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## TWO THOUSAND REVOLTS

REVOLUTIONARY RECORD OF SPANISH AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS.

Probable Effect of the Civil War at Buenos Ayres—The Bloody Annals of the Republics Lying to the South of the United States.

(Copyright by American Press Association.)

The recent civil war in Buenos Ayres takes the Argentine Republic from the side of the United States, Canada, British Honduras and Guiana, and places it again in the column of revolutionary common-



JUAN MANUEL DE ROSAS, THE ARGENTINE RULER. To any one who has visited that part of the world this is bad enough. What makes matters worse is that the insurrection should have broken out in one of the handsomest cities of the South American continent. Whatever the ultimate political result may be, the city has been terribly damaged, its commercial prosperity injured, and its growth checked for at least the next ten years.

The city of Buenos Ayres is a capital, a metropolis and even more. On account of the river system of the continent it commands not only the trade of its own land but also a goodly part of that of Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil. While thoroughly Spanish it is almost as polyglot as New York. Its population contains heavy representations from Italy, Portugal, Greece, France, Germany, England, Ireland, Scotland, Holland, Denmark and China, as well as large numbers of negroes, Indians and half breeds. In the past decade it has received as many if not more Italian immigrants as the entire United States. Alongside of it the other Argentine municipalities, such as Rosario and Cordoba, sink into insignificance. Its relation to the nation is the same as would be that of New York to the United States; were the latter to have a population of 9,000,000, with Chicago and Philadelphia cut down to 500,000 apiece.

The site of the city is admirable. It lies upon the west bank of the great La Plata river, which at this point is a huge arm of the sea, incapable of doing damage by freshet or inundation, and almost so by heavy storm or high tide. The land slopes at a small angle upward toward the interior, being a part of the same geological formation as the famous pampas or plains inland. The soil is fertile, and contains enough sand and gravel to give it a superb natural drainage. As a consequence there is but little marsh land and little or no malaria or zymotic diseases. As compared with Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Bahia and Pernambuco, Buenos Ayres is cleaner, drier, cooler and far more healthful.

The original architects of the city were wiser than those of the older North American cities, and laid the place out upon broad and liberal lines. The streets are wide, straight and handsome, and every here and there parks and public squares afford breathing spaces and lounging places to the citizens. The two leading squares were recently the entrenched camps of the government and the revolutionists. That of the former, the Plaza Victoria, or Victoria square, is situated at the east end, or oldest part of the city, almost on the river's bank. It is a mass of fine trees and beautiful vegetation, well lighted by gas and electricity, and containing many fine works of art. Around it are four lines of large buildings, including the cathedral, archiepiscopal palace, the central national bank, city hall, custom house, government office building and police headquarters.

The government buildings are large and commodious, and about as ugly as the New York postoffice. Their shelling by the insurgent gunboats will therefore be a blessing in disguise. The cathedral is a very noble edifice. It is a massive pile, 158 feet wide and 288 feet long. The front is a perfect reproduction of a Corinthian temple at the best period of Greek art, and its interior is famous for its beauty and comfort. The only drawback is a clumsy dome, which suggests a monster rifle bullet, and which is as ugly as the facade is beautiful. Unlike in Brazil, the church in Buenos Ayres has not antagonized the intelligent classes, and enjoys popular respect and what is more important, support. The cathedral is without exception the best architectural feature of the city, and is daily visited by travelers from every part of the globe.

The other great square which was held by the insurgents is the Plaza Lavalle or Plaza Parque (Park square), which lies about seven blocks or seven-eighths of a mile from Victoria square. It is of the same dimen-



GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, BUENOS AYRES.

sions as the latter and about as attractive in its arrangements. Its surroundings are cheap and unattractive, the only buildings of prominence being an artillery magazine, a church, a police station and a few stores. The streets run directly from one square to the other, and along these most of the fighting has occurred.

It is strange how the Latin republics run to civil war. Of the fifteen (outside of Mexico) there is not one but whose history is a sad series of uprisings, carnage and death. Courteous, capable and intelligent, these Spanish peoples prosper in almost every field except that of politics. Here they seem to lose all self control and reasoning power, and to appeal to the sword and bayonet upon the most trivial pretext. It hardly sounds credible when it is asserted that a thousand revolutions have

occurred in the present century in Central and South America, not including at least a thousand others of comparative insignificance. Yet these figures are below rather than above the truth. A brief review of the record of these nations may therefore be of interest to the reader.

Buenos Ayres is no stranger to civil war. In 1810 and 1811 there were fierce struggles for the establishment of a provisional government. In 1819 they declared themselves independent of the Spanish crown, and again went to fighting on their own account. Between 1827 and 1832 no less than thirty insurrections broke out, blossomed for a day and then disappeared. In 1833-3 they had a general civil war, in which the losses on each side were very large. From that time on they have had no or no domestic trouble until 1880.

Brazil's recent revolution, in which the empire was destroyed, the emperor exiled and a republic proclaimed, is not the first in her interesting history. Her first insurrection occurred as far back as 1577. The second, which was a general rising against a foreign and despotic government, occurred in 1625. Fifteen years later there was an abortive effort made to start an independent kingdom. In 1645 a revolt broke out which was suppressed after on for nine years. A brief insurrection marked the year 1789—an echo, as it were, of the American war of independence. From 1817 to 1820 four attempts to create a republic were made, but all failed. The year 1834 saw civil war in one-half the provinces of the empire. From the last date to 1890 a wise and liberal government kept the nation from internecine difficulties. The last revolution achieved what had been the object of many predecessors.

Uruguay, from the time of its independence in 1828 up to 1890, was the scene of hundreds of mutinies, intrigues and revolutions, not one of which seems to have been identified with any principle, and all of which were apparently the results of quarrels among politicians, office holders and office seekers.

Venezuela came into public notice in 1810, when it began its war of independence against Spain under the famous hero, Gen. Bolivar. The war lasted eleven years, but the national autonomy was not recognized until 1845 by the mother country. From 1840 to 1870 there were not less than thirty civil wars between the Unionists and Federalists, the two chief parties of the land. Since that time they have contented themselves with two revolutions.

Colombia or New Grenada, as it is perhaps better known to American readers, began its revolutionary career in 1811, when it declared its independence of Spain. In 1839 a terrible civil war occurred, occasioned very much like the present one in Buenos Ayres by quarrels over the national debt. It lasted five years and nearly ruined the commonwealth. Between 1842 and 1873 over sixty insurrections and widespread mutinies occurred. Since that time the nation has been comparatively peaceful and has enjoyed considerable prosperity.

Ecuador started the insurrection business in 1809 and 1812 by an attempt to obtain self government. These failed, but in 1830 a third attempt succeeded. During



THE CATHEDRAL, BUENOS AYRES.

the next twenty-five years there were two uprisings; but amends were made for this between 1845 and 1885, in which period are recorded seventeen revolutions of different sizes.

Chili rebelled from Spain in 1810, but was crushed by the latter's armies six years later. It reversed matters the following year and became independent. In 1833 it indulged in a first class revolution, followed by eight smaller ones, the last one being in 1890. A long period of peace and thrift was closed by the insurrection of 1831 under Gen. Urriola, since which time there has been practically no home troubles larger than riots.

Peru proclaimed independence in 1814 without success. A second time, in 1821, it did better, the war thus inaugurated lasted three years, and bringing as its reward the sought for freedom. The prize proved hardly worth the having, as it started a series of civil wars which continued until 1887. During this term of sixty-three years there were forty-seven rebellions.

Bolivia, the inland republic, was originally a part of and known as Upper Peru. It secured its independence in 1825, and immediately thereupon began civil war, in the following three years there being not less than fifteen popular uprisings. In 1839 there was a successful rebellion under Gen. Blanco, in 1850 a counter rebellion. Five years after occurred a hard fought war. From this time on to 1871 the history of the country is a record of fighting either at home or abroad. Since that time they have turned over a new leaf, and engaged in only one foreign war and five insurrections.

Paraguay was born as a nation in 1811. In 1814 it became a dictatorship under Dr. Francia, and afterward Lopez and the latter's son. It has had fewer revolutions than any other South American commonwealth, those recorded being but two in number and of slight importance.

Costa Rica is the best behaved of all the Central American republics, having had but five insurrections since it started life in 1820.

Nicaragua, in the sixty-nine years it has been a free nation, has had 400 revolutions, the largest number on record.

Guatemala, of the same age as Nicaragua, was probably deterred by the latter's example from going into insurrections wholesale. Only eleven are credited to her account in her history.

San Salvador, the smallest republic of the New World, is one of the liveliest. It has had 100 civil wars in its short career, and is now engaged in war with Guatemala and also at home.

Honduras, noted as the land where Columbus first put foot upon the soil of the continent, has sufficed its appetite for blood with thirty-three uprisings—a very modest show compared with those of its neighbors.

Compared with such a chronicle the career of the United States, of England, Germany and even France is absolute peace.

WILLIAM E. S. FALES.

The Duchess of Leinster appeared at the late state ball at Buckingham Palace wearing diamond earrings, a diamond corsage, a diamond necklace, a diamond bracelet, a diamond tiara, diamond brooches, a diamond necklace, and more diamond brooches and buckles than the dazzled beholder could count.

## A DARING ROBBERY.

How Inordinate Greed Brought Its Own Punishment.

Clad in his bullet proof coat of mail, the trusty guard of the ice wagon sat in the iron plated turret on the hurricane deck of the vehicle, with his Winchester rifle in his hand, a collection of hand grenades within easy reach, and his belt full of navy revolvers of the largest size. On a little shelf in front of him was a pair of sabers ready for instant use in an emergency requiring hand to hand fighting, and a powerful field glass for detecting an enemy at long range swung on a pivot in such a way as to command a view of the landscape in every direction. The driver of the wagon, as heavily armed as the nature of his duties would permit, sat in a bomb proof enclosure, and guided the horses by means of lines passing through portholes in front, while the athlete who occupied the responsible and dangerous position at the rear of the wagon and delivered the ice to customers was equipped with bottles of vitriol for defensive use, and wore under his outer garments a suit of chain armor that had belonged once to a baseball umpire.

Under the watchful protection of the guard on the roof the wagon had stopped at its regular places, the man in the rear had made several deliveries of ice to customers in perfect safety, and as the driver turned down a wide street in a thickly settled portion of the town, with few persons in sight except children at play, the vigilance of the trio in charge of the ice wagon relaxed and a sense of security stole over them.

Suddenly as they passed an alley a troop of horsemen dashed out with a wild yell, half a dozen lances flew through the air, and before they could recover from their confusion the guard on the roof and the man on the rear step of the wagon were dragged from their posts, thrown to the ground and bound with ropes. This done a part of the gang opened fire with revolvers on the bomb proof enclosure where the driver sat, and succeeded in occupying his attention while the others with crowbars and sledge hammers forced open the iron doors in the rear.

The plans of the daring robbers had been laid with care, and in less than time it takes to tell of it they had succeeded in their desperate undertaking, and were on their way out of the town with their booty, a chunk of ice weighing at least ten pounds, carefully wrapped in a blanket.

The knowledge that the news of the robbery would be flashed through the place and telegraphed far and wide, accompanied by offers of large rewards for their capture dead or alive, lent wings to the fleeing villains. They had held up many a train on the plains of Texas and in the rocky fastnesses of Missouri, but had never engaged before in a scheme of plunder on so gigantic a scale, and they rode from the scene of their exploit with the wild haste of men fleeing for their lives.

In a little clearing in the heart of a dense wood, miles and miles from the town they had invaded, these men halted at last.

Turning their faded animals loose they gathered eagerly about their prize. Unrolling it with the utmost care they feasted their eyes on its glittering outlines, and with hands trembling with excitement they prepared to divide it.

"No cheating!" thundered Broken Nosed Pete, as a gaunt villain with a saw drew it across the block a little to the left of the line he had drawn across it with a dagger.

Hare Lipped Mose sprang to his feet with a terrible oath, knives flashed in the air, derringers were drawn and the sounding aisles of the dim woods rang with the voices of men in angry strife.

High rose the din of conflict. The pitying sun looked down on Goggle Eyed Hank and Grizzly Jake, the Terror of Bloody Gulch, engaged in a fierce combat, while Comanche Dick and Wild Mike rolled over and over on the ground, biting and gouging each other in their frantic rage. Dare Devil Sam and One Eyed Jackson emptied their pistols at each other, and then fought at close quarters with brass knuckles and slungshots. In this way the battle had raged for some time without any decisive result, when a frightful, blood curdling yell from one of the combatants caused a suspension of hostilities. He had stopped fighting and was standing in wild dismay over the spot where the captured treasure had lain.

It had vanished.

While they had been fighting over its possession the sun had melted away a fortune—Chicago Tribune.

A Practical Memento.

Sir James—And were you in Rome? American Lady—I guess not. (To her daughter) Say, Bella, did we visit Rome? Fair Daughter—Why, ma, certainly! Don't you remember? It was in Rome we bought the lisle thread stockings! American lady is convinced.—Punch.

Had Been Careful.

Guest—I believe I see several flies in this soup, waiter.

Waiter (in surprise)—You must be mistaken, sir. I was very careful to take them all out before I brought it in.—Detroit Free Press.

No Pretty Ones Wanted.

Applicant—I understood you wanted a cook? Madame—Yes; I want a plain cook.

Applicant—It's a plain cook, is it? Is your husband a little bit foxy?—Lowell Citizen.

A Dearth of Topics.

Fannie—I wonder why Mr. Simpson is always talking about himself.

Kate—Because he doesn't know any sensible thing to talk about.—Washington Star.

Seldom.

Waiter—How do you have your steak? Trump—Rare!—Lowell Citizen.

More Than Punished.

"What is the charge against this prisoner?"

"He's a thief, your honor," said the policeman.

"What did he steal?"

"He took me picture without me knowin' it."

"The prisoner has the sympathy of the court—discharged."—Puck.

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