

THE NEWS.

A SOCIAL AND COMMERCIAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

The only newspaper in the Republic printed in the English language.

Editor and Proprietor, **R. J. DUFFY.**

VOL. I.

SAN JOSE, MONDAY 23, AUGUST, 1897.

Nº 6.

THE NEWS.

CUI BONO?

"Mentor" writes us, under date of 18th. instant, taking strong exception to the statement made by us, in our last issue, namely, that we were authoritatively assured of the non existence of yellow fever at Port Limon. Had the writer appended his name, instead of concealing his identity under a nom de plume, we would have published his letter. In order to dispose of these wild rumours of yellow fever, we paid a special visit to Limon on last Thursday, for the purpose of making a thorough investigation, and laying the result before our readers. We visited both hospitals, saw each patient, satisfied ourselves of their several complaints; interviewed the doctors in charge of each establishment, and received their positive assurance of the complete absence of yellow fever at the Port. Our interview with Dr. W. Hunter Carson was eminently satisfactory. Dr. Carson is the special medical officer of the Board of Health for the State of Louisiana, whose mission is, with the aid of competent medical assistants, to watch out and report all cases of sickness, with a special aim to the detection of yellow fever. He received us with marked courtesy, freely placed his reports before us for inspection, and made us the following statement." "I took medical charge of this Port, on behalf of my Board, towards the end of last April and, I am pleased to say, that during this period of four months, I have not met with one single case of a person afflicted with yellow fever. One case has gone on record, the circumstance of which are to me highly unsatisfactory.

It was that of a man who died at the Hospital de Caridad, and whose death is registered as having occurred

on the 29th. of last month. The man was buried and an autopsy made, it is stated, by Dr. José V. Zequeira, and my first intimation of this case was the reading of it as so recorded. I am wholly at a loss to accisunt for the fact that the medical gentleman who made the autopsy did not extend to me the common professional courtesy of an invitation to assist at, or, at least, Witness the autopsy. I had no alternative but to report this case as recorded to my Board, but I took care to state that the circumstances attending, were, to me, in the highest degree, wholly unsatisfactory." We refrain from comment.

NOTES.

The special steamer which arrived at Limon on Tuesday last, with the material for the construction of the hippodrome on board, is being unloaded, and a considerable portion of it is already on the grounds. The work opens up in a few days, and will be energetically pressed to an early completion.

Mr. Otto. Munchmeyer, the United States Consul at San Salvador, committed suicide, at that city, while suffering from an aberration of the mind, the result of fever.

Mrs. Charlotte Oswalt has opened a select private American Boarding House at nº 231. Nineteenth St. We beg to assure those of our readers who are in quest of an establishment of this nature, that, for excellence of cooking, cleanliness, superior service and moderate rates, this house has no equal in the city. The kitchen is in charge of an American cook. Mrs. Oswalt personally looks to the comfort of guests, and, we are glad to ob-

serve, she is receiving a large measure of public patronage.

We are assured that the work of laying down the rails for the new City Electric Street car System will certainly be commenced within the next two months, and, once begun, the work will be energetically pushed forward until completed, and, it is hoped that by the end of the year, a considerable portion of the road will be in operation. Meanwhile, trade in the city is bound to have a big revival, owing to the increased outlay of money. Hundreds of workmen will be employed, and their wages, spent in the city, will bring a large business boom to the shops and stores in general. There are some details under consideration in London, such as, the line of route and the placing of contracts, and no difficulty is anticipated in settling these matters, so that we are safe in predicting that two months hence will see the work under way. The city road, which will be first completed, before undertaking the construction of the suburban lines and also the lines connecting Cartago and Alajuela. The electric road is an actuality, needing but the settling of some minor details, before putting a large staff to work on its construction.

The misunderstanding between the United States and Nicaragua Governments has been arranged. While Nicaragua accepts Captain W. L. Merry as United States Minister to that Republic, Captain Merry is to reside here in San José, which is also to be the headquarters of the Legation.

Some parties are endeavouring to form a company to establish a brewery adjoining the city. They feel quite confident they can successfully float the concern, and they guarantee a big return on the capital invested.

A friend shows us a letter lately received from Panama in which the writer states that over fivethousand men are engaged on the canal, which is more than one quarter completed. The greatest vigilance and economy is exercised, he says, in the paying out of the money, and the Canal Co. say they have sufficient funds to keep the present large staff at work for the next two years.

Señor David Acuña, late of Costa Rica, has committed suicide at Guatemala city. He was employed there in the well known house of Camacho.

The queen of England weighs 224 pounds, which explains the difficulty the prince experiences in getting her off throne.

We have been requested to state that, although there is at present no resident attached to the Protestant church, the services are regularly held on Sundays at the hours named in the advertisement, which appears in another part of this journal.

The fine and ancient old game of croquet is having a great "boom" in England. New clubs are being formed, and, already, some county matches have been played. How the game fell away within the last few years is wholly inexplicable, as it needs both skill and science to develop a good player, and, it has the additional recommendation of being a most healthy pastime, peculiarly suitable to those whose constitutions will not admit of indulgence in the much more vigorous game of lawn tennis. If intending members will send us their names we shall do our best to organize a club in this city.

The members of the city Base Ball Team had better bestir themselves and

arrange for some practice matches, otherwise, our Limon friends will "walk all round them" in the coming contest next month.

It is not too soon to form a committee for the purpose of adding an Athletic Club as an adjunct to the Hippodrome, which is now in course of construction.

Limon is well ahead of San José with its amateur Minstrel Troupe and Cricket Team. Savana is just yakning for both.

The attempt to "pull off" a prize fight at Limon has, we are glad to learn, utterly failed. A boxing club is quite another affair, as giving opportunities for the indulgence in a peaceful and healthy pastime.

GUATEMALA.

August 10th, 1897.

There has been no improvement in the financial situation during the past month. Silver seems to be gradually disappearing from circulation, so that the bank reserve does not amount to more than two millions, and, if the financial institutions here continue, the retiring of their bills, we shall soon be without a circulating medium of any kind, or, at least, the supply will be entirely inadequate for the ordinary wants of the little commerce there is. There was a rumor of considerable volume, some days since, that the Government had decided to issue a few millions of *guatemoles*, a name contemptuously given to an issue of government paper money forced on the people by Manuel Lisandro Barillas, which measure tended to diminish the prestige, if not politically kill, the now ex-president, whose amorous exploits during his recent trip abroad were a godsend to the California newspapers, since the Durrant matter had grown unpalatable. The Government denies the report, and it is to be hoped that it may not have recourse to that climax of folly, as it would virtually extinguish what little confidence there is being inspired by the conservative action of the banks. Various expedients have been suggested for tiding over present difficulties, but so far without definite result, since it is almost impossible to obtain loan abroad, on account of the ill repute that is founded on the decreasing of forced paper circulation. I have even heard it whispered that President Barrios himself would request the Assembly to permit him to go Europe for the purpose of negotiating a loan, since his representatives seem to have met no success. It is difficult to give credence to this casi unprecedented course, but I give

it for what it is worth. Exchange on the United States advanced to almost three dollars to the one, or since there is none offering, to the price that the banks wish to exact. Several persons are expected to have to go through bankruptcy proceedings. One man is mentioned as having liabilities amounting to nearly three millions, and, while his assets are supposed to be considerable, they usually shrink when unloaded on an extremely sluggish market. Those who contracted debts abroad and now have to pay the high price that is being asked for drafts will, to say the least, be badly bitten. It is hoped that the next coffee crop will assist in bringing things to a normal level. The Constitutional Assembly will meet on the 16th inst., and the distatorship of President Barrios will *de jure* cease. I might add that nobody seems to notice the difference between the method of governing at present in force and that which existed prior to his assuming plenary power; it is true that capital punishment has been revived by him, and this, in my estimation, was absolutely necessary, as the disregard for human life seemed to be increasing. It is said that two important questions will be discussed by the Assembly—the reformation of the constitution, permitting presidents to succeed themselves; and the treaty of union proposed between the Central American Republics. There is much speculation as to what will be the result of the deliberations of the Legislature.

At 9 a. m. on Sunday last, the 8th inst., a military execution took place outside the cemetery walls. A private named Rosalio Cadenas, while being reprimanded by the Lieutenant of his division, Leon Castellanos, deliberately fired upon the latter, who saved his life by dodging behind a tree. He was severely wounded. The culprit was expeditiously subjected to a preliminary trial, and sentenced to death, which decision was confirmed by the courtmartial held immediately afterwards. The condemned man was accompanied from the Penitentiary to the place of execution by a strong guard, and a platoon consisting of 8 men from his own regiment was detailed to inflict the punishment. The man died bravely, declining to have his eyes bandaged. A priest remained with him until the last moment, and the firing took place on the culprit's raising a crucifix. Nearly all the shots took effect and the customary coup de grace, in the shape of a pistol shot in the head, was instantaneously administered. There was a large crowd to witness the execution, and many women were moved to tears.—Mr. J. Frederick Robert's H. B. M's Consul to Guatemala left for England, via Puerto Barrios, some days since. Mr. Roberts was deservedly popular with the English colony, and he is missed by many outside thereof. It is said that Mr. Bax Ironside will leave for China in a few days, having been promoted to the very important position of Chargé d'affaires to the Ce-

lestial Empire. Mr. Ironside is to be congratulated on his diplomatic ability, as well as on his "pull."

THE NEW HIPPODROME

The work of building the new Hippodrome at the "Savana," which was contracted for this summer, is going forward in earnest. Already the foundations are being laid, and in a very few days all the material will be upon the ground and a staff busy at work. All the lumber, iron, paints, cement and necessaries which came by special steamer from the United States have arrived at Limon, and are being forwarded as rapidly as possible to the city. From what we have seen of the plans of the buildings we are assured that the Hippodrome will not only be an ornament to the city, but will fill a much needed want in providing a place where race meetings of all kinds can be held. We understand that the stock of the company is divided into 50 shares, which have been all taken up by the leading capitalists and business men of the city, who must certainly have sufficient faith in the success of the enterprise to warrant them in so investing the money required. The grand stand will occupy a space of 70 by 190 feet, underneath will be the offices of the directors of the company, restaurants, retiring rooms and betting ring. We learn that the sewerage will be perfect, and that the very latest ideas of sanitary plumbing will be utilized. The whole of the buildings and grounds will be surrounded with an iron fence occupying about 15 acres. Whilst the buildings are in course of erection, there will be electric lights on the grounds, and the American carpenters here, and those on their way, will make their homes on the premises, in order to guard against any mishap. We understand also that the contractors have placed the insurance of the buildings with a well known English company, and, while we would not say that this is a necessary precaution, it would seem that they are not leaving a stone unturned to pass over to the company the constructive completed to their satisfaction, and within the time agreed upon. Although the time for the completion of the Hippodrome is fixed at December the 31st of this year, it is said that all the buildings will be finished and everything in readiness by the end of November.

PRIZE COMPETITION

We beg to offer *A Twenty Dollar Prize* for the best *Original Story* of about 1,000 words. We stipulate that we must have, at least, six competitors, from which to select a winner, and the Editor's decision is to be final, and, likewise, all stories sent in become the property of this journal, to be

used as the Editor may see fit. Intending competitors will please form their letters plainly and write upon one side of the paper only. We shall not receive any contributions after the 12th of next September.

MATINA.

Plenty of rain, mosquitos, bananas and sport in Matina, do we need anything else to kill time with. What is it?

Notwithstanding the yellow fever scare in Limon, some attraction is sufficient to carry Stanley Lindo there, two or three times a week. What is it? Sr. Ramirez says Matina is short something to make life more pleasant. What is it? Several of the boys attended the Emancipation ball a short time ago; most of them were sick the next day. Dr. Shaw said it was not fever. What was it? Mr. Zurcher the well known "Exchequer" of the banana train finds more pleasure in Matina than Limon. Why is it?

VERY LIKE A WHALE!

Captain Skerman of the bark *Dordrecht*, states that recently, in the North Sea, he observed a large black object floating in the sea which, he assures us, must have been André's balloon, as it was neither a ship or a whale. Had he looked more closely he might have found that it really was a balloon, with Bill Stumps sitting in the car and the new United States Consul to San José sitting opposite him. It may be that the latter gentleman, by mistake, took the north, instead of the south bound balloon. The doughty voyager has, by this time, either crossed the pole or found his way to the other side of "Jordan."

It would be well if a few of the many varieties of the native fruits were imported into our several hotels and placed on the tables, for "approval." It needs not the formation of a Company for this purpose; individual action would be more effective. The same meals always turn up with disgusting regularity, save the rare appearance of a stray banana. Of course, on Sundays, we have a high old time with our ice cream, or, whatever it may be. It is regarded as a dining room crime if we neglect to "remember" the waiter, even though he quite forgets us. Let us have fruit—and plenty.

Tommy—"Papa, may I ask you one more question?"
Pa—"Certainly, my child."
Tommy—"Well, where is the wind when it doesn't blow?"

"They tell me, Grimley, that your daughter sings with great expression."
Greatest expression you ever saw. Her own mother can't recognize her face when she's singing at her best."

DR. O. J. DE SILVA

CIRUJANO DENTISTA

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Tiene el gusto de poner en conocimiento del público que está dispuesto á trabajar sumamente barato, garantizando á la vez toda operación que en su oficina se hiciere.

Coronias de oro..... \$ 15-00
Dientes de espiga sistema Richmond..... 15-00
Dentadura en Caucho... 50-00
y 60-00
etc. etc.

5ª Avenida, E.—Calle de la Estación, en el lugar que ocupó Morgan con la Fotografía.

Nota.—Todos los miércoles, de 1 á 3 p. m., extracciones gratis. Aprovechad esta oportunidad!

LUMBER FOR SALE

BOARDS OF ALL SIZES

Store and Yard facing the Office of the Registro Central del Estado Civil.

Drs. Ulloa and Calnek

Have removed to the Office formerly occupied by Dr. D. G. Inksetter, adjoining the Art Gallery of Messrs Paynter and Rudd.

LATEST STYLES

of American Hats of the well known firm of Stetson.

Also, a new stock of French and English Hats, as well as a large assortment of Childrens, Hats at the well known Hat Store of

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y

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San José, C. R.

Office hours. 11 a. m. to 2 p. m.

LINEA ATLAS

ITINERARIO que observarán los vapores durante los meses de Agosto y Septiembre de 1897.

ADIRONDACK.....	2 Agosto.
ALLEGHANY via Jamaica.....	9 "
ALENE.....	16 "
ALTAI via Jamaica.....	23 "
ADIRONDACK.....	30 "
ALLEGHANY.....	6 Septiembre

NOTA.—No se comprometerán pasajes para el vapor ALTAI antes de su llegada á Limón.

JOHN M. KEITH, Agente.

FOR SALE

Engine and Boiler 24 Indicated H. P. in good condition Going at less than half price. For information apply by letter.

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Reservas..... 200.000

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Tipo de descuento el 1% mensual.

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Eugenio Lamicq.

Tip. de San José

FERROCARRIL DE COSTA RICA

ITINERARIO

DE LIMÓN A ALAJUELA							DE ALAJUELA A LIMÓN									
SALE DE	B	A	B	A	C	D	E	SALE DE	B	A	B	A	C	C	D	D
Limón	6:15							Alajuela	6:55	9:30	3:00					
Moza Hill	6:25							San Joaquín	7:20	9:55	3:25					
Swamp Mouth	6:35							Heredia	7:30	10:07	3:40					
Mama	6:47							Santo Domingo	7:40	10:27	3:50					
Madre de Dios	7:07							San José	7:50	10:37	4:10					
Siquirres	8:07							Llega	8:00	10:47	4:10					
La Junta	8:15							Sale	7:55	11:48	4:10					
Las Lomas	8:30							El Ajo	8:00	12:10	4:10					
Pasaca	8:55							Carraño	8:15	12:20	4:10					
Peralta	9:15							Paraiso	8:30		4:10					
Torito	9:25							Santiago	9:00							
Turrialba	9:35							Juan Viñas	9:20							
Las Pavas	10:50							Las Pavas	9:30							
Juan Viñas	11:30							Turrialba	10:40							
Santiago	12:55							Torito	11:05							
Paraiso	12:30							Peralta	11:45							
Carraño	12:55							Pasaca	11:55							
El Ajo	1:07							Las Lomas	12:15							
Tres Ríos	1:25							La Junta	12:15							
San José	Llega	1:30						Siquirres	12:25							
Santo Domingo	Sale	1:35						Madre de Dios	12:55							
Heredia		11:45						Matina	1:13							
San Joaquín		11:55						Swamp Mouth	1:43							
Llega a Alajuela		12:20						Moza Hill	2:00							
								Llega a Limón	2:15							

RAMA L	SALE DE	E
		P. M.
La Junta	12:35	
Germania	1:20	
East Destierro	1:31	
West Destierro	1:34	
Guácimo	2:10	
Jiménez	2:50	
Llega a Guápiles	3:15	
		F.
		A. M.
Guápiles	6:00	
Jiménez	6:20	
Guácimo	6:45	
West Destierro	7:18	
East Destierro	7:21	
Germania	7:32	
Llega a La Junta	7:55	

Los pasajeros que quieran ir del interior a puntos en el ramal de Guápiles, deberán tomar el tren el martes, jueves o sábado hasta Siquirres, y en Siquirres el tren para Guápiles hasta su destino.

Los pasajeros que van de puntos en el ramal de Guápiles a puntos en el interior, deberán tomar el tren para San José en Siquirres.

NOTA. A Todos los días
 B Idem excepto domingos
 C Solamente los sábados
 D Solamente los domingos
 E Martes, jueves y sábado
 F Lunes, miércoles, viernes.

La Empresa se reserva el derecho de cambiar este itinerario cuando lo crea conveniente.

Para más informes entenderse con cualquier agente de estación, ó en las oficinas principales en San José y Limón.

H. BARFIELD,
 Admor.

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