

to which they are made fast after being hauled "taut." Sections of chute are slid down these ropes one after another until a continuous curvi-form inclined plane with raised edges connects the terrace with the hold ; down this chute of their own weight, stream the bags of wheat, corn, flax-seed and pea-nuts ; the bales of wool, sheep-skins and hay ; the cases of canned butter and preserved meat, or what may offer.

San Lorenzo, twenty miles higher up, ships many cargoes of grain and quebracho to Europe. Here San Martin, the real liberator of South America fought a Spanish naval contingent with a handful of cavalry, defeating the fleet and showing his countrymen who should lead them.

Fifty miles further up we reach the apex of the Delta of the Parana. Here General Urquiza (the Argentine leader, who with the help of Brazil finally overthrew the tyrant Rosas) used to swim his army across the river with 20,000 horses. Forty miles further we arrive at a point called on old maps Baxada (Landing Place). Like the old "Landing-Place" of St. John's Island it has changed its name, is now known as Parana, and was once the capital of Argentina ; the population is 12,000, possibly less, for since the great advance of Rosario it is fast losing its importance. On the opposite side of the river, but seven miles distant, (several woody islands intervening) can be seen the spires and smoke-stacks of the city of Santa Fe, the State Capital, population in 1890 some 15,000, which showed a decrease for the decade, caused, as in the case of Parana, by Rosario's increase. That Island readers may get some idea of the navigability of the river to this place, I will state that the barque "Joe Read," 1000 tons burthen, sailed up the river to Santa Fe without the aid of a tug boat in 1881, and there loaded a full cargo of manu (peanuts) for Marseilles, France. Think of it! we were in the heart of the continent, six hundred miles from the open sea. Among the islands are to be seen the *corpu* or *nutria* (South America Beaver) swimming past the ship quite frequently, so also the *carpincha*, a kind of river hog, while on the islands tigers and alligators are alarmingly numerous.

(TO BE CONTINUED)