

THE
MONTHLY BULLETIN
 OF THE
Bureau
 OF THE
American Republics
 WASHINGTON, U. S. A.

JULY, 1895

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BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,
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Director—CLINTON FURBISH.

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 BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

JULY, 1895.

EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS OF
 THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

Countries.	Offices.	Names.
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	Minister of War and Navy	Eudoro Balza.
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	Minister of Government and Colonization.....	Luis Paz.
	Minister of Treasury and Industry	Enrique Borda.
	Minister of Justice and Public Instruction.....	Emeterio Tovar.
	Minister of War	Severo F. Alfonso.
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	Minister of Public Works.....	Antonio Olyntho.
	Minister of the Interior and Justice.....	Goncalves Ferreira.
	Minister of War	Bernardo Vasques.
	Minister of the Navy.....	El. Barbosa.
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	Minister of Foreign Relations	Marco F. Suarez.
	Minister of Finance	Carlos Uribe.
	Minister of War	Edmundo Cervantes.
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	President	José María Reina Barrios.
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EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS. 3

Countries.	Offices.	Names.
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	Minister of War and Fomento.....	Próspero Morales.
	Minister of Finance.....	Salvador Herrera.
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	Minister of Public Instruction.....	M. Labidon.
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Countries.	Offices.	Names.	
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	Minister of Foreign Affairs	M. de Galván.	
	Minister of War and Navy	R. Castillo.	
	Minister of Finance and Commerce	M. Rivas.	
	Minister of Justice and Public Instruction.....	S. E. Valverde.	
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		Secretary of the Treasury	John Griffin Carlisle.
		Secretary of War	Daniel Scott Lamont.
Attorney General.....		Judson Harmon.	
Postmaster General		William L. Wilson.	
Secretary of the Navy		Hilary A. Herbert.	
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	Secretary of Agriculture	Julius Sterling Morton.	
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	Minister of War and Navy	Juan José Diaz.	
	President	Joaquín Crespo.	
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	Minister of Foreign Relations	Lucio Pulido.	
	Minister of Finance	Manuel Antonio Matos	
	Minister of Fomento	Jacinto Lara.	
	Minister of Public Instruction	Alejandro Urbaneja.	
Minister of Public Works	José María Manrique.		
Minister of War and Navy	Ramón Guerra.		

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

THE FLOUR MILLING INDUSTRY.

[From the Review of the River Plate of May 25, 1895.]

The special committee appointed by the millers to study the best means of improving the flour milling industry have already held several meetings, and will shortly report to a general meeting. At present the only outlet for our flour has been Brazil, but even in that country it is impossible to compete against American and other flours on account of the high duties placed upon the Argentine product in return for the high duties we place on Brazilian sugar. What was expected has now happened, as the American flour which enters the Brazilian market under the most favored nation clause has ousted the Argentine flour, as it is impossible to compete when the duties are about double. The only remedy is for the millers to bring pressure to bear upon Congress, the same as the sugar planters of Tucuman have done, and see if it is not possible to reduce the sugar dues, as it is not equitable that an industry as large and important as that of milling should be made to go under so that the sugar people can wax fat on high protective duties. Some idea of the importance of the milling industry in this country can be gathered from the fact that there are 419 mills, of which 279 are first-class, 18 second-class, and 122 third-class. These 419 mills are capable of turning out 1,345,040 tons of first quality flour per annum, for which they would require 2,000,000 tons of wheat. The quality of Argentine flour is exceedingly good, as in the 1889 Paris exhibition they obtained a grand prize, two gold medals, and several silver medals. It now remains to be seen if the millers have sufficient influence to make themselves heard, and thus remedy the defects which are killing a splendid industry.

CENSUS ITEMS.

The census of the Argentine Republic, taken on the 10th of May last, reveals the fact that within the last eight years the population of the province of Santa Fé has nearly doubled, the total now being 405,369 against 220,394 in 1894.

The increase in population in Buenos Aires is also very marked. In 1875 there were 239,000 inhabitants, and 1880, 270,000; in 1890, 557,144, and in 1895, 660,000. The birth rate is very high, the Italians being especially prolific, their issue forming 40 per cent of the total births. The death rate is decreasing, being now only 22 per 1,000.

SHIPMENT OF FROZEN MEAT.

The following figures show the export of frozen meat from Argentina for the last ten years:

	Tons.
1885	2,862
1886.....	7,350
1887.....	12,038
1888.....	18,246
1889.....	16,532
1890.....	20,414
1891.....	23,278
1892.....	25,436
1893.....	25,041
1894.....	26,584

According to the "South American Journal," the export of frozen meat is apparently giving way to the export of live stock. Nearly every steamer leaving Buenos Aires is now carrying considerable consignments of live animals to the markets of Brazil, Liverpool and London.

NATURALIZATION OF FOREIGNERS.

The "South American Journal" is informed by a telegram from Buenos Aires, dated June 27, that a bill granting naturalization to all foreigners who have resided in Argentina ten years, will shortly be proposed in the Congress of that country.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

The following information relating to industrial affairs in the Argentine Republic is obtained from the message of President Uriburu, delivered to Congress at the meeting of that body on May 8 last:

The railway system of the Republic now comprises 11,098 kilometers, about the same as last year. The halt in railway building is attributed to the fact that the existing lines are amply sufficient to meet the demands of the present population and production of the country.

The joint capital represented by the railways is \$439,078,236 gold, an increase over the previous year of \$2,655,849, the amount invested in new rolling stock and buildings.

The gross receipts for the year 1894 were \$75,023,000 paper currency, and the operating expenses were \$42,411,000, leaving a net profit of \$32,612,000, equal to \$9,059,000 gold at 300 per cent premium, or 2.06 per cent on the capital invested. There are 1,020 locomotives in good order, 1,393 passenger coaches, and 29,524 freight cars in use.

The lines owned by the State amount to 1,025 kilometers, representing a capital of \$44,424,304 in gold. Last year these lines yielded \$69,027 net profit, barely paying working expenses.

In the course of last year 54,720 immigrants arrived in the country, being an increase of 1,653 over the year 1893.

The harvest in 1894 yielded approximately as follows:

Wheat	2,044,957,000 kilograms
Indian corn	608,000,000 kilograms
Linseed	260,200,000 kilograms
Peanut	23,000,000 kilograms

There are 28,800 hectares under vines, which yielded 1,600,000 hectoliters of wine, 10,582,000 kilograms of raisins, and 18,125 hectoliters of

alcohol. The sugar cane industry shows a still more flourishing condition. There are 32,876 hectares in the cultivation of sugar caue, and 48 sugar mills, the greater part of the latter being built with all the modern improvements. The gross products represented 4,050,720,000 kilograms, an average yield of 6 per cent in sugar.

BRAZIL.

COMMERCE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Official advices from Brazil received by the Department of State represent that country to be in a state of tranquillity, with the exception of spasmodic fighting in Rio Grande do Sul, and occasional election disturbances in the States of Bahia and Pernambuco.

Confidence in the Government, and in the political stability of the country is apparent in the improved commercial and financial conditions.

According to the authority whose views are here presented there is not in the city of Rio de Janeiro one general American importing house, while there are thousands of English, German, French, Portuguese and other foreign houses doing business in that line, aggregating many millions of dollars annually.

These companies have established in Rio and other commercial cities of Brazil, banking and business houses with large capital, as well as many lines of steamships plying between the ports of that country and the European commercial centers. This vast trade has been obtained by a careful study of the demands of the market, and held by studiously catering to it.

It is stated that the masses of the people are most kindly disposed toward the United States, and would doubtless favor the products of this country if offered at even prices with those of other countries, but it is necessary that the channels of trade should first be established.

POINTS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

In his message, delivered to the Congress on its reassembling May 4, President de Moraes informs that body:

That with the exception of the trouble incited by the rebellious elements in Rio Grande do Sul, along the border of Uruguay, the country is at peace throughout its whole extent, and its relations with foreign nations friendly.

Diplomatic relations with Portugal had been restored; the boundary question between Brazil and the Argentine had been happily settled; a joint commission is about to undertake to settle the boundary between Brazil and Bolivia; and in accordance with an agreement with the French Government, the territory in dispute between Brazil and French Guiana is to be explored.

Some political disturbances of a local nature had occurred in several States, in consequence of which there were in the State of Sergipe two legislatures and two governors; in Pernambuco, trouble had arisen over the election of State senators; and in Bahia there were duplicate chambers in the Legislature. He says that, in obedience to the constitution, he had refrained from interfering in these local questions; but recommends the subject to the serious consideration of Congress, and calls for prompt action.

The President declares that the revenues are increasing, and that the commercial, agricultural, and manufacturing interests of the nation are prosperous. He alludes to the successful floating of the domestic loan of 100,000,000 milreis (\$20,000,000) in five per cent bonds, issued at 95, which was subscribed twice over. One-half of this loan was to be devoted to the reduction of the paper circulation, which had become excessive, and 20,000,000 milreis of the same had already been canceled.

The President looks to the pacification of Rio Grande do Sul as the one thing needed to settle happily the condition of the whole nation.

PERNAMBUCO—EXTRACTS FROM BRITISH CONSULAR REPORT FOR 1894.

The report of Mr. Arthur L. G. Williams, Acting Consul for the District of Pernambuco, to the British Foreign Office, for the year 1894, has been received.

This consular district embraces the States of Pernambuco, Rio Grande do Norte, Parahyba, and Alagoas.

In his report Consul Williams says:

General Trade Conditions.

Railways have been finished and others commenced during the last five years; many central sugar factories, or usines, have been mounted. Capital is plentiful and credit good. A well managed native bank, established in 1889, of which the shareholders are almost exclusively of this city (Pernambuco), has done much good to agricultural enterprises and helped to develop the sugar and cotton industries of this State. British banks are not permitted by their London boards of directors to invest in industrial native enterprises. Failures amongst planters have been almost unknown of late years; consequently the backbone of the country, the agricultural interest, being sound, trade generally has improved, and the large cash balances in the several banking establishments, confronted with their liabilities (which are large in proportion), show a decided and steady state of prosperity and sound credit.

Dry Goods.

There are no longer any British import dry goods merchants established in Pernambuco or neighboring ports of this district, but the trade, nevertheless, cannot be said to have gone out of English hands into those of the Swiss and German houses, as the native shopkeepers and importing merchants now buy direct from Manchester, Dundee and Belfast merchants, who are ably represented by commercial travelers, who call frequently at the ports and keep in touch with the requirements of the market and state of trade. It is worthy of note that Pernambuco has had for the last five years past the reputation of being thoroughly safe, and a better business has been done at the low rates of exchange than ever before at the high rates. There is no overstocking or buying beyond requirements, and, with the high currency prices of produce, up-country dealers have been able to buy for cash in most cases, consequently failures of importers have hardly occurred.

Industrial Machinery.

I shall refer later on to the great number of industrial enterprises that have been successfully inaugurated during the last five years, but in this connection I regret to report a want of enterprise during the last five years on the part of British manufacturers of machinery, in regard to cane mills and sugar manufacture. Not only have the French been much more active, but they are more *au fait* with modern improvements, they are always well represented, and are on the spot. English firms established here have imported machinery, it is true, but not so much as French manufacturers of machinery have sent out of late years, and erected for the planters themselves. This is where British enterprise is lacking; the chief cause I believe to be the question of credit. The British manufacturer appears to have no other terms than the following: One-third of the cost to be paid in cash on giving the order, one-third on shipment, and the balance at ninety days after shipment. Very frequently a satisfactory reference is demanded as well. The French manufacturer gives much longer credit and facilitates in every way the sale of his goods. He will advance on mortgage of the machinery till the first or even the second crop is taken off; he will himself put up the machinery; and, generally speaking, this is a wise precaution to take, not only for the credit of the manufacturer, but also for the security of payment. The British seller of machinery is indifferent whether his plant is satisfactory or not, having received payment before it can by any possibility be tried, and in this way the French are ousting us out.

For distilling, the French or German machinery, and not English, is used.

In the cotton mills, however, the English machinery is absolutely universal in this and the neighboring States.

Factories

The industrial evolution of the last five years has been very great. In 1889 there was only one small cotton mill of 60 looms; since then six new factories have been erected in this State, with a total capacity of 1,783 looms, of which 1,194 are now working. There are four cotton factories in Alagôas, of which three were built since 1889. Parahyba and Rio Grande do Norte have each added one cotton mill to the great number already existing in Brazil. A small jute factory has also been erected in this city for making "Hessian" bagging. The following is a list of other industrial enterprises successfully started during the last five years: A nail factory, a soap works (making the second established in this city), a cottonseed oil mill, four large distilleries for the manufacture of rum of 21° Cartier, and of alcohol of 36° to 40° Cartier, two factories for making wine from native fruits, such as cajá, gerri-

papo, pineapple, etc.; two hydraulic presses for baling cotton (one of which can turn out 700 bales of 400 pounds weight and ten feet cubic measurement in twenty-four hours (this mill is lighted by electricity, and is equal to the most modern and perfect of its kind in the world); a match factory, a gunpowder factory, and, finally, a large refinery, capable of turning out fifty to sixty tons of refined sugar per day, which is not quite finished. In Alagõas there are the following factories: 1 soap works, 1 large cottonseed and castorseed oil mill, 2 large distilleries, and 1 well mounted tannery. The dividends paid by one cotton mill in Alagõas since its inception have been as follows: In 1891, 22 per cent; 1892, 49 per cent; 1893, 50 per cent; 1894, 47 per cent; its shares being now quoted at 150 per cent premium. The Companhia de Fiação de Tecidos of this city, which may be considered the pioneer of the cotton spinning industry, made 60 per cent this year, and has built a larger mill out of its profits of the last five years, the shareholders having been content to receive a dividend of 10 per cent per annum. All other industrial enterprises are doing well and paying high dividends, with the exception of the sugar refinery, which has not yet commenced operations. This refinery is the largest in Brazil; the machinery is of French make, and thoroughly good. It will be interesting to report on this venture next year. Taking into consideration the abnormally high prices of "white crystals" and of high grade sugars generally in Brazil, compared with the very low price of the raw brown sugars which come into competition with the English and American refineries, I cannot see why this native industry should not prosper if it used the low brown qualities.

Public Health.

During the last five years, with one exception, this port has enjoyed an almost complete immunity from yellow fever. In the early months of 1893 there were, however, numerous cases, taking almost the form of an epidemic, during which the consular corps suffered unusually severely.

Telegraphs.

The South American Cable Company has established a submarine cable between this port and Senegal, on the coast of Africa, having a station on the island of Fernando de Noronha, thus bringing that penal settlement into telegraphic communication with this continent.

The Brazilian Submarine Telegraph Company has just finished duplicating its cable from this port to St. Vincent, Madeira, and Lisbon.

Railways.

The advance in railway transportation in this and neighboring States

has gone on actively during the last five years, and several new lines are projected.

There is a general outcry against all the lines of an insufficient supply of rolling stock, which, I take it, may be considered a good sign.

Total Imports of Flour from 1890 to 1894.

From.	Quantity.				
	1890. Bbls.	1891. Bbls.	1892. Bbls.	1893. Bbls.	1894. Bbls.
United States.....	127,584	109,459	146,427	139,806	224,392
Trieste.....	85,202	69,422	38,970	64,945	57,789
Total.....	212,786	178,881	185,397	204,754	282,091

Note.—Argentine flour has not found a market in Pernambuco, the importation for 1894 being restricted to 4,030 bags of 44 kilos., or the equivalent of about 2,000 barrels.

NEW TAX ON SHIPMENTS TO PARA.

(From the South American Journal, July 6, 1895.)

The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office a dispatch from Her Majesty's consulate at Para, reporting that the authorities of the State of Para have issued an order to the effect that goods shipped on bills of lading made out to order shall not be receivable by the holders of such bills until the absent shippers of the goods pay to the State authorities an annual tax of 300 milreis* as merchants trading without a settled domicile. The order was to take effect from April 6 last.

*About 2/60 American gold.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

AMENDMENT TO CUSTOMS TARIFF.

The Legislative Council of British Honduras passed on the 30th of April last the following ordinance relating to the customs duties leviable on certain imported articles:

Notwithstanding anything contained in section 3 of the Tariff Ordinance of 1895, mineral oil of 130° flash test and upwards shall pay three cents duty per gallon only, while mineral oil with lower flash test than 130° shall continue subject to a duty of six cents, as heretofore.

Notwithstanding anything in the said section contained, manure and other fertilizers shall be admitted free.

It shall be lawful for the Collector of Customs, subject to such conditions as he may deem necessary, to remit the duty on any mineral oil which is intended to be exclusively used as fuel for any steamboat or engine.

CHILE.

COALING STATION AT PUNTA ARENAS.

According to the "Chilean Times" of April 17 last, the Government purposes keeping a supply of coal at Punta Arenas, Straits of Magellan, which will be available not only for the ships of the Chilean navy, but for steamers of all nationalities.

Punta Arenas is a thriving and important place, and is attracting settlers. It is well adapted for people from temperate climates. Its growing importance may be gathered from the fact that the Bank of Tarapacá and London has just opened a branch there.

A report has been started to the effect that Punta Arenas is in telegraphic communication with the rest of the Republic. Unfortunately the report is not true. The Government, however, purposes taking measures with the object of connecting Punta Arenas with Ancud, Chiloé, which is in communication with all the principal towns of the Republic. Telegraphic communication would not only be of great service to Punta Arenas itself, but it would be an invaluable medium for shipping.

COLOMBIA.

COAL DISCOVERIES.

It is stated that the commission of engineers and experts in mining which was sent by the Pan-American Investment Company of the United States, to investigate the coal and oil fields of the Republic of Colombia, have sent home encouraging reports that large veins of anthracite have been discovered in the State of Darien, at a point called Punta de Piedra, on the eastern shore of the Gulf of Araba. It is also reported that the bituminous coal deposits at Punta Arboletes are now being successfully worked by an American colony.

CHANGE IN DUTIES AT BARANQUILLA.

The British Acting Consul at Panama informs his Government that, commencing March 28, a duty of \$2 in currency, equal to three shillings English money, was imposed on each bag of coffee exported from Baranquilla. The import duty on all merchandise received at that port has been increased 15 per cent.

COSTA RICA.

STOCK RAISING.

SAN JOSÉ, Costa Rica, June 17, 1895.

Hon. J. B. CALVO,
Chargé d'Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: It may of course be taken for granted that your inquiry as to the result of cattle farming in Costa Rica is based upon former experience in this branch of farming and husbandry in your country. Else the following will be of little benefit to you, as the present letter is not intended to be a treatise upon general stock raising, but only upon its practical result as at present applicable to Costa Rica.

As statistical computations can exhibit fully their meaning and their consequences only by comparing them with similar computations abroad, I shall quote what experience has taught in some other countries in the matter of cattle farming.

Norway, in northern Europe, and Costa Rica, in Central America, are both exceedingly mountainous countries. The development and character of the original native cattle is therefore in several respects alike. Their meat is the product of pasture, but their dairy product to a great degree depends on hay, grain and roots. It is well to remember that a cow's natural capacity to produce milk is one thing, and the quantity produced another, because the last depends upon the food and treatment of the animal and not upon its mere propensity. I call your special attention to this distinction, because in ninety cases out of a hundred I have found, as well elsewhere as in Costa Rica, that the complaint as to poor milkers rightfully ought to read "poor treatment and insufficient feeding." The introduction of milkers from abroad or the mixing of breeds is therefore in itself no guarantee of

success. With judicious selection and proper treatment of the native cattle, I think the immigrant will succeed better with native than with imported stock.

Under my personal observation as a farmer in Norway a comparative trial was made during several years, the trial including nine cows of mixed breed—Norway, Scottish, Holstein—and eighteen cows of pure Norway mountain breed.

The weight of each animal is added as a factor necessary to judge rightly its comparative value as a milk producer. The food was not the very best or richest, but the cows got all they could eat of the farm produce.

From June 15 to October 1 the cows were daily out on pasture, consisting partly of natural grasses and partly of short white clover. October 1 they were tied up in stable for the winter—260 days—and the daily food consisted of hay and different roots, equivalent in nutriment value to 20 pounds of hay. In addition, four pounds of oat straw and eight pounds of rye and wheat straw for chaff, equivalent to six pounds of hay; in all, equal to twenty-six pounds of hay per day to each cow.

Cows of Mixed Native and Foreign Breed.

Live Weight.	Yearly Milk Production.
684 lbs.	.....3,056 $\frac{1}{4}$ qts.
632 lbs.	.....3,048 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.
564 lbs.	.....2,876 $\frac{1}{4}$ qts.
620 lbs.	.....2,830 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.
784 lbs.	.....2,827 $\frac{1}{2}$ qts.
463 lbs.	.....2,452 $\frac{1}{2}$ qts.
655 lbs.	.....2,422 $\frac{1}{2}$ qts.
672 lbs.	.....2,126 $\frac{1}{4}$ qts.
640 lbs.— 5,714 lbs.	1,653 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.—23,294 qts., or 2,532 per cow.

Cows of Pure Native Breed.

425 lbs.	.....2,895 qts.
528 lbs.	.....2,797 $\frac{1}{2}$ qts.
589 lbs.	.....2,730 qts.
651 lbs.	.....2,658 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.
371 lbs.	.....2,643 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.
486 lbs.	.....2,583 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.

Live weight.	Yearly milk production.
447 lbs.	.....2,523 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.
447 lbs.	.....2,430 qts.
435 lbs.	.....2,295 qts.
601 lbs.	.....2,272 $\frac{1}{2}$ qts.
564 lbs.	.....2,250 qts.
589 lbs.	.....2,133 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.
271 lbs.	.....1,995 qts.
463 lbs.	.....1,991 $\frac{1}{4}$ qts.
392 lbs.	.....1,982 $\frac{1}{2}$ qts.
536 lbs.	.....1,968 $\frac{3}{4}$ qts.
415 lbs.	.....1,687 $\frac{1}{2}$ qts.
500 lbs.— 8,810 lbs.	.....1,425 qts.—41,264 qts., or 2,292 per cow.
Total.....14,524 lbs.	64,558 qts. 2,391

By above comparative trial it is ascertained:

That the twenty-seven cows produced 444 quarts of milk for every 100 pounds of live weight.

That nine cows of mixed foreign and native breed only gave 407 quarts per each 100 pounds live weight.

That eighteen cows of pure native breed gave 468 quarts for every 100 pounds live weight, being considerably more in proportion to their weight and size than the heavier foreign mixed cows.

By a similar trial with fifteen cows of pure Ayrshire breed, allowing each one daily fodder and feed to the equivalent of twenty-nine pounds of hay, the average result for one year was 1,954 quarts per cow. Applying the above observations to Costa Rica, where the native cattle generally are of middle size, I should think it preferable to make good selections among the native stock rather than introduce foreign large bodied cattle at expensive cost and requiring a higher and richer feeding than the farmer can procure on the regular pastures.

I have treated the dairy question rather at length because the production of butter and cheese ought to be prominent in Costa Rica, where the cattle need not be stabled, where no provision for hay is made, and where butter can not be had under one dollar per pound and the coarsest of cheese not under forty cents per pound. A 2,000 quart milker will yearly

produce about 85 pounds of butter and 300 pounds of cheese. The complaint that it is very difficult to rear calves in this country so they will turn out good milkers, and that for this reason the farmers have been obliged to import English, Holstein and Swiss cattle to create a superior dairy stock, I shall meet with observations fully well known in old dairy countries.

The Durham breed and its mixtures are expressly formed for producing meat and fat for the butcher shop, and for this particular purpose the calves are richly fed. The cows will hardly give a rich flow of milk for more than five months after calving. The introduction of Durham blood into dairy stock will therefore not improve, but ruin, the milking qualities in the original stock. Several farmers in Costa Rica have in this way unintentionally retarded their expected progress.

In forming your young dairy stock you should not allow the calves to enter into a state of fattening, because this propensity will prevent the milk organs from development. A calf is full grown at sixteen months old; but if the calf is allowed to follow and suck the mother it will certainly turn out a butcher calf, even if the mother is a good milker. On the contrary, if the calf is fed moderately, with mixture in the milk of coarser food, its growth will be considerably slower, and it ought not to drop its first calf before two and a half years old. As its structure is not inclined to form much meat, the milk organs will develop more strongly if after calving the young mother is placed in a good pasture.

The above ought to be an answer to your questions about dairy business and rearing of young stock for a dairy farm.

Next comes the beef cattle question. The consumption of fresh beef (hardly any beef is barrel salted) is as general among all classes in Costa Rica as is the consumption of potatoes in Ireland. Fresh beef constitutes the daily dish all the year round, and only a comparatively small quantity is cut into strips and air-dried for preservation, like the Indian pemmican in North America. In order to maintain a paying dairy farm it is necessary to rear the dairy stock on the farm, as grown and good cows are rarely for sale, but young beef

cattle—steers—from two to three years old can always be had at the rate of \$40 to \$45, according to size, from South America, Golfo Dulce, Guanacaste, Nicaragua, etc. It is therefore more than a local question if it does not pay better to buy lean young cattle from steer raising districts and fatten them until ready for sale after a five or six months' run on the rich and ever green pastures in Costa Rica.

Calculating that 100 quarts, or 200 pounds, of fresh milk give about fifteen pounds of cheese, at 50 cents, \$7.50, and three pounds of butter at \$1, \$3—in all \$10.50—and that a calf in its sucking time—six months—consumes at least 600 quarts, then the coming steer costs at one year old, six times \$10.50—\$63—besides the daily expense of attendance and risk of disease.

Consequently a farm with extensive pastures had better be stocked with purchased steers two to three years old, at say \$44, than with home reared beef cattle at \$63.

A regular lean two to three year old steer of native breed will average 550 pounds live weight; after five or six months good pasturage 650 pounds live weight. The same steer killed in lean condition will give from 300 to 350 pounds of meat, and, fattened, from 400 to 450 pounds of meat. On the market this live steer will average \$70. Fifteen-hand lean steers imported from South America at \$60, may in fat condition reach 700 pounds of meat, and sell at from \$90 to \$110.

In districts blessed with evergreen pastures, as Río Frío, San Carlos, Sarapiquí, Lower Reventazón, San Juan, Matina, Santa Clara, Sixola, and intermediate smaller valleys, where guinea grass is cultivated, the fattening process is completed in from five to six months. In other parts in the interior it takes, according to locality and grasses, from one to several months more. Guinea grass grows to advantage only in the hot zone.

All money calculations in this communication are made in Costa Rica currency on the basis of \$1 American gold equaling \$2.40 Costa Rica currency.

By the foregoing you will find that parties with sufficient capital may do well by opening cattle farms, and present

owners of stock haciendas coin money, when they thoroughly understand all the branches of the business; but it takes a man in his vigor of youth to succeed. For my part I am now too old to enjoy daily horseback rides over extensive cattle runs and to manage unruly steers and neglectful stock hands. I shall prefer to handle a plantation whose trees live, grow and rest in the place where they are once put.

The accounts for one year of a non-paying farm exclusively managed as a combined dairy and beef farm is hereby given to enable you to judge where economical curtailing has to come in to make cattle farming pay. At the time of my visit I found the farm to contain:

400 manzanas* pasture at \$70	\$28,000
100 manzanas timber land, at \$30.....	2,000
Houses and dwellings for farm hands, and stables.....	4,000
40 cows, at \$100	4,000
40 calves up to one year of age, at \$10.....	400
40 steers up to two years of age, at \$30.....	1,200
40 steers over two years, fat and nearly ready for market, at \$70	2,800
60 steers, bought lean for fattening, at \$50 (high price).....	3,000
5 saddle and pack horses, at \$50.....	250
4 large hogs, 1,200 pounds weight.....	480
20 small pigs.....	40
4 goats and 4 sheep, at \$10.....	80
Furniture, implements, saddles, ox carts, etc.....	450
Total capital represented.....	\$46,700

Income.

Milk of 20 cows, at 2,000 quarts, 1 real per quart, 40,000 quarts.	\$5,000
Milk of 20 cows, at 360 quarts, 1 real per quart, 7,200 quarts....	900
Sale of 40 steers over 2 years old, farm reared, at \$80.....	3,200
Sale of 60 steers, bought and fattened, at \$80.....	4,800
15 fanegas—9,000 pounds—corn, at \$20 per fanega	300
20 cajuelas frijoles—beans, 500 pounds—at \$4 per cajuela.....	80
4 hogs, at 300 pounds each, 1,200 pounds, at 40 cents per pound.	480
8 goats and sheep, at \$10	80
Income of poultry yard and plátanos.....	60
Total income.....	\$14,900

*A manzana is equal to 15.6 acres.

Expenses.

Milk to calves, 27,200 quarts (very expensive young stock).....	\$3,400
60 steers, bought for fattening, at \$44.....	2,640
15 laborers, at \$30 per month, \$450—by 12 months.....	5,400
Household for 15 men, at \$10 per month, \$150—for 12 months...	1,800
Beef, poultry, corn, frijoles, milk and plátanos, included in ex- pense for household; repairs, implemients, fencing.....	300
Total expenses.....	\$13,540
Income	\$14,900
Expenses	13,540
Leaving net profit.....	1,360

But \$1,360 is hardly 3 per cent interest upon the invested capital of \$46,700, and not at all satisfactory in a country where you receive 10 per cent interest, backed with first class security, without any effort.

If you from the capital subtract the real estate value, \$30,000, leaving the rest, \$16,700, as the only capital due to produce interest, then you reach about 8 per cent.

In my judgment there were one or more leaks in the management of this farm which worked to the disadvantage of the yearly result. Without going into a minute criticism, you will, for instance, find 15 farm hands too many. Farm hands, of course, are necessary, but they have to be under strict control and limited to the least possible number, or they will eat up all the proceeds, and even prove a cancer to the most promising farm.

To manage this farm I would say it needs: 1 laboring foreman (the superintendency conducted by the owner in person); 3 cattle men, who in the morning bring in and milk the cows and feed the calves; further, 1 cheese and butter maker, who by using the Centrifugal Cream Separator, easily by 11 a. m. will have disposed of all the dairy work. The rest of the day these men, excepting the foreman and the butter man, may cart out the manure and clean the stables, if the cows have been stabled and fed during the night, bring in green-cut grass for the next night, clean the calves, and after dinner, by 4 p. m., as in the morning, on horseback, bring in the cows

and outgoing calves to suck their mothers. Further, 4 day laborers, who, with the foreman, are steadily employed in cleaning brush and dead grasses out of the pastures; 1 cook, who also attends to the poultry yard and keeps the superintendent's rooms in order. This makes in all ten hired men instead of fifteen. In San Carlos I have seen similar stock farms managed with six men and their foreman. The expense of salary and maintainance for fifteen men is above quoted to be \$7,200. Deducting one-third, or \$2,400, this saving, added to the foregoing net profit, \$1,360, brings the net income up to \$3,760, or fully up to 8 per cent interest upon the total capital, \$46,700.

You have probably found this letter long and tiresome, but I can assure you that it has also been a tiresome task to collect the several items it contains, so we are both quits in that respect.

The daily consumption of beef, pork, lard, tallow, and other articles manufactured from cattle and hogs, reaches in Costa Rica 100,000 pounds, or 36,500,000 pounds per year. The consumption of milk, cheese and butter can not at present be ascertained, but it is certain that this country, although eminently fitted for beef, dairy produce and pork raising, for lack of cattle farming, has yearly to import from the United State of America, and from Europe, the following articles:

	Pounds.
Salted and canned beef and pork	149,850
Tallow (stearin).....	76,408
Butter.....	77,204
Cheese	67,748
Condensed milk, in cans.....	52,126
Cattle (live)	1,930,833
Smoked hams and sausage.....	26,116
Tallow for candles.....	237,718
Lard	1,822,800
Lard oil.....	10,984
Lard for soap.....	204,636
Fat for grease.....	27,864
Ordinary soap	395,900
Beef and pork provisions	601,222
Leather, ordinary and sole.....	7,082
Poultry.....	500

To this importation has to be added smuggled goods, not accounted for, but certainly amounting to a considerable sum, because this illegal traffic is the natural consequence of exaggerated tariffs, and serves as a popular regulator in all countries burdened with immoderate duty on the first necessities of life.

All products of cattle farming have, consequently, a sure home market, and you may feel convinced that capital, in the hands of experienced owners and managers, can be invested with a sure prospect of success in stock and dairy farming in Costa Rica.

Respectfully,

JOHN SCHROEDER.

Official letters to be addressed to the "Director General del Departamente Nacional de Estadística, San José, Costa Rica, América Central.

GUATEMALA.

PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY.

The British Foreign Office is advised by the Consul General at Guatemala that the Government of Guatemala has invited tenders for the construction of certain railways in that country. Particulars regarding these proposed constructions will probably be made known at an early date.

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

One of the most important projects in the way of public improvements now going forward in the States of Central or South America is the construction of the Northern Railway of Guatemala, from Puerto Barrios, on the Gulf of Mexico, to Guatemala City, the capital of the Republic.

When completed the line will be 160 miles long, and, united with the Central Railroad, already built from Guatemala City to San José, on the Pacific, will open up a new trans-isthmian line. The work on the road is being energetically executed and is receiving the hearty encouragement and co-operation of the Government.

From "El Progreso Nacional," published at the capital, the following information regarding this work is obtained:

On April 1, 1895, the Northern Railway was declared finished and open for traffic, both freight and passenger, from Puerto Barrios to Los Amates, as follows:

Puerto Barrios to Tenedores.....	18 miles
Puerto Barrios to Los Animas.....	32½ miles
Puerto Barrios to Morales.....	33½ miles
Puerto Barrios to Los Andes.....	47½ miles
Puerto Barrios to Los Amates....	60 miles

Passenger fare from Puerto Barrios to Los Amates, \$1.80.
Freight, per quintal (100 pounds), 90 cents.
Intermediate stations in proportion.

When this line is built through to Guatemala City a large territory of the Republic of Guatemala, and also of other Central American States, will be brought into direct communication with the markets of the world.

PROJECTED PORT AT ISTAPA.

Mr. Audley C. Gosling, Her Majesty's Minister at Guatemala, in a dispatch to the Foreign Office dated April 5 last, referring to the projected construction of the Pacific port of Istapa, says:

During a conversation yesterday with the President of this Republic, he was good enough to show me elaborate plans, drawn in Germany, of the said port and harbor, which included a graving dock, coal depots, landing stages, with all necessary plant and breakwaters, on the northern and southern extremities of which were erected lighthouses showing powerful lights of two different colors.

His Excellency informed me that the port of Istapa would form an adjunct to the Northern Railway, connecting the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans (sixty miles of which are now open to public traffic, namely, from Port Barrios to Los Amates), and would be without exception the only port in the true acceptance of the term between Panama and San Francisco. Its construction, he said, would occupy about five years, and its cost would be, approximately, £750,000 sterling.

HONDURAS.

BOUNDARY TREATY BETWEEN HONDURAS AND
NICARAGUA.

(ENGLISH AND SPANISH.)

*Concluded October 7, 1894; approved by the Congress April 19,
1895; proclaimed by the President of Honduras
April 22, 1895.*

The Governments of the Republics of Honduras and Nicaragua, desirous of terminating in an amicable manner their differences regarding the demarkation of boundaries, which up to the present has not been carried out, and desirous also that so vexatious a question shall be solved to the satisfaction of both, with all cordiality and with the deference due to fraternal neighboring and allied peoples, have deemed it expedient to conclude a treaty fulfilling these aspirations; and to that end have named as their respective plenipotentiaries: the President of Honduras naming Dr. Don Cesar Bonilla, Secretary of State, in the Department of Foreign Relations; and the President of the Republic of Nicaragua naming Don José Dolorez Gámez, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the Republics of Central America, who, having examined and found sufficient their respective full powers, have agreed upon the articles following:

ARTICLE I.

The Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua shall name commissioners, who, acting under proper authority, shall organize a Mixed Boundary Commission, charged with the solving in an amicable manner of all pending doubts and differences, and with laying out on the territory the dividing line which shall show the frontier limits of both Republics.

ARTICLE II.

The Mixed Commission, composed of an equal number of members named by both parties, shall meet in one of the frontier towns offering the best accommodations for the survey, and shall there begin its work, subject to the following regulations:

1. The boundary between Honduras and Nicaragua shall be the lines upon which both Republics shall agree, or which neither shall dispute.

2. The boundary between Honduras and Nicaragua shall also be the lines laid down in public documents not contradicted by public documents of equal force.

3. It is understood that each Republic is the owner of the territory which at the date of the independence constituted, respectively, the provinces of Honduras and Nicaragua.

4. The Mixed Commission, in laying out the boundary, shall deal only with territory of unquestioned jurisdiction, and shall not give any legal weight to *de facto* possession alleged by either party.

5. In the absence of proof of jurisdiction the maps of both Republics, and documents, geographical or of any other character, public or private, that can throw any light on the subject, shall be consulted, and the boundaries between the Republics shall be those which, in view of such study, shall be equitably established by the Mixed Commission.

6. The said Mixed Commission, should it deem it expedient, may make compensations and even indemnities in the endeavor, in so far as possible, to establish well defined natural limits.

7. In examining the plans, maps, and other like documents presented by both Governments, the Mixed Commission shall give preference to such as it may deem the most reasonable and just.

8. In case the Mixed Commission should be unable to agree amicably upon any point, it shall set it forth separately in two special books, signing a duplicate detailed minute, citing the allegations of both parties, and shall continue its examination of the other points on the boundary line, laying aside the disputed point until the whole line shall have been surveyed.

9. The books to which the preceding clause refers shall be transmitted by the Mixed Commission, one to each interested Government, to be filed in the national archives.

ARTICLE III.

The disputed point or points of the demarkation which the Mixed Commission referred to in this treaty shall not have agreed upon, shall be submitted, within a month at the latest after the meetings of such Commission, to the fixing of an arbitration, without appeal, which shall be composed of a representative of Honduras, and of another of

Nicaragua, and of a member of the foreign diplomatic corps accredited to Guatemala, the latter to be chosen by the former, or by lot from sets of three names proposed by each party.

ARTICLE IV.

The Board of Arbitration shall be organized in the city of Guatemala within twenty days after the adjournment of the Mixed Commission, and within the ten days next following shall begin its labors, recording the same in a book of minutes, to be kept in duplicate, a majority vote prevailing.

ARTICLE V.

In case the foreign diplomatic representative shall excuse himself, another shall be selected within the ten days next following, and so on successively. The members of the foreign diplomatic corps being exhausted, the selection may fall, by agreement of the commissions of Honduras and Nicaragua, on any foreign or Central American public person; and should no agreement be reached the disputed point or points shall be submitted to the decision of the Government of Spain, and in default thereof to that of any other South American Government upon which the Governments of both countries shall agree.

ARTICLE VI.

The proceedings and periods of time to which the arbitration shall be subject shall be as follows:

1. Within twenty days next after the date on which the acceptance of the third arbitrator shall be notified to the parties, the latter shall present, through their agents, their briefs, plans, maps, and documents.

2. Should briefs be filed, they shall be presented to the opposing agents within eight days after the filing thereof, ten days being granted for rejoinder and the presentation of other documents deemed pertinent to the case.

3. The findings of the Board of Arbitration shall be announced within the twenty days following the date of the expiration of the time for rejoinder, whether the same be filed or not.

ARTICLE VII.

The findings of the Board of Arbitration, based on a majority vote, whatever they may be, shall be held to be a perfect, binding and perpetual treaty between the high contracting parties, and shall admit of no evasion whatever.

ARTICLE VIII.

The present convention shall be submitted in Honduras and Nicaragua for constitutional ratification, and the exchange thereof shall be

made in Tegucigalpa or in Managua, within sixty days next after the date on which both Governments shall have complied with the stipulations of this article.

ARTICLE IX.

The provisions of the foregoing article shall in no wise interfere with the immediate organization of the Mixed Commission, which should begin its work, at the latest, two months after the last ratification, in accordance with the provisions of this convention, without prejudice to its being done prior to the ratifications, should these be delayed, so as to take advantage of the dry or summer season.

ARTICLE X.

Immediately after the exchange of this convention, whether the work of the Mixed Commission shall have begun or not, the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua shall name the representatives, who, in accordance with article IV, shall compose the Board of Arbitration, so that, organizing themselves into a provisional board, they may select the third arbitrator, and communicate it to the respective Secretaries of Foreign Relations, that the acceptance of the person selected may be obtained. Should the latter decline, they shall proceed at once to the selection of another third arbitrator in the manner stipulated, and so on successively until the board shall be complete.

ARTICLE XI.

The periods of time designated in this treaty for the selection of arbitrators, beginning of work, ratifications, and exchange, as well as any other periods therein prescribed, shall not be imperative nor bring about nullity of any kind. The object is to expedite the work; but if from any cause the periods cannot be complied with, it is the will of the high contracting parties that the negotiation shall be carried forward until terminated in the manner herein stipulated, which is that thought to be the most expedient. To this end they agree that this treaty shall continue for ten years, in case its execution be interrupted, during which period it cannot be revised or amended in any manner, nor can boundary disputes be adjusted through any other medium.

In testimony whereof the plenipotentiaries of the Republics of Honduras and Nicaragua sign in duplicate, under the authority of their respective seals, in the city of Tegucigalpa, on the seventh day of the month of October, of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-four, the seventy-fourth of the independence of Central America.

(Signed)

JOSÉ D. GÁMEZ. [Seal.]

(Signed)

CÉSAR BONILLA. [Seal.]

HONDURAS.

Los Gobiernos de las Repúblicas de Honduras y Nicaragua, deseosos de terminar de una manera amigable sus diferencias acerca de la demarcación de límites divisorios que hasta hoy no ha podido verificarse, y deseosos también de que tan enojoso asunto se resuelva á satisfacción de ambos, con toda cordialidad y con la deferencia que corresponde á pueblos hermanos, vecinos y aliados, han creído conveniente celebrar un Tratado que llene esas aspiraciones; y al efecto, han nombrado á sus respectivos Plenipotenciarios: El señor Presidente de la República de Honduras, al señor Doctor don César Bouilla, su Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores; y el señor Presidente de la República de Nicaragua, al señor don José Dolores Gámez, su Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario ante las Repúblicas de Centro-América, quienes habiendo examinado y encontrado bastantes sus respectivos plenos poderes, han convenido en los artículos siguientes:

ARTÍCULO I

Los Gobiernos de Honduras y Nicaragua, nombrarán comisionados que, con la autorización correspondiente, organicen una Comisión Mixta de Límites encargada de resolver de una manera amigable todas las dudas y diferencias pendientes, y de demarcar sobre el terreno la línea divisoria que señale el límite fronterizo de ambas Repúblicas.

ARTÍCULO II.

La Comisión Mixta, compuesta de igual número de miembros por ambas partes, se reunirá en una de las poblaciones fronterizas, que ofrezca mayores comodidades para el estudio, y allí principiará sus trabajos, ateniéndose á las reglas siguientes:

- 1.^a Serán límites entre Honduras y Nicaragua, líneas en que ambas Repúblicas estuviesen de acuerdo, ó que ninguna de las dos disputare.
- 2.^a Serán también límites entre Honduras y Nicaragua, las líneas demarcadas en documentos públicos no contradichos por documentos igualmente públicos de mayor fuerza.

3.ª Se entenderá que cada República es dueña del territorio que á la fecha de la Independencia constituía, respectivamente, las provincias de Honduras y Nicaragua.

4.ª La Comisión Mixta para fijar los límites atenderá al dominio del territorio plenamente probado, y no le reconocerá valor jurídico á la posesión de hecho que por una ú otra parte se alegare.

5.ª En falta de la prueba del dominio, se consultarán los mapas de ambas Repúblicas y los documentos geográficos ó de cualquiera otra naturaleza, públicos ó privados, que puedan dar alguna luz, y serán límites entre ambas Repúblicas los que con presencia de ese estudio fijare equitativamente la Comisión Mixta.

6.ª La misma Comisión Mixta, si lo creyere conveniente, podrá hacer compensaciones y aun fijar indemnizaciones para procurar establecer, en lo posible, límites naturales bien marcados.

7.ª Al hacer el estudio de los planos, mapas y demás documentos análogos que presenten ambas Gobiernos la Comisión Mixta preferirá los que estime más racionales y justos.

8.ª En caso de que la Comisión Mixta no pudiese acordarse amigablemente en cualquier punto, lo consignará por separado en dos libros especiales, firmando una doble acta detallada, con cita de lo alegado por ambas partes, y continuará su estudio sobre los demás puntos de la línea de demarcación, con prescindencia del punto indicado, hasta fijar el término divisorio el último extremo de la misma línea.

9.ª Los libros á que se refiere la cláusula anterior, serán enviados por la Comisión Mixta, uno á cada Gobierno de los interesados, para su custodia en los archivos nacionales.

ARTÍCULO III.

El punto ó los puntos de demarcación que la Comisión Mixta de que habla el presente Tratado no hubiese resuelto, serán sometidos, á más tardar, un mes después de concluidas las sesiones de la misma Comisión, al fallo de un arbitramento inapelable, que será compuesto de un Representante de Honduras, y otro de Nicaragua y de un miembro del Cuerpo Diplomático extranjero acreditado en Guatemala, electo este último por los primeros, ó sorteado en dos ternas propuestas una por cada parte.

ARTÍCULO IV.

El arbitramento se organizará en la ciudad de Guatemala, en los veinte días siguientes á la disolución de la Comisión Mixta, y dentro de los diez días inmediatos principiará sus trabajos, consignándolos en un libro de actas, que llevará por duplicado, siendo ley el voto de la mayoría.

ARTÍCULO V.

En el caso de que el Representante diplomático extranjero se excusare, se repetirá la elección en otro, dentro de los diez días inmediatos, y así sucesivamente. Agotados los miembros del Cuerpo Diplomático extranjero, la elección podrá recaer, por convenio de las comisiones de Honduras y Nicaragua, en cualquier personaje público, extranjero ó centro-americano; y si este convenio no fuere posible, se someterá el punto ó los puntos controvertidos, á la decisión del Gobierno de España, y en defecto de éste á la de cualquiera otro de Sud-América, en que convengan las Cancillerías de ambos países.

ARTÍCULO VI.

Los procedimientos y términos á que deberá sujetarse el arbitramento, serán los siguientes:

1.º Dentro de los veinte días siguientes á la fecha en que la aceptación del tercer árbitro fuere notificada á las partes, éstas le presentarán, por medio de sus Abogados, sus alegatos, planos, mapas y documentos.

2.º Si hubiere alegatos, dará traslado de ellos á los respectivos Abogados contrarios, dentro de los ocho días siguientes á la presentación, concediéndoles diez días de término para rebatirlos y presentar los más documentos que creyeren del caso.

3.º El fallo arbitral será pronunciado dentro de los veinte días siguientes á la fecha en que se hubiere vencido el término para contestar alegatos, háyanse ó no presentado éstos.

ARTÍCULO VII.

La decisión arbitral, votada por mayoría, cualquiera que sea, se tendrá como Tratado perfecto, obligatorio y perpetuo entre las Altas Partes Contratantes, y no admitirá recurso alguno.

ARTÍCULO VIII.

La presente Convención será sometida en Honduras y Nicaragua á las ratificaciones constitucionales, y el canje de éstas se verificará en Tegucigalpa ó en Managua, dentro de los sesenta días siguientes á la fecha en que ambos Gobiernos hubieren cumplido con lo estipulado en este artículo.

ARTÍCULO IX.

Lo dispuesto en el artículo anterior no obsta en manera alguna para la organización inmediata de la Comisión Mixta, que deberá principiarse sus estudios, á más tardar, dos meses después de la última ratificación,

de conformidad con lo que se ha dispuesto en la presente convención, sin perjuicio de hacerlo antes de las ratificaciones, si éstas se tardasen, para aprovechar la estación seca ó del verano.

ARTÍCULO X.

Inmediatamente después del canje de esta Convención, háyase ó no principiado los trabajos de la Comisión Mixta, serán nombrados por los Gobiernos de Honduras y Nicaragua, los representantes que en conformidad del artículo IV, deben formar el arbitramento, para que, organizándose en Junta preparatoria, nombren el tercer árbitro y lo comuniquen á los Secretarios de Relaciones respectivos, á fin de recabar la aceptación del nombrado. Si éste se excusase, se procederá en seguida al nombramiento de un nuevo tercer árbitro en la forma estipulada, y así sucesivamente hasta quedar organizado el arbitramento.

ARTÍCULO XI.

Los plazos señalados en el presente Tratado para nombramiento de árbitros, principio de estudios, ratificaciones y canje, lo mismo que cualesquiera otros términos en él fijados, no serán fatales ni producirán nulidad de ninguna especie. Su objeto ha sido dar precisión al trabajo; pero si por cualquiera causa no pudieran atenderse, es la voluntad de las Altas Partes Contratantes que la negociación selleve adelante hasta terminarla en la forma aquí estipulada, que es la que creen más conveniente. A este fin, convienen en que este Tratado tenga la duración de diez años, caso de interrumpirse su ejecución, en cuyo término no podrá reverse ni modificarse en ninguna manera, ni podrá tampoco dirimirse la cuestión de límites por otro medio.

En fé de lo cual, los Plenipotenciarios de las Repúblicas de Honduras y Nicaragua firman, en dos ejemplares que autorizan con sus respectivos sellos, en la ciudad de Tegucigalpa, á los siete días del mes de octubre de mil ochocientos noventa y cuatro, año septuagésimo cuarto de la Independencia de Centro-América.

(L. S.)

CÉSAR BONILLA.

(L. S.)

JOSÉ D. GÁMEZ.

MEXICO.

CONTRACT FOR SUPPLYING EQUIPMENT OF
TEHUANTEPEC RAILROAD.

Mr. E. C. Butler, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States at the City of Mexico, informs the Department of State that a contract for supplying the equipment of the Tehuantepec Railway was signed by Señor Manuel Gonzales Cosio, Secretary of State, and Messrs. Samuel Brothers, of the City of Mexico, on the 23d of April last, and the same was promulgated by President Diaz on June 1. It will be noted that the supplies are to be purchased in the United States.

The leading points of the contract, as published in the "Diario Oficial," are as follows:

TEHUANTEPEC NATIONAL RAILROAD.

CONTRACT APRIL 23, 1895.

Contract made between General Manuel Gonzalez Cosio, Secretary of State and of the Bureau of Communications and Public Improvements, in representative of the Executive of the Nation, and Messrs. Samuel Brothers, for the sale and purchase of materials designed for the service of the Tehuantepec National Railroad.

Article 1.—Messrs. Samuel Brothers agree to purchase in the United States of the North, on account of the Government, and to deliver to the Department of Communications and Public Improvements, for the use of the Tehuantepec National Railroad, the following materials:

Locomotives,
Turning tables,
Cars for passengers and express,
Cars of all classes,
Machinery for the shops,
Dredges for the ports,
Launches, lighters, steamers and iron bridges.

Article 2.—The valuation of all these materials shall not exceed one million dollars in American gold, and the delivery shall be in four annual installments, up to the sum of \$250,000.

The prices of said materials shall be adjusted in accordance with conference had with the Department of Communications and Public Improvements and Messrs Samuel Brothers. Likewise agreement shall be had *a priori* as to the factories, corporations, or persons from whom the purchases shall be made.

CONTRACT WITH THE AMERICAN SURETY CO.

The Department of State is informed by Mr. E. C. Butler, Chargé d'Affaires to Mexico, of an important contract entered into between the Mexican Government and the American Surety Company of New York, for the bonding of public officials, private parties, corporations, etc., of that country. The contract provides that the legal residence of the company in the Republic shall be in the City of Mexico, and it shall keep in that city a representative who shall be sufficiently empowered to represent the company in and out of court in all business which it may do, and with entire liberty to establish agencies in those parts of the country which may be required by its interests.

The "Diario Oficial" of June 19 published the following as the tariff of premiums to be charged:

For bonds of less than \$600, \$25 annually.

For bonds of from \$600 to \$2,500, \$2.50 shall be added to the \$25 for every \$100 or fraction thereof.

For bonds from \$2,501 to \$10,000, \$2 shall be added to the \$75 (value of premium on \$2,500) for every \$100 or fraction thereof.

For bonds from \$10,001 to \$20,000, \$1.50 shall be added to the \$225 (premium on \$10,000) for every \$100 or fraction thereof.

For bonds of larger amounts, \$1 shall be added to \$375 (premium on \$20,000) for every \$100 or fraction thereof.

The company shall have the right of refusing to issue a bond for less than \$25 per annum.

In order to cancel a bond the company shall give notice to the employers, and the bond shall continue in effect thirty days after the notice has been given.

The contract shall be binding for fifteen years, during which time the

company shall be exempt from taxes and duties under the terms of clause 5 of the law of June 3.

IRRIGATING CANAL.

On June 8 a contract was signed by Minister of Fomento, Señor Fernandez Leal, on the part of the Government, and Señor Louis S. de Aguayo as concessionaire, for the construction of an irrigating canal on the right bank of the Rio Grande, within the limits of the township of Jiminez, in the State of Coahuila.

The contract limits the taking of water to five cubic meters per second; the work must be commenced within four months from the date of the contract, and at least eight kilometers finished the first year, the entire canal to be completed within four years.

All the utensils and machinery necessary for making the the surveys and constructing the work will be admitted free of duty if made in one shipment.

HENIQUEN CONVERTED INTO SILK.

From the "Semana Mercantil" of April 15, published in the City of Mexico, it is learned that Señor Rafael Portas Martinez has invented a machine by which the fiber of the Yucatan heniquen may be reduced to the textural fineness of silk.

The inventor has exhibited his design before the Chamber of Agriculture of Yucatan, and says the German manufacturers assure him that the heniquen as treated by his invention has a market value equal to \$2 per arroba (25 pounds).

Señor Martinez has asked the Chamber to furnish him the means for establishing a factory in Germany for the preparation of this fiber, and the proposition is under consideration.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

A law recently passed by Congress contains the following clauses in regard to the units of weight, length, and time:

Article 1.—From and after September 16, 1896, the International Metric Decimal System of weights and measures shall be the only legal system in the United Mexican States.

Article 2.—The fundamental units employed in the national system of weights and measures shall be the following:

1. The unit of length shall be the meter, and shall be equal to the meter adopted and recommended by the International Metric System.
2. The unit of weight shall be the kilogram, and shall be equal to the kilogram used in the International System.
3. The unit of time shall be the second, mean time.

Infractions of the law are punishable by fines ranging from 25 cents to \$500 and imprisonment.

CONCESSION FOR ELECTRICAL WORKS.

A concession for the purpose of bringing electrical power into the City of Mexico has been granted to Mr. Arnaldo Yaque, representing a syndicate of French capitalists.

The water power for operating the machinery will be obtained from the river Necaxa, in the State of Puebla. The concession stipulates that a maximum energy of 8,000 horse power shall be supplied within five years from the date of the approval of the plans by the Department of Fomento, of which 3,000 horse power shall be obtained within two and a half years.

The terms of the concession require that the work shall be commenced within six months after approval of the plans by the Department of Fomento, and the electrical current may be conducted by underground conduits or by overhead wires.

Free importation of machinery and exemption from all federal taxes, except the stamp tax, is granted.

The price to be paid for electric force of one-horse power (736 volts) for 24 hours is on the basis of \$300 per year.

The concessionaire is required to make a deposit with the National Bank of Mexico of \$20,000 in bonds of the national debt, as forfeit money. This deposit will be returned whenever the stipulated 3,000 horse power has been obtained.

NICARAGUA.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

It is officially announced that the construction of the Atlantic Railway from Managua to Rama will be commenced in August next.

The road will be 102 miles long, and will be built on Government account.

PARAGUAY.

SETTLEMENT OF THE FOREIGN DEBT.

A scheme for settling the foreign debt which is now under consideration in the Paraguayan Legislature authorizes the Government to set aside from the revenue of the country each year the sum of \$360,000 gold. This amount is to be used in the purchase of native tobacco, which shall be shipped to European markets and sold for account of the Government, the proceeds to be applied to payment of the foreign debt.

PERU.

ABOLITION OF CERTAIN IMPORT AND EXPORT
DUTIES.

The British Foreign Office has been notified by Her Majesty's Minister at Lima, in a dispatch dated April 1, that the Provisional Government of Peru has abolished the duties imposed by the late government on certain articles of import and export.

The following is the text of the ordinances in question:

The Junta of the Government, intrusted with the executive power, taking into consideration that it is not convenient for the development of natural industry to maintain the impost established by the decree of October 30, 1894, on the importation of certain merchandise declared free of duties by the law of December 31, 1888, and the exportation of some articles of national product, such as cotton, india rubber, and the rest set forth in one of those decrees,

Hereby decrees:

Article 1.—Let both resolutions be annulled in all their contents, and in consequence the aforesaid law continues in all its vigor and force, and the items in the new customs tariff are without value or effect so far as regards the valuation of such duties.

Article 2.—This decree will come into force in each and all of the custom-houses from the date on which the different administrators of them may receive official notice of the same.

The Minister of State in the Department of Finance and Commerce is charged with carrying out this decree.

The Junta of Government intrusted with the executive power of the Republic, taking into consideration that the decrees of October 31, 1894, and February 11 of the present year, are notoriously prejudicial to the development of commerce and national industry which extends the impost on the movement of packages to a large part of the articles hitherto exempt from it by previous laws and regulations,

Hereby decrees:

Article 1.—The aforesaid decrees are totally annulled, and the organic law of February 4, 1879, remains in full vigor and force, by

which such impost was created, and the regulation of April 9 of the same year, which was dictated for the better carrying into effect of the same, as also the law of October 27, 1887, which exempted from payment the national sugar which may be exported; that of November 23, 1888, exempting mineral coal; that of November 30, 1889, exempting pitch, hides, cottonseed, tobacco grown in the country, and old rags, whether intended for exportation or destined to the coasting trade; and in fine, all other resolutions which may have been in force before the issue of the decrees now annulled.

Article 2.—The present decree will come into force in all the custom-houses of the Republic from the date on which they may have official notice of the same.

ABOLITION OF DUES AT CALLAO.

A dispatch dated April 26, 1895, has been received at the Foreign Office from Her Majesty's Minister at Lima, inclosing copy, with translation, of a document issued by the Provisional Government abolishing the pilotage dues, and those levied on the engagement of seamen in the port of Callao.

URUGUAY.

BUDGET FOR 1895-96.

The estimated revenue and expenditures of Uruguay for 1895-96, as given by President Borda in forwarding his message to the General Assembly, is as follows:

Revenue.....	\$14,570,559 59
Expenditures	14,378,815 80
	\$191,743 79
Estimated surplus	

DENUNCIATION OF COMMERCIAL TREATY.

In a dispatch dated April 9 last, Mr. Walter Baring, Her Majesty's Minister to Montevideo, notifies his Government that the Uruguayan Government has denounced the Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Uruguay which was signed on November 13, 1883, and ratified by the two countries on May 22, 1886. The treaty will terminate on May 22, 1896.

VENEZUELA.

(From United States Consular Report for June.)

REGULATIONS AS TO BAGGAGE.

Under date of April 25, 1895, Consul Plumacher, of Maracaibo, writes:

As it frequently happens that passengers arriving at Venezuelan ports from abroad have trouble respecting their baggage, the Collector of Customs at this port has published extracts from the law upon the subject, defining also what may be properly considered as baggage. I have the honor to inclose a translation of these extracts, believing that their publication may be of service to persons visiting this country:

"Article 54.—The following will be considered as baggage: Clothing, shoes, bed, saddle, arms, professional instruments, and other articles already used, which are clearly for the personal use of the passenger, presented by him to the custom-house. Furniture, though already used, will not be considered as baggage, and will pay the corresponding duties, with discount for wear, estimated by the inspectors in uniuoi with an expert appointed by the party interested.

"Article 55.—Passengers may not bring among their baggage foreign effects which have not been used, the duties upon which may exceed 500 bolivars (\$96.50), and should they exceed this sum the goods which cause the excess shall be confiscated, although they may have been duly manifested. Passengers bringing among their baggage unused foreign effects within the limits of the maximum allowed by this article, should be manifested to the custom-house before the inspection of the baggage, and will pay corresponding duties; should the goods not be manifested before inspection duties thereon will be paid and the goods declared contraband.

"Article 57.—Baggage embarked in the Antilles must be weighed and examined in the apartment devoted to inspection by the chiefs of the custom-house, assisted by the commandant of the coast guard and the official weigher, having at sight the manifest, viséd by the consul, which must be presented by passengers. Should this manifest of baggage not be presented or received at the custom-house, a fine of from

125 to 1,000 bolivars (\$24.13 to \$193), according to the judgment of the inspectors, will be imposed, and the unused goods will be declared contraband."

CHANGES IN TARIFF.

The following changes in the classification of the Venezuelan tariff have been made:

By decree of November 27, 1894, tobacco in carrots (hueva) and all other twisted chewing tobacco were placed in class VII.

By decree of December 28, 1894, knitted slip bodices of cotton were placed in class VI, and are dutiable as knitted cotton vests.

By decree of February 18, 1895, slates for billiard tables were placed in class II, and assimilated for payment of duty to framed slates and roofing slates.

By decree of March 23, 1895, Seigert's Bitters, a beverage manufactured in Port-of-Spain chiefly of Venezuelan products, is included in class IV.

THE SALT INDUSTRY.

The production of salt in Venezuela for the year July 31, 1893, to June 3, 1894, according to a recent report to the Department of State from Mr. R. M. Bartleman, of the American Legation at Caracas, was as below:

	Kilos.*
La Guayra	4,260,856
Juan Griego	2,954,950
Maracaibo	2,148,760
Puerto Sucre	1,935,095
Puerto Cabello	1,932,320
La Vela	796,990
Guanta	637,515
Corupano	49,859
Total	14,716,381

*A kilogram is equal to 2.2046 pounds.

Since March 15, 1893, the industry has been carried on by the Bank of Venezuela as administrator general for the Government, receiving as a commission 10 per cent of the net proceeds.

UNITED STATES CONSULATES.

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

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

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—

Buenos Aires.
Cordoba.
Rosario.

BOLIVIA—

La Paz.

BRAZIL—

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

CHILE—

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

COLOMBIA—

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

COSTA RICA—

San José.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—

Puerto Plata.
Samana.
Santo Domingo.

ECUADOR—

Guayaquil.

GUATEMALA—

Guatemala.

HAITI—

Capé Haitien.
Port au Prince.

UNITED STATES CONSULATES.

HONDURAS—

Ruatan.
Tegucigalpa.

MEXICO—

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

MEXICO—*Continued.*

Tuxpan.
Vera Cruz.

NICARAGUA—

Managua.
San Juan del Norte.

PARAGUAY—

Asuncion.

PERU—

Callao.

SALVADOR—

San Salvador.

URUGUAY—

Colonia.
Montevideo.
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VENEZUELA—

La Guayra.
Maracaibo.
Puerto Cabello.

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19. Commercial Directory of Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uru- guay (contained also in Handbooks)	5
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CLINTON FURBISH,

Director.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 1, 1895.

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

VALUE OF AMERICAN COINS.

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

ESTIMATE JULY 1, 1895.

Countries.	Standard.	Unit.	Value of U. S. gold and silver	Coins.
Argentine Republic	Gold and silver.	Peso.	0.965 (fixed).	{ Gold—Argentine (\$4.824) and ½ Argentine. { Silver—Peso and divisions.
Bolivia	Silver.	Boliviano.	0.486.	Silver—Boliviano and divisions.
Brazil	Gold.	Mitrels.	0.546 (fixed).	{ Gold—5, 10, and 20 mitrels. { Silver—½, 1, and 2 mitrels.
Central America	Silver.	Peso.	0.486.	{ Gold—Onza and divisions. { Silver—Peso and divisions.
Chile	Gold and silver.	Peso.	0.912 (fixed).	{ Gold—Escudo (\$1.824), doubloon (\$4.56), { Condor (\$6.123), { Silver—Peso and divisions.
Colombia	Silver.	Peso.	0.486.	{ Gold—Condor (\$9.647), double condor. { Silver—Peso and divisions.
Cuba	Gold and silver.	Peso.	0.926 (fixed).	{ Gold—Doubloon (\$5.017). { Silver—Peso.
Ecuador	Silver.	Sucra.	0.486.	{ Gold—Condor (\$9.647) and divisions. { Silver—Sucra and divisions.
Mexico	Silver.	Dollar.	0.528.	{ Gold—Dollar (\$4.983), 2½, 5, 10, and 20 dols. { Silver—Dollar (or peso) and divisions.
Haiti	Gold and silver.	Gourde.	0.965.	Silver—Gourde.
Peru	Silver.	Sol.	0.486.	Silver—Sol and divisions.
Venezuela	Gold and silver.	Bolivar.	0.193 (fixed).	{ Gold—5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 bolivars. { Silver—5 bolivars.

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

VALUE OF AMERICAN COINS.—(Continued.)

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

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

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

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

Denomination.	Where used.	United States equivalents.
Are.....	Metric.....	0.02471 acre.
Arrobe.....	Paraguay.....	25 pounds.
Arroba (dry).....	Argentine Republic.....	25.3175 pounds.
do.....	Brazil.....	32.35 pounds.
do.....	Cuba.....	25.3604 pounds.
do.....	Venezuela.....	25.3024 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.....	1.54798 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.
do. (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.....	1.56 acres.
Marc.....	Bolivia.....	0.507 pound.
Meter.....	Metric.....	39.37 inches.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—(Continued.)

Denomination.	Where used.	United States equivalents.
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.....	220.46 pounds.
Suerte	Uruguay.....	2,700 cuadras (see cuadra).
Vara.....	Argentine Republic.....	34.1208 inches.
do.	Central America.....	38.874 inches.
do.	Chile and Peru.....	33.367 inches.
do.	Cuba	33.384 inches.
do.	Mexico	33 inches.
do.	Paraguay	34 inches.
do.	Venezuela.....	33.384 inches.

METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

METRIC WEIGHTS.

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

METRIC DRY MEASURE.

Millimeter ($\frac{1}{1000}$ liter) equals 0.061 cubic inch.
 Centiliter ($\frac{1}{100}$ liter) equals 0.6102 cubic inch.
 Deciliter ($\frac{1}{10}$ 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.

Millimeter ($\frac{1}{1000}$ liter) equals 0.27 fluid ounce.
 Centiliter ($\frac{1}{100}$ liter) equals 0.338 fluid ounce.
 Deciliter ($\frac{1}{10}$ liter) equals 0.845 gill.
 Liter equals 1.0567 quarts.

METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—(Continued.)

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

METRIC MEASURES OF LENGTH

Millimeter ($\frac{1}{1000}$ meter) equals 0.0394 inch.
Centimeter ($\frac{1}{100}$ meter) equals 0.3937 inch.
Decimeter ($\frac{1}{10}$ 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, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, United States of America, and United States of Colombia.











