

the contract is celebrated and the cattle are safely delivered on the banks of the meandering, meadow-fringed Amazon. Such opportunities do not occur every day in one's life time, and it may be that they never will occur again. Some day it may occur to Mr. Longendycke that it might not be amiss to write to the editor of THE RIO NEWS about the grassy plains of the Amazon and the prospects of cattle-raising in that delectable region — and then the truth will have to be told. We shall feel ourselves obliged to tell him about the swamps, *igarapés*, lakes and flooded plains of that great river basin, of its impenetrable forests, of its malarious climate, of the non-existence of any such thing as a grassy plain until the highlands are reached, a long distance away, of the countless *bichos* which prey upon beast and man, of the almost forgotten stock-raising industry of Marajó, of the neglected and unprofitable stock-raising efforts on the Rio Branco, of the heroic struggles of the people of Pará to get beef enough to eat by paying liberal subsidies to have the cattle imported from Piahy, Ceará and even Matto-Grosso, of the indolence of the natives who would see a cow die in the mire rather than try to get her out, of the taxes on salt, and the taxes on cattle sold for consumption and for export, of the high rates of freight charged on the river and along the coast, of the heat, rain and mortal lassitude which fill those blissful regions, and of the soul-crushing homesickness which afflict both man and beast before their first week in those jungles has come to an end. We prefer to let Mr. Longendycke find all this out for himself, for the world seems to have reached the sage conclusion that the Brazilian immigration agent is a truthful philanthropist who is trying to confer a great benefit on suffering humanity by directing its halting steps toward these shores, while the conscientious journalist who raises a note of warning is nothing less than a pessimistic meddler who wants to keep his subscription list within starvation limits by scaring away the industrious and confiding foreigner. By all means let Mr. Longendycke and his friends come out, and let twice three million acres of those rich bottom lands on the Amazon be given them free and without price. They can graze their stock from boats and rafts, they can stock the country with veterinary doctors, they can season their daily lives with quinine and dialogues with the inquisitive policeman, and then they can gather up all their little profits to buy a two by six box in which to store their weary, much-shaken bones until the trump of Gabriel shall sound, and another new field shall be opened to the enterprising Kansas cattleman on the boundless, eternally-green ranges of the still unexplored Jordan.

THE EMPEROR'S ARRIVAL.

After a safe and pleasant voyage of 17 days from Bordeaux, broken by calls at Lisbon and Dakar, their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress arrived here on the French packet *Congo* on the 22nd inst. The steamer was first signalled from Cape Frio at 3:30 a. m., and at 5 o'clock the ironclads *Aquidaban* and *Riachuelo* started out to meet their Majesties outside the bar, which took place some 14 miles distant about 7 o'clock. The customary salutes were fired by the ironclads, and by the forts when the *Congo* passed into the bay. The steamer dropped anchor at 8:20, was immediately visited by the port and customs officials, and then by the Princess Regent and her family, the palace officials and ministry. These were followed by a great concourse of officials and people, all anxious to see the Emperor and congratulate him upon his safe return.

The scene in the harbor was an animated one. All the war vessels in port were gaily trimmed with bunting, as were most of the merchant vessels. The bay near the *Congo* was covered with steamers, launches, and boats of every description, whistles were screaming, flags and handkerchiefs waving, fireworks bursting, and every signal of

popular joy that could be conceived was made use of.

In the city extensive preparations had been made for the reception of their Majesties. It is said that fully 100,000\$ had been subscribed for this purpose. The streets were gaily decorated with triumphal arches, wreaths, flags, inscriptions and flowers, and an immense crowd waited the passage of their Majesties to the Imperial Chapel, and thence to the palace of S. Christovão. Their landing took place at the marine arsenal at 10:30, where a great number of societies, battalions of school boys, representatives of official corporations, etc., were in waiting. After service at the Imperial Chapel a brief reception was given at the City Palace to the diplomatic representatives of foreign countries, and then the imperial party set out for S. Christovão, where their reception was no less elaborate and enthusiastic than in the city.

Our space forbids any extended notice of the decorations and festivities. The new unfinished Exchange was decorated with curtains and transparencies, and the municipal hall was gay with flags and bunting. At night the illuminations were general and very brilliant throughout the whole city. Many people had come in from the country to witness the Emperor's arrival, and the streets were crowded with people until a late hour. The best of order prevailed everywhere, and the welcomes accorded were as spontaneous and enthusiastic as any sovereign could have wished.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

August 13.—In the Senate the premier and Sr. Belisario exchanged some remarks about the delay in furnishing information asked from the Treasury. Senator Belisario made some very sensible criticisms on the national bank law; according to the ex-minister of finance the scheme will prove impracticable. The premier defended his silence on the question, because the government wished to have all opinions; the project was acceptable, and contradictions were apparent in the speech of the preceding orator. Visconde do Ouro Preto again defended his law, but produced nothing particularly new; the senator's arguments would have been permissible to a young student in political economy. Senator Belisario returned to the charge, and the premier made another defense. The debate was somewhat acrimonious. Senators Silveira Martins, Lima Duarte and Correia spoke on the department of justice budget, but the speeches were uninteresting. In the Chamber the only feature of interest was Deputy Rodrigues Peixoto's questions to the minister of agriculture relative to the Santos harbor improvements and the latter's answers to these.

August 14.—The premier read telegrams in the Senate from Dakar reporting the Emperor enjoying excellent health, and also announcing the death of a son of the Duke of Saxe, a grandson of the Emperor. Senator Siqueira Mendes enlightened the Senate upon Pará provincial affairs. Senator Pereira da Silva verified an old German saying, "Sometimes a blind fowl finds a grain of corn"; his speech was, as natural, a claim for protection for the Bank of Brazil, but contains some topics deserving of consideration. Visconde do Ouro Preto again came to defend his bill; he was sharp upon the preceding speaker and demanded from the Rio de Janeiro senators a substitute for the project, once they could not accept this. The law as amended was passed. The minister of justice replied to criticisms on his budgets. In the Chamber a deputy, and priest, Olympio de Campos, declared that he would go into opposition, if the government declared freedom of religion a question of urgency, and also opposed an extension of a railway into the province of Sergipe. Another deputy presented a demand from dwellers in Ponte Nova, Minas Geraes, for the fencing of the Leopoldina railway, and the rest of the session was occupied in talking about street extensions in Rio.

August 16.—No session in either house.

August 17.—There was no session in either Senate or Chamber.

August 18.—In the Senate the session was of no general interest, and in the Chamber there was no quorum.

August 20.—In the Senate the session was occupied by Senator Dantas and the minister of foreign affairs, in discussing the budget of the latter's department. The only feature of interest was the reference to the establishment of English schools in the disputed territory between Guiana and Brazil. In the Chamber Barão de Geremoabo and Deputy Elpidio de Mesquita exchanged some sharp compliments and the session was so disorderly that the president ordered its suspension. After order was restored Deputy Lourenço de Albuquerque spoke on the finance budget, but merely stated that discussion was premature, and he would await the presentation of the department of agriculture estimates to show how S. Paulo was favored.

Deputies Lacerda Werneck and Araujo Góes spoke on the budget of the department of agriculture, the former in opposition to and the latter in defense of the government.

August 21.—There was no session in the Senate. In the Chamber Deputy Andrade Figueira read and sent to the president the representation of Brazilian women against the Senate bill providing for religious liberty. Deputy Bulhões de Carvalho presented one of the never ending demands from planters for indemnity, and in the course of his remarks stated that the constitution no longer existed in Brazil. Deputies Mattoso Camara and Pedro Luiz spoke on the finance budget, and the latter also spoke on that of the department of agriculture. The deputy's speech was very comprehensive, covering a considerable part of the project of the law under discussion.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—There were 20 deaths from small-pox in the Santos lazaretto in the month of July.

—The June receipts of the Amazonas custom house amounted to 104,967\$010.

—The *recebedoria provincial* of Pará collected 1,093,190\$503 during the last half year, against 1,038,852\$463 in the same period of 1887.

—A Portuguese colonist arrived at a São Paulo plantation the other day who is a *commendador* in the Order of Christ. Honors are even, certainly!

—The people of Campos have become very much excited over the increase in the tax on industries and professions, and are demanding the suspension of the law.

—It is said that the gas is so poor in Espirito Santo that the citizens are compelled to carry lanterns at night to avoid running against the lamp-posts.

—Dr. Silva Jardim, the apostle of republicanism, could not speak at Parahyba do Sul on the 11th. He was dining at the "Globo" restaurant here on that date.

—On the 10th a payment of 88,593\$750 was authorized by the department of agriculture to the S. Paulo immigration society. And yet the Paulistas wish to leave the rest of the empire out in the cold!

—The *Monitor Campista* says that over 100 prominent merchants of Campos have signed a declaration that they will not continue business next year under the increased taxes on industries and professions.

—During the half year ending 30th June last the shipping arrivals at Santos numbered 265 steamers and 129 sailing vessels, of which only 3 were in ballast. The arrivals from foreign ports were 233.

—The *Combate* of Baependy, Minas Geraes, says the *juiz de orphãos* of that place has been binding out the legitimate children of freedmen, thus depriving them of their liberty until 21 years of age. This new way of enslaving the children of freedmen promises to become shameful and open oppression.

—A S. João da Barra, Rio de Janeiro, journal says that the district has a minister, the president of the province and five provincial deputies who are native born, but the whole seven do not do a turn of work to obtain any improvement for the bar of the port. The sons of S. João da Barra seem to be an ungrateful set altogether.

—A telegram published here on the 12th says that the president of Minas Geraes will dismiss all the public employes of the 9th district that have joined the republican party. The president is perfectly right; public employes must be taught that they can not serve Caesar and João Fernandes at one and the same time.

—An old lady, aged 116 years, recently died near Campos, Rio de Janeiro, leaving 9 children, 109 grand-children, 300 great-grand-children and 100 great-great-grand-children; total 518. Of course the ancient lady enjoyed her full mental faculties, eyesight, etc., or the item would have nothing new in it.

—The S. Paulo senatorial election has resulted in the choice of the conservative ticket composed of Rodrigo Silva (minister of foreign affairs), Duarte de Azevedo and Lopes Chaves. The republican ticket obtained third place, while the independent conservative three-in-one candidacy of João Mendes, who declared for indemnification, figures lowest of all.

—The Maranhão correspondent of the *Diario de Noticias* writing under date of the 30th ult. says: "Farmers are enlivened by the present crops, which promise to be abundant, and fears of a crisis through abolition have completely disappeared. The greater part of the slaves remain on the plantations and work, as heretofore, for moderate, and in some cases exceedingly small wages."

—A fire broke out in the building, known as "Ao Torrador," in São Paulo, on the morning of the 18th inst., causing heavy losses to the occupants. The street floor was occupied by a large dry-goods store, and the floor above by a photographer and dentist. The aggregate loss is estimated at 100,000\$, all of which was well covered by insurance. Slight losses were also sustained by adjoining establishments.

—The *Artista* of Rio Grande of the 3rd inst. says that a party of smugglers in charge of a large quantity of contraband, was attacked on a country road a few days previous by another party who demanded a large part of the spoil. A controversy ensued, which resulted in the payment of 1,000\$ for the right of way, and then the smugglers went their way in peace. Affairs are getting pretty badly mixed in Rio Grande.

—The secretary of the Brazilian legation in London will be surprised to learn that a party of Indians attacked and killed a prominent planter, named João Francisco de Mello, and two of his sons, on the 7th inst., about four leagues from Campos Novos de Parapanema, the home of the Indian hunter who boasted of having poisoned 3,000 natives. As the killing is on the other side, perhaps the existence of Indians in the Parapanema valley will be no longer disputed.

—The following appears worthy of translation: "Barão de Rimes, for his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor, 1st substitute of the Orphans' court in this district of Santa Maria Magdalena, in the terms of the law, etc.: I declare, for due effects, that to my knowledge there existing many poor orphans in this district, I have decided to let them out at wages to guaranteed persons, who will oblige themselves by contract to feed, clothe and treat them, in case of disease; and moreover will protect them and have deposited in the savings bank, in a book for each child, free of all expenses at the end of each year, 30\$ for orphans of from 10 to 14 years, 45\$ for those of 14 to 18 years and 60\$ for those from 18 to 21; children under 10 years will be hired for their food, clothes, physic, education and care, receiving upon completing this age the wages agreed upon. The proposers for contracts must prove the ages of orphans by baptismal certificates, or in the case of free-born children with certificates of registry. Contracts may not be invalidated without just cause. And that it may be known, etc. Santa Maria Magdalena, 9th August, 1888. I, Francisco José Ribeiro, clerk, will have this executed.—Barão de Rimes." Thirty dollars a year for an orphan of 18 to 21 years of age is pretty near the margin of enforced servitude. Will the government look into this matter?

RAILROAD NOTES

—The Mogyana company has executed a contract for the construction of its Serra Negra branch.

—The May receipts of the Conde d'Eu railway, of Parahyba, were 8,022\$050, and the expenditures 12,382\$690, leaving a deficit of 4,360\$640.

—The July receipts of the Carangola line amounted to 43,372\$780, of which 11,137\$000 from passengers and 30,422\$280 from merchandise.

—Three new stations were formally opened on the Ituana line on the 1st inst., viz.: "13 de Maio," "Redenção" and "Egualdade". Peculiar names, certainly!

—The June receipts of the Paulista company were 233,750\$720, and expenses 97,345\$060, leaving a surplus of 136,405\$660. The net surplus for the half year ending 30th June was 775,646\$690.

—The Chamber committee on the appropriation bill for the department of agriculture has accepted several amendments for government aid in railway construction, among which is an extension of the Sorocabana line and two branches to the Alagôas Central line.

—The *Diario Official* of the 17th publishes a call for tenders for the construction of the Bahia extension of the railway from Villa Nova da Rainha to Joazeiro and also for that of the Bagé to Uruguayana, Rio Grande do Sul, line. The first is about 132 kilometres and the second about 470 in length.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—The Argentines are now issuing postage stamps of their own manufacture, and they are about as ugly as those made here in Brazil. It ought to make President Celman sick to see his picture on the new 3-cent stamp.

—The American consul at Rosario has been swindled out of \$775 by a man named Cooper who claimed to be an American naval officer sent out to take command of the *Tallapoosa*. He got the money from the English Bank on a draft bearing Admiral Braine's signature, which the consul cheerfully endorsed.

—A Rio telegram of the 12th inst. published in *El Globo* of Buenos Aires says: "There have been severe criticisms in respect to a secret embassy which has just been sent by the Brazilian government to the capital of Perú. It is reported that this embassy is in relation to the rumors of an impending war between that republic and Bolivia." It is needless to say, perhaps, that this is all news to us here in Rio.

—It is clear that the Argentine Republic can not possibly help going ahead under existing conditions, and equally clear that it will be very difficult to avoid going back when those conditions are reversed. According to *El Globo* of the 12th the Republic will this month receive \$38,500,000 gold from Europe, viz.: *caucion del bono* 16,000,000, Mendoza loan 4,000,000, Santa Fé loan 8,000,000, Entre Rios loan 4,000,000, Tucuman loan 2,500,000, sanitary works 2,000,000, Ferro-Carril del Oeste 2,000,000. As long as this extraordinary credit holds out, the country can not help appearing prosperous, but how will it be when pay day comes?

Recorte Informando o ataque ao Caçador de Índios João Francisco de Mello - de 1887

Tradução da Matéria - O secretário da legação brasileira em Londres ficará surpreso ao saber que um grupo de índios atacou e matou um importante fazendeiro, chamado João Francisco de Mello, e dois de seus filhos, no dia 7 do corrente mês, a cerca de quatro léguas de Campos Novos de Paranapanema, terra natal do caçador de índios que se gabava de ter envenenado 3.000 nativos.

Como o assassinato ocorreu do outro lado, talvez a existência de índios no vale do Paranapanema deixe de ser questionada.

Contextualização:

Esse recorte traz um relato de jornal estrangeiro sobre um episódio violento ocorrido no interior de São Paulo, na cidade de Campos Novos Paulista (na época conhecida como Campos Novos do Paranapanema” no século XIX:

1. Contexto geográfico

- **Campos Novos de Paranapanema** — esse era o nome histórico para a região que hoje chamamos de **Campos Novos Paulista**, no interior de São Paulo.
- **Vale do Paranapanema** — área ao redor do rio Paranapanema, fronteira natural entre SP e PR.
- **Quatro léguas** — medida de distância antiga; no Brasil, 1 légua \approx 6,6 km. Quatro léguas = cerca de **26 km**.

2. O incidente

- Um **fazendeiro importante**, João Francisco de Mello, e **dois de seus filhos** foram mortos por um grupo indígena em 7 de um mês não especificado (o jornal só menciona “7th inst.”, ou seja, “7 do corrente mês”).
- O ataque ocorreu **próximo de Campos Novos de Paranapanema**.

3. A referência polêmica

O texto menciona:

“...terra natal do caçador de índios que se gabava de ter envenenado 3.000 nativos.”

Isso indica que havia na região um famoso **matador de índios** — possivelmente contratado por fazendeiros ou pelo próprio governo provincial — que afirmava ter **envenenado** milhares de indígenas, provavelmente contaminando alimentos ou água.

Isso era parte de uma política não-oficial de **extermínio indígena** para abrir espaço para fazendas e colonos no século XIX.

4. O recado do jornal

O repórter ironiza:

“Talvez agora ninguém mais discuta a existência de índios no vale do Paranapanema.”

Ou seja, havia gente que negava que ainda houvesse populações indígenas na região. O ataque mostrava que não apenas eles existiam, como resistiam ativamente à ocupação.

5. Contexto histórico mais amplo

- No século XIX, a região do Paranapanema era **fronteira agrícola**, em expansão para o oeste paulista.
- **Fazendeiros e posseiros** frequentemente entravam em conflito com grupos indígenas como os **Kaingang** e **Guarani**.
- Para “resolver” a questão, era comum o uso de **bandeiras armadas**, contratações de **bugreiros** (caçadores de índios) e até envenenamento.
- Muitos jornais estrangeiros viam isso como um choque entre “civilização” e “selvageria” — sempre com viés eurocêntrico.