

GIRLS OF BURGEIS, IN SOUTH TYROL.

This illustration, a scene of every-day life in Tyrol, is from the pencil of a German artist of some note. It represents a group of peasant girls chatting on the wayside, by one of those little chapels to the Virgin which are so frequently to be met with on the high-roads in the catholic parts of Germany and Switzerland. The principal figure, a buxom market-girl—dressed in the picturesque costume of the country, with many-coloured striped handkerchiefs and brilliant petticoats—is on her way to the neighbouring town to dispose of her wares, which she carries, artistically poised on her head, in a broad and shallow basket of rye-straw. Her coquettishly arranged dress is quite a study in itself—not to speak of the handsome sun-browned face which looks from under a cluster of black curls and a snow-white headkerchief. Round her neck she wears a string of beads, which terminate in an amulet, possessing much virtue, in her simple belief, in scaring away evil spirits, and averting the power of the evil eye. Her hair, too, which is thickly braided, and falls down in two long heavy plaits behind, is quite a fortune in itself. Even the brown-faced little girl with the flowers, who is pointing down the valley, has a perfect wealth of hair, all her own—enough to make many a fashionable lady envious. Behind the group, another girl, with a curious, clumsy-looking sickle in her hand, is casting sheep's eyes at the young hunter, who, with his rifle slung at his back, is stopping, on his way to the forest beyond, to make his reverence at the wayside shrine of the Virgin. The *contadina* with the basket, has judging from the rosary slung over her arm, also been paying her devotions at the rustic little chapel. In the background we have a bit of Tyrolean scenery—rough, high-peaked hills towering up, one above the other, and then gradually sloping down to a deep valley. Half-way down the pine-covered side of one of these hills is a monastery—one of those solitary establishments of poor Franciscan monks which the traveller in Tyrol so frequently comes across. The whole is an admirable little sketch, and true to life.

AN AMERICAN DESPOT.

The war which has been so long waged in Paraguay has been little understood in this country. Because Brazil is an empire, and Paraguay is called a republic, the passive sympathy of the people of the United States has probably been with Lopez, the Dictator of Paraguay. It should, however, have been a most instructive fact for us that the most truly republican and enlightened of the South American statesmen, the Argentine Republic, at whose head is the ablest, most intelligent, and most truly liberal of all the South American statesmen, M. Sarmiento, is opposed to Paraguay, and leagued with Brazil in the war. Our late Ministers in Paraguay, indeed, have had strong sympathies in the dispute, and upon different sides. Mr. Washburne's view is unfriendly to Lopez, while Mr. McMahon is his defender. We purposely make the distinction between Paraguay and Lopez which is made by the treaty of alliance of May 1, 1865; the distinction which Americans will always justly make between a despot and the people whom he controls—a distinction which could not be fairly made in this country, where the President is the free choice of the people.

A few facts in the history of the country will be useful in forming an opinion of the present situation. About the year 1817, Dr. Francia became Perpetual Dictator of Paraguay. During the contest of the South American colonies with Spain he held aloof. He declined all intercourse with other States, and imprisoned all foreigners who came to the country. No commercial export or import was allowed but by his permission, and it was a capital crime to leave the country without his consent. The opponents of his rule were shot or imprisoned. Such was the ferocity and ingenuity of the tortures that he inflicted upon them, that he might be supposed to have been crazy, and, undoubtedly, at the end of his long life he was in constant fear of assassination. When he died, in 1840, Francia's nephew, Carlos A. Lopez, and a companion, of whom

he soon disembarassed himself, took possession of the Government.

Lopez wrote a Constitution for Paraguay, which prescribed ten years as the Presidential term, with re-election by the Congress. The seventh article of the Constitution declares the authority of the President unlimited, not only during civil or foreign war, but whenever he deems it necessary to preserve order. Despite his Constitution, Lopez made himself Perpetual Dictator in 1844. This was done with what is called the consent of Congress—a body which sits for a few days once in five years, and which merely ratifies the various acts of the Dictator. In 1856 this Congress gave the Dictator—of course by his instigation—the power to name his successor by secret will. Nor has the Congress ever refused to ratify any proposition of the Dictator. In September 1862, Carlos A. Lopez died, and left Paraguay, like a private property, to his son, Francisco Solano Lopez, and the Congress unanimously approved. The present Dictator has been a worthy follower of his predecessors.

"Paraguay," says M. Sarmiento, "is a plantation with a

resolved to fight until they had overthrown Lopez, but bound themselves to respect the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Paraguay; and they will unquestionably succeed in expelling Lopez.

This is the President and this the republic of Paraguay, to which the sympathies of the United States are solicited. And so successfully solicited, that one of the ablest and most intelligent papers in the country said, two years ago, that "the success of this godless alliance means extension of slavery and tyranny;" while "on the other side contends the little realm of Paraguay, whose success means freedom." But if Brazil is a slave-holding State, slavery in Paraguay is equally bitter; while the Argentine Republic abolished slavery fifty years before the United States. To apprehend the grasping ambition of Brazil upon the Plate River is unnecessary while the Argentines are struggling with the grasp of a nearer and infinitely more appalling ambition. Sarmiento, who looks at the subject with a truly American and liberty-loving heart, as well as with the most thoroughly informed and sagacious mind, declares that "the triumph of Lopez means the extension to Uruguay and the Argentine Republic of the Guarani Indian despotism, under a master who is a dictator, pope, supreme, judge, and lord of life and property—imposing upon all those countries that obedience unparalleled in the history of the human race.—New York Weekly.

SOMETHING FOR OUR SAVANTS TO EXPLAIN.

We are credibly informed by an eye-witness—indeed yesterday we saw for ourselves tangible evidence of the truth of what is told us—that on Thursday, the 16th of January last a most extraordinary and sudden rise of the waters of Lake St. Clair occurred, and was particularly observable in the vicinity of the mouth of the River Thames, and along the South shore of the lake to and beyond the River Ruscom. Parties resident on the Lake Shore inform us that at first two loud reports were heard, resembling the reports from cannons fired at a distance, after which was experienced a sensation as from a gentle swaying to and fro, as though an earthquake had been awakened from a century's repose. Upon visiting the water line, it was discovered that the ice had been suddenly shoved upon the shores and piled up several feet in height, carrying with it trunks of trees and logs, which had for a quarter of a century lain embedded in the sand of the beach. At the mouth of the River Thames and vicinity, the ice was thrown to the height of two or three feet, while at the River Ruscom it was raised at least four feet above its ordinary level. As we intimated before, so sudden was the action of the water in the lake that the ice, and trees, and logs were absolutely piled, in a jumbled mass several feet in height, along the Lake Shore for a distance of several miles, but this was most observable on the south and south-east quarter. At the mouth of the River Thames the waters fell to their natural level in less than two days; but in the vicinity of the River Ruscom it was fully a week before they had retired to their ordinary boundary.

Now, what could possibly have caused this wonderful freak of the elements? We cannot tell. Perhaps some of our savants can explain. Could it have been any volcanic action beneath the waters? Could it have been produced by the atmospheric elements above? Or could it probably result from a flood of ice making its way down the Detroit River and becoming checked in its outward course to Lake Erie? Perhaps. But it seems most extraordinary that this last circumstance—supposing it ever did occur, but of which we have no knowledge—could bring about the wonderful effects which were most unmistakably observable for miles along the south and south-east shore of Lake St. Clair.—Chatham Planet.

Great indignation has been expressed in Paris at the conduct of some persons after the execution of Traupmann; the accusation is that ladies dipped their handkerchiefs in Traupmann's blood, and that some young gentlemen did the same with their canes. The officer on duty told them that they were barbarians, and ordered them away.



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million of Indians instead of negroes, who consider themselves the property of the Lopez family! Such a lord naturally chafed under the fact that he could not reach the outer world without crossing the Argentine territory, and he has been engaged for a long time in formidable preparations—building fortresses, accumulating material, and inviting experienced European officers to instruct his soldiers. At length he took advantage of a quarrel between Uruguay and Brazil, declaring that Paraguay interfered to serve its own interests only, and with an immense army invaded and ravaged the Brazilian province of Matta Grosso. Meanwhile the Argentine Republic was neutral, and refused to allow Brazil to march across her territories. But when the same demand was refused to Lopez, he instantly seized Argentine ships and murdered their crews. Brazil, the Argentine Republic, and Uruguay, the powers upon the Plate River, then allied themselves against Paraguay, and