LIFE IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

We give below several extract; from Colonel Barmlento's new work on the Argentine Republic, recently translated by Mrs. Horacs Mann:-

REPROTE ON CHARACTER OF PROPLE. The character of the country has its usual effect on the inhabitants. Colonel Sarmiento

says:"When the solitary caravan of wagons, as it sluggishly traverses the pampas, halts for a short period of rest, the men in charge of it, grouped around their scanty fire, tain their es mechanically towards the south upon the faintest whisper of the wind among the dry grass, and gaze into the deep darkness of the night in search of the sinister visages of the savage borde, which, at any moment approach-ing unperceived, may surprise them. It no sound reaches their ears, if their sight fails to pierce the gloomy seil which covers the silent wildernest, they direct their eyes, before entirely dis-missing their apprehensions, to the ears of any horse standing within the firelight, to see if they are pricked up, or turned carelessly back wards.

'Then they resume their interrupted conversation, or put into their mouths the half-scorched pieces of dried beef on which taey subsist. When not tearful of the approach of the savage, the plainsman has equal cause to dread the keen eyes of the tiger or the viper beneath his feet. This constant insecurity of life outside the towns, in my opinion, stamps upon the Argentine character a certain stoical resignation to death by violence, which is regarded as one of the inevitable probabilities of existence. Perhaps this is the reason why they inflict death or submit to it with so much indifference, and why such events make no deep or lasting impressions upon the survivors,"

GREAT BIVERS UNUSED. The great rivers which drain the pampas are regarded rather as hindrances than as helps by

"Thus" (says the author) "the tountain of national growth, the origin of the early celebrity Egypt, the cause of Holland's greatness, and of the rapid development of North America, the navigation of rivers, or the use of canals, remains a latent power, unsppreciated by the ta-habitants of the banks of the Bernejo, Pilcomayo, Parana and Paraguay. A few small ves-sels, manned by Italians and adventurers, sail up stream from the Plata, but after ascending a few leagues, even this navigation entirely ceases, The instinct of the sailor, which the Saxon colonists of the North possess in so high a degree, was not bestowed upon the Spaniard. Another spirit is needed to stir these arteries in which a nation's life-blood now lies staguant. Of all these rivers, which should bear civilization, power and wealth to the most hidden recesses of the continent, and make of Santa Fe, Entre Rios, Corrientes, Cordova, Salias, Tucuman and Jujui, rich and populous States, the Plata alone, which at last unites them all, bestows its benefits upon the inhabitants of its banks."

THE LIPE OF THE PLAINS.

The life of the plains is thus described:-"Moreover, these outstretched plaus impart to the life of the interior a certain Asiatic coloring, which we may even call very decided. I have often mechanically saluted the moon, as it rose calmly and brightly, with these words of Voluey in his description of the Ruins:—'La-plein clune a l'Orient s'elevait sur un fond bleuatre aux plaines rives de l'Euphrate.' There is something in the wilds of the Argentine territory which brings to mind the wilds of Asia; the imagination discovers a lizeness between the pampa and the plains lying between the Euphrates and the Tiggis; some affinity between the lonely line of wagons which crosses our wastes, arriving at Buenos Ayres after a journey lasting for months, and the caravan of camels which takes it way towards Bagdad or Smyres. The wagens which make such journeys among us, constitute, so to speak, squadrons of little barks, the crews of which have a peculiar dress, dialect, and set of customs, which distinguish them from their fellow-countrymen, just as the sailor differs from the landsman. The head of each party is a military leader, like the chief of an Asiatic caravan; this position can be filled only by a man of iron will and daring to the verge of rashness, that he may hold in check the auare to be directed and ruled by himself alone, for no help can be summoned in the desert. On the least symptom of insubordination, the captain raises his iron chicote and delivers upon the mutineer blows which make contusious and wounds; it the resistance is prolonged, before resorting to his pistols, the help of which he generally scorns, he leaps from his horse, grasps his for midable knite, and, quickly re-establishes his authority by his superior skill in handling it. If any one loses his life under such discipline the er is not auswerable for the assassination, which is regarded as an exercise of legitimat

From these characteristics arises in the life of the Argentine people the reign of brute force, the supremacy of the strongest, the ab-olute and irresponsible authority of rulers, the alministration of justice without formalities or dis-

THE LIFE OF THE CITIES. The life of the cities affords a great con-

trast:-"The Argentine cities, like almost all the cities of South America, have an appearance of regularity. Their streets are laid out at right angles, and their population scattered over a wide surface, except in Cordova, which occupies a narrow and confined position, and presents all the appearance of a European city, the resemblance being increased by the multitude towers and domes attached to its numerous and magnificent churches, All civilization, whether native. Spanish or Europeau, centres in the cities where are to be found the manufactories, the shops, the schools and colleges, and other characteristics of civilized nations. Elegance of style, articles of luxury dress coats, and frock coats, with other European garments, occupy their appropriate place in these towns. I mention these small matters designedly. It is sometimes the case that the only city of a pastoral province is its capital, and occasionally the land is uncultivated up to its very streets. The encirching desert besets such cities at a greater or less distance, and bears heavily upon them. and they are thus small oases of civilization surrounded by an untilled plain, hundreds of square miles in extent, the surface of which is but rarely interrupted by any settlement of consequence.

SOCIETY OF THE PLAINS.

There are no nomad tribes on the Argentine plains. Says the author:-The stock raiser is a proprietor, living upon his own land; but this condition renders assoclation impossible, and tends to scatter separate families over an immense extent of surface. Imagine an expanse of two thousand square leagues, inhabited throughout, but where the dwellings are usually four or even eight leagues apart, and two leagues, at least, separate the nearest neighbors. The production of movable property is not impossible, the enjoyments of luxury are not wholly incompatible with this isolation; wealth can raise a superb edifice in the desert. But the incentive is wanting; no example is near; the inducements for making a great display which exist in a city are not known in that isolation and solitude. Inevitable privations justify natural indolence; a dearth of the amenities of life induces all the externals

of barbarism. Society has altogether disappeared. There is but the isolated self-concentrated feudal family. Since there is no collected society, no govern-ment is possible; there is neither municipal nor executive power, and civil justice has no means of reaching criminals. I doubt if the modern world presents any other form of association so monstrous as this. It is the exact opposite of the Roman municipality, where all the population were assembled within an enclosed space, and went from it to cultivate the surrounding fields. The consequence of this was consequence. fields. The consequence of this was a strong social organization, the good results of which have prepared the way for modern civilization. The Argentine system resembles the old Slavonic Bloboda, with the difference that the latter was agricultural, and therefore more susceptible of povernment, while the dispersion of the populadon was not so great as in South America.'

THE CITIES-BURNOS AVERS. To the cities Colonel Sarmiento attributes

and good government. At present, he says, they are borne down to the level of barbarism.

Of Buenos Ayres he says :"In 1806 the attention of English speculators was turned to South America, and estrectally attracted to Busines Ayres by its river and its probable future. In 1810 Busines Ayres was filled with partizans of the revolution, bitterly hostile to anything originating in Spain or any part of Europe. Agerm of progress, then, was still alive west of the La Plata. The Spanish colonies cared nothing for commerce or navigation. The Klo de la Plata was of small important. tion. The Rio de la Plata was of small importance to them. The Spanish disjained it and its banks. As time went on, the river proved to have deposited its sediment of wealth upon those banks, but very fittle of Spanish spirit of Spanish modes of government. Commercial activity had brought the her the spirit and the geteral ideas of Europe; the vessels which frequented the waters of the port prought books from all quarters, and news of all the political events of the world. It is to be observed that Epain had no other commercial city upon the Atlantic coast. The war with England hastened the emancipation of men's minds, and awakened among them a sense of their own importance as a State. Buenos Ayres was like a child which, having conquered a giant, fondly deems itself a hero, and is ready to undertake greater adventures. The social Contract flew from hand to hand. Mably and rayual were the oracles of the pre-s; Robespierre and the Convention the approved models. Buenos Ayres thought itself a continuation of Europe, and if it did not frankly confess that its spirit and tendencies were French and North American, it devied its Spanish origin on the ground that the Spanish government had patronized it only after it was full growr. The revolution brought with it armies and glory, triumphs and reverses, revolts and seditions. But Buenos Ayres, amidst all these fluctuations, displayed the revolutionary energy with which it is endowed. was everything; Venezuela was but the pedestal for that colossal figure. Buenos Ayres was a whole city of revolutionists-Belgrano, Ron-deau, San Martin, Alvear, and the hundred generals in command of its armles, were its instruments; its arms, not its head nor its

THE "TIGER OF THE LLANOS." Not the least interesting part of Colonel Sar-miento's book is that which consists of sketches of the prominent or notorious characters of the republic. If a people is to be judged by its eaders, we can hardly form a favorable notion of the Argentines. One of those was Quiroza, "the tiger of the Llanes," a short, stoutly built, shaegy-headed, vigorous sort of a brute, of no little ability, who won his way apward by being quicker, more desperate, and more reckless in his acts of violence than his comrades. Of blm t is related that he kicked out the brains of a man with whom he quarrelled at play; that he tore off the ears of a woman he had lived with. and laid open his son's head with an axe. this monster became Governor, in fact despot,

of La Rioja. About this time, 1825, the Argentine Republic presented a singular picture. Says the author: 'All interests, all ideas, all passions, met together to create agilation and tumuit. Here was a chief who would have naught to do with the rest of the republic; there, a community whose only desire was to- emerge from its isolation; yonder, a government engaged in bring ing Europe over to America; elsewhere, another to which the very name of civilization was odious; the Holy Tribunal of the Inquisition was reviving in some places; in others, liberty of conscience was proclaimed the first of human rights; the cry of one party was for confedera-tion; of others for a central government; wane each different combination was backed by strong and unconquerable passions,"

BARBARISM VS. CIVILIZATION. One of the results of Quiroza's aggressive campaigns was sufficiently disastrous. It was the destruction of Mendoza, a city where civi ization had a home and progress was the rule.

The author says:-"The swamps had been drained, the city ornamented, societies of agriculture, industry, mines, and of public education had been formed, and directed by intelligent, enthusiastic, and enterprising men; a manufactory of woollen and flax had been established which furnished clothing for the troops, and an army for the making of swords, cuirasses, lauces, and bayonets, with none of the work imported except some parts of

With the presentation of this phase of the conflict between civilization and barbarism in the Argentine Republic, we must close the pre-sent long-extended article, deferring further notice until another occasion,

## LYELL'S GEOLOGY.

A Revised Edition-New Discoveries and Conclusions.

The tenth edition of Sir Charles Lyell's "Principles of Geology," entirely revised, is just published in London. The ninth edition of this work was published thirteen years ago. In the interval Lyell has made some new discoveries and arrived at new conclusions, all of which ere now set forth in such detail as to make the 'Principles" essentially a new work. We quote

the London Spectator's analysis:—
"It will be remembered that in the ninth and previous editions the subject of the progressive levelopment of the organic life had been pr sented to the reader, and that on this, as well as on the causes and proofs of the vicis-studes of crimate in epochs anterior to history, there was a good deal of careful and clasorate discussion. It may be well to state at once that chapters ix. to xiii. of the tenth edition, in which these subjects are treated of, are either re-written or entirely new, Considerable addi-tions have also been made (chapter xxvi. volit.) to the discussion on the structure of Mount Etna, and several descriptions of recent earth. quakes, and new facts illustrative of volcanic agency have been introduced.

"But it is the third book, on the changes of the organic world now in progress, including the subject of species, ignosmutation, origin. distribution, migration, and extinction, that most will be found that is entirely new both in matter and method. Such being generally the distribution of the new matter presented to us in this edition, there are also a few scattered remarks in the least altered portions of the book which are of an interest that will claim

for them special notice. "With regard to the theory of progressive development treated of in the ninth chapter, it may be useful to ske ch the present line of argument. Recent discoveries having led to the tracing tack of the memorials of our race one step further into the past, it is the object of the author to snow that the evidence in favor of the modern date of the human cra, as compared with that of a vas; series of antecedent epochs, each of them characterized by distinct species of animals and plants, bas not been shaken. And one main element of the argument appears to be the similarity of the conclusions are arrived at by the separate study of (1) fossil plants, (2) fossil animals, veriebrate and invertebrate (3) mammalia, and by the comparison

of them all. The result of the induction is thus "We have been fairly led by a paleontological researches to the conclusion that the invertebrate animals flourished before the vertebrate, and that in the latter class fish, reptiles, birds, and mammalia made their appearance in a chronological order analogous to the latter than the latter to that in which they would be arranged zoologically according to an advancing scale of perfection in their organization. In regare to mammalia themselves, they have been divided by Professor Owen into four sub-classes by reference to modifications of their In the two lowest, called Lyencephala and Lassencephala, are included marsupials and insectivora and these have been net with fossil in the secondary rocks. Next above them in grade are the Gyrencepha'a in which Cetaerans, Proboscidians, Ruminants, Carnivora, and Quadrumana are classed, all of which are found fossil in tertiary strata. Among these the Quadrumana rank bighest, and the Authropomorphous family takes the lead in organization and instinct among the Quadrumana, coming also last in the order of time. To crown the whole, the series ends with the fourth great aub-class, the Archeocephala, of which man is whatever advance has been made in civilization | the sole representative, and of which the fossil

r mains have no yet been detroted in deposits older than the post-termany.'
"It is added that the human species being the most cosmopolite and capable of surviving vicessitudes in climates and changes in physical geography as one all the mammaka, it might have been expected that vestiges of it would be traced back as far as those of any existing species. It must also be remembered that works of art composed of indestructible materials would outlast almost all the organic compounds of rudimentary rocks. And it seems to be a fair a sumption that the reisoning powers. which are the main distinguishing coarseteristic of the human species, would necessitate the co-existence of some works of art aith very culy, if not with the very earliest, specimens of the species so distinguished. There is also a point of no le s signiscance now than in the time of Anaximander, viz., that the protection of man from other species of equal number and of greater strength depended on his reason, and not on physical superiority, as it is by no means clear that the organization of man is such as would con'er a decided pre-eminence upon bim, if in place of his reasoning powers he was Berely provided with such instincts as are

possessed by the lower animals.'
"An objection is alluded to which it would not be right to pass over, but which appears to admit of a satis actory reoly, namely, that the interference of the human species might be thought so wide a deviation from the autoce-dent course of physical events, that the knowledge of such a fact would tend to destroy all our confidence in the uniformity of the order of nature, both in regard to time past and fature. Other changes equally extraordinary might happen from time to time. But 'we have no reason to suppose that when man first became master of a small part of the globe, a greater change took place in its physical condition than is now experienced when districts never before inhabited become successively occupied by new settlers; and accordingly we may suppose the general condition of the globe immediately before and after the period when our species first began to exist to have been the same, with the exception only of man's presence.

VICISSITUDE OF CLIMATE. "An interesting fact is introduced in the tenth chapter bearing on the proof of great vicissi-tudes of climate. The fact of the preservation of animal and vegetable substances by incarceration in ice is well known, and has of late years been practically tested in connection with accidents among the Alpine glacters. The same cause has been the means of preserving in Russia and Siperia many skeletons of mammoths retaining the skin and hair. And the preserva-tion of these animals has a double interest, in that it not only gives apecimens of species of great antiquity in a comparatively good state of preservation, but the circumstance that the soft parts of the animal have remained undecomposed proves that the ice or congealed mud in which the bodies of such quadrupeds were enveloped bys never once been meited since the day when they perished. It is corious that the heads of most of them are said to bave been turned towards the South. In this chapter, also, facts are adduced to prove that there is evidence on the east coast of England, s also in Switzerland, of two glacial periods, with an intervening period of greater warmth, which must have been of considerable duration. if we may judge from the thickne s of the beds of hanite for the formation of which it gave

"We will not do more than allude to the discussion of the effect on the climate of the earth produced by astronomical causes, such as the procession of the equinoxes and variations in he executricity of the earth's orbit, because the subject being now introduced for the first time, t would be impossible in the space at our disposal to give any adequate idea of the question. But it must be mentioned in passing that a memoir by Mr. J. Croll, published in 1864, is discussed, and elicits our author's reasons for differing from him in some material points; and that a table is inserted showing the excentricity of the earth's orbit at intervals of 50,000 years, calculated up to 1,000,000 years before 1800 A. D.; and the corresponding number of winter days in excess of the summer days (the winter days be ecuated when the earth was at the of the orbit furthest from the sun, and being summer when at the other extreme), and the corresponding mean temperature of the hotte-t and coldest months taken under the same circumstances. Without going into the details of the discussion, it may be interesting to our readers to know that in one line (that for 850,000 years before 1800 A. D.) the variation of temperature between those two months is stated as 133 degrees Fabienheit, the mean temperature of the lottest month being 126 degrees Fahrenheit, or 94 degrees above freezing point, and that of the coldest month 7 degrees Fahrenheit, or 39 degrees below freezing point. It is suggested that for various reasons a probable period in which we may suppose that the lucar-ceration in ice mentioned above may have taken place would be from 200,000 to 210,000 years before 1800 A. D

"A most interesting account is given, accompanied by an engraving of the eacth pillars at kitten, in the Tyrol, near Botzen, illustrating the geographical effect of rain as dis inguished from running water; and in connection with the geological action of glaciers, both in Switzerland and Scotland, an account is inserted of the Marjelen See, near the great Aletsch Glacier, a lake which is periodically drained by changes in the internal structure of the glacier.

THE MOUTHS OF THE MISSISSIPPI. "A phenomenon is noticed as occurring at the mouths of the Mississippi, which Sir C. Lyell says is without parallel, as far as he is aware, in the delta of any other river. The maddy bot-tom of the sea off the mouths of that river rises up to the height of sometimes ten or eighteen feet above the level of the sea, and from the tops of these new-made islands gush springs of salt or brackish and muddy water, together with a considerable quantity of carburetted hydrogen or inflammable gas, the tubular cavities up which the springs rise being about six inches in diameter, vertical, and as regular in form as if bored by an auger. The following account of the origin of these tumps is interesting, as compared with an analogous phenomenon

noticed below:-"The initiary moving power may probably be derived from the downward pressure of the gravel, sand, and sediment accumulated during the flood season off the various months or passes upon a yielding bottom of fine mud and sand. This new deposit forms annually a mass of no ess than one mile square, having a thickness of twenty-seven feet. It consists of mud, coarse sand and gravel, which the river lets fall somewhat abruptly when it first comes in contact with the still salt water of the gulf. A cubic mass of such enormous volume and weight thrown down on a foundation of yielding mud, consisting of materials which, as being very fine and impalpable, Lad long before been carried out farthest from the land, may well be conceived to exert a downward pressure, capable of displacing, squeezing, and forcing up interally some parts of the adjoining bottom of the gulf, so as to give rise to new shoals and islands, Radway engineers are familiar with the swell-ing up of a peat moss, or the bed of a morass, some adjoining part of which a new embankment has been constructed. I saw an example of this in the year 1839, in the Loch of Rescoble, in Forfarshire, five miles east of the town of Foriar. That lake had been partially drained, and the railway mound was carried over newly exposed, soft and swampy pround, which gave way so as to let the mound stak down fineen feet. It then became necessary to pile up additional matter fifteen feet thick in order to obtain the required level. On one side of the embankment, the bog when I visited the place, bad swoilen up in a ridge forty feet long and eight feet high, the upper portion consisting of peaty matter traversed by numerous willow roots. In the highest part of this upraised mass were several irregular cracks about six feet in their greatest width, and open for a depth of two yards or more. On the opposite side of the railway mound, and about one hundred yards distant from it, in the middle of remained of the half-drained loch, a new island or 'mud lump' was seen, which had begun to rise slowly in 1837, and had attained before 1840 a he ght of several yards, with a length of about one hundred feet, and a width of twentyfive feet. It was still strewed over with dead fresh-water massels and other shells, but many land plants bad already sprung up, so that its surface was green.

"We need feel no surprise at the quantity of ra-cous matter discussion from cracks in these newly raised islands, when we recollect that almost everywhere in Europe, where a successful Artesian boring has been made, the water at first spouts up to a height far beyond that to which it would be carried by simple hydrostatic pressure. A portion of the propelling force usually comists of atmospheric air and carbonic acid gas, which last is generated by the decomposition of animal and vegetable matter. Of the latter there must be always a great store in the recent deposits of a delta like that of the Mississippi, as they enclose much drift timber at all depths, and the pent-up gaseous matter will be ready to escape wherever the overlying impervious clays are uphcaved and rent."

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