

Foreign Movements.

"And I will war, at least in words,
(And should my chance so happen—deeds),
With all my power and thought!"
"I think I hear a little bird, who sings
The people by and by will be the stronger."—BY ROS.

MONTE VIDEO AND BUENOS AYRES.—THE WAR IN THE RIO DE LA PLATA.

The accounts which have so often disgraced our columns, of the massacres perpetrated on the banks of the Rio de la Plata—the fact that many of our countrymen have been the victims of those massacres, and the recent change in our diplomatic relations with Buenos Ayres, together with the now certain intervention of the British Government—renders a few explanatory remarks on the circumstances, and a description of that part of the world not unnecessary. For the following description of the seat of war, and the origin of that war, we are principally indebted to an article in that excellent publication, *Simonds's Colonial Magazine*.

The Rio de la Plata, or the River Plate, originally so called from the supposition that the country produced salt in its ratio, is inland sea than a river, and is the entrance, from Cape St. Mary to Cape Horn, 170 miles broad. A vast number of rivers, traversing the whole extent of the South American continent, empty their waters into this mighty stream, rendering its shores the fitting scene of a gigantic commerce. These natural advantages have not yet been very extensively developed, owing to the thinness of the population, the selfish system of the old Spanish rule, and the still more fatal results of the sanguinary struggles which have of late years scourged those unfortunate regions. Still, considerable trading interests have risen up, both at Monte Video and Buenos Ayres, and the latter are a cosmopolitan city, French, and Italian trade predominating in the former city, where their persons and properties have for a long time past been exposed to suffering, loss, and destruction, the consequences of the savage warfare we have to describe in this article.

The Rio de la Plata, at the part where Monte Video is situated, is only fifty miles broad, and an inlet from the river forms the harbour; which, though very spacious, and, as far as extent of surface is concerned, might hold a very large fleet, is so shallow, that even merchant ships are confined to one side, and there is no anchorage for men-of-war, except for those of a small draught of water, so that larger vessels cannot anchor, generally anchor about five miles from the landing-place. It is formed by two promontories, on the side to the west is the mountain, on the other to the east is the town; and within the harbour there is a small rocky island, called "Rab Island," which is now fortified with thirteen guns, and derives additional protection from the rocks, and the shoals of the ground, as well as the shallowness of the water round it. The town, situated on the east side of the harbour, presents a fine appearance from the sea; it is of Spanish origin, and was captured by a British force in the year 1807. Since it threw off the yoke of Old Spain it has been the subject of contention between Brazil and Buenos Ayres, and has, at times, almost been a theatre of war. It is situated on the bank of both, and the whole province of the Banda Oriental, of which Monte Video is the capital, forms a good boundary to the extensive territory of the Emperor of Brazil. Monte Video is well built; its streets are perfectly straight, and the houses are of a good style. There are several handsome churches, the largest of which, dedicated to St. Philip and St. James, is a noble structure, built in the Norman style. The houses, having all flat roofs, would form so many fortresses against an enemy taking the town by assault, as a few resolute men on the roof of one of the houses could, by means of a few muskets in the street, without incurring any risk for themselves. This has been often very sensibly felt, and the importance of it is well appreciated by the natives, and by none perhaps more so than by Ome, who has never made the least show of attacking the town by assault, even before the present walls were erected. The town is situated about a mile from the citadel, and is about half a mile beyond the citadel, and planted with cannon taken from the wreck of the *Agamemnon*, which was lost in the river. The inhabitants of Monte Video are of a mixed nature, composed of various nations, among which Spanish, Italian, and French, and French-Canadian are very abundant. There are besides many English and other foreigners residing in the town for the purpose of commerce. The women are described as being mostly very handsome, particularly those of Spanish descent. If the statements of travellers are to be relied on, coupled with the well-known atrocities of the existing war, cruelty and an utter recklessness of blood-shedding would seem to be the order of the day, and the fate of the inhabitants of the river Plate, and we fear that the Monte Videans form no exception to the general rule. The Catholic religion, of course, predominates.

The causes of the war between Monte Video and Buenos Ayres appear to be twofold, the one arising from the fact that the French, who had been assisted by Monte Video as an ally in the war they waged against the Argentine Republic, of which Buenos Ayres is the capital, omitted to include their friends in the peace which they made with the Republic in 1830, and thus left them to prosecute the war, which has continued ever since. The other cause arises from a civil feud between two parties in the Republic, respectively claiming *Rivera* and *Ome* as the legal president. *Rivera*, who holds the whole of the power, with all the resources of Buenos Ayres, in his own hands, he has been able to maintain his position, and his capital Monte Video, to his present extensive territory, and for this purpose has made use of the species word "confederation," having raised a party even within the walls of Monte Video, advocating federal principles, in opposition to the majority, who advocate keeping the town free from the tyranny of a civil war, and the restriction on trade which this experience at the hands of *Rivera*. From the circumstance of wishing to act alone, they are denominated "Unitarians," and it was as far back as 1838 that an event occurred which enabled *Rivera* to attempt the execution of his darling object of restoring to himself the control of the Republic of Buenos Ayres. It appears that when the Brazilian Emperor, *Dom Pedro*, visited Monte Video, he was unanimously elected to the office of "Camp General" over all the Monte Videans forces, without civil power in the towns; and an attempt having been made by *Ome* to deprive him of his office, he fled to the north, and was followed by the walls of Monte Video, for the purpose of displacing *Ome* from the president's chair, in which he had been placed by the Chamber of Representatives, when *Ome*, seeing no prospect of opposing his adversary in the field, considered himself obliged to give in his resignation as president.

When his resignation had been accepted, and *Rivera* had been proclaimed, he left the town, and without endeavouring to make use of any honourable means to regain the post which he had resigned, allowed himself to become the tool of *Rivera*, who, under the pretence of restoring him to his office, was the cause of the civil war which has since been waged. It appears that when the Brazilian Emperor, *Dom Pedro*, visited Monte Video, he was unanimously elected to the office of "Camp General" over all the Monte Videans forces, without civil power in the towns; and an attempt having been made by *Ome* to deprive him of his office, he fled to the north, and was followed by the walls of Monte Video, for the purpose of displacing *Ome* from the president's chair, in which he had been placed by the Chamber of Representatives, when *Ome*, seeing no prospect of opposing his adversary in the field, considered himself obliged to give in his resignation as president.

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The Monte Videans have now been for more than twelve months destitute of provisions, except rice, farina, beans, and oil; they have no money, and nearly all their horses have been killed and eaten; they have an army before their town superior in numbers, discipline, and resources to themselves; a squadron of the enemies ships blockade them by water; and, in the country, *Rivera*, is somewhere in the neighbourhood, watching him with superior force. Yet the Monte Videans, despite all these adverse circumstances, have not yielded; they still hold out, fighting, suffering, and perishing, in an almost hopeless contest.

The British residents at Monte Video have declared bitter against the apathy of the British Government in allowing this barbarous war to continue, occasioning, as it has done, immense destruction of life, and ruin to most important commercial interests. The conduct of Mr. MANDEVILLE, the British envoy at Buenos Ayres, has been severely animadverted on, and while he has drawn down upon himself the animosity of the British residents, who denounce him as the "tool of *Rivera*," he has, on the other hand, at the same time failed in satisfying his own Government of this his recall, and the appointment of Mr. GORE OUSELEY to fill his place, is sufficient proof. We must defer till next week the reasons justificatory of the interference of the British Government, and also the account of the atrocious and the miscreant *Rivera*, which atrocities alone would justify such interference.

Agriculture and Horticulture.

FIELD-GARDEN OPERATIONS.

For the week commencing Monday, May 6th, 1844.

Extracted from a DIARY of Agricultural Operations on five small farms on the estates of Mrs. Davies Gilbert, near Eastbourne, in Sussex; and on several model farms on the estates of the Earl of Dartmouth, in Devonshire. The diary is published by Mr. NOWELL, of Farley Tye, near Huddersfield, in order to give to other possessors of field gardens, by showing them what labours ought to be undertaken on their own lands. The farms selected as models are—First, Two school farms at Willington and Eastdown, of five acres each, conducted by G. Crutenden and John Harris. Private farms, of five acres each, conducted by Mr. J. P. Nowell, the other by John Dumbrell—the former at Eastdown, the latter at Jervington—all of them within a few miles of Eastbourne. Third, An industrial school farm at Slaithwaite. Fourth, Several private model farms near the same place. The consecutive operations in these reports will enable the curious reader to compare the climate and agricultural value of the south with the north of England. The DIARY is divided into "Notes and Observations" from the pen of Mr. Nowell, calculated for the time and season, which we subjoin.

"The culture of the ground is my happiest state. I envy not the possession of gold, silver, or fine raiment—their joys may not be so great as time: for still the English school of agriculture is the life of staidness is prone to vanity and imaginations of evil."
NOTE.—The school farms are cultivated by boys, who in return for three hours' teaching in the morning, give three hours of their labour in the afternoon for the master's benefit, which renders the schools self-supporting. We believe that at Farley Tye six-sevenths of the produce of the school farm will be assigned to the boys, and one-seventh to the master, who will be allowed to help the boys to cultivate their land, and teach them, in addition to reading, writing, &c., to convert their produce into bacon, by attending to pig-keeping, which at Christmas may be divided, after paying rent and levy, amongst them in proportion to their services, and to be made into butter to reach their parents in a way the most grateful to the feelings.

MONDAY.—Willington School. Boys digging and manuring for potatoes after rice. Eastdown School. Ten boys digging, and planting potatoes, hoeing the forward ones, and weeding. Piper. Planting potatoes. Dumbrell. Digging mangel wurzel seed, digging.

TUESDAY.—Willington School. Boys digging and manuring. Eastdown School. Planting potatoes, sowing carrot seed, hoeing tares, picking up the weeds for pigs and cows. Piper. Drawing manure to the ground where rice has just come off. Dumbrell. Digging mangel wurzel seed, digging.

WEDNESDAY.—Willington School. Boys digging and manuring. Eastdown School. Boys applying tanks, and pouring liquid along the drills, hoeing the forward ones, and preparing for turnips. Piper. Digging rice stubble, moving tares for sowing, above three feet long. Dumbrell. Digging mangel wurzel seed, digging.

THURSDAY.—Willington School. Boys digging and manuring for potatoes after rice. Eastdown School. Ten boys digging, and planting potatoes, hoeing the forward ones, and weeding. Piper. Planting potatoes. Dumbrell. Digging rice stubble, planting mangel wurzel seed.

FRIDAY.—Willington School. Boys digging rice stubble, and manuring for potatoes. Eastdown School. Boys digging rice stubble, and manuring for potatoes. Piper. Digging rice stubble, and manuring for potatoes. Dumbrell. Digging rice stubble, and manuring for potatoes.

SATURDAY.—Willington School. Hand weeding wheat. Eastdown School. Hand weeding wheat. Piper. Hand weeding wheat. Dumbrell. Hand weeding wheat.

SUNDAY.—Willington School. Hand weeding wheat. Eastdown School. Hand weeding wheat. Piper. Hand weeding wheat. Dumbrell. Hand weeding wheat.

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fertilising effects of bones dissolved in acid than any other of bones not so treated. It was clearly shown in the following results, in which the crops from the dissolved bones took the lead from the commencement:—

Bush of Bone per acre.	Cost of Bone per acre.	State of Bone.	Amount of Produce per acre.
16	£ 6. d.	Crushed	tons. cwt. st. lb.
2	2 0 0	Dissolved	11 12 0 0
4	4 0 0	Dissolved	12 11 6 4
8	8 0 0	Dissolved	14 11 7 0
16	16 0 0	Dissolved	15 12 7 0
32	32 0 0	Dissolved	16 2 5 0
64	64 0 0	Dissolved	17 1 12 0

From which it appeared, that two bushels of dissolved bones per acre would actually produce as good results as sixteen bushels of bones in their ordinary state in some cases; that eight bushels of dissolved bones would greatly surpass sixteen bushels of bones used in any other manner; and that four bushels per acre would be a fair quantity to apply in the state of solution; the results being greatly superior to those from four-fold the same quantity of bones applied in their ordinary state. The cost of the application in proportion to the amount of effect produced, evidenced by the weight of the crop, than that of any other quantity.—II. *Proportions*.—1. *Bones and Acid*.—The proportion of acid had generally been one-half of the weight of bones employed; but one, or even one-fourth of the weight of bones might be used with success if occasion required. That was an important point in the economy of the manure, as it affected the cost materially.—2. *Water*.—The proportion of water had generally been 100 times the weight of acid; but fifty or twenty-five times the weight of acid would serve the purpose required, if the water was of good quality, and was to be of great use, one of the main practical difficulties to be taken into the application of dissolved bones being the large quantity of water which had been considered necessary. Mr. Hannam's result showed that four bushels of bones (12st. 6st. of acid) dissolved in 100 gallons of water, gave 420 gallons of dissolved bones to be applied to an acre, while 150 st. of water (twenty-five times that of acid) would suffice. It was, however, worthy of notice, in reference to the preparation of the mixture, that the bones should be pulverised as much as possible before they are mixed with the acid, in order to render the solution more complete, and should that not be the case, and a few of the larger portions of bone be left undissolved, that circumstance would occasion no injurious effect, as there would be bone enough dissolved for the plant in its early stages, and the larger particles would disintegrate by degrees and come into operation towards the end of the season. Mr. Pugh thought that however great a point was gained by reducing the bulk of the water employed for dissolving the solution of the bones, a still greater step was attained by substituting altogether the compost for the liquid form of the application. In the society's last journal, p. 399, Mr. Tennant, of Shields, near Newcastle, gave an account of his experiments, in which he put twenty-five bushels into three soil boilers (of which every farm here has a supply), and next pour in two bottles each, of about 170 lb. each, and thirty-six Scotch pints (eighteen imperial gallons) of boiling water into each boiler. It boils away at a great rate for some time, and in day or two the sulphuric acid is gone, and two carts of light mud, and turn the mixture over. At this stage, the bones are only partially dissolved, but they heat and decompose in the heap, after being turned over three or four times; and in the course of seven or eight weeks the compost becomes dry, and breaks down into a fine state for spreading on the soil. Mr. Pugh said that he had found that he had himself last year found four bushels of dissolved bones applied in the form of compost fully equal to twenty loads of farm-yard manure, there being no perceptible difference in the crop throughout the field.—IV. *Cost of Acid*.—The Earl of Ducie called the attention of the council to the price of the acid, and in day or two the sulphuric acid is gone, and two carts of light mud, and turn the mixture over. At this stage, the bones are only partially dissolved, but they heat and decompose in the heap, after being turned over three or four times; and in the course of seven or eight weeks the compost becomes dry, and breaks down into a fine state for spreading on the soil. 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