

Island staff. We were most handsomely treated during the entire period of our detention. Drank tea every day with the Commandant and were serenaded several times by the ten or twelve officers with their guitars. Each morning we took a dip in the sea, and all in all managed to be fairly comfortable through our eight days' quarantine. A young Brazilian and his wife, revolutionists, who escaped from Rio on the *Sorata*, were also most kind to me. Every afternoon I had delicious coffee with them, and through their kindness was kept supplied with an abundance of the choicest tropical fruits sent them by their friends in Monte Video."

Mr. Patterson gives very interesting and graphic notes of his journey from Buenos Ayres to Rosario then on to Santa Fe and Villa Maria, then striking the railroad at Villa Mercedes on to Mendoza—and across the Andes to Chili. Leaving the capital he says:

"The land is flat, and but for the trees planted here and there about the estancias (large es-

than four or five feet. Alfalfa to a considerable extent is grown in this strip, and a large proportion of the city's milk comes from this district.

"You cannot imagine anything more beautiful than the alfalfa fields of Chili. They all lie at the foot of the mountains, and the large fields usually from sixty to two hundred or even three hundred acres are almost invariably surrounded by high rows of Poplar *Eucalyphus* or other trees; so one at times seems to be in some grand park more richly green than our freshest fields in Canada.

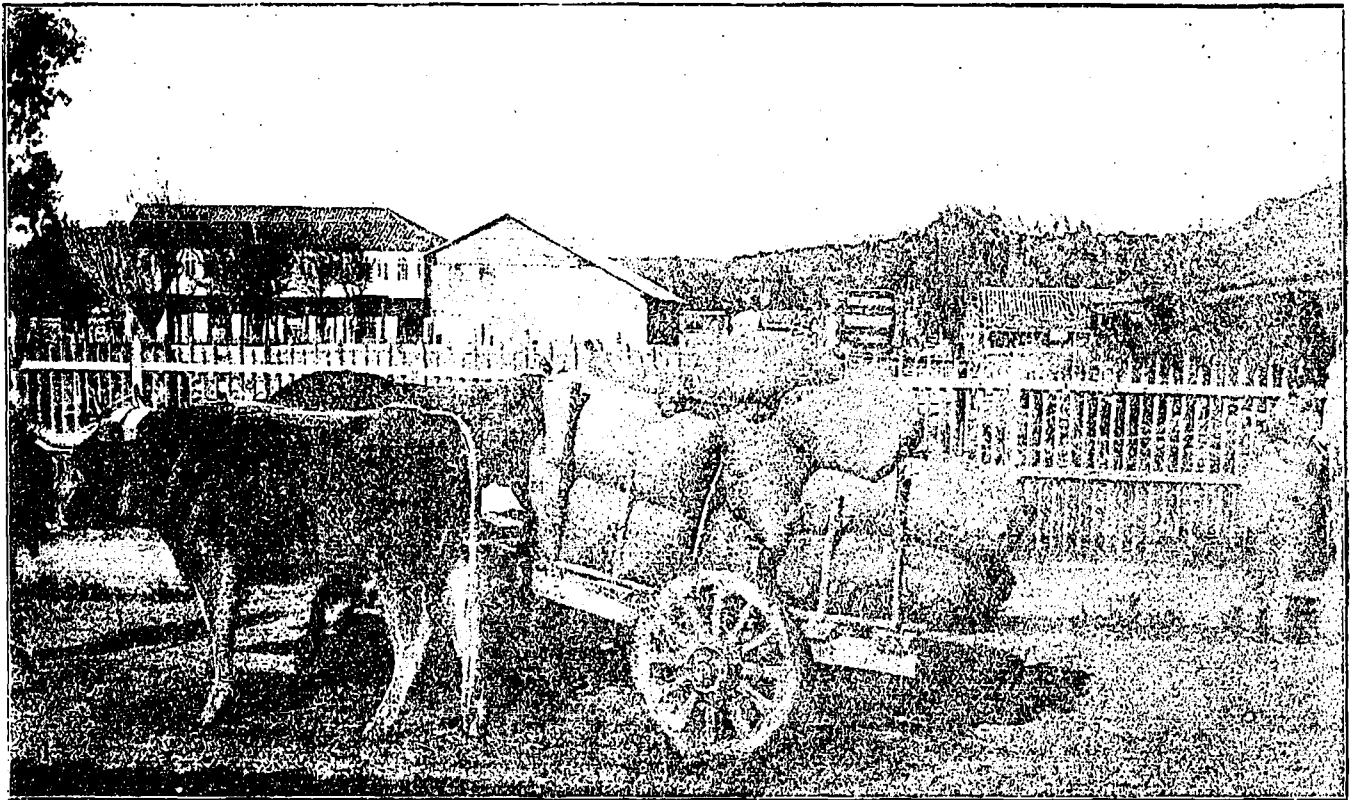
"There is at the present time big money in alfalfa, and much land that has for years been in grain is rapidly being converted to meadow. Like everything else, to be profitable, the greatest care and method are necessary, and many people shiftless and lazy cannot get out of their crop money enough to pay for the preparation of the ground and the necessary seed. While there is nothing more beautiful than a well managed alfalfa estate there is nothing more distressing than one neglected.

"The houses are made of adobe or sun dried brick, and roofed with poles overlaid with a thatch of straw. They are not nearly so well made as the poorer houses in Manitoba."

We give an illustration of the homestead of a small farmer in the Argentine. It has been reproduced specially for MASSEY'S ILLUSTRATED from a photograph sent us by our correspondent.

"The flocks of sheep and herds of cattle are tended by the Gauchos who are in South America what our Western cowboys are said to be. They all carry knives and their knife is their argument. While they are sober they are peaceable enough so long as they are let alone, but once angered or in a drunken frenzy it is hard to imagine a more desperate lot of fellows.

"Rosario is a 'wheat town' of about 30,000 population, the capital of the Province of Santa Fe. The police office and public buildings still show plainly the marks of the thousands of bullets showered at them in the recent political disturbances, August and September, 1898.



"This picture illustrates how all the grain from even fifty miles away is brought to Traiguén. This is a very good and a very large cart. The farmers often come one and even two days' journey with not more than from five to seven sacks as a load. On these same carts lumber, timber—in fact everything is carried."—J.D. P

tates) the country is not at all wooded. About Chierilcox there are a good many horses, and in consequence the machines there are often operated exactly in the way we operate them at home. In all other parts of the country oxen are used exclusively, or almost so, usually three yoke to a binder, sometimes two, never less. The yoke is strapped to the horns of the cattle, the end of the pole to the yoke, while men with long goads walk beside the oxen to keep them up to work. The heat is so intense that the cattle have to be changed from four to five times daily, and for a part of the time this year the cutting in the middle of the day had to be abandoned.

"For a strip from ten to twenty miles in width along the River between Buenos Ayres and Rosario maize or corn is very largely grown, the rows closer together than in the United States, and as the cultivation of the growing corn is meagre it does not attain a height of more

"The Santa Fe country is not well watered but to make up for this water may always be found at from twenty to forty feet below the surface in great abundance. Pumps or mills are not used as the water required for cattle, flocks and home use requires to be quickly drawn in large quantities. A large bucket framed of wood and covered with hides is used, and this is lowered and brought to the surface by a rope fastened to the girth of an ordinary saddle. The rope is fastened to the bucket in such a way that the water is upset into a large trough when the bucket comes to the surface. There are always plenty of horses and boys about, and though primitive in the extreme it is a most easy and effective way of raising whatever water may be needed.

"The small farmers, 'Chacareros,' are nearly all Italians, and they cultivate usually from 100 to 150 quadras (4 acres to the quadra.)

"Leaving Rosario on the evening of Jan. 5th, until dusk we went through fertile and well cultivated land. At Villa Maria, where we breakfasted, the land about the town was irrigated, and very productive. The alfalfa had made tremendous growth though the fields were not extensive. Figs, peaches, melons and grapes were growing in abundance though so early in the season. They were, of course, not ripe. Near this town I saw the first wild ostriches. They were about two-thirds the size of an African ostrich, and the plumage is not nearly so good,—used largely to make dusters, etc., etc. From Villa Maria until a few miles of Villa Mercedes the country is fairly well under wheat and alfalfa, and I understand is being rapidly taken up.

"From Villa Mercedes to Mendoza the land, except immediately around San Luis, is level, dry, and covered with 'pampas,' a short tuft