The Sun.

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THE DISFRANCHISEMENT OF NEW YORK DEMOCRATS.

ALBANY, June 9.—Section 4 of Article III. of the Constitution of the State of New York says: "An enumeration of the inhabitants of the State shall be taken under the direction of the Legislature in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-five, and at the end of every ten years thereafter, and the said districts shall be so altered by the Legislature at the first session after the return of every enumeration that each Senate district shall contain as nearly as may be an equal number of inhabitants, excluding aliens and persons of color, not taxed." Then Section 5 of Article III. of the Constitution goes on to provide that "The members of Assembly shall be apportioned among the several counties of the State by the Legislature as nearly as may be according to the number of their respective inhabitants, excluding aliens, and shall be chosen by single districts. * * * The Legislature at its first session after the return of every enumeration shall apportion the members of Assembly among the several counties of the State in the manner aforesaid."

There has been no State census since 1875, and no reapportionment for ten years. The result is that, though the Democrats have carried the State for eight years in succession, they have not a majority in either House of the Legislature. In the last Senate the Republicans had almost a two-thirds majority. In the last Assembly they had 79 of the 128 members, or almost two-thirds there. In the Assembly just previous they had 72 to the Democrats' 56.

For Governor, the Democrats last year polled 49.37 per cent. of the vote cast, or a total of 1,317,263. They got one Assemblyman to more than thirteen thousand voters while the Republicans got one to eight thousand voters. That means that it took thirteen Democratic votes to amount to as much in the Assembly as eight Republican votes.

To the last Senate there were elected 21 Republicans and 11 Democrats, though a vacancy, caused by the death of Senator Henry R. Low, was filled by the election of a Democrat at the special election. That means that it takes 60,000 Democratic voters to elect a State Senator in this State and only 30,000 Republican voters, or that when it comes to electing State Senators one Republican amounts to as much as two Democrats.

This comes from the refusal of the Republicans to permit the taking of a new census and to reapportion the State. Since the last apportionment was made the Democratic districts have steadily increased in population, while the Republican districts have increased very little, so that now there are Democratic districts in which there are five times as many voters as in some Republican districts. The city of New York, with 270,000 votes polled at the last election, has twenty-four Assemblymen, while the county of St. Lawrence, that polled 22,000 votes, or less than there were votes polled in some Assembly districts in New York, gets three Assemblymen. New York gave the Democratic candidate for Governor a majority of 70,000; but while New York is so districted that the Republicans got five Assemblymen out of the twenty-four, the Democrats of St. Lawrence county have no representation. There are 14,470 Republican voters in St. Lawrence; there are 170,000 Democratic voters in New York county. A St. Lawrence county Republican amounts to as much as two New York county Democrats.

The Republicans refuse a new census with a reapportionment because it would give the Democrats of the State representation proportionate to their numbers. The population of New York has greatly increased since 1875. The population of Brooklyn has vastly increased since then. These two big cities, which pay more than half of the State taxes, have less than one-third of the representation. Though they are taxed on the assessment of last year, they get representation under the census of 1875. They pay taxes on the property they now own; they get representation on their population fourteen years ago.

By their refusal to carry out the commands of the Constitution and have a census and reapportionment, the Republicans injure not only all of the Democratic citizens of the State, but the Republicans in some localities. In Kings county the Republican candidate for Governor polled 68,747 votes, while the Democrats polled 82,982 votes; but the Republicans have only two of the twelve Assemblymen, or only one to every 34,000 Republican voters in the county. That is because the bulk of the increase of population in Brooklyn has been in the Republican districts, so that while the old districts remained as they were in 1875, the increase of population has caused one Republican district to have over 17,000 votes, and the other over 25,000, while two of the Democratic districts have not 4,000 each.

The same injustice appears in Monroe county, where the three Assembly districts are Republican. It takes 25,000 votes in the Second district to elect one Assemblyman, while it takes only 6,000 in the First. That is to say, a man who moves from the First district to the Second diminishes his power as a voter for an Assemblyman three-quarters. The Legislature would be glad to remedy the present injustice in the three districts above cited, where the Republicans are the losers, but they could not do this without correcting the greater wrongs to which the Democrats of the State are now forced to submit.

In the Twenty-third Assembly district last fall the Democratic Assemblyman got 12,895 votes, or more than the total number of votes polled in any district in Albany, Allegany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chemung, Chenango, Clinton, Columbia, Cortland, Dutchess, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Genesee, Greene, Jefferson, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orange, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Putnam, Rensselaer, Richmond, Rockland, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Schuyler, Seneca, Sullivan, Tioga, Tompkins, Ulster, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Westchester, Wyoming or Yates county.

The Republican candidate in the Eleventh New York district got 3,984 votes and was elected; the Republican candidate in the Twenty-third district got over 10,000 votes and was defeated; the Republican candidate in the Twenty-second got over 8,000 votes and was defeated; the Republican candidate in the Nineteenth got almost 8,000 votes and was defeated. The successful Democratic candidates in the First, Second, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth New York districts got less than 4,000 votes each and were elected. The Democratic candidates in the Eleventh Brooklyn district and in the Second Monroe district got over 11,000 votes and were defeated.

Some of the disproportionate representation results from the provision of the State Constitution that "every county heretofore established and separately organized, except the county of Hamilton, shall always be entitled to one member of the Assembly." Two of the counties thus preserved are Schuyler county, where the Republican Assemblyman was elected by 2,507 votes, and Putnam county, where the Republican candidate for Assembly was elected with 2,085 votes, or less than one-sixth as many votes as in the big Brooklyn and New York districts.

In St. Lawrence, Ulster, Washington, Wayne, Niagara, Cattaraugus, and other counties, disproportionate representation at the expense of all the cities of the State exists, and the inequality is increasing every year. The Third St. Lawrence district in a Presidential year polled less than 6,000 votes, the Second district less than 7,000, while the ratio of 128 Assemblymen to 1,317,263 voters would be of one to every 10,000 voters. St. Lawrence polls but 21,000 votes, less than the vote in half a dozen single Assembly districts. Each of these districts is entitled to two Assemblymen instead of one, and St. Lawrence is entitled to two Assemblymen instead of three.

The Republicans carried last fall every county which would lose in representation by a reapportionment. It is doubtful if under a new census and apportionment a single Republican county would gain one Assemblyman. The Assemblymen in Monroe county would be divided to give Rochester two instead of one, and the rest of the county one instead of two. The Assemblymen alloted to Erie county would be reapportioned so as to give Buffalo a larger share than at present. Brooklyn would gain and New York would gain. A new apportionment would be to the interest of New York Democrats and of Brooklyn Republicans. It would be to the interest of every taxpayer in both cities, because with representation proportionate to their population New York and Brooklyn would not be taxed to pay more than one-half of the expenses of the rural counties and all of their own.

Honor to a True Statesman!

The Hon. MORGAN G. BULKELEY, the present Republican Governor of Connecticut, proves himself a brave and faithful officer; and he has done nothing more worthy of praise than his message of last Friday sending back the secret ballot bill with his veto. The chief points of this message we have already published, but the Governor's language is so clear, so emphatic, and so wise, that we print it more completely:

"I should gladly give my approval to any measure which I felt satisfied gave a fair promise of advancing the interests of ballot reform. In the bill before me I am unable to see any reasonable promise that the end sought by it will be accomplished. The more I study it the more I am impressed with fears that the bill contains so radical a revolution in our elective system, is so experimental in character, so cumbersome in its details, so burdensome to the voter in its operation, so expensive in its machinery, so inharmonious with existing laws, that it can only prove a blunder and a failure. While aiming at honesty and fairness, it impresses me as throwing wide open doors for fraud or preparing the way for an extensive disfranchisement of constitutionally qualified voters and as making easy the defeat of the will of the people by the fraud of election officials. A voter may now barter his vote, but no man has it in his power to barter the vote of a precinct. Under the bill collusion between election officials might defeat the will of hundreds and corruption aimed at a few could affect more than the most flagrant corruption under present methods has even hoped to accomplish.

"The experiment is soon to be tried in some sister States. From these experiments much will be learned of the working of the proposed system, and many insufficiencies and improvements are sure to be discovered. Would it not be well to learn of these lessons before committing ourselves to so novel and untried a measure?"

Of course, that venomous crowd, the successors of the old Federalists, whose constant purpose under all their disguises is to cut off from the suffrage as many citizens as possible, and who have a considerable representation among the Republican majority of the Connecticut Legislature, could not see this question in the light in which the Governor presents it. They hastened to pass the bill over his veto; and we predict that the future will justify him, and bring his besotted antagonists to confusion.

Poetry and Politics.

Our esteemed contemporary, the *Chicago Times*, has taken a header into the inmost depths of its being, and brought up this pearl of prophecy:

"Chief Justice MELVILLE W. FULLER will receive the votes of the solid delegation from Illinois in the Democratic National Convention of 1892, and will be nominated for President of the United States."

This seems at first sight an attempt on the part of Illinois to resent the continual efforts of the Hon. CHARLES HILL JONES of St. Louis to boom prematurely that excellent old Democrat, Gen. JOHN MCCAULEY PALMER.

We dismiss as unworthy the suspicion that the Chief Justice has in preparation another book of poems which some of his admirers in Chicago are trying to advertise without his knowledge. The explanation of this FULLER movement, which has sprung, as it were, full mustachioed into life, is to be sought in the eternal jealousy between the city of ANSON and the city of JONES. Chicago is not content to have the Convention. She proposes to supply a candidate, and in order to do justice to her poetico-aesthetic side, her pinings for a world beyond pork, her *Speckschmerz*, she selects a gentleman who has long wooed the Muse and has not yet been discouraged by her somewhat frigid answers. TRUMBULL is passed over, DOOLITTLE neglected, the ineradicable CARTER HARRISON kept in the background, DE WITT CLINTON CREGIER dismissed without one kind word. These have been politicians. They have never picnicked on Parnassus. They have never had frozen poetic feet which needed to be amputated. The new movement has no use for them.

For if it had not been for the new movement, the rise of the culturists, the development of the clubs devoted to philosophy, poetry, the graces of civilization, and the refinements of life, the FULLER movement could not have been. The interference of Col. JONES of St. Louis with the Democratic politics of Illinois might have raised a warm resentment in the bosom of Cook county, but nobody would have thought of pitting Poetry against Politics. The time would not have been ripe. The study of DANTE, BROWNING, and TUPPER, the instruction long and faithfully communicated by Mr. EUGENIO FIELD in his etiquette column, the introduction of Japanese art in 1888 by CARTER HARRISON, the gradual decline of base ball, and other agencies have softened and toned down many minds.

Just think of it! Less than sixteen years ago a visitor from the East was hustled and narrowly escaped serious injury in a restaurant on Michigan avenue for venturing to eat peas with his fork. To-day a Chicago newspaper predicts the nomination by a great political party of a poet; a poet, to be sure, more flowing of moustache than of numbers, but still a poet. What a contrast, and what a credit to Chicago!

If we have dwelt more on the moral and social than on the political significance of the new nomination, it is because the former explains the latter. Moreover, the striking, the overshadowing merits of Mr. FULLER as a candidate for a nomination must be obvious. His poems might, indeed, be used against him and with terrible effect upon the rural delegates, but, on the other hand, the saloon element in the cities would feel sure from a perusal of his bacchanalian or liquor lyrics that his heart was in the right place. But it is on the side of his decorativeness, his picturesqueness, that he would be strongest. He has a fine, lithographic cast of countenance. He would show up well on the posters and circulars. Well-executed lithographs bearing the famous legend, "The Republic Is Opportunity," would be treasured in many American homes. What Gen. SCOTT was in folio, the Chief Justice might be in 32mo—a vision, a delight, an overmastering desire.

The question whether the Chief Justice would leave the bench for a nomination to political office may be regarded as answered in the affirmative. Otherwise his beautiful old Persian mustachios would before this have felt the barber's shear.

The Rebellion in Morocco.

A despatch from Morocco announces that the rebellion among the mountaineers is spreading, that Prince HAMID, the heir to the throne, has fallen into their hands, and that the Sultan is raising an army to crush the rebels. If the report concerning Prince HAMID is correct, it derives considerable interest from the fact that no previous intimation has been received of the selection of an heir to the Moroccan throne. The Sultan has the right to choose his successor from the members of his family, and late last year he had not yet proclaimed his heir.

The Sultans of Morocco have never obtained complete control of the country they nominally govern. The great Arab invasion drove the native Berbers into the mountain fastnesses, and there many of them live to this day, unconquered and belligerent. When the Sultan, a while ago, sent a Governor to Sheshouan, only two days' journey from the Mediterranean, the natives promptly killed him. Last year, when Mr. HARRIS visited Sheshouan in disguise, he was told: "We will have only one Governor here, and that is the gun." This is only one of many insults offered to the despot of Morocco, almost at the gates of one of his capitals. He has been powerless to vindicate his dignity.

The Sultan has been particularly busy for two years past trying to subdue these fierce mountaineers, who now and then assume the aggressive. The result has been unfavorable to the Sultan's arms. His enemies cannot face him near his chief towns, but in their own mountain districts they have not been subdued by any force he has yet brought against them. In May, last year, the Sultan took the field in person, with a host of 70,000 men and camp followers, against the rebellious tribes who live northwest of Mequinez. After a few skirmishes the Sultan flattered himself that he had suppressed the revolt, but he had no sooner set out on his long-promised visit to Tangier than the whole district burst into flame again, and in the battles that followed the Basha of Mequinez and the Sultan's own cousin were among the slain. In these engagements a curious custom of the Berbers was observed. The women formed in line behind the men and painted with henna the breast of every man who turned his back to the enemy, so that he might easily be recognized as a coward.

The Sultan did not visit Tangier. The strange spectacle is presented of one of the most despotic rulers in the world hemmed in by rebellious subjects and unable to visit his own coasts. Much of the time no communication whatever has been possible between Tangier and the city of Morocco. "If couriers," says a recent letter from Tangier, "have been despatched from Morocco to Tangier, they have been slain en route."

The history of Morocco has been written in blood by a long line of tyrannical rulers, who have been unsurpassed in the world's annals for ferocity; and yet, though they have ground their people by the most cruel despotism, they cannot conquer the country they call they own. Here is a land, almost within sight of Europe, whose mountains are full of precious metals and whose valleys teem with nature's blessings, and yet it is one of the most downtrodden, hopeless, and unprogressive parts of the world. This state of things cannot always exist, and the intense interest with which the European States now watch the affairs of Morocco is at least an indication that the country will some day have a chance to develop, under auspices that will not destroy but will encourage her elements of progress.

An Unconstitutional Attempt to Muzzle the Press.

Last year the method of punishment in capital cases in this State was changed by act of the Legislature, and a current of electricity of sufficient intensity to cause death was substituted for hanging. At the end of the seventh section of the act making this change, chapter 489 of the Laws of 1888, is the following provision:

"No account of the details of any such execution, beyond the statement of the fact that such convict was on the day in question duly executed according to law at the prison, shall be published in any newspaper. Any person who shall violate or omit to comply with any provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

This law is unconstitutional and void. It violates Section 8 of Article I. of the Constitution of New York, which provides that "no law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press." Substantially the same provision is contained in the Constitution of every State of the Union; and the First Amendment to the Federal Constitution, adopted in 1789, provides that "Congress shall make no laws abridging the freedom of speech or of the press."

Any previous restraint upon publication is a restraint or abridgment of the liberty of the press, because, as has been well said, "the liberty of the press, when rightly understood, consists in laying no *previous* restraints upon publications, not in freedom from censure for criminal matter when published."

Here we have an effort to restrain the press in advance from publishing the truth and the facts about matters of general public interest. Liberty of the press means complete freedom to write and publish without censorship and without restriction, save such as is absolutely necessary for the preservation of society. This bill imposes upon the press censorship and restriction, and consequently aims to break down a great constitutional safeguard.

The attempt to interfere with newspapers and to prevent them from publishing the details of executions under the new law is so clearly wrong and against the spirit of liberty that we predict that whenever the question is tested the law will be declared, in that respect, unconstitutional and void.

This moral lesson is not from the *Philadelphia Ledger*, but the *Troy Press*:

"We read a short time ago that Mr. WANAMAKER had never attended a theatre nor a circus. Let the young man who reads this make a careful estimate of how much time and money he has spent during the last five years in patronizing theatres, circuses, picnics, saloons, cigar stores and the like. Why, you ask, can't a fellow have any fun? Certainly you may, but while you are having your fun the young WANAMAKER of the future is working like a beaver to get up one more round on the ladder of fame and fortune.

"Do you discern the point?"

We discern. Brother WANAMAKER is a circus.

There is a ghost in an Indiana town which is attracting much attention from the strong reproofs he gives to profane swearers. It is conjectured from this trait that it is no Hoosier ghost, but an emigrant, probably from New York. Yet good as this ghost is, he is not perfect. He plays the organ and pounds the drum, and these performances cause the profanity which he chides. So that wounded self-esteem is perhaps the basis of his virtue. At any rate, between the swearing done by Hoosiers who go to the ghost concerts and by the Hoosiers who have not yet got an office, the force in the Recording Angel's department is overworked, and a petition has been sent in by the employees asking for a Saturday half holiday, but it has been denied. In fact, until the races and base ball games are over, Saturday P. M. is the busiest day in the office.

Michigan will dedicate this week the monuments which she has erected on the field of Gettysburg to the memory of her soldiers who took part in the battle there nearly twenty-six years ago. The troops of this Western State who thus fought for the Union on Eastern soil include all three arms. The monuments to the First and Third Michigan Infantry are placed in or near the peach orchard; those of the Fourth and Fifth in or near the wheat field; the monument of the Seventh on Cemetery Ridge; that of the Sixteenth on the southwest face of Little Round Top, where also is found the monument to the Michigan Sharpshooters, and that of the Twenty-fourth in Reynolds Grove, near Willoughby's Run. Besides the infantry, CUSTER'S brigade of cavalry has its monument east of the town. This brigade comprised the First, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Michigan Cavalry. Finally, the Ninth Michigan Battery has its monument on Cemetery Ridge. Michigan was in the great fight throughout the three days. Ohio has placed her monuments on the field, and Wisconsin, Indiana, and other Western States have also erected or will soon erect memorials. Michigan well deserves to have full possession on the field for doing honor to her troops during the day set apart this week. When all the monuments have been completed, Gettysburg will present a wonderful spectacle.

Another revival of war reminiscences also comes this week. The Society of the Army of the Potomac holds its annual meeting at Orange, and will be received with distinguished honors by the people and the State and local authorities, the entire First Brigade of the National Guard of New Jersey having been ordered to act as escort. Two years ago the meeting of this society was made somewhat exciting, and not altogether pleasantly so, by discussions of the battle-flag question, then before the public. Last year it had a more than ordinary commemoration at Gettysburg in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of that battle. This year it may have a quieter reunion than the two preceding, but doubtless it will not lack in enthusiasm and in the kindly spirit of comradeship.

We find in the *Philadelphia Record* of Friday last this mysterious intimation:

"Of course the Boys' side doesn't sag. We're thinking of them as well as of the men.—JOHN WANAMAKER."

Brother WANAMAKER is all right. The Boys will be looked out for under this Administration. Their side doesn't sag.

Two Americans have been arrested at Tullamore for having "suspicious 'luggage.'" A knife with a nail file and corkscrew attachment drives English detectives nearly crazy with suspicion. American visitors to Ireland should be more careful. A Bangor man was arrested as a suspicious person only the other day at Cloughbaun—the seat of "LARRY" GODKIN—for having in his possession a volume marked "Revised Statutes, State of Maine," which proved on examination to contain a quart of Medford and a pint of Old Tom gin.

The Hon. CHARLES FOSTER has been as happy as a cat in a birdhouse in his adventures and palaverings among the Sioux. In fact, he is the Sioux candidate for President in 1892. It is a mistake, though, to say, as some of our erring contemporaries do, that the Sioux, in adopting him, have given him a name signifying "Young Man-Proud-of-His-Tail." The mistranslation is ludicrous. Dr. J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL and Dr. D. G. BRINTON have successfully established that the meaning of the Indian name is, "Brave-Whose-Jaw-Shoots-Far." This is more euphonious and satisfying. Mr. FOSTER, by the way, was much embarrassed by the grave proposition of the Sioux to exchange their lands for Ohio. He will wear his feather headdress in the parade of the Fostoria Antiques and Horribles on the Fourth.

"All who enter the examination, whether Republicans or Democrats, will be given the same chance." So say the Civil Service Commissioners. Why cannot the reports of the Civil Service Commissioners be written in English? O, THEODORE, THEODORE, why will you muffle your meaning in pigeon English, bird's nest English, English as she is written in the *Evening Post*? A few weeks ago you were a Melican man.

A few days ago it was announced that the PETERS expedition was about to start for Central Africa with the large supply of goods bought in Germany for the use of EMIN Pasha. Now comes the news that an epidemic has so badly crippled the expedition that it will be given up entirely and the goods will be shipped back to Germany. Dr. PETERS secured his force of carriers only with the greatest difficulty, and he despaired of his ability to raise another force while the war continues on the Zanzibar coast.

The EMIN relief expeditions have had the worst of luck, and EMIN would have been in a bad way if he had not succeeded in worrying along pretty well without any relief.

A sigh of relief will go up from many anxious bosoms over the great news that the Dartmouth freshmen have won by force and arms the right to wear high hats. A relieved country can now devote itself to the next pressing though secondary problems, such as prohibition in Pennsylvania, civil service deform, and the calcitrancy or kicking power of BUCK EWING.

Professor ANDREW JACKSON DE VOE, the meteorologer of the Hackensack meadows, is the advance agent of a big cyclone, a grand aggregation and barn-storming concatenation and congeries of cyclonic talent, which he has billed to appear on the 16th and 17th of June. The Jersey wizard modestly remarks that the Signal Service would not be quick enough to predict his cyclone. Naturally, The Signal Service has not yet caught up with the cyclones of 1886. Any cyclone that Gen. GREELY'S seers could foretell would have to be slower than molasses on the shady side of the North Pole.

Canada, Too, is in the Sunshine.

From the Stratford Herald.

For a year or more one of the most interesting visitors to the *Herald* sanctum has been THE SUN. This bright newspaper occupies a unique position among the New York press, that none of its competitors can successfully rival or even approach. It is not in size, but in brains, that THE SUN shines for all, lays over its contemporaries. THE SUN is not so large a sheet, as a rule, as some others, but a careful reading of it and comparison with its rivals will satisfy any one that it contains more and better brains to the square inch than any other paper in New York. There is not a dull or careless or clumsy sentence in THE SUN. Its news is complete and spicy, and its editorials are just as clear, candid, scholarly, piquant, and brilliant as can be conceived. THE SUN is not especially friendly to Canada, so that the *Herald* is compelled to read its bright thoughts occasionally with feelings of disapproval; but for all that we can afford to admire the conspicuous ability that it displays. It is an American paper in THE SUN, and a better representative of Yankee wit, ingenuity, and activity cannot be found in Uncle Sam's broad land.

Brother Grady Knows a Woman Humorist.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

THE SUN is of the opinion that there is no such thing as a female humorist. We point our contemporary, therefore, with some degree of pride, to the writings of our own "Betsy Hamilton" (the pen name of Mrs. Idora Plowman), whose writings have appeared from time to time, and are still appearing in these columns. Mrs. Plowman's sketches are modest and unambitious, and some of them contain the comic element, but all are marked by a humor that is not only as rich and as racy as that of any American writer, but is characteristically American in its flavor.

Brother Wanamaker's Æsthetic View of the New York Post Office.

From an Interview in the New York Tribune.

The building is magnificent from without.

Liberal When Liberality is Most Needed.

From the Chicago Herald.

New York is not very good at building monuments, but when it comes to practical charity it is a generous old town.

THE NEXT BIG CRUISER.

The Baltimore Is To Have Her Preliminary Trip This Week on the Delaware.

WASHINGTON, June 9.—Secretary Tracy learns that the Messrs. Cramp will give the protected cruiser Baltimore a preparatory trial on the Delaware this week, following it soon after by the official test, should all go well. This announcement that another of the new war vessels is practically ready will excite the more interest from the fact that the Baltimore is far superior in size, speed, and battery power to any of the vessels begun under Secretary Whitney which have thus far been completed. She comes from the same shipyard which produced the Yorktown and the Vesuvius, and as the Yorktown considerably exceeded her guaranteed horse power, thereby earning a handsome bonus for her builders, while the Vesuvius broke all official records the world over for vessels of her class and displacement, the liveliest expectations are justified in regard to the Baltimore, whose guaranteed horse power and speed are far in advance of anything that had previously been contracted for.

Another point of interest for foreign observers, as well as for our own people, is that the Baltimore is built after the plan once known as No. 27, purchased by Secretary Whitney from Sir William G. Armstrong & Co. It was a design made by Mr. W. H. White, then in the employ of that firm, who soon afterward became chief constructor of the British navy. It had been offered to the Spanish Government in competition, under a guarantee of the vessel's producing nineteen knots or more; but while the matter was under consideration, that Government concluded to have a larger and more expensive vessel, which would give twenty knots, known as the Reina Regente, and accordingly gave the contract to the Thompsons. Mr. Whitney was then negotiating with Armstrong & Co. for the plans of the Naniwa-kan, on which the Charleston is built, and, finding that those of No. 27 came within the size and price allowed by Congress for another cruiser, he bought the two sets for $35,000. Now accordingly there will be great interest to see the result of this design by White, with engines and machinery planned by Humphreys & Tennant in England, the whole constructed here in America.

Comparing the Baltimore with her predecessor under Mr. Whitney's contracts, we find that while the Yorktown is of only 1,700 tons displacement, which is more than twice that of the Vesuvius, and while the Charleston has 3,730 tons, the Baltimore has 4,400. The Yorktown carries half a dozen 6-inch rifled steel breechloaders in her main battery; the Charleston will have a like battery, and in addition two 8-inch guns; the Baltimore will have four of the 8-inch and six of the 6-inch guns. The Yorktown was to give about 3,050-horse power and produced, it is said, about 3,700, with an average speed of about 16 knots for four hours continuously. The Charleston's contract called for 7,000-horse power, at forced draught, to be maintained four hours continuously, but without guarantee of speed, which was expected, nevertheless, to yield eighteen knots, although thus far neither the horse power nor the speed has been reached. But the Baltimore is to guarantee 7,500-horse power under natural draught, which, with forced draught, is expected to bring the power up to 10,750, and yield the great speed of 19 knots per hour.

One more comparison will show the progress which has been made during the last half dozen years in our naval construction. The Chicago, a successful vessel for her date, is a cruiser of 4,500 tons displacement, while the Baltimore is of 4,400. As might be expected, they closely resemble each other in length and other dimensions. But the Chicago's contract only called for 5,000 horse power, and the most favorable reckoning could not class her above 16-knot ships, while some would hardly concede to her that rank.

Such are the points of interest excited by the coming trial of the Baltimore. Besides being one of the highest-powered vessels in the world, she will be completely equipped with the latest appliances to make her effective. She is 315 feet between perpendiculars, and 335 over all, has a beam of 48½ feet and a draught of 19½, with her battery hold and provisions on board. She has no sail power except storm sails; machine guns are mounted in her two military masts. One of her noticeable features is an unusually heavy protective deck, which has a maximum of 4 inches of steel, and a minimum of 2½ on the crown. This will add greatly to the structural strength of the vessel. Her coal capacity is very good, insuring long endurance. She has a torpedo outfit of five tubes.

The Baltimore was launched on the 6th of October last, and, if she comes up to the requirements of her contract, will be a warship in which any nation might take pride.

THE HEIGHT OF THE LONDON SEASON.

A Round of Gayeties—Theatres Doing Badly—Americans Everywhere in London.

LONDON, May 29.—The season is at its apogee. A few days more and it can but wane; it certainly cannot rise any higher. Never was London so full, the streets so gay, the parks more crowded, social festivities more numerous. Many causes have contributed to this result, each of which would have been sufficient to insure it. First, the last few years were remarkably dull; even the jubilee year on account of many public functions interfered with private receptions. Second, Easter came so late that there was no room for any intermediate slackness before the real business of the season were entered upon. Third, spring set in as prematurely as Easter was dilatory; it came with the warmth, foliage, flowers, and brightness of midsummer; and fourth, the Paris Exhibition has caused a flutter which extends to London, for every one considers it necessary to combine and dovetail the excitements and amusements of the two capitals so as not to lose one jot of either. Whatever may be the truth of the reports which come to us that Paris is disappointed in her expectations, London is most certainly at its gayest and its best, at least in the opinion of those who are happy only in an unceasing whirl of worldliness without a minute's rest or surcease.

The official receptions of the heads of rival political parties were crushes of such magnitude that each host counting his guests fancied he was indeed the leader of his country's opinion. The state ball included every one who had the entrée, and excluded all the ambitious nobodies and foreigners who expected that their loyal abasement before the throne at drawing room or levee would insure them the higher privileges of personal invitation. The four-in-hand meet, following on the trooping of the colors in honor of the Queen's birthday, and the parade of the Life Guards was as great a success as beauty, dress, weather, horseflesh, and spectators could make it. The Duchess of Leinster and Gen. Boulanger were the cynosure of all eyes at the meet. The sight of two well-known noblemen wildly clinging to a fine engine, to which they had inadvertently attached themselves in the confusion of the ill-managed parade, redeemed the latter function from the utter failure which it would have been, owing to the extreme mismanagement of the organizers and the inefficiency of the police. All the best houses in and about Windsor are taken by noblemen or millionaires for the short Ascot meet at exaggerated rentals varying from 150 to 250 guineas for seven days, but the "cloud" of the season, as the French call the more striking feature of any performance, came off to-day in "The Fayre and Floral Fête" at the Albert Hall. As a matter of course it has the nominal reason of promoting charity. It was got up in aid of the friends of the Grosvenor Hospital for women and children, under distinguished patronage, and was graced by the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales and other royalties.

The glaring anomalies of the fête carnival have been prudently suppressed, and most of the incongruity and vulgarity which defaced the earlier functions was happily absent. There must ever be an unavoidable amount of meretriciousness and sameness in these and similar undertakings; but, as far as human ingenuity can avail, they have been happily coped with; and, while the arrangements were purposely charged on the cheap side, they were throughout in good taste, and on the whole striking and prettily effective. The centre of attraction was not, as had been anticipated, the floral sets in the big conservatory, but the *at fresco fête* (under cover) in the Albert Hall itself, which had been converted into an old-fashioned village green. The rustic May Queen was crowned, after which the holiday makers, in appropriate costumes, danced and disported themselves around the Maypole. Hostelries with familiar names surrounded the green, at which, as in other buildings of the same type, ladies presided. The chief refreshment stall was, in pursuance of a now established tradition, in the hands of American women, prominent among whom were Lady Randolph Churchill, Mrs. Moreton Fewen, her sister, Lady Leter Kaye, Miss Anderson, &c. Mrs. Ronalds were prevented by family bereavement from being present. Lady Coleridge, the handsome wife of the Lord Chief Justice, assisted at the "Grass flower;" the Countess of Yarborough at the "Stithy;" a café chantant was collected by the Marchionesses of Waterford and Tweedale, under whose orders were a bevy of youthful beauties, including Mrs. Chamberlain. The lovely Duchess of Leinster, serving in the rosary, again attracted general admiration, while Arthur Roberts, in a gypsy caravan, made the audience laugh even before he opened his lips, as he generally does in his own domain of the Avenue Theatre. Notwithstanding a showery and ill-tempered day, the hall was crowded from the opening of the doors, and even the most enterprising of visitors cannot have enjoyed more than a small proportion of the sights and amusements on the programme.

But while society rejoices, while the days and nights are too short and too few for the festivities in course of progress and those yet to come, the theatrical world is steeped in despair. Never was there so disastrous a time; the stage spells failure in every possible form—no theatre pays—no play is a success. It may be that no play this season has been a preeminently good one, but we are accustomed to see mediocrity hold its own and run through many months. Not even the Reginas, those painstaking and experienced actors, who are, moreover, well-established favorites in London, could keep "The Weaker Sex" on the boards for any appreciable time, and appearances do not point to the fact that they will be more successful with the "White Lie." Mr. Grundy's thin, but witty play, Mr. Pinero's work, which has some of his best qualities and not many of his faults, took but a very feeble hold on the public. It is only because the Garrick is a new theatre, because the novelties in its arrangements have been much spoken of, that "The Prodigate," Pinero's other play, still lives. Not all Hare's admirable qualities as a manager and an actor can compete with the supine indifference of playgoers. "Wealth" at the Haymarket, remodelled, rehashed, cut down, and added to, by its complaisant author, Mr. Jones, lives on, merely by the perseverance and obstinacy of its leading man, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, who resolutely refused to let it succumb to the inimical reception of the first nights; but it will hardly bring to him what its name implies.

Of the tentative plays at matinées it can only be said that if their name is legion the dead ashes of these legions promptly strew the ground on which they fought. Richard Mansfield, who never did a better or more artistic thing than his *Richard III.*, and was pronounced by many to be superior to the great Irving himself, played at the last to empty benches. Knowing ones, glancing at the moderately filled houses, whisper the ominous word, "Paper." The first of Genevieve Ward's series of matinées in "Forget Me Not" were remarkably well attended, and the verdict of the whole press went with her; but the burst of tropical weather came, and she could not, at the close of her engagement, struggle with 85° in the shade.

What happens in London is only a reflex of what takes place in Paris, where the Exhibition, without being the attraction it was meant to be, kills the theatres. Sarah Bernhardt herself, who, with "Lena," made 50 per cent. more than any other house in Paris during the thirty nights that she was engaged to act, did not invariably reach the maximum, and her managers, Grau and Abbey, are beginning to be doubtful of their venture at the London Gaiety in June; it is true that she is a ruinous star, being paid £100 a night. M. Meyer has the right to prevent her acting in "La Tosca" and "La Dame aux Camélias;" she herself does not care to play *Theodora*, which she finds a most exhausting part, and, save "Lena"—in which the last act, ending with her death scene, is the finest piece of acting she has ever done—she has not a single novelty to produce with which to wheel the jaded appetites of theatregoers.

Jean Hading and Coquelin have been exceedingly well received, but in spite of a varied programme, changing every night, they do not fill the house. With them as with Sarah Bernhardt, the prices demanded by the management are almost prohibitive. Twenty-one shillings for a stall, four guineas for a not particularly comfortable box, fifteen shillings in the dress circle, do not tend to open French plays to every one. The strongest hopes are, however, based on the influx of American visitors, who, with the disregard of money that characterizes them, are ever ready to spend it lavishly. The best suites of rooms in the most expensive hotels are secured by these millionaires, Col. John Hay, with his wife and children, occupies regal apartments at Claridge's, that hostelry of kings, the remainder of which is tenanted by members of the Orleans family gathered in London for the approaching silver wedding of the Comte and Comtesse de Paris. Mr. Carnegie has a whole floor at the Metropole, and the visitors' list of every big hotel bears the name of wealthy and influential Americans.

So far, however, the matrimonial newspapers have not announced any marriage between British lords and American heiresses. Is it because the last available duke will be married next month? The church at which the marriage is to take place has already been changed twice and a larger one selected to accommodate the immense number of guests and far more considerable number of spectators. The Portland marriage will be the social event of the season, eclipsing even the earlier nuptials of the Duke of Newcastle. If Miss Candy, a frail girl of 17, was awed and touching before the tall, beautiful Miss Dallas Yorke will be a magnificent and imposing Duchess. M. deS.

A DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATURE.

Harmony Needed Between the Executive and Legislative Departments.

ROCHESTER, June 9.—It is many years since there has been so good prospect as now for electing a Legislature Democratic in both branches. Judicious Republicans here begin to see the impolicy of continuing an unfair apportionment that enables a minority of the people to control the Legislature. New York on State issues is Democratic. The minority, conscious that it does not represent the popular will, dares not accept the responsibilities of the position it assumes.

This is the secret of the peanut politics of Republican politicians vainly trying to put Gov. Hill in a hole. It is really the Republican legislators who are themselves in a hole all the time. Knowing they do not represent what the people want, their only resource is to present legislation on subjects of difficulty, having such defects that the Democratic Governor will be obliged to use the veto. This they foolishly think relieves them from all responsibility and gives them full opportunity to rail against the Executive to their heart's content.

The people, irrespective of party, have heartily tired of this sort of contest. In framing the State Government it was thought that continued contests between the executive and legislative departments were guarded against by a policy of frequent enumerations of the people and new apportionments based thereon. But the Republican factitious majority, to keep the power it has not dared to use, has disregarded the constitutional requirement. One way now remains to bring the executive and legislative departments of the State Government in harmony, as both the Constitution and the interests of the State demand. That is to elect a Legislature Democratic in both branches.

Monroe county will do its full share. Excepting, possibly, some parts of New York and Brooklyn, no locality in the State has suffered greater injustice than Monroe from the present unfair apportionment. Rochester, especially, is aggrieved by the failure to make a new apportionment. Its population under a new apportionment should certainly entitle it to three Assemblymen instead of one. Two years ago, largely on this issue, Monroe elected a Democratic Senator and three Democratic Assemblymen. It is reasonably certain that Senator McNaughton will be returned, with two, and perhaps all three, Assemblymen from this county.

Rochester has long been a Republican city, but under present circumstances no cool-headed Republican supposes that any one of his party can now be chosen to the Assembly or Senate here. Even Republicans have some natural objections to voting their party into power merely to enable it to continue their own disfranchisement.

Several years ago, under stimulus from the growing