semaines finissant le 8 juillet, accuse un mouvement énorme dans les récoltes; les récoltes totales étant: blé, 2,864,000 boisseaux; maïs, 5,096,000 boisseaux; seigle, 117,000 boisseaux, et avoine, 825,000 boisseaux. Le gain qui a eu lieu en juin dans la quantité de blé emmagasiné en Amérique a surpassé tous les précédents. La quantité aux Etats-Unis et au Canada, le 1^{er}

juillet, s'est élevée à presque 50,000,000 de boisseaux, soit un accroissement de plus de 4,000,000 de boisseaux pendant le mois de juin contre une diminution en juin de plus de 11,000,000 de boisseaux. La quantité de blé en magasin en Europe a diminué d'environ 2,500,000 boisseaux pendant le mois. La quantité totale des céréales aux Etats-Unis, Canada, Europe, Australie et aux principaux ports de la République Argentine, s'est élevée à 133,501,000 boisseaux, soit une augmentation de 1,000,000 de boisseaux depuis le 1^{er} juin, contre une diminution dans la production du monde entier en juin 1898 de 19,000,000 de boisseaux.

La production totale des céréales en Amérique est actuellement plus du double de ce qu'elle était il y a un an, tandis que celle de l'Europe a 10,000,000 de boisseaux de plus, et la production du monde entier a 48,000,000 de boisseaux de plus qu'an 1^{er} juillet 1898. Les exportations de blé provenant de tous les pays à destination de l'Europe depuis le 1^{er} août 1898 jusqu'au 24 juin 1899, se sont élevées à 342,840,000 boisseaux, soit une diminution de 54,600,000 boisseaux sur l'année précédente.

TRAITÉ DE RÉCIPROCITÉ AVEC LA BARBADE.

On a signé au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à Washington, le 16 juin 1899, un traité de réciprocité entre les Etats-Unis et la Grande-Bretagne au sujet du commerce entre les Etats-Unis et la colonie britannique de la Barbade. Le traité qu'on vient de signer est le premier qui ait été fait aux termes de l'article 4 du tarif douanier du 24 juillet 1897, dit de DINGLEY. Il est aussi le premier d'une série de traités que les colonies britanniques au sud des Etats-Unis désirent conclure. Ledit traité sera en vigueur pendant cinq ans, mais comme il doit être soumis à l'examen et à l'approbation du Sénat, le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères ne peut pas en publier les conditions maintenant.

L'article 4 du traité accorde une réduction "jusqu'à concurrence de 20 pour cent sur les droits établis dans le présent acte et applicables à l'importation des marchandises spécifiées dans les traités conclus en vertu du présent article. Le Président pourra également, pendant la même période, transférer du tableau soumis aux droits au tableau des articles admis en franchise les produits, denrées et marchandises de production naturelle de ces pays étrangers et non des Etats-Unis."

Le principal produit de la Barbade est le sucre, dont le commerce en 1898 a atteint le chiffre de \$2,208,000. Les céréales forment la plus grande partie des exportations faites dans cette île par les Etats-Unis. Jusqu'ici presque tous les articles fabriqués ont été de provenance anglaise. Autrefois les consuls des Etats-Unis à la Barbade ont attiré l'attention sur les demandes faites par cette contrée pour les beurres, conserves, voitures, bicyclettes, équipements électriques et ciment.

Le Consul MACALLISTER dit, dans les Relations Commerciales des Etats-Unis pour 1898, page 108, que les importations de Bridgetown en

1897, ont été de \$5,043,495 contre \$5,244,435 en 1896. Les importations provenant des Etats-Unis pour cette année accusent une diminution de \$175,886. En 1897, la valeur des comestibles venant des Etats-Unis se montait à \$1,253,895 contre \$483,755 de provenance anglaise. D'un autre côté, les articles fabriqués fournis par l'Angleterre se sont élevés à \$658,785, tandis que ceux provenant des Etats-Unis ne se sont élevés qu'à \$116,600.

Les exportations pour 1897, d'après la même source, ont dépassé celles de 1896 de \$90,674, soit un total général de \$3,680,000. La quantité totale du sucre exporté en 1897 s'est élevée à 67,609 tonneaux. Les expéditions de manioc, espèce de plante ressemblant au yucca du Vénézuéla, se sont élevées à \$18,800. Sur cette quantité les Etats-Unis en ont reçu pour \$12,967.

PRODUCTION GÉNÉRALE DU PÉTROLE.

D'après les statistiques publiées dernièrement par le Bureau de Statistique du Ministère des Finances des Etats-Unis, la production annuelle du pétrole dans le monde entier dépasse 5,000,000,000 de gallons et sur cette quantité les Etats-Unis ont produit 2,500,000,000 de gallons, la Russie, 2,250,000,000 et la différence provient des autres pays, dont les noms suivent : l'Autriche, les îles de Sumatra et de Java, le Canada, la Roumanie, l'Inde, le Japon, l'Allemagne, le Pérou et l'Italie. Bien que la production du pétrole brut soit presque égale dans les Etats-Unis et la Russie, la quantité d'huile raffinée d'éclairage que le premier pays produit est presque le double de la quantité produite par la Russie. La raison en est que les Etats-Unis raffinent les trois-quarts de tout le pétrole qu'ils produisent, tandis que la Russie raffine seulement les trois-huitièmes de sa production totale. Après la Russie, le Sumatra fait la plus grande concurrence aux Etats-Unis, parce que la moitié du volume du pétrole brut produit dans cette île, donne de l'huile raffinée et aussi parce qu'elle se trouve plus près des nations orientales où sont les principaux débouchés de ce produit. Jusqu'ici toutefois, la quantité de l'huile pétrole produite dans l'île est petite en comparaison de la quantité expédiée par les Etats-Unis et la Russie, car en 1897 cette île n'a produit que 72,258,000 gallons. L'Angleterre est la nation qui consomme le plus de pétrole américain; pendant l'année fiscale écoulée on en a exporté dans ce pays 212,265,563 gallons. La quantité d'huile raffinée d'éclairage exportée des Etats-Unis en 1898, s'est élevée à 900,998,875 gallons, tandis que la Russie n'a exporté qu'environ un tiers de cette quantité.

Le "Nouveau Monde," publié à Paris, dit dans son numéro du 17 juin, 1899, qu'on a découvert près de Puebla, Mexique, des gisements considérables de pétrole et qu'une compagnie mexicaine est en train de s'organiser pour leur exploitation.

PRODUCTION DE PLOMB.

Le "Engineering and Mining Journal" de New York a publié les chiffres révisés de la production de plomb aux Etats-Unis pendant l'année 1898.

D'après ces chiffres, le rendement total pour l'année a été de 238,000 tonnes, une augmentation d'environ 29,000 tonnes sur celui de l'année 1897. L'Etat de Colorado a contribué la plus grande partie de cette augmentation, sa production totale étant de 56,700 tonnes, soit une augmentation de 16,000 tonnes. L'Idaho, qui le suit avec un rendement total de 56,300 tonnes, montre une légère diminution d'environ 1,400 tonnes sur sa production de l'année précédente. D'un autre côté le Utah, dont les forges ont produit 45,000 tonnes de plomb, montre une augmentation de 6,400 tonnes, tandis que dans le sud-est du Missouri, où le rendement a été de 35,000 tonnes, il n'y avait qu'une augmentation de 1,500 tonnes. Il est aussi à remarquer que tandis que le plomb fondu des minerais domestiques a augmenté de beaucoup, le produit obtenu des minerais étrangers qui a ajouté 89,000 tonnes au total, montre une diminution de 2,900 tonnes pour l'année.

TRAITÉ DE RÉCIPROCITÉ AVEC LA JAMAÏQUE.

On vient de conclure au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères à Washington, le 1^{er} juillet, 1899, un traité de réciprocité entre la Grande Bretagne et les Etats-Unis, pour l'île de la Jamaïque. Monsieur J. A. KASSON, nommé Commissaire Plénipotentiaire en mission spéciale sous l'acte du Tarif des Etats-Unis, a représenté dans les négociations les Etats-Unis et Mons. REGINALD TOWER, le Chargé d'Affaires britannique, la Grande Bretagne. On a transmis ce traité à Kingston pour l'approbation des autorités coloniales et quand elles l'auront accordée, la signature formelle de cet acte aura lieu. Les détails ne seront publiés qu'après la ratification du traité par le Congrès des Etats-Unis.

FONTE DE L'ACIER DANS LE VIDE.

Le "Scientific American" dans son numéro du 24 juin, dit qu'une compagnie vient d'être formée au capital de \$150,000 pour décider si l'acier peut ou non être fondu dans le vide au moyen de la liquéfaction de l'hydrogène. Si le plan réussit on espère pouvoir faire disparaître les bulles d'air qui causent maintenant des imperfections et affaiblissent les fontes, obtenant ainsi l'homogénéité dans les pièces fondues. Il paraît donc, que le succès du Professeur DEWAR, dans la liquéfaction de l'hydrogène, commence à porter ses fruits.

REVUE DE LIVRES.

“The Chautauquan” du mois de juin, pages 249-256, publie un article très intéressant contenant de nombreuses illustrations et intitulé “La Ville de Buenos Ayres.” Cet article est écrit par Mr. WILLIAM ELROY CURTIS, qui a été le premier Directeur du Bureau des Républiques Américaines. Par suite de ses nombreux voyages dans l’Amérique du Sud et des minutieuses observations qu’il y a faites, les articles de M. CURTIS contiennent des renseignements très intéressants et des statistiques très authentiques.

M. ROBERT P. PORTER, qui était dernièrement Commissaire Spécial des Etats-Unis à Cuba et à Porto Rico, a fait une étude soignée des conditions commerciales et industrielles dans l’île de Cuba, ayant spécialement en vue les occasions qui s’y présentent pour les capitaux, l’entreprise et le travail américains. M. PORTER a condensé les résultats de ses recherches dans un volume de 428 pages, publié par G. P. Putnam & Fils, New York, intitulé “Cuba Industriel.”

Cet ouvrage renferme les renseignements les plus récents et les plus précis grâce aux facilités dont disposait l’auteur.

“L’Académie Américaine des Sciences Politiques et Sociales” (Philadelphie) vient de publier les discours de THÉODORE S. WOOLSEY, E. W. HUFFCUT, A. LAWRENCE LOWELL, W. ALLEYNE IRELAND, CARL SCHURZ, W. C. FORD, ROBERT T. HILL, JOHN BASSETT MOORE, Son Excellence WU TING FANG et d’autres, prononcés à l’occasion de la réunion annuelle de l’Académie le 7-8 avril, avec le compte-rendu des discussions qui ont suivi chaque discours. Ces discours forment un volume de 216 pages et constituent une présentation importante pour et contre la politique d’expansion nationale.

La collection des Guides Baedeker, si justement appréciée du public, vient de s’enrichir d’un nouveau volume, digne en tous points de ses prédécesseurs. Ce volume est écrit par Mr. J. F. MUIRHEAD, qui vient d’en écrire encore un autre, intitulé “The Land of Contrasts” (La Terre des Contrastes), volume très intéressant et qui, du point de vue du lecteur américain, donne une excellente description de la vie et des usages aux Etats-Unis.

Ce guide, ainsi que tous les autres de cette série, commence par une introduction composée d’études sur différents sujets intéressants sur les Etats-Unis et sont toutes par des personnes d’autorité reconnue. Nous ne pouvons mentionner ici que celles qui ont pour titres: “Short History of the American Policy,” (Courte Histoire de la Politique

Américaine, par le Professeur JOHN BACH MCMASTER;) "Constitution and Government of the United States," (Constitution et Gouvernement des Etats-Unis, par l'Honorable JAMES BRYCE, l'auteur du "American Commonwealth,") et enfin celle écrite par le Professeur N. S. SHALER, de l'Université de Harvard, sur la "Physiography of North America" (Physiographie de l'Amérique du Nord).

Le livre n'est pas seulement un guide pour le voyageur dans les Etats-Unis et le Territoire d'Alaska, mais contient aussi un itinéraire détaillé d'un voyage à la ville de Mexico et à la Vera-Cruz.

Les dix-neuf cartes et vingt-quatre plans de différentes villes des Etats-Unis accompagnant ce volume ont été préparés avec le soin qui distingue les guides de Baedeker et sous la surveillance de Mr. HENRY GANNETT du Geological Survey des Etats-Unis.

L'exemplaire supplémentaire (127) des "Mitteilungen" du Docteur A. PETERMANN (Justus Perthes' Geographische Anstalt, Gotha, 1899) contient un traité sur les formations montagneuses et sur le sol du nord de l'Amérique Centrale. Cet article, écrit par le Docteur CARL SAPPER, est le résultat de ses recherches faites pendant les années 1888-1897. Ce travail fait suite aux ouvrages écrits précédemment par le même auteur, qui sont les suivants: "Géographie Physique du Guatemala" (PETERMANN'S "Mitteilungen," Supplément No. 113, 1893); "Géographie Physique de Chiapas, Tabasco et Yucatan" (Boletín No. 3 del Instituto Geológico de México, 1895), et en plus un rapport au Gouvernement du Honduras Anglais (1896), encore inédit. Dans le volume en question, les ouvrages mentionnés ci-dessus sont réunis pour former un volume complet auquel sont ajoutés les résultats d'un voyage à travers le Salvador et la partie ouest du Honduras, depuis la limite occidentale des Etats mexicains de Chiapas et Tabasco jusqu'aux frontières de l'Amérique Centrale, entre Puerto Cortez et la baie de Fonseca. L'auteur dit qu'il a borné ses efforts principalement à la géologie, à l'orographie, à l'hydrographie et à l'étude du sol des différents districts, ayant publié précédemment la carte des plus importantes régions pluvieuses du nord de l'Amérique Centrale dans "Das nördliche Mittelamerika" (Brunswick, 1897) et dans PETERMANN'S "Mitteilungen" (1897, vol. 6).

Le present ouvrage est une acquisition sérieuse pour la littérature scientifique, car le Docteur SAPPER donne un résumé soigné des conditions existantes, ainsi qu'une revue de l'état actuel de nos connaissances, auquel il a ajouté ses propres recherches. Bien que le Docteur SAPPER ait écrit d'abord pour l'homme de science et que ses lecteurs se trouveront principalement parmi des collègues intéressés dans le même genre de recherche, le public qui a besoin de renseignements sur les pays dont cet ouvrage traite y trouvera beaucoup de choses intéressantes.

Le volume contient les cartes suivantes :

I. Carte originelle du nord de l'Amérique Centrale. Echelle, 1:1,100,000.

II. Carte géologique du nord de l'Amérique Centrale. Echelle, 1:1,100,000.

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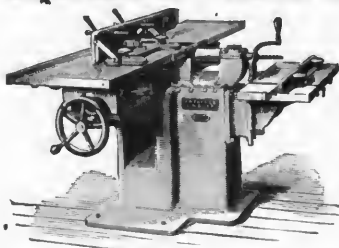
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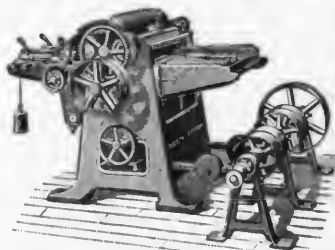
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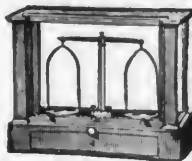


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Milliliter (1/1000 liter) equals 0.061 cubic inch.
 Centiliter (1/100 liter) equals 0.6102 cubic inch.
 Deciliter (1/10 liter) equals 6.1022 cubic inches.
 Liter equals 0.908 quart.
 Decaliter (10 liters) equals 9.08 quarts.
 Hectoliter (100 liters) equals 2.838 bushels.
 Kiloliter (1,000 liters) equals 1.308 cubic yards.

METRIC LIQUID MEASURE.

Milliliter (1/1000 liter) equals 0.0388 fluid ounce.
 Centiliter (1/100 liter) equals 0.388 fluid ounce.
 Deciliter (1/10 liter) equals 0.845 gill.
 Liter equals 1.0567 quarts.
 Decaliter (10 liters) equals 2.6418 gallons.
 Hectoliter (100 liters) equals 26.418 gallons.
 Kiloliter (1,000 liters) equals 264.18 gallons.

METRIC MEASURES OF LENGTH.

Millimeter (1/1000 meter) equals 0.0394 inch.
 Centimeter (1/100 meter) equals 0.3937 inch.
 Decimeter (1/10 meter) equals 3.937 inches.
 Meter equals 39.37 inches.
 Decameter (10 meters) equals 393.7 inches.
 Hectometer (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) equals 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, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, United States of America, and Venezuela.

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.	United States equivalents.
Are	Metric	0.02471 acre.
Arobo	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 Venezuela	4.263 gallons.
Barril	Argentine Republic and Mexico	20.0787 gallons.
Carga	Mexico and Salvador	300 pounds.
Centavo	Central America	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	Metric	35.3 cubic 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	1.599 bushels.
Frasco	Argentine Republic	2.5096 quarts.
Do	Mexico	2.5 quarts.
Gram	Metric	15.432 grains.
Hectare	do.	2.471 acres.
Hectoliter (dry)	do.	2.838 bushels.
Hectoliter (liquid)	do.	26.417 gallons.
Kilogram (kilo)	do.	2.2046 pounds.
Kilometer	do.	0.621376 mile.
League (land)	Paraguay	4.633 acres.
Libra	Argentine Republic	1.0127 pounds.
Do	Central America	1.043 pounds.
Do	Chile	1.014 pounds.
Do	Cuba	1.0161 pounds.
Do	Mexico	1.01465 pounds.
Do	Peru	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Uruguay	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Venezuela	1.0161 pounds.
Liter	Metric	1.0567 quarts.
Livre	Guiana	1.0791 pounds.
Manzana	Costa Rica	1.5-6 acres.
Marc	Bolivia	0.507 pound.
Meter	Metric	39.37 inches.
Pic	Argentine Republic	0.9478 foot.
Quintal	do.	101.42 pounds.
Do	Brazil	130.06 pounds.
Do	Chile, Mexico, and Peru	101.61 pounds.
Do	Paraguay	100 pounds.
Do. (metric)	Metric	220.46 pounds.
Suerte	Uruguay	2,700 cuadradas (<i>see</i> Cuadra.)
Vara	Argentine Republic	34.1208 inches.
Do	Central America	38.874 inches.
Do	Chile and Peru	33.367 inches.
Do	Cuba	33.384 inches.
Do	Mexico	33 inches.
Do	Paraguay	34 inches.
Do	Venezuela	33.384 inches.

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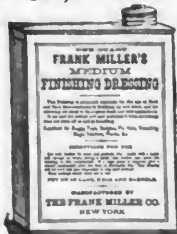
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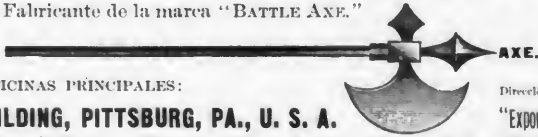
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