

The report of the late explorations and survey of the Rio Plata and its tributaries under direction of Lieut. Page of the United States Army is exceedingly interesting and will prove a slight contribution to Geographical Science.

On the 18th of June, there were in operation nearly 8,000 mail routes, the total length of which was estimated at 235,642 miles, costing \$5,045,474.

The average width of the Paraguay is from one eighth to three-quarters of a mile. From its mouth to Assension, the Capital—a distance of 250 miles—there was not less than 20 feet of water when the river had fallen 10 feet.

By this exploration the fact has been discovered that the Paraguay is navigable to the heart of one of the richest of the Brazilian Provinces. The report speaks enthusiastically of the richness of the country.

The Paraguay was next explored and found to be navigable to 250 miles. The expedition then proceeded to explore the Salado. Some difficulty was experienced at first but was happily surmounted; and the important fact established that during high water the Rio Salado is navigable for 900 miles, by its course, or 400 in a direct line.

It seems that this story is not new in the neighborhood, or the St. Louis Courier confirms the story of the monster. It says: "Most of our readers will remember how frequently a few months ago, rumors were held on the bodies of 'unknown men' found floating in the river."

At length a watch was set, and the keeper of the house on the opposite side of the river, and proceeded to the river with him as though he were carrying him to some boat. The watch followed him, and saw him deliberately throw the man into the river. An attempt was made to arrest him, but without success, and nothing has been seen or heard of him since.

From that time to this but few bodies of unknown men have been found floating in the river. There can be but little doubt that the villainous Standard gave its readers a good account of the affair, after robbing them through the river. We obtained this statement from an ex-politician of some note.

Abstract of the Postmaster General's Report. On the 18th of June, 1856, there were 25,665 post offices, being an increase of 4,664 in four years.

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The total cost for this service at that date amounted to \$2,408,717. The whole cost of the inland service on the 1st of July was \$6,526,029.

The Postmaster General alludes to the Panama Railroad Company in the connection of the withdrawal of the steamers via Nicaragua for the Department to pay what he considers an exorbitant price across the Isthmus, and recommends regular contracts with them not exceeding \$50,000 per annum, and a contract not exceeding \$200,000 per annum via the Nicaragua or Tehuantepec route, so as to give a weekly mail.

The total expenditures for the year 1856 were \$10,500,286, and the gross revenue, including annual appropriations for free mailer, \$7,820,821. The deficiency is \$2,787,000.

He recommends the abolition of the franking privilege, and compulsory prepayment on all printed matter; also the repeal of the act of 1845, which gives the Postmaster General discretionary power to make new contracts for ocean steamship service.

He alludes to the fact embracing the branch from New Orleans to Havana—that there are now four ocean steam ships running out of New York, at an expense to government of \$1,400,000 per annum, and says that there is no reason why the same country should be preferred to the exclusion of others.

Among other points it is stated that negotiations are in progress with a view to the reduction of the British transit charge on United States closed mails, and the rate of postage between the United States and Great Britain to twelve cents a single letter.

A Voice from the Gallows. Young Jewell, recently executed in Pittsburg, wrote a friend of his as follows: "I trust that little I have to say to you will not be deemed wrong nor out of place; it may be a benefit to you in years to come, and you may profit by it, which I hope you will. Only look back on the evening of the 5th of July, 1852, and picture to yourself the happy man I met on my ghastly, but happy day to me. I left my little family under the promise to be back again in the course of an hour, to accompany them on a railroad excursion; from there I got into the company of some young fellows, took a special ticket together, from that another, and yet another; I then forgot my promise to them; I held my nose and dear to me. And it is this nightingale song, that I am now singing to you, and I know you will bear with me in warning you from ever touching it. I know you are not in the habit of it, but you are kind, open, generous and free hearted, and it is for this that I write to you on this occasion; and you will admit that no one knows your generous disposition better than I do.

MOORE'S GROCERY STORE. T. W. MOORE has just received from New York, and is now on hand, a large and complete assortment of Groceries.

WOODEN AND WILLOW WARE, Provisional, which is delivered to you in the most perfect manner. The stock is constantly replenished, and as they were purchased for the lowest prices, we can sell them at a low rate.

WOODEN AND WILLOW WARE. Day, of Cook, Pot, Kettle, Coffee, Tea, and other articles. The family, for cheap, at MOORE'S, 100 Broadway, New York.

WANTED BY A GENTLEMAN. Highest price paid for a good horse, or a pair of horses, of any breed, color, or age, suitable for a gentleman's use.

Groceries at Greatly Reduced Prices. THOMAS J. HENNING has a large and complete assortment of Groceries, and is selling them at a low rate.

December Appointments. D. K. HARRIS, M.D., Physician for Diseases of the Lungs, (Formerly Professor of the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania.)

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Physicians and their Modes of Treatment of Diseases. There is no subject on which there is so much controversy among the physicians of the present day as the modes of treatment of diseases.

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Erie City Carriage Manufactory. WOULD respectfully announce to his friends and the public that he has just received from New York, and is now on hand, a large and complete assortment of Carriages, Buggies, &c.

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