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HIGH LIFE IN THE ARGENTINE.

How the Nabobs of Buenos Ayres Look, Act and Live.

They Spend Millions a Year on the Races, Lottery and the Stock Exchange—Behind the Scenes in the Clubs—A Look at the Opera and Its Fashionable Audience—Diamonds by the Peck and Gold Galore—All About Argentine Dudes—The Best Dressed Women of the World and the Most Impudent Young Men—Family Life and How Courting and Marrying is Done—The Women Make Good Wives, but as to the Husbands—Oh, My!

Buenos Ayres, November 25, 1898.—High life in Buenos Ayres!

High life in the Paris of South America! Where millionaires are thicker than blackberries in the days and blueberries swarm like bees in midsummer.

We may see it out driving in the park at Palermo, or meet it over afternoon on the Calle Florida. We may take chances with it every day at its diamonds every night during the opera season. If we have good luck and know its ways we may be inside its sanctums and afford its fine dinners, or perhaps drop in for a game at the swell jockey club where fortunes sometimes change hand in a night.

THE RACES AT BUENOS ATRES.

The races are one of the social institutions of the Argentine capital. The president and his cabinet, the officers of the army and navy, and every one who pretends to be anybody, attends them, and this notwithstanding that they are always held upon Sundays. The chief race track is owned by the Jockey club. This club is the most aristocratic in South America. Its initiation fee is three times that of any club in New York, and its annual dues equal more than many an Argentine young man earns in a year. Its club house is furnished in its furniture and finishing with almost any palace of Europe. The races are all under the club and all the money won and lost passes through its hands. It takes a certain percentage of all the bets made, and when I tell you that last year more than thirteen million dollars went through the hands of the pool sellers you can see that a small percentage will give the club a very big income. There are many fine horses in the Argentine and the races are well managed. The day I attended there were two-score horses were entered, and the grand stand contained more than ten thousand people. A building covering more than half an acre was devoted to pool selling, and there was a stream of men going to and from the windows of this building to make their bets or to receive their winnings. Every one was betting. Men, women and children, rich and poor, staked their money on every race, and the bookmakers and the horses neared the winning post the crowd in the grand stand went wild. Ten thousand people acted as one person on the horse, and if the horse won on the home stretch and then a yell went up from many mouths at once. It was a well-dressed crowd, and there seemed to be more of every society as there is in Paris. There were the poor, as well as the rich, although the former were shut off in a cheaper section of the stand by themselves.

IN PALERMO PARK.

The Sunday afternoons of the Argentine people are spent up to 5 o'clock in the racing. The races begin at 12 and are supposed to stop at 5. At about 5 you will see all the carriages turning toward Palermo Park. This is a beautiful forest and garden, covering many acres. It has its drives, magnificent palm trees and whistling lakes, with here and there a cafe where you may stop for refreshments. It is on Fridays and Thursdays that all Buenos Ayres comes to Palermo. On Sunday afternoons the crowd is immense, and it is estimated that there are often as many as 1,000 carriages and 15,000 feet passing in by the gate during a single afternoon. The carriages are owned by all classes. The people of the Latin races are fond of show, and the Spaniards, the Italian, and the Argentine of moderate means will starve himself during the week in order that he may take a drive on Sunday. Most of the carriages, however, are owned by the swells. Some of these are magnificent. They have coachmen and outriders in livery. The horses in these cases have harness plated with silver and gold, and they are of as fine stock as you will find in Hyde Park or in the best in Holstein. Young bloods sit on high seats and direct their horses as they drive with gloved hands. On the seats of yellow cars you will see stiff-backed little Greek or Austrian or Hungarian dress. Cavalry officers in uniform parade by you, and hoppergrass girls are in evidence. At first glance the crowd is the richest and of the best, and at this time it is a sight for the gods and men, especially for the men, for most of the carriages are filled with ladies. There are the women who sit in these are of that beautiful type which is seen at its best in Buenos Ayres. Rosy faces, with lustrous eyes and large mouths, look out at you from points every carriage that passes. The pictures are well able to care for themselves, although their fathers and mothers by Danish custom keep them secluded. They do not often walk upon the streets, and for aught we see they may never except in carriages. They are, however, in dress parade every afternoon at the windows, and as you look up in the street in chance you may generally be rewarded with a smile. At least I was, I remember how the bonbon came to me from one of the resident ladies of Buenos Ayres, and as her eye caught mine she bowed. She actually did! Flyed my hat in return, everybody looked and I felt quiet which my wife says is coming there.

AT THE OPERA.

Even more swell than the races or Palermo is the Italian opera. Buenos Ayres is a great opera city. It has twenty-six opera houses of consequence, which is people speak in the Argentine. Most of them dollars a year. The opera is gay and fashionable, of all in the opera where the boxes for the season cost a thousand dollars and upward and where many of the swell people of the city spend the part. The boxes are usually filled for the season, and an Argentine would rather sell his shirt and wear a dirty linen give up the part in a box at the opera. The seats are not in price to the boxes. A good seat in a fashionable opera house is worth a little more than five dollars a year, or a little more than five dollars a month. General entrance is one dollar gold, and the seats in the peanut gallery are as low as twenty-five cents. During my last night at the opera the Italian star Tomasini sang in William Tell, but the house honored the star more than the singer. There were about say, at least 1500 people present, and every man and woman in the house and in the orchestra was in full dress. There was not a man in a business suit except in the top gallery. The ladies were without bonnets and most of them had on low-neck gowns with arms bare, except where covered with long gloves reaching to far up on the biceps. The dresses were for horses and price lower than those you see at a Wallack's or Madison Square in New York. The dresses were for horses and price lower than those you see at a Wallack's or Madison Square in New York. The dresses were of diamond dusters seated in sets of last year's colors, the seams, and combs set with diamonds fastened the hair. Diamonds are the Argentine fashion in the crowns of their shapely heads. There were pearls as big as marrowfat peas, necklaces of them behind on the center with a great ruby or an emerald. There were sapphires and opals and gold galore.

HOW THE GIRLS LOOK.

Many of the women were pretty, especially as many of them were Italians and Greeks of Italians as you will see at the Metropolitan opera in New York. I could not notice a predominance of the Spanish type. Some of the girls Argentine families have intermarried with the Europeans that their women are so cosmopolitan in their appearance. Some have the Spanish eyes, and others have the Italian type, and a few, I regret to say, exact much of their good looks to their makeup. Powder and paint are attributes of the fashionable dress of the capital of the world where the professional beauties and fair amateurs use a heavy carmine. I have been told that the Spanish women are the most impudent of all women, and that their mothers have their regular courtesy of rich women, who come to be made up before they start for their drive in the Palermo. Some of the girls I saw in Buenos Ayres come to Palermo on Sunday afternoons the crowd is immense, and it is estimated that there are often as many as 1,000 carriages and 15,000 feet passing in by the gate during a single afternoon. The carriages are owned by all classes. The people of the Latin races are fond of show, and the Spaniards, the Italian, and the Argentine of moderate means will starve himself during the week in order that he may take a drive on Sunday. Most of the carriages, however, are owned by the swells. Some of these are magnificent. They have coachmen and outriders in livery. The horses in these cases have harness plated with silver and gold, and they are of as fine stock as you will find in Hyde Park or in the best in Holstein. Young bloods sit on high seats and direct their horses as they drive with gloved hands. On the seats of yellow cars you will see stiff-backed little Greek or Austrian or Hungarian dress. Cavalry officers in uniform parade by you, and hoppergrass girls are in evidence. At first glance the crowd is the richest and of the best, and at this time it is a sight for the gods and men, especially for the men, for most of the carriages are filled with ladies. There are the women who sit in these are of that beautiful type which is seen at its best in Buenos Ayres. Rosy faces, with lustrous eyes and large mouths, look out at you from points every carriage that passes. The pictures are well able to care for themselves, although their fathers and mothers by Danish custom keep them secluded. They do not often walk upon the streets, and for aught we see they may never except in carriages. They are, however, in dress parade every afternoon at the windows, and as you look up in the street in chance you may generally be rewarded with a smile. At least I was, I remember how the bonbon came to me from one of the resident ladies of Buenos Ayres, and as her eye caught mine she bowed. She actually did! Flyed my hat in return, everybody looked and I felt quiet which my wife says is coming there.

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known, and those of nobility are so loose that children are brought up in a most promiscuous way. As to lying, this is common among men, women and children. The polite lie is met with everywhere, and a father will sometimes say about his little girl or boy in stinging tones: "Why, how that child lies," or "How well it does that." "Why, I could not do better than that myself." They do not think it is disrespectful to lie, and have the Spanish language of lies. You might, for instance, call an Argentine a liar and he would think nothing of it. He would think it a compliment sure that you thought that, that if you should call him a coward he could not comfortable rest until he had knocked you down or started you in the back.

The young Argentine boys wake up at a much earlier age than do our boys. Many of them are married outside at fourteen, and already you see men. Boys begin to talk politics before they are out of knee pantes. Nearly every college has its political faction. The boys organize revolutions against the professors, thus training themselves to get up revolutions against the Government, which they do every few years. Many of the wealthiest young Argentines are brought up to any business. He are a politician against which I will write. Many of the young men they never expect to practice.

The children, as a rule, have the best education, and quite a lot speak more French English and French. Girls are also good linguists, but outside of the language they know but little. I doubt whether one in ten can read or write. As to dolls in Buenos Ayres who have any such education as is given at our first-class women colleges. As to

FAMILY LIFE.

It is hard to learn much about family life in the high circles of the Argentine. Each family is run as a close corporation, and when a girl is married it is usually to some big family. Some times in addition to built in the house, and the newly married couple move to it. The boys are not left apart, as boys in our country are, but they go to Europe to finish their education, and many marry abroad, their mothers going to the Old Country and courting in the United States. The girls are educated at home, and it is considered to be a great honor to be asked to go to a ball. Girls are allowed to go out in the streets alone, and be is not accounted to be with her without the family is present.

MARRIAGE.

Marriage is a very serious thing, but even then women are closely watched. I am told that the women are usually faithful to their husbands. I am told, however, that the boys are generally married young, and that good married women is greater in Buenos Ayres than in any capital of Europe. You seldom hear of a scandal in connection with a married lady in high Argentine family. There is a much thing as divorce, although there are separations. The women are very fond of their children, and often keep them close, even making a pass about things which otherwise they would not pardon. As to the men, there are many good husbands, but there are many who have in some ideas of such things as you will find in Paris, and the men are called Paris after much the same style as that of the heroes of book of the French novels. The percentage of illegitimate births is very high.

THE WOMEN AND THE LOTTERY.

The women are the religious element of the community. They keep up the churches, attend mass regularly and entirely all the charities of the country. One of the other charitable organizations provided over by those ladies is supported with funds from the national lottery, a certain percentage of which goes to them. The lottery has drawings weekly and the same realized two years ago. The women take shares of tickets and spread the money for charity. Such actions except but have a bad effect upon the character of the people. It is said make a child thing it is bad to gamble when he watches the thousands spent, or manner for what good. The result is that the Argentine boy is a gambler of gamblers, and Buenos Ayres today is as badly affected by its lottery as was New Orleans when the Louisiana lottery was at its full.

There are drawings once every week, the grand prize some weeks rising to upwards of $80,000 in silver and at every Christmas to $1,000,000. Last year $3,000,000 worth of lottery tickets were sold. There are now lottery offices in every block. You meet lottery ticket peddlers in every corner, they are on sale from then evening the doors of the churches. Among other gambling institutions are the ball sellers, the race course and the stock exchange. I shall speak of the stock exchange in another letter. But in the lotteries, the ball sellers and on the race course I saw by a statement in a Buenos Ayres paper that 10,000 horses were sold last year, while the sales at the stock exchange found to be equivalent to an amount of $150,000,000 gold. The total foreign trade of the country during that year was less than $120,000,000 gold, showing that three-fourths of the business of the exchange was done on worthless paper. There is a great deal of private gambling in Buenos Ayres. There are card tables at the clubs, where a hundreds may be lost in a night, and there are many small gambling hells which carry on their business contrary to law under the very eyes of the police.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

How to Avoid Colds.

No matter what physicians may say there seems to be no possibility of inducing women to wear shoes of double thickness in winter. The consequence is that in this season colds are always prevalent. These afflictions arise, as most people are aware, from impedement of blood circulation. The consequent chill is so slight that not until the preliminary sneeze comes is the sufferer aware of the trouble. At such times the first and most effective measure should be to restore the quick flow of warm blood through every vein, and so by heat instantly counteract the little chill. One, perhaps the simplest method of doing this has been learned by men who stand on sentinel duty, who are obliged to suffer more or less exposure in winter, or who wear the comforts in cold weather of overcoat and umbrella. Their method when the temperature of the body or any part of it is felt for a sudden chill or quick change from warm to cold atmosphere is endeavor, is to inhale three or four deep breaths, expand the lungs to their fullest extent, holding every time the inhalation as long as possible and then slowly letting it forth through the nostrils.

In doing this the mission of the lungs gets the body into such quick motion that the blood is driven with unusual force along its channels so as to give and bring the desired relief. This exercise is done to the toes and fingers the glow down to the toes and fingers the, and acts up a quick reaction against the chill. The whole effect is to fill the blood and set it in motion so from cold circular. Let any woman who goes to a dinner or ball in a low-necked dress, where the rooms are chilly and her wraps not accessible, try the little exercise, or better still, this preventive against cold, and enjoy its benefits. Let her try it when taking a cold drive or when exposed to accident to sit in wet garments. Let the weakness of a cold be avoided by which Keep the blood in rapid motion; use the deep-hold breaths than a first chill is felt.

A VITAL QUESTION DISCUSSED

Consular Reforms Contemplated by the Executive—American and Foreign Consuls.

Are Our Consuls Comparing Favorably with European Representatives—Requirements in Keeping with Their Duties.

Written for the "News."

Since President McKinley is contemplating consular reforms it may be timely to study that important space. A few months ago the New York World published an article with the rather sensational heading: "Its Dozen of Robbery by a Consul." This article had its origin in a petition said to have been presented to congress by a certain John W. Hinton of Milwaukee, whose son, Francis, died recently in Paris. This petition "asked for legislation to prevent American consuls who are officers of the United States abroad." Mr. Hinton's petition contains a letter written by him to the President, and also the correspondence between himself and Secretary Day. The petition declares that at the time his son died, several thousand dollars in cash were in his possession and that this money was taken by the French authorities and promptly turned over to Clyde Shropshire, then consul general at Paris, who gave for it an official receipt. He furthermore asserts that the sum of $1,000 was called for by his son's travel expenses and that several thousand dollars of this sum were returned to Mr. Shropshire, who, it is alleged, never gave any accounting for the funds thus coming into his possession. He there requests of the British ambassadors, and Secretary of State Day has written letters to the Secretary of the Treasury, asking the charges against Shropshire with a view of his prosecution. Secretary Gage has responded to the effect that the accounts that under our laws he is bound to settle and pay which can be settled against Mr. Shropshire. Not only should our officers be protected against any possible fraud, but the good name of the country, as well as the interests of the public, demand that the representatives abroad should be beyond reproach.

We are familiar with the duties of ambassadors, ministers and consuls, the present system of appointments. They complain, not without reason, that our consuls are not the equals, in the European countries, treated and salaried. This is true do not as the highest positions, as a rule, but in the lower ranks they are. Our consuls are not prepared, as say that it places us under any social disadvantage in the earliest eyes of Europe and civilization. Our consuls are perhaps quite as good a representative as a rule received as our sign post. Perhaps in these days when the rule has brought the governments of the various countries into such close connection. We do not deny that there is ample room for reform, although a comparison of the United States consuls with foreign consuls in this country for European nations, is not particularly to the disadvantage of the American representatives. It goes without saying that we refer to consuls and vice consuls only. Ministers and ambassadors are of course out of the question.

The character of candidates for consular appointments are subjected to the most rigid investigation by the authorities of the country. They must have influential endorsements and come recommended by the leaders of their respective localities. None of our consulates or agencies would run the risk of supporting the claims of a man of unsavory reputation. We are perfectly aware that such appointments are made on party lines, but this very fact is in itself a guarantee of efficiency and good character. As there is always an abundance of good candidates, poorly equipped men, or those with criminal records, will not be chosen. For the few are largely indicted in our foreign. Without reference to party affiliations, a great majority of public officers are men thoroughly versed in the records of public men and it is hardly possible for a shady character to be the owner of any position worth having. American consuls abroad numbers are the best detectives in the world, and a version, which would be utterly impracticable in any other country, and which would have the effect on the other side of the Atlantic of utterly condemning in place and power the ready, or shoulder-hitting, method of procuring evidence, for our chief of publicity, is perhaps as good as any other method of making representations that could be devised by the will of man. It is safe to say that our foreign "black sheep" gain official positions than in European countries. The treatment of such a case as that mentioned in above, has not easily procured by a single legislation.

On the other hand, what could we say of the public who represent in the United States European countries? Are they men of the highest reputation as regards character and ability? Ask a footing in some of these cities by the ordinary citizen, and ask them. It will be found that, in many of our cities they are men of average intelligence and low moral tone. American business men, in fact, are their principal and permanent work. The opponents of the present system say that this work is not in the line of their duties, and interferes with a view to extending themselves by every possible means. In our opinion, we are perfectly satisfied with our consuls. We have made them to be very careful for they are well aware that any swindling, any misrepresentation in office will cost them their place. Our consuls are, as a rule, men of high character, and we have been long ago sent to the dismissal.

This is not say that for a miserable question of economy, many more very people are appointed to important positions, which is in of the utmost importance to our trade of thousands of merchants and firms should be the appointments. Those consular or commercial agents, representing their government in the various countries of their country, one responsible for the filling discharge of their duties. Their duties should be accompanied with the language of the country in which they are sent. This is a consideration upon which to great stress cannot be laid. It should be able to do business. Business men of all nations are in the habit of making their purchases in the manufacturing of their products to foreign markets.

Our American consuls abroad have not been asleep to this regard, and the aid, various during the enormous commercial strike Germany has made during the last few years, the consumer has been put to sleep, and the trade with the British colonies, Australia, Asia and the East and West Indies has multiplied nearly 50 per cent show what good for trade trained consuls may achieve for the welfare of their country. British and French merchants and manufacturers have reason to complain of the inefficiency of their representatives abroad in comparison with the energy displayed by those of America. It may be that the citizens of the United States, being other than a very nervous, quietly more alive to business interests. At all events, every effort should be made with a view to extending our markets abroad, to secure active, intelligent and honest men, who should act as pioneers of commerce and industry between their own country and the country to which they are accredited. And the Adams bill, which is now before the House, should see to it that some bet competent men should be selected in the future, and the remuneration should show be in keeping with the importance of the duties to be discharged. In this way much might be done to hasten the coming day of American industrial and commercial supremacy.

ANTOINE MCFARRELLL.

The Nicaragua Canal.

Columbus died a disappointed man because he had failed to find a new route to the Indies. The ships were equipped for the Genoese corsair at a considerable expense, and the enterprise of which he had undertaken, he had hoped would pay for the adventure thereon, making his way across Europe in 1492 to the first to find out how the waters of the Pacific ocean could reunite by the narrow strip of land the Atlantic ocean separated from the Pacific. Even down unto the present there has been an overwhelming desire to find out the way this result, and thus to connect the waters of the two great oceans and to reduce the distances between ports the world by the shortening of the circumnavigation of the globe.

The question is practically heard, as to the building of the canal not undertaken by private capital or by the government?

As to the former, the writer has said that the Panama, Darien and nicaragua have been tried, and cannot be procured private capital from taking up the enterprise in a way adequate enough to warrant a speedy completion.

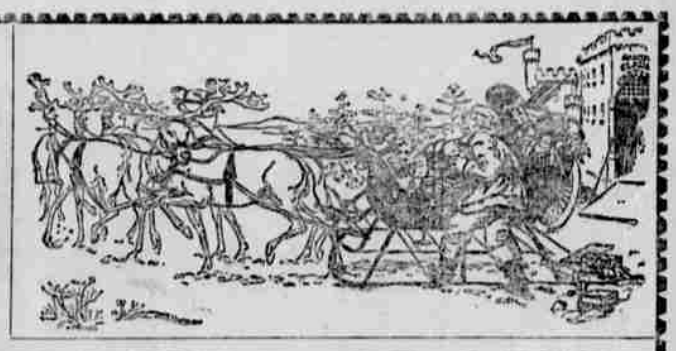
The reason that the government has done nothing more than to make surveys and reports, is to be found in the fact that Congress, in a matter of this kind our government moves very slow proceed to do so by the demands of a great majority of the citizens. It is a matter of notoriety that those who have advocated the construction of the canal or continent a majority of several hundred of people think it ought to be undertaken by the government. But our first argument in the advocacy of the canal has been furnished by the trip of the Oregon, and this has reinforced the demand. Let us see if we are the cause of shortening the people by a year.

The second reason why the government has not yet taken it in hand is the fact that the representatives of great capital avowed in our congressional districts have believed that the construction of the canal by the government would greatly injure their properties. Acting upon that belief, they have used their power of their representatives in every way in their power to defeat the canal in every. Once a bill for its construction passed the Senate, but failed to receive consideration in the House. The influence of the railroad lobby has always been able to prevent joint action of the two houses on the same subject. A powerful railroad lobby has been maintained at Washington during all these years, and skillful statesmen have been employed to prevent the American people, through the columns of the press and magazines, that the canal is unnecessary, that it is a waste of dollars or in the interests of commerce, and that, if it were constructed, for vessels would now pass through it, thus making it a stupendous commercial failure.

After years of waiting, I am satisfied that the position in which this enterprise stands today, not only before the American people, but before the whole commercial world, is such that its speedy accomplishment is assured, either by the government of the United States or by private capital—Ex-Senator Warner Miner in the November Forum.

AN OLD FRIEND

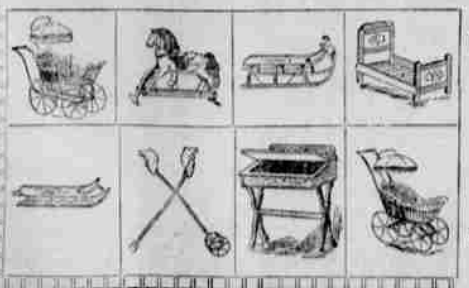
Coming To Town.



SANTA CLAUS

Has Established Headquarters at

Dinwoodey's,



Because Our Presents A re

USEFUL
CHEAP
ATTRACTIVE
DURABLE.

Hurry Up and Make Your Selections Before We Are Sold Out.