

capacity, the Chamber of Deputies insisted on being asked *en masse* with all their families; eventually there must have been between 4,000 and 5,000 guests. On the 15th the Naval Club gave a ball in honour of the foreign naval officers; this was well organised, and it was regrettable that the British and Japanese ships, as well as the "Maryland," had already left, so that the *raison d'être* of the ball was rather lost. There was an aviation meeting on the 13th.

11. On the whole, in spite of overcrowding, the celebrations were successful, and those at the Palace quite dignified. Amongst private entertainments the British contribution figured largely. The British community gave a most successful ball in honour of the squadron on the 5th; there was a ball at the Embassy on the 10th, the only one given by an Ambassador at his own house, except one at the Uruguayan Legation; a ball on board H.M.S. "Hood" on the 12th, and a very beautiful garden party given by Mr. Lynch on the 13th. The United States Embassy gave an afternoon party at a club (it is remarkable that the conscience which prevents Americans from offering alcohol to their Brazilian guests is so far from preventing them from accepting it when they are themselves guests); the Belgians gave a ball at the same club; the Chileans, Argentines and Colombians gave parties at the new hotel, the former having 2,000 to 3,000 and the latter 3,000 to 4,000 guests, many of them, I believe, unwanted; the French gave a successful ball at their pavilion; the Uruguayan Ambassador and the Uruguayan Jockey Club both gave balls at the Uruguayan Legation. A ball given by the Jockey Club was crowded beyond belief. The Dutch gave a huge luncheon on board the Dutch mail-steamer "Gelria." I mention all these festivities, which, with a good many minor gatherings, were all attended by all the special missions, to give some idea of the strenuous period of rejoicing through which we have passed. The round began again with the arrival of the Portuguese President.

12. Of the international sports which have taken place I have not had time to take much heed. The Chileans disgraced themselves by their behaviour in a football match, an American naval rating by his behaviour in a boxing match and a Brazilian jockey in a race in which he knocked a dangerous rival off his horse. I have not heard of any striking successes.

13. The exhibition has been remarkable, so far, chiefly for the illuminations, which are beautiful. The Danish pavilion contains some fine silver, porcelain and faience; the Belgians have a great show of machinery and engines; the French (not yet complete) some fine tapestry and furniture, as well as a hall of industrial exhibits; the Japanese, cheap articles. No other large pavilions are yet open, nor are any of the shows and amusements; the United States and Argentine pavilions are still building.

14. Foreign visitors are scarce again, although for the centenary there were a considerable number of South Americans.

I have, &c.

JOHN TILLEY.

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