The Extinction of a People.

A correspondent of the London Spectator, over the signature of "J. M. L.," writes as follows about affairs in Paraguay:

It is doubtful whether the whole annals of mankind present a more extraordinary tragedy than that which has been acted out in Paraguay during the last seven years. It stands second, perhaps, only in horror to the story of the fall of Jerusalem before the arms of Titus, though differing widely from that in many of its features; in perhaps none more than this, that whereas in the latter case the extermination of the conquered was forced by themselves on a victor who fain would have been element, in the latter there seems strong reason to believe that it was planned, though not avowed, by the conquerors from the first. Thus Mr. Masterman, who in his preface, in-deed, implies that the Paraguayans were "a band of slaves, madly resisting the very men who offer them freedom and independence, in his appendix quotes the opinion of 'a gentleman recently returned from the Plate, gentleman recently returned from the Plate, who has had unusually good opportunities of forming a correct judgment," that "the war was intended, from the first, to be one of utter extermination;" that it was "intentionally protracted, in the hope that the unfortunate Paraguayans would die from want and disease; and that Brazil intends to absorb all ahe has left of the Republic." So Colonel Thompson has stated that the Brazilians have purposely allowed many of their prisoners to purposely allowed many of their prisoners to go and join Lopez, "as they are determined not to leave a Paragnayan of any age or sex alive," and that the allies, "while professing extreme humanity, have, under the cloak of civilized wasters. civilized warfare, exterminated the Paraguayan nation, and never once tried to get at Lopez, the pretended object of their warfare'
—the latter assertion, indeed, being apparently scarcely correct, since the Comte d'Eu took the supreme military command. Nor do these statements stand without in-direct corroboration. Those who have followed the history of Paraguay know that its independence has always been an eyesore alike to Brazilians and Argentines, and that the maintenance of that independence primarily against the latter (whose pretension was to claim Paraguay as a mere member of their federation) was the hinge on which the lifelong policy of Francia and the elder Lopez turned. Whilst the text of the secret tripartite treaty of 1865, although binding the allies "to respect the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Paraguay," really aims at its hopeless dismemberment, by tearing off from it to the north, for the benefit of Prazil, the yerba mate districts, Paraguay's chief source of revenue, as giving her the practical monopoly of an article in great request throughout full one-half of South America; after which the whole remainder of the country must sink almost necessarily into a province of the Argentine Republic.

Now, the world has seen ere this-let Po-land bear witness of the fact—such things as a combination between three neighboring powers, under pretexts the most hypocritical, for the physical or moral extermination of a fourth in their midst, and that extermination allowed to be carried out before the eyes of civilized marking without civilized mankind without a finger being raised to prevent it. The world has also seen, on the part of the nation so to be externinated-lot Poland again be the instanceresistance of the most heroic character, under chiefs whose gening was called forth by the very emergencies in which they found themselves placed. But what the world has not seen is this—a small people thus hemmed in on all sides by neighbors immeasurably richer than itself in men, money, physical resources of all kinds, yet exhibiting such superior courage and endurance to that of its enemies, must have been successful, but for the inca pacity, the cowardice, the selfishness, the cruelty of the chief, whom yet it followed from first to last with absolutely unswerving

faithfulness. Now that the records of the war are before the world, it is perfectly clear that nothing that has been said, in the pages of this journal or elsewhere, in favor of the moral powers of resistance of Paraguay has ever been exaggerated. The one element that has not been taken into account has been the chance that all those powers might be utterly thrown away, from being wielded by a Francisco

Nothing is more marvellous than Colonel Thompson's account of the slender resources upon which Paraguay entered upon the war. An army of about 80,000 men; perhaps 100,-000 horses in the whole country, "only half of which could gallop two or three miles; much of the cavalry and almost all the infantry armed with mere flint-lock carbines and muskets; the greater part of the artillery consisting "of old honeycombed iron guns, probably taken by ships for ballast and brought to Paraguay * * * like the guns which do duty as posts on Woolwich Common;" the heavy artillery all smooth-bores, only a few rifled 12-pounders; a navy of seventeen steamers, all small, and all but two passenger vessels; drugs scarce from the beginning. In the course of the war the artillery was in great measure recruited at the cost of the enemy, the Paraguayans, even on two occasions when defeated, bringing often with them pieces of larger calibre than any they had, whilst among the gans manufactured by themselves out of all the church bells and copper saucepans in the country, two whole batteries were cast expressly to fit 9-pounder rifle shells, "which the enemy sent over in profusion, and the greater part of which did not burst;" and another large gun to fit Whit-worth's 150-pounder shot, "of which some thousands were collected." During the whole war "Paraguay never received supplies of any kind from abroad, except those taken in Matto Grosso and Corrientes

the stores of the enemy was-men. This want the Paraguayans could only meet by showing themselves a match for him at constantly unequal odds. This they seem to have done invariably. In the naval battle of the Riachuelo above referred to seven armed merchant vessels, one 6-gun paddle ship made for warlike purposes, and six flat-bottomed boats, attacked the Brazilian fleet of nine fine war steamers, with "immeasurably superior guns," and would probably have taken it, "had they immediately gone alongside, instead of running down past it." In the first great action by land on the Uruguay, 2500 Paraguayans met 13,000 Orientals, and perished to within the last 200 or 300. scarcely a man accepting quarter, after having caused a loss to the Allies in killed and wounded equivalent to their whole number; 8000 more kept 30,000 at bay for months, and when they at last surrendered, only 6000 came out alive, the men "having for some time had nothing but a ration of lump sugar." Later on, when the two armies were encamped opposite to each other on the Parana, parties of from 100 to 200 men would cross the river daily, "in full sight of the enemy, standing up to paddle their cances * * land, and drive the enemy half a mile inland, fighting all the while, and go back after a few hours, taking their killed

Wkat could not, however, be supplied from

and wounded with them." On one such occasion "400 Paraguayans were absolutely fighting with 7200 of the allied troops," to whom, after receiving a reinforcement, they caused a loss of 50 officers and 900 men killed and wounded, losing only 170 themselves. It would be positively tedious to attempt enu-merating the engagements in which the Paraguayans appear to have inflicted a loss on the enemy-at the battle of Lomas Valentinas, December, 1868, in killed alone-equal to the total number of their own com-batants. But of what avail could this be, when, by the end of 1866, "nearly 200,000 males had been drawn from a population of less than a million," and of this number scarcely 25,000 remained—no less than 80,000 men having "perished in the hospitals from disease, or rather from bad and scanty food and want of the commonest necessaries of life," the rest through the other casualties of war?—desertion, indeed, excluded, since, as Mr. Masterman tells us, "love of home and of country is a passion with them;" and though Paraguayan prisoners were forced by the allies into a "Paraguayan legion," they took every opportunity of passing over to their countrymen, although certain of meeting only with contumely, punishment, and often death. Two years later, at Lomas Valentinas, the 25,0 K of 2866 were reduced to 1300, and without a single gun met 4000 Brazilians, besides Argentines, with 60 guns, and fought still with their wonted determination.

Be it observed that although often compelled to exhibit the horoism only of despair, this was by no means the type of Paraguayan courage. Those who speak of them as mere Indians, and would confound their resistance with the stolid endurance of the North American red-skin, are wide as the poles from the truth. The late Charles Mansfield, in that work of his, the real revelation to Europe of this strange people, which has been so unaccountably passed under silence both by Colonel Thompson and Mr. Masterman, had fully appreciated the intense vitality and vivacity of the Paraguayan character. Colonel Thompson relates how, "when a man was rolling a wheelbarrow, a percussion shell struck his high morion and burst in it, singeing his hair and driving some grains of powder into his forehead, without hurting him. The moment it happened he dropped his wheelbarrow, rushed after his morion and that it an again, and saining the harrow become put it on again, and seizing the barrow began wheeling it again with redoubled vigor, to the great delight of his companions, who set up a yell of pleasure." On another occasion, D-pounder shell, unburst, which had been placed under a cooking-pot, exploded and sent the dinner of some cavalry men flying, to the "intense delight" of the expectant dinors. As late as 1878, "the more their enemies * * * the more the Paraguayans would laugh. They used to play all sorts of pranks at night with the Brazilian guards, shooting at them with bows and arrows," and with balls of clay such as boys in Paraguay use to shoot parrots with. Their contempt for the Brazilians seems, indeed, to have been unbounded till the last.

We do not, of course, wish to deny the existence of darker sides in the Paraguayan character; the outrages which accompanied their first offensive operations; the cruelties of which Mr. Masterman's book is full, and of which many (though clearly not all) made themselves the far too willing instruments. But of outrage and cruelty they had in the war by no means the monopoly: the taint is one common to both the Spanish and Portu-guese races, and which blots many a ghastly page in the history whether of Braul or of the South American republics. Their worst faults in these respects appear to have been those of their race or of their ruler, whilst observers such as Mr. Masterman, whose personal sufferings should always be taken into account in weighing his harsher judgments, cannot help bearing testimony to "their unaffected kindness and charity to each other. when no shadow of the government was upon

So has perished # small people, in its fall at least never to be forgotten. It may be, as Mr. Masterman says, that "the sturdy German and the Anglo-Saxon will soon fill the void this war of extermination has made; permanent prosperity will banish all trace of its devastations." But that the noblest by far of all the South American peoples should have so perished, self-sacrificed to a third-rate tyrant like Francisco Lopez, will remain one of the darkest moral riddles of history. It is idle to talk of the Paraguayans as mere slaves, when they have shown so magnificently that they could fight and die like freemen.

Foreign Items.

—A correspondent at Pesth, writing on the 19th of November, says:—"The insurrection in Dalmatia is being watched with great interest by the Slavonians in Hungary, whose organs in the press openly express their sympathy with the insurgents. A bitter feeling against the rule of the Magyars is very general among these Slavonians, and their opposition to the Government is greatly assisted by the aristocratic and clerical influences which are exerting themselves to undermine the existing state of things. The eanse of this discontent is that the Magyars, with all their boasted respect for chartered rights, do not scruple to violate those of the ationalities under their rule. In Hungary all who do not belong to the Magyar race are looked upon and treated as pariahs. There may be no langer in thus treating the patient Germans in Transylvania, but the impulsive Slavonic faces, which constitute the great mass of the population of the kingdom, are quick to revenge an injury, and so greatly outnumber the Magyars that if they united against the dominant race there would soon be an end to Magyar rule in Hungary. Moreover, there is great dis-tress in the country owing to the backwardness of agriculture and the ruinous condition of the finances. The municipal budget of the capital already shows a deficit of a million and a half; all the new public undertakings have falled, and have been bought up at nominal prices by Jews or Germans. Gross incompetency, in a word, has been shown in all the departments of Government since the administration of Hungary was placed in the hands of the Magyars, and it has become evident that the present state of things cannot last much longer."

—The Invalide Russe publishes some further

news from Taschkend. It says that the ambassador of Kokhand, Murza-Hakim-bey, stopped in that town on his way home from St. Petersburg, and has married the daughter of a Russian officer of artillery there. The son of the Ameei of Bokhara, who is a pretender to the throne of that country, is now staying at Taschkend, to which place he fied after being defeated by his father's troops; Abder-Rachman, the son-in-law of the present ruler of Cabool, is also there. The latter has sent his uncle to Samarcand with a letter asking for permission to go to Russia and become a Russian subject. This prince reports that Sary Khan, the ruler of Kulaba, has expressed a desire to remain under Russian protection, and that he has declared his readiness to assist Abder-Rachman in subduing Balkh. The correspondent of the Invalide adds that a Jew named Beckensohn has arrived at Taschkend, who says that he met an English physician named Leitner at Herat, that Mr. Leitner had just arrived from the countries newly conquered the Russians, and that he had taken part the battle of Samaresa I on the side of the

Bokharians. -We have read or heard of collectors of all ossible and impossible objects. Phiegmatic Dutchmen have been known to pay fabrious sums for dubious tulips; china collectors will give unheard-of prices for plates and saugers,

which become a source of constant anxiety to them; others, again, with a patience worthy of a nobier preoccupation, have been known to obtain an almost complete collection of postagestamps. But M. Nester-Roqueplan, the author of "Parisine," etc., has hit upon a line of col-lecting in which he has certainly had no predecessors, and in which, for a time at least he need fear but few rivals. And thus he may, we hope, obtain cheaply the objects of his search. M. Roqueplan collects—not the manuscripts of old plays, or the wigs of great actors, or the rouge-pots of dead actresses, but simply—warming-pans. In his apartment in the Boulevard Haussmann he has devoted a gallery to the exhibition of these utensils "de la vie inline."

There you may see more or less authentic warming pans of Diseas de Paitlers Mary Oreas of Parties. ing-pans of Diane de Poitiers, Mary Queen of Scotts, Catherine de Medicis, Gabrielle d'Estrees, Mad'lle de la Valliere, Mad'lle de Fontange, Madame Pompadour, and Marie Antoinette.

Chacun a son gout.

—A correspondent of the Times of India, writing from Malwa on the 15th of October, says that the Mawaree exodus, which slackened somewhat during the rains, has now set in again as strongly as ever, and, judging from the stream of people passing through, it would ap-pear as if the whole population was bent on clearing out of the doomed land. The mortality amongst them continues very great; the roads are strewed with their bodies, and in the towns of Mundisore, Jourah, and Ruttam the dead may be seen lying everywhere in the public roads till the sweeper drags them away and buries them or throws them into the nearest nullah. A small sum is allowed by the native States for burying the dead, but in many instances it is appropri ated by the sepoys whose duty it is to see this done. The poor people experience no difficulty in disposing of their children, the young girls being generally purchased by the Mahomedans for their zenanas. The durbar authorities take charge of most of the orphans, who are employed about their courts as slaves, a certain number being allotted to each rajah's family.

—The natives of the Nile basin must wait a little longer for those blessings of annexation and compulsory labor which Sir Samuel Baker and the phlianthropic Khedive have in stere for them. A correspondent of the Daily News re-ports that fifteen large boats and six steamers, all intended for navigating the White Nile, and sent up in August last, have stuck at Walla Halfy, below the second cataract. Further, Mr. Samuda's steel steamers have been sent out in such large sections as to be unfit for carriage across the desert on the backs of camels in the ordinary way. Forty gun carriages have therefore had to be provided for the packages, and
the two thousand camels already collected for
this part of the expedition will have to be increased by several hundreds. The track across
the desert is said to be so bad that the cavalcale
must march in single file. The whole carayan, it is calculated, will be more than eight miles long. As a finishing touch to the picture, the writer adds. "The natives here, too, are treacherous and savage.

-The Russian papers continue to speak of the necessity of sending an expedition against Khiva: An article published in the Moscow Gazette deciares that Russia, "in order to secure her commercial interests," cannot much longer postpone "placing Khiva in the same relations towards her as Bokhara and Kokhand." At the same time the Gazette considers that the conquest of the two latter countries would require too great a sacrifice on the part of Russia, and that all purposes would be met equally well if she maintained her relations with them on the present footing. "Of late," it says, "a great change has become visible in the disposition of the Khanates of Central Asia. They fear no power so much as Afghanistan, especially since Excland has given her a subsider says in a England has given her a subsidy; and in vithe danger which thus threatens them they rest their hopes on Russia."

GENERALITIES.

Smallpox in New York and Brooklyn. Yesterday at the meeting of the New York Metro-politan Board of Health, Dr. Stone presented the lowing preamble and resolutions, which were Whereds, During the present year the Metropolitan

Sanitary District has been twice invaled by the smallpox in an epidemic form, and which disease has been traced to the immigrants who have arrived at the port of New York, whereby the great cities of New York and Brooklyn have been exposed to much sickness and death, and the Board of Health has been put to much labor and expense in suppressing this ase, and preventing its extension to the country Resolved, That the Congress of the United States

be informed of the great danger of smallpox infec-tion, which is due to the emigrants, and be requested in case any measures should be adopted for regu lating emigration, to require that every emigrant, before embarking for the United States, shall present the commander of the vessel in which he proposes the commander of devesses in which he proposes to take passage; a certificate of vaccination.;

Resolved, That a copy this preamble and resolutions, signed by the President, with the seal of the Board attached, be sent to the Secretary of State, Washington, with the request that he would lay the same before the appropriate committee.

Operations of Burgiars at Sing Sing. Operations of Burgiars at Sing Sing.

On Sunday, during the morning service, a number of houses in Ellis place, Sing Sing, were marked with numbers, both on the doors and gate-posts. On Monday houses in three different sections of the town were also marked. On Tuesday three well-known burglars were seen about the depot, and afterward strolling through the town. On the same day a stranger, with days complexion, carly hair. day a stranger, with dark complexion, curly hair, and heavy moustache, and with a next and valuable ring on one hand, went around Ellis place ostensibly buying rags, old paper, etc. He called at the back doors, while a fellow pretending to be a Prussian, out of money, and wanting work in any capacity about the house or grounds, applied at the front doors. The people suspect that here are the preli-minary operations of burglars who intend to make a raid in the town. Door-marking was the forerunner of burglaries at Newburg, White Plains, and other places on the lines of railroads a short time ago.

Robbing Mall Bags. On Monday morning, the Northport way train due at Hicksville at 744 A.M., left at that station several mail bags containing the mail matter from the post-offices on the Northcote branch, to go East by the regular mail train which arrives from New York at 0-20 A. M. The Postmaster was not at the de receive the mail, and when search was made for the bags they could not be found. The mails on that ranch are closed, as there is no route agent between Hicksville and Northport. It will be remembered that the Huntington mail bag was stolen from the same place some months ago under similar circ stances, and was afterwards found but a short dis-tance from the depot.

GOODS FOR THE LADIES. RRIDAL, BIRTHDAY, AND HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Au Bon Marche.

The One Dollar Department contains a large assortment of FINE FRENCH GOODS, subracing DESKS, WORK, GLOVE, HANDKERCHIEF, AND DRESSING BOXES, in great variety, DOLLS, MECHANICAL TOYS, and TREE TRIM-MINGS.

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And now, under these circumstances, it can be readily seen that this is THE opportunity to lay in a full supply. We have still a very large stock (at least \$250,000 worth of goods), and freshly supplied every day by new lots, as we are making up the piece goods we had on hand. We continue to allow those whom it suits best to make selections and pay in instalments until all is paid up.

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principles as they trust will merit the appropation of all who may favor them with their custom,

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150 Silk Fans, 75 cents and \$1.00. Elegant Siik and Satin Fans; Spangied Fans. Fans closing out.

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50 dozen genuine Jouvin 2-buttons, \$1-25, cost over \$2 00. 75 dozen Duchess Laced Gloves, \$1 '00. Great Bargains in Gloves, at very low prices. Largest lot of Gloves in the market.

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\$5.50, \$6.00, Heavy Largest Long Shawis. Extra Fine Woollen Long Shawis. 212 Extra Good Paisley Square Shawls. \$19 Extra Good Paisley Long Shawis. 1200 Shawls, Elegant Display, \$1 to \$75. CLOAKINGS.

Beavers, \$2:50 to \$8:00. Astrachans, \$6.00 to \$18.00. Chinchillas, \$3.50 to \$9.00. Caracultas, \$2 00 to \$18 00. Fancy Cloakings. SILK VELVETS. Slik Cloaking Velvets, \$6 to \$18.

Best Black Velveteens, 75 cents to \$4.00. COOPER & CONARD.

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