

ing, and I see from a statement in this morning's paper that King Humbert estimates that 400,000 Italians will emigrate next year. Eighteen per cent of the immigrants are Spanish and 4 per cent French. This makes 92 per cent of all the immigrants of the Latin race. The remaining 8 per cent is made up of British, Russians, Danes, Swiss and Portuguese. Until lately there were so few Americans that they were not worthy of consideration. Now Americans of the better class are coming in, and they will form an important factor in the Argentine. The Portuguese as a rule do not stay. The men of the other classes remain. In a generation or so they marry Argentine girls and become Argentines, and out of the whole is being evolved the Argentine type of the future.

These Argentine people are not like the South Americans of the west coast. They have no great strain of Indian blood running through them. They are of almost pure European extraction. They are not Spanish, not French, not Italian, not Anglo-Saxon. They are evolving a combination of all these, with the Latin strain predominating, just as in America we are forming a type with the Anglo-Saxon strain in great ascendancy. I think, however, that our type is far superior to any that can be produced here.

The change in the Argentine goes on very rapidly. At the beginning of this century the old families were Spanish and Portuguese. Since then they have been intermarrying with the English, Scotch, Germans and Americans and Italians. You can see this in the names of the distinguished Argentines. Admiral Brown, one of the famous naval officers, was of English extraction. The Livingston family, whose ladies are noted for their wealth and beauty, is in the fourth generation from the Livingstons of New York. Pelligrine, a former president, and one of the most able men of the country, has English blood in him. The grandfather of the chief of police of Buenos Ayres was an American. The father of Tronquist, another prominent Argentine, was a New Orleans man, and there are many other leading families in whose veins flow rich strains of Irish and Italian blood.

Already the Spanish type has been materially modified. Indeed, with its large percentage of foreign born, this country is today as cosmopolitan as any country of the world. If you could be blindfolded and upon one of the magic carpets of fairyland transported in the twinkling of an eye to the business parts of Buenos Ayres you could not tell where you were by looking at the faces or dress of the people. If you should be dropped into the stock exchange, for instance, you might, if you were deaf, imagine yourself in New York or London. You could not imagine yourself in Buenos Ayres. If your ears should be suddenly opened you would still be at a loss. The cries of the brokers would be in Spanish, but from all around would come a babble of Italian, French and English. If you went outside your situation would be even worse. You would hear the street sweepers swearing at each other in Italian, English merchants discussing trade in Anglo-Saxon, and groups of Basques on every street corner gabbling at each other in Spanish. You would hear much French and you might meet with Russians, Poles, or even with Turks.

This large mixture of foreigners keeps the Argentine up to date. New ideas are coming in from everywhere, and the latest improvements are to be found. Nearly all the town have more or less electric lights, many have good streets, and there are excellent railroad connections with the leading centers. The Argentine now has 9,000 miles of railroads, with a capital of half

a billion dollars. Buenos Ayres has trains by which you can go to any of the larger cities in a night's ride, and there are sleeping cars on all lines. This city is as big as Boston. Rosario, the next in size in the republic, is 150,000. You can go to bed in the cars at Buenos Ayres and awake in Rosario. It is the same with Bahia Blanca, the metropolis of the south Argentine. The Tucuman trains have sleepers, and within a short time we shall be able to cross the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific without stepping outside the cars.

The steamship accommodations are equally good. I came here from Montevideo in a steamer like the Puritan and Pilgrim, which run between New York and Boston. I went to bed in the ship and awoke at Buenos Ayres docks. The fare was \$5, and I think the Argentine steamers gave me more for the money that I get at home. I had a good state room. The ship was lighted by electric lights and the passengers were served an excellent dinner, with good claret and a buttonhole bouquet without extra charge. In the morning a steward brought to my cabin a cup of coffee and a roll, and more than that, carried by baggage out to the custom house. If I remember right, the meals were charged extra on the New York and Boston boats.

There are several mail steamers a week from here to Europe. There are others which go south through the Strait of Magellan and about the west coast. There are ships which will take you two thousand miles on the rivers into the heart of the interior of Brazil, and twice a week you may ride up the Parana to the capital of Paraguay.

Four thousand vessels engaged in foreign trade go in and out of the ports of the Argentine every year, and the volume of imports and exports in 1896 amounted to more than 227 millions of hard American gold dollars. One-fourth of this commerce was with Great Britain, the country that does more than half of the whole ocean-carrying trade of the Argentine. She sent 40 per cent of the imports, Germany coming next and Italy next. After these came France and Belgium, and then the United States. In things bought of the Argentine France comes first, Belgium second, England third, Germany fourth, and the United States fifth. Our purchases amount to about six million dollars a year, and our foreign trade is just about 7 per cent of the whole. Nearly all of the business is in foreign hands. The capital of the business houses and companies amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars, and their establishments are run on business principles. The foreign banks alone have a capital of twenty-five million dollars, and I am told that nearly all of them pay big dividends.

The Argentine people are up to date in an intellectual way. The government spends ten million dollars a year on its schools. It employs eight thousand teachers, and it has over a quarter of a million school children. There are a number of high schools, three universities, two schools of agriculture, a school of mines and thirty-five normal schools. Both girls and boys attend these schools. There are women teachers, some of whom came out from the United States years since to inaugurate the normal school. When Sarmiento was president of the Argentine republic, a decade or so ago, he made a study of the public school systems of the world, and decided that that used in Michigan was the best. He imported a number of high-bred Yankee schoolmarmes, and now the Argentine is raising first-class schoolmarmes of its own. Its normal schools are producing more of the native variety than can be used, so there is no opening here for additional Yankees.

The language used in the schools is Spanish. It is the language of the country. Every one who has been here for a year or more speaks it, and the children, whatever their parents may be, also in Spanish. There are private schools here where not a word of Spanish is taught, but it is the language of the playground, nevertheless, and many a son of an English father and an Argentine mother can speak nothing else. Spanish is the language of the government, of business and of society. Most Argentines can speak French, and not a few converse fluently in Italian and English as well.

The chief literature sold here is French and Spanish. There are also Italian, German and English book stores. The country reads the newspapers. Remember, its population all told is now not greater than that of the combined cities of New York and Philadelphia. Still, it has twenty-four dailies and 146 weeklies. Fifteen of the dailies are published in Buenos Ayres, the leading one, La Prensa, having a circulation of 70,000 copies, and another, the Diario, an evening paper, 30,000. There are three dailies published in English, and one of these, the Buenos Ayres Herald, is edited and owned by Warren Lowe, an American. The other twelve are in Spanish, Italian, French and German.

The Argentines are letter writers. They use the mails. One hundred and seven million letters passed through their fourteen hundred and odd post-offices last year, and their postal revenue was \$30,000,000. There is a fair telegraph service under the government. The telegraph lines, if tied together, would reach around the world. They have a length of 25,000 miles, and, with the exception of the railroad lines, all are in the national system.

There are plenty of telephones, too, and the same trouble exists here as with us—that is, the telephone rates are too high. On this account there was founded in Buenos Ayres about ten years ago, what is known as the Co-operative Telephone company. In 1889 it had 1,200 subscribers; it now has 3,000. Its capital has more than doubled, and its profits last year were about \$30,000. It has 3,000 miles of wires, most of which are in underground conduits. This company gives a reduction of 33 1-3 per cent to all business firms who are among its stockholders. It is necessary to buy about \$70 worth of stock to get the reduction, and the rates per telephone are \$3.50 a month in American gold. Private residences and doctors can have the same rates without stock. Business firms not holding stock must pay \$5 a month, and as the company is now paying dividends of about 3 per cent it is far cheaper to be a stockholder. FRANK G. CARPENTER.

#### WHITEHEAD INVENTIONS.

Inventor Whitehead came in from Washington, D. C. Thursday evening and was seen at his home Thursday by a "News" representative. He was in the best of spirits and says that the reception he met with at the national capitol was of the most gratifying character. He was not averse to talking, and only became reticent when certain subjects were broached. Most of his time, and the entire time of his attorney, Col. Nat Ward, Fitzgerald, had been taken up in entering and getting through the patent office some of his many inventions. In speaking of his electric automatic field gun, he said that they had no difficulty in interesting the war department in the invention.

It was his intention, when leaving Salt Lake, to have a perfect gun made at one of the great ordnance factories