

required but little stretch of the imagination to fancy oneself in some European capital.

Nothing here can be seen to tell of its early days, or to show it up as the native home of the Araucanian Indian. All is changed; and it is only when reaching the capital, and contemplating the fine panorama there presented, that the fact can really be realised of our close proximity to the Andes.

Of public buildings there are several; those of the Exchange and Custom House and Palace of Justice being the most extensive and commodious. Banks, theatres, masonic halls, and other edifices, are scattered over its length and breadth. Tram-cars run from one end of the city to the other. It is in communication with Europe by submarine cable, and the numerous lines of mail-steamers, both *via* Panama and the Straits of Magellan, give great facilities to commerce, and increase its importance. Near at hand are numerous protective batteries, and on the heights are the artillery barracks, &c., from which point can be had a fine view over the city and its environs, hemmed in by the ocean. The roadstead resembles that of Bahia, and is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide and $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile deep, entirely open to the north; and when strong weather from that quarter sets in, there is usually a very heavy sea, that occasions much mischief amongst the shipping, which are usually moored head and stern in pretty regular order, with the double object that