

IN FAR OFF PARAGUAY.

An Interesting Story of the Natives, Their Habits and Mode of Living.

South American Life as Witnessed by Ex-United States Minister Shaw, Now of Astoria.

The Astorian representative, on his rounds yesterday, dropped in on Mr. Shaw, the immigrant inspector, and found him nicely located in his new office, placed at his disposal by Collector of Customs Page.

He went on to say that the history of Paraguay was one of the most interesting of the South American republics, especially that period under the sway of Dictator Lopez, which, through his arrogant measures brought on a seven years' war with Brazil, Uruguay and the Argentine Republic, which almost resulted in a grand victory for the said Lopez.

The population of Paraguay, in 1865, the first year of the war, was estimated to be about 1,600,000, and at the end of the seven years' war he had reduced it to about 300,000, he consumed during that period nearly 1,200,000 souls, mostly men, so that after peace was declared, it was entirely a country of women; women as officials, women as police, and women as soldiers.

The city of Asuncion, the capital, is situated on the left bank of the Paraguay river, 1150 miles north of Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, which is its outlet to European and northern markets, and 1500 miles south of Curumbal, Brazil, on the same river.

The city is built on a side hill, and it presents a very pretty view as seen on its approach from the river. The river at this point is two and one-quarter miles wide, with a depth of twenty feet in the channel.

There are three lines of weekly steamers connecting Asuncion with Rio Janeiro, Montevideo, Uruguay, and Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, besides numerous freight steamers, also weekly.

The trip up the river consumes the best part of a week, and is full of interesting points and incidents. The scenery is very ordinary and monotonous, not to be compared for one moment with the beautiful Columbia of Oregon.

The banks are low and heavily timbered, which in turn are grown with a thick and rank growth of tropical woods, plants, and creepers, thus making travel through it impossible.

The river is full of fierce and ugly-looking crocodiles, which, though harmless, inspire one with fear. They afford great sport and amusement to the tourist.

One passes from time to time quaint towns hundreds of years old, which have not changed one iota in the last two hundred years. The people along the river are mostly employed in cattle raising, timber cutting, fruit culture, and cheese and butter making.

Any street of Asuncion is a duplicate of all others. They will compare in width with European or American streets of cities of the same size.

The population is a very mixed one of about 35,000. There is an excellent system of horse cars under the management of an Englishman; also an electric light plant, telephone and telegraph company.

Asuncion enjoys direct telegraph communication with Buenos Ayres and Montevideo. There are five daily newspapers and one weekly; also one illustrated, such as it is. At the present no banks are in operation, but one was undergoing formation a few months ago, supplied by local capital; which it will not go the way of its predecessors remains to be seen.

thorfully mixed and hitched team of five horses and mules. Three abreast and two in front of them, held in place with strings, ropes and chains. He has been nowhere; he is going nowhere; but he urges on his team with a mixture of Spanish and Guarani exhortations which are very amusing.

All animals are by tram cars, as the streets and roads in the suburbs to the cemeteries are in bad condition. Walking is uncomfortable if not painful, as the country is very sandy, especially around Asuncion.

The Paraguyan women as a general rule are very good figures, and as straight as an arrow, owing no doubt to their custom of carrying everything to their heads, without the necessity of their hands to balance it.

The rural Paraguyans at home presents a commendable example of humble contentment. He realizes that he is placed as he is by a power greater than he, and he does not care to take upon himself the trouble to modify his condition.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets are specific for biliousness, headaches, constipation, piles and all kindred ailments.

THE DISCOVERY SAVED HIS LIFE. Mr. G. Callouette, Druggist, Beaverville, Ill., says: "Dr. King's New Discovery I owe my life. Was taken with La Grippe and tried all the physicians for miles around, but of no avail, and was given up and told I could not live."

PROPOSALS WANTED. For furnishing 24 trap poles of either fir or cedar, of the following dimensions: 30 poles 6 in. at butt, 24 to 30 ft. long, not less than 5 in. at top.

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Hunter & Mergen's. Epicures say the best Pork Sausage combines the flavor of lean pig and the fines herbs.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder. World's Fair Highest Medal and Diploma.

There is no direct communication with the United States, and yet our merchants have figured very little in the commerce of Paraguay. Everything is shipped by way of Europe.

The climate is healthy and similar to Australia. The flora and fauna is as in all tropical countries, beautiful. Nothing has been done in regard to the mineral resources of the country.

Animals, reptiles and insects abound in great numbers, especially in the "Gran Chaco," the eastern portion of the republic, which is inhabited only by Indians, and of which little is known or published.

Paraguay is also the home of the monkey, the largest in the world being found here. Do not construe this to mean the baboon or orang-outang, but simply the ordinary, everyday monkey.

"ROCK ME TO SLEEP, MOTHER." The poem, "Rock Me to Sleep, Mother," was written by Elizabeth Akers Allen, known elsewhere as "Florence Percy."

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Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria, Oregon, propose to establish the grade of Franklin Avenue in the part of the City of Astoria, laid out and recorded by John Adair from the west line of the John Adair Donation Land Claim to the east line of Thirty-fifth Street.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria, Oregon, propose to establish the grade of Franklin Avenue in the part of the City of Astoria, laid out and recorded by John Adair from the west line of the John Adair Donation Land Claim to the east line of Thirty-fifth Street.

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