

26 February 1870, 2

## COLONIZATION IN BRAZIL.

**Return of American Colonists—Why the Scheme Was Not Successful.**

The British steamer *Rakala*, Captain Wilton, which arrived at Quarantine on Saturday, from Rio de Janeiro, came up to the city and anchored off the Battery yesterday afternoon. She is a fine iron vessel, of brig rig, with screw propeller, and is 272 feet in length. The *Rakala* belongs to the Brazilian branch of the British Royal Mail service, but was engaged for the present occasion by the Brazilian Government to carry 120 of the emigrants from the Southern States of this Union, who sought to better their condition in the Brazilian Empire. It will be remembered that when the war closed many projects of colonization abroad were put forth by certain classes of the South, such as the Corlova scheme of the late General Prince, in Mexico, &c. The colonization in Brazil, however, was preferred by the disaffected of the Gulf States. Certain parties in this city fed the excitement by picturing to the would-be colonists the liberality of the imperial government and the facilities for raising cotton, coffee, &c., in Brazil, with slave labor. In this way, numbers of Southern families were persuaded to abandon their country, and escape the oppression which they concluded was to follow upon their surrender.

The majority of these families were entirely deceived as to the real prospect for colonists in Brazil; of this they now complain bitterly, and they add, that mixed up with them were numbers of young men from this city, and other seaboard cities, who not only robbed and maltreated their fellow emigrants, but brought suspicion on the whole body after landing. In the trunks of some of these vagabonds, on search at the Brazilian Custom Houses, were found burglars' tools and deadly weapons. Many of the rascals were at length enlisted in the allied army, but the shrewder ones commenced at once their nefarious operations in the towns of the empire. The proceedings of these fellows soon forced the business men to refuse having any transactions with such of the colonists as were without means. The consequence was that large numbers were forced to live as best they could in Rio, until at length the Brazilian Government found it best to send them back to this country. The passengers by the *Rakala* are among the most worthy. They suffered from the cold snap yesterday, as they were totally unprovided with winter clothing, although the officers of the vessel did all in their power to make them comfortable. They state that the persons having means who went to Brazil have all done well, especially those who settled in the Department of Sao Paulo. Nearly all of these last steered clear of agents in this city and New Orleans.

The passengers of the *Rakala* will be landed this morning, when the steamer will proceed to Martin's stores, Brooklyn.