The Sun.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1892.

To our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication we wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamp for that purpose.

An Eminent Free Trader on the Supremacy of the Force Issue.

We respect and esteem the Hon. CHAUNCEY F. BLACK of Pennsylvania as an early, persistent, conscientious, and unflinching advocate of a Democratic policy leading to free trade. He has never tried to disguise his opinions on the subject. They have been at the service of anybody who wanted them. On the tariff issue Mr. BLACK has never wavered or wabbled; and that is one of several reasons why we esteem him.

But he is a Democrat. Every drop of blood in his veins is warm for Democracy. He is as good a Democrat, for example, as was his friend and fellow, the late SAMUEL J. RANDALL, with whom he differed radically on the question of protection to American industries. These two distinguished Democrats of Pennsylvania might have discussed the tariff from dawn to dusk, and from dusk into the small hours of the morning, without coming any nearer to an agreement than when they began. And yet the first warning of danger to the essential principles of Democracy, the first sign of an attack upon any vital point of the political faith they held in common, would have brought RANDALL and BLACK shoulder to shoulder, with a single purpose and an undivided loyalty.

It is not surprising to find the Hon. CHAUNCEY F. BLACK, in addressing the great league of Democratic clubs which his zeal and energy have built up as an auxiliary to the regular party organization, affirming anew his candid and well-known ideas respecting the protective tariff. Some of the Democrats who heard him in the Academy of Music agreed with him; some didn't; but there can be no difference of opinion about Mr. BLACK'S views of the subordinate importance of the tariff question in the present canvass:

"The tariff question, to be largely determined in November, is a great one, because it involves the difference between a free people and an enslaved people. But there is a greater; a greater, because it includes the tariff question. Once deprived of the right of free election, the inhabitants of these States would sink into absolute subjection. The Force bill was the product of a wicked and deliberate conspiracy between the monopoly oligarcy and its political servants in Congress. It was devised with satanic ingenuity to keep the parties to the conspiracy in power in spite of the popular will, to crowd every election precinct with their partisan agents, and to saddle their campaign expenses, at the rate of ten to twenty millions per annum, upon the Federal Treasury. Under this law they might have piled tax upon tax, grasped subsidy after subsidy, rollicked and reloaded the Treasury time and again, without fear of the verdict of the ballot boxes, which they had thus contrived to smother."

Whatever ideas any Democrat may entertain in regard to custom schedules, his present duty is as clear as daylight. No Force bill. No Federal interference at the polls. No Negro Domination in the South.

Fight, Not Talk.

The gradual centralization of all the effective Democratic forces upon the issue of the Force bill, has been steadily in progress from the moment ending the National Democratic Convention in Chicago.

For example, in the matter of the tariff there is still as visible as ever within the lines of the Democracy, and as undetermined, the irreconcilable conflict of protection and free trade. It can be seen by a contrast of the national free trade platform adopted at Chicago with the protectionist platform adopted by the Democrats of Connecticut. It appears as clear and active in the Democratic press. Instead of being declared and fixed in a form beyond contradiction or misunderstanding, so that it is ready to be put seriously among the issues between Democrats and Republicans, the tariff is still in the Democratic caucus room, hanging on the uncertainty of discussion and disagreement.

Mr. CLEVELAND'S letter of acceptance has assisted very greatly in removing the tariff question from the field of actual contest. A few weeks ago the leading tariff agitator of Illinois, the *Chicago Herald*, rejoicing in the crystal clearness of the Chicago plank, proclaimed that "the Democrat who by tongue or pen seeks to qualify or limit the purpose of the party to destroy protection, root and branch, should pass over to the enemy." This unequivocating political economist accepts Mr. CLEVELAND'S letter as an affirmation of the true faith. So also of our fiery and high-minded friend, the *Courier-Journal*, which in the person of the Hon. HENRY WATTERSON struck out the protection plank of the Democratic platform of 1884, or, as he called it, "the straddle of 1884," from the platform proposed for the Democratic National Convention, and inserted the plank for free trade. In the spring Col. WATTERSON'S lifelong hatred of protection mixtured to the intensity of proclaiming that the Democratic programme was to "rip up, exterminate, abolish, annihilate, and in the foulest ignominy and disgrace, every vestige of fraud called protection, wherever we can find it." Col. WATTERSON now passes the CLEVELAND letter as sound; or at least he is content for the Democracy to halt on "Mr. CLEVELAND'S message and the MILLS bill, until it has control of the Senate and has placed Mr. CLEVELAND in the White House." Yet, on the other hand, Democratic newspapers too numerous to name are evincing the most lively satisfaction that Mr. CLEVELAND has modified the national tariff platform so that the free trade principle is substantially eliminated, and all thought that the protective system is to be crushed and removed is done away with. In effect the plank of 1884, which the free traders so indignantly rejected, has been put back in the place intended for it. "Free trade is to the rear," says the *Knoxville Tribune*; "protection is no longer as unconstitutional as it was in June." In fact, the anti-tariff agitation is now confined in old-fashioned inextricable confusion within the lines of vague and indeterminate denunciations of the McKINLEY bill. It has become nothing more positive than a manifestation of human nature's discontent with things as they are. If the entire bewildering muddle should be eliminated from the canvass in theory as well as in fact, the Democratic cause would be no whit the less deserving, energetic, or promising.

On the question of electing a Republican President pledged to the enactment of a Force bill to establish Federal interference with elections there is neither a murmur nor a suggestion nor a thought of Democratic discord, or disagreement, or misconception. There is no debate upon the purpose of a contest with the Republicans upon this issue; nor does it call anywhere for apology or explanation. The Democratic party is solid against the Force bill, from the oldest to the youngest voter. In this issue lies the danger which has made it solid for the election of the party candidate, and which has confronted the Republicans with a body of determined and harmonious opponents such as they had thought to escape for years to come. The tariff talk goes on, from one reason and another, but the spirit that urges the Democratic army into the battle itself, that forces it forward through instinctive apathy or unwillingness to face the partisan duty of the year, is the spirit of protection to the voter against the touch or glimmer of Federal bayonets.

As the star of Democracy looks down upon the field, the Force bill is the single defined and unmistakable point of difference between the two great contending parties. It is the only question that will be settled differently according as HARRISON or CLEVELAND is elected. No Federal interference with elections. No Negro Domination.

How Long Will Cholera Germs Live?

We are apparently to escape a visitation of cholera this year, but the deeply interesting question remains, how long the germs of the disease deposited on clothing or bedding, or buried in the earth, retain the power of propagation. Some of the evidence bearing on this point is set forth by Dr. LOUIS A. SAYRE in the last number of the *Forum*, and other data equally significant were recently collected in the London *Times*.

Among the proofs furnished by Dr. SAYRE as to the length of time during which the cholera bacillus retains its maleficent vitality, the following are the most striking: On July 9, 1849, a vocalist named WILSON died of Asiatic cholera in St. George's Hotel, Quebec. The hotel keeper was advised by the attending physician to destroy the clothing of the dead man, and also the mattress, which was saturated with secretions. The clothing was destroyed, but the mattress, being of some value, was merely removed to the roof of another hotel and exposed for some weeks to the weather. An upholsterer then conveyed the mattress to his lodgings for the purpose of cleaning and remaking it, and began tearing out the hair. Before he had taken out more than one-half, he was stricken down by cholera, and died in a few hours. The second case cited is that of a sailor who died of Asiatic cholera in a European port in 1832. A chest containing his clothing and other personal effects was sent home to his family, who lived in a small village in Maine. It reached the village about Christmas, 1832, and was opened. The inmates of the house were all immediately seized with a disease resembling in its malignity Asiatic cholera, and they all died.

These instances show that when deposited on bedding or clothing the germs of cholera may keep the power of propagation for some weeks or even for some months. The facts brought forward in the London *Times* bear witness to the possibility of a much more tenacious vitality under certain circumstances. The cholera epidemic which overran Spain in 1890 had its origin in the disturbance of some remains left by the outbreak in 1884. The workmen engaged in digging foundations where cholera refuse had been buried fell ill, and formed the starting point of the malady. But the epidemic of 1884 itself, which devastated the whole of the south of Europe, was a far more memorable instance of the duration of a malignant power in the germs. It began in Toulon, and the first cases were those of two men in charge of an old hulk containing military stores which had come back from the Crimea thirty years before. These men disturbed the stores on board and took the cholera.

The writer in the *Times* believes that the outbreaks in Paris and in Hamburg this year are to be explained in a similar way, that is, by a disturbance of the soil in which cholera germs had been buried. There seems to be no doubt that Paris generated her own cholera, for she had it in April, at a time when the malady derived from India was still confined to central Asia. As to Hamburg, where the last outbreak of cholera occurred twenty years ago, it is pointed out that during the early and middle part of the summer the city underwent an extraordinary process of disembowelling. The streets were opened in every direction for the laying of gas pipes and other purposes. In the words of the British Vice-Consul, "the town was torn up by the roots;" and this upheaval was still going on when the almost unprecedented hot weather fell upon the city. If there were any cholera germs in the ground, everything was done to disturb them, and that, too, at a season peculiarly adapted to their development. The workmen digging in the soil would get it on their hands, and, afterward eating with unwashed hands, would be apt to swallow particles of earth. The disorder once started, its sudden and disastrous propagation is explicable by the relations between the drainage and the water supply of Hamburg. It should be remembered in considering this theory of the origin of the outbreak that the soil in and around this particular city is precisely of the right kind to receive and preserve the germs of cholera. The old town, the city of Hamburg proper, is built on a marsh lying between the river Elbe and the Alster Lake; the ground in this low-lying quarter is almost saturated with water and would form an excellent cholera bed.

The obvious lesson deducible from these facts and probabilities is the imperative necessity of destroying all the clothing and bedding used by the victims of cholera and of cremating, instead of burying, the bodies of the deceased. It is satisfactory to know that this necessity is recognized by our sanitary authorities.

The Irish Federation to Americans.

It is well known that the so-called National Federation is the Irish association of Home Rulers which occupies toward the McCarthyites the position which the Land League formerly held toward Mr. PARNELL. That is to say, the National Federation represents the great body of Irish electors whose spokesmen in the House of Commons are Mr. McCARTHY'S colleagues, who constitute a large majority of Ireland's delegates at Westminster. Such being the case, the friends of Ireland in this country are sure to head the manifesto put forth at a meeting of this body on Thursday of last week. Before referring in detail to the facts and reasonable hopes set forth in this strongly worded document, we may at once state its purport, which is an appeal for assistance based on the indisputable grounds that a large number of evicted tenants are destitute of the means for obtaining food or shelter, and that the Nationalist members of Parliament are poor men dependent on their daily work for daily bread, and who receive no salaries for their legislative services.

The authors of the manifesto begin by pointing out that Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues in the present Government have publicly and repeatedly pledged themselves to use all their strength to pass a Home Rule bill satisfactory to the Irish members of the House of Colemons and to the Irish people. They add precisely what the friends of Ireland on this side of the Atlantic desire to hear, namely, a solemn declaration that they are convinced of the sincerity of the Liberal leaders, not only because of the course uniformly pursued by the Liberals since Mr. GLADSTONE adopted the home rule cause, but also because their interests demand such a permanent settlement as Ireland can cordially accept. But it may be said, admitting that a bill framed by Mr. GLADSTONE in consultation with the McCarthyites would meet the wishes of the Irish people, it is certain that the Liberal party will push it with unswervering resolution in the teeth of the opposition which it will undoubtedly encounter at the hands of the Unionists. As to this point, we are assured by the manifesto that the leaders of the Gladstonian party, both before and since their accession to office, have in the most explicit terms confirmed their promise that home rule shall be put forward as the first and most urgent article of the Ministerial programme, and shall continue to hold this place until it has been embodied in law.

The authors of this manifesto are not dismayed by the threat of the Conservatives that no matter what kind of Home Rule bill may be passed by the House of Commons—no matter what guarantees it may offer to imperial interests and to the rights of minorities—it will be rejected by the House of Lords. Mr. McCARTHY and his fellow members of Parliament do not believe that the upper House will dare to execute the threat in the face of Mr. GLADSTONE'S warning that they will do it at the peril of their chamber. The manifesto goes on to say that should the Peers so obstruct the Home Rule bill as to delay the passage of other measures imperatively required by the British people, they can be dealt with in such a manner as not only to insure the passage of the Home Rule bill, but to end all hereditary obstruction. This means, apparently, not that Mr. GLADSTONE is expected to swamp the adverse majority in the upper House by a wholesale creation of new Peers—a measure which the Queen, with the prejudices imputed to her, might be indisposed to sanction—but that the McCarthyites will help the Gladstonians to pass a "One Man, One Vote" bill, a reformed Registration bill, and a measure for the payment of salaries to members of Parliament. Let those three steps once be taken, with the result of making the workmen of Great Britain in fact what they are in theory, the masters of the House of Commons, and it will speedily be recognized that the days not only of hereditary legislators but probably also of the monarchy are numbered. The truth is that the McCarthyites and Gladstonians, if they work together, will hold the Unionists in a vise. The latter dare not use their control of the House of Lords to thwart them lest in the attempt to block home rule they expose themselves to far more serious fractures of the existing Constitution. The time has come, therefore, when all the friends of Ireland in this country must see that the hour of the decisive contest is at hand, and that every substantial proof of sympathy given at this juncture will contribute to assure or hasten victory. All the Irish-American organizations which in the past have borne so large a share of the pecuniary burdens of the constitutional conflict, should now gird themselves for one more effort, for the prize of the long struggle is in sight.

Union.

Patriotism above partisanship; partisanship above personalities; such is the Democratic rule of action for 1892. It is the rule for all, true-blue stalwarts, Mugwump tenderfeet, and flat-head guerrillas. Every man who believes in Democratic principles, who is opposed to Republican menaces, errors, and delinquencies, who loves the Constitution, and appreciates the beauties and blessings of the freedom it established and preserves, must take his place in the ranks, and sink all other considerations in order to stand by the colors of Democracy.

Conspicuous among those Democrats who avow themselves alive to the requirements of the occasion, whose sense of responsibility to the national ticket nominated in Chicago outweighs all else, we discern the Hon. WILLIAM R. GRACE. At his heels are the Provisional Democrats (no longer provisional) who have been following his leadership, but to whom an abiding sense of the futility of outside political movements has come, when the great principles of constitutional freedom are imperilled. They have taken their places side by side with the veterans of a score of successful contests, and no task allotted by their superiors seems irksome, provided it will serve the cause of Democracy so splendidly described and so skilfully generalled by DAVID B. HILL. A musket or water pail, a caisson or calabash, a howitzer or a telegraph blank—either is safe in their management and keeping; either will get the same watchful and proper care.

Tammany Hall gave the watchword of the year a week ago: Unity and Harmony. Like the fine old Democratic organization that it is, it hit the nail on the head in pointing out the road to Democratic triumph, with Tammany at the head of the victorious column. The political fight of the next thirty days is to be vigorous. The best efforts of all Democrats of whatever stripe, condition, or predilection should be enlisted, and they will be enlisted, thanks to the liberal, broad-minded, and intelligent spirit which characterizes those into whose hands the destinies of the Presidential fight have, by supreme party authority, been confided.

The Point of Attack.

The Republican leaders are making a tremendous hubbub about free trade and wildcat currency. The Hon. WILLIAM PITT FRYE, the IKE WALTON of Maine, has dropped his reel and fly book, and set the clarion to his lips and blown a shrill appeal to his countrymen to save themselves from these bogies. SHERMAN and McKINLEY, and all the large size, medium, and youths' size political howlers in the Republican party are running their jaws overtime in the effort to persuade the people that the Democrats are straining themselves to pull down the pillars of the tariff, and sitting up nights to devise means for uttering bad bills. Terrible is the noise and thick the dust made by these bands of orators who go through the Northern States howling and stamping.

And what is the purpose of all these vociferations and rantings? Simply to lure the attention of voters from the real and sole issue of the campaign to trivialities or impossibilities. The Republican chiefs bang away at free trade and wildcat currency in the hope that under the smoke the Force bill may be covered. But the stratagem will not serve.

Let the Republicans bang away at scarecrows. The Democrats are firing right straight into the Republican centre every time they pull trigger at the Force bill.

It is gratifying to find that the Emperor of Germany is not a deadhead. He follows the custom long since introduced, advocated, and practised by THE SUN. He pays his way like a gentleman wherever he goes. When he wants to go on an excursion by rail, Count von EULENBURG, the Marshal of the Court, informs the railway officials, and sends them a check for the full amount of their charges, without any complimentary reduction whatever. Long live the Emperor! THE SUN shines for all, emperors not excluded, and lights the way for every fellow who pays as he goes.

Illinois is showing her sister States how to escape from an apathetic condition of politics. Home rule is at the front and the tariff has a conspicuous place at the tail end of the torchlight procession.—*St. Louis Republic.*

Home rule, local self-government, no Federal interference with elections, no Force bill, is at the front everywhere. All other questions are out of sight. Hurrah for Illinois!

Looking back on Prof. NIPHER'S table of future trotting records, we find that the figure prophesied for 1892 was 2:07, and that the 2:04 trotter, which we have in Nancy Hanks, was not due until 1900. Instead of this being proof of error in Prof. NIPHER'S calculations, we think it must be explained by the pneumatic tire. The NIPHER table of performances was based on the sulky of the old sort.

Mr. DANA has gone abroad, and it is feared that he will not return in time to register his vote for CLEVELAND and against sable-hued domination.—*Washington Post.*

Mr. DANA went paired with an honorable Republican. His vote is as good as cast against the threatening abomination of the Force bill. Let all good Democrats prepare to do likewise.

The ordering of the cutter Corwin back to Behring Sea, after her arrival at Sitka on the way home, suggests that the Government has got wind of a scheme to raid the Pribylov Islands. Indeed, it is known that a Victoria sealing schooner recently started northward under suspicious circumstances, the regular season for sealing being over. She could hardly expect enough success in pelagic hunting to pay for the cruise, and the inference is natural that she may try to land her boats at St. Paul Island. This trick of waiting until the revenue cutters have left for the season and then making a raid on such seals as may remain at the rookeries is not a new one. The German ranger Adele, two or three years ago, stole out of Victoria late in the autumn, making a false clearance, for which she was subsequently fined, and returned with a quantity of sealskins obtained, it was said, from St. Paul Island. The Triumph was another Victoria vessel reported to be employed in the same business, and one year the Treasury Department chartered the steamer Bertha in the autumn, and hurried her northward from Fort Townsend to check this raiding, relieving her afterward by the Bear.

Several years ago, also, Treasury Agent TINGLE officially reported that after the departure of the revenue cutter the preceding fall a British vessel landed men at the rookeries, when the natives in charge fired upon them and drove them off. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that the Corwin, which had been on her way to San Francisco, her supply of provisions being very low, was ordered back to Behring Sea, to stay until near December. These unexpected orders can hardly have been agreeable, and patrol duty in that region during the month of November is not likely to make the feelings of the officers and crew toward the poachers more kindly. It will go hard with the Victoria raider if she is caught in the act of landing her boats at the rookeries.

There is no nonsense about Southern Democrats. The South is solid.

THE PASTER BALLOT DECISION.

A Voter Must Cast an Official Ballot or His Vote Will be Void.

ALBANY, Oct. 5.—Since the decision in the Court of Appeals yesterday relative to paster ballots at town elections there have been many queries as to what construction is placed on the law. Here is the decision:

"The permission to paste the paster ballot on any official ballot, together with a misconception as to what is an official ballot, has evidently caused the difficulty in this matter. So long as all officers to be voted for were to be voted for upon a single ballot, and only a single ballot could be voted, and there was only a single box to receive them, there was not much chance for misapprehension. But in the year 1891 the law was amended so as to provide for an additional ballot and an additional ballot box, so that now we have two kinds of official ballots, subdivided into as many more as there may be candidates or tickets legally placed in nomination. The law as amended must be so construed, if possible, as to preserve its spirit and give effect to its intent. At town elections the relator can now vote two ballots. Both must be, however, official ballots. Unless properly endorsed a ballot cannot now be received, and its seems unnecessary to argue that an unofficial excise ballot is not an official ballot for other town officers, or vice versa. The court below holding that these ballots should be counted did so upon the theory that the intent of the voter must be considered. The answer to this is that when an elector attempts to express his will at an election by ballot, whether through either design or accident, of ballots which the law declares shall not be counted, the courts have no power to help him."

The Leader of the Grand March.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Will you please decide an argument of a few members of a club who intend giving a ball—whose place it is to lead the grand march, the President or floor manager?

NEW YORK, Oct. 3, 1892. GEO. DAPPEL, Secretary.

We reply with the hesitation of one not completely informed as to the facts of the situation. In this case the President may be really nothing but a name. He may have contributed nothing to the existence or to the growth of the club. Perhaps he was put there on account of other members' inability to devote the necessary time to the duties of the office. On the other hand, this floor manager may really be the able person, known to many clubs, who makes, inspires, and guides his own mainly through the strength of his own personality. If that is so, upon so great an occasion as the proposed ball the floor manager would most properly come first. But if this special floor manager is not some such sort of social phenomenon, the first foot foremost should be the President's. All other things being equal, the head of the organization should lead the grand march.

Chicago in the Trough.

From the San Francisco Examiner.

When Chicago was selected as the site for the Columbian Exposition it was believed that Chicago would be content with the benefit that would follow, and not debase the occasion to the level of a scramble for gain. Yet at this early day it is plain that its citizens are bent upon exacting the last penny of every visitor. Already they are raising prices. Not satisfied with selling more, they must have a larger profit on all they sell. If it shall continue to act as a pig with its feet in the trough, the ill effect of having it considered a sample can readily be understood.

Even now the prices of ordinary commodities have gone up in the Chicago market so that consumers are complaining bitterly. The advance promises to become extortion. When the Democratic Convention was held, the same spirit of avarice became manifest on the part of Chicago's citizens. At that time a rebuke so widespread and decisive was provoked that it might have been expected some attention would have been given it. But it fell upon heedless ears. A pig with both feet in the trough is not prone to benefit by counsel, however well meant.

It is not too late for Chicago to become ashamed of its hog-like qualities and resume, after having proved that penitence is sincere, a place in the respect of the public. There is certainly neither justice nor shrewdness in its present tendency to discredit the country and so keep away thousands of people who will only come if assured decent treatment and legitimate prices.

It Wakes the Democrats.

From the Louisville Critic.

The crusade against the Force bill is bearing fruit in the Second Congressional district, where a Republican and a renegade Democrat posing as a Farmers' Alliance man are trying to defeat Congressman Ellis for reelection. Kentucky Democrats cannot get excited over the tariff, but a mention of the Force bill stirs them up. The Owensboro *Messenger* says: "No Force bill; no negro domination, and no representative of these ideas in Congress from the Second district."

NOW FOR CRUISER NO. 6.

Authorized Four Years Ago, the 5,500-Tonner is at Last to be Launched.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—The fine large protected cruiser which has been so long under construction at the Union Iron Works in San Francisco is at last about ready to leave the ways, and one month from to-morrow is the date for her taking to the water.

She is the largest unarmored cruiser ever built on the Pacific coast, and when she was contracted for was the largest vessel of that type ever planned for our navy. Since then the Columbia and her mate have made a great advance upon her in size.

The general idea on which the new vessel was built was to produce a ship resembling the Reina Regente, which at that time was peerless in her class. The act authorizing her construction dates as far back as Sept. 7, 1888, under Secretary Whitney. Her nominal prototype, the Reina Regente, had then recently been built by the Thomsons of Clydebank for Spain, and was the fastest seagoing war ship afloat. She had steamed nineteen knots under natural and twenty-one knots under forced draught. She also had a very heavy protective deck, a very large coal capacity, and a complete water-line belt of cellulose, which was a novelty at that time. The changes introduced into the American vessel have made her resemblance to the Spanish cruiser less marked.

The bids for No. 6 were opened June 10, 1889. At that time Secretary Tracy had come to the head of the department, and with his well-known preference for large vessels had authorized an increase in the proposed displacement from 5,300 to 5,500 tons. The only bidder was the Union Iron Works, and their bid was $1,760,000 on their own or $1,793,000 on the department's plans. The latter being within the limit of $1,800,000 fixed by Congress was accepted. Afterward Mr. Irving Scott, the President of the Union Iron Works, agreed to make the vessel ten feet longer, so as to get more space in the fire room, without extra cost. She now accordingly has a length of 340 feet on the load-water line, with an extreme breadth of 53 feet, a mean draught of 21½ feet, and a displacement of 5,500 tons. She is 100 tons larger than the Baltimore and 1,000 larger than the Chicago. Her contract requires her to be ready for delivery by April 1, 1893, but she will be delayed by failure to get her material in season.

The first noticeable feature in this fine cruiser is her speed. Her motive machinery consists of twin screw, vertical triple expansion engines, which are to develop a maximum of 13,500 horse power. The Chicago's engines have a maximum of only 5,034, and even our fast new vessels do not equal the maximum of No. 6. The Charleston's 6,893 horse power give her a speed of 18½ knots; the Newark's 8,869 give her 19 knots; the Philadelphia's 8,815 give her 19½; the Baltimore's 10,034 give her a little over 19½ knots, and the San Francisco's 10,400 give her 20 1-6 knots. Accordingly, it is probable that the 13,500 horse power of Cruiser No. 6 will yield at least the 20 knots required in her contract, and as her builders are those who built the San Francisco, they are likely to earn a premium for exceeding her contract speed.

Again, she will be remarkable for coal endurance and sustained speed. Her coal capacity is 1,300 tons, which gives her a radius of action of 13,000 miles, and is much more than the average of vessels of her class. The weight of her machinery will, it is expected, give her a sustained sea speed of 19 knots, or at least two knots in advance of that which is maintained in vessels of her class. She will undoubtedly beat anything in our navy, either built or projected, for a long voyage, with the exception of the Columbia and No. 13, and the possible exception of the New York.

In her main battery she carries four eight-inch breech-loading rifles and ten five-inch rapid-fire guns. In her secondary battery are fourteen six-pounders and six one-pounder rapid-fire guns and four Gatlings. Her defensive capacity makes her a high type of the protected cruiser, as she has four inches of armor protection for the guns, and ammunition hoists and a water-excluding belt. She has three complete decks, including the protective deck, and a large superstructure amidships, which is cut away forward and aft, and ends at the eight-inch gun barbettes. She has two masts, with a fighting top and electric light top on each, and carries sufficient fore and aft sail to steady her in a sea way. Her armament forward is eighteen feet and seventeen feet aft. A complete protective deck is worked two inches thick on the flat throughout, four and three-quarter inches on the slopes amidships, and three inches on the slope forward and aft. A water-excluding belt two feet nine inches thick is worked above the protective deck, completely surrounding the ship. It extends to a height of four feet above the water line. The space immediately above the protective deck is closely subdivided, and much of it is covered with coal, forming an additional safeguard against the effects of damage near the water line.

The vessel has a complete electric lighting plant of the most modern type, and great care has been taken to make the fittings in connection with pumping, drainage, and ventilation complete and efficient. The vessel is fitted as a flagship, and in addition to the quarters for Admiral and Captain, there are staterooms for sixteen ward room officers, berths for twelve junior officers, and rooms for two warrant officers. The usual offices, storerooms, &c., are provided, and there is ample accommodation for the crew. The complement is 491. This fine cruiser will probably be in commission next autumn.

SMOKESTACKS 100 FEET HIGH.

The Towering Funnels to Be Placed on Armored Cruiser No. 3.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—The plans for the new armored cruiser No. 3, provided by the last session of Congress, and for which bids were asked last week, include one radical innovation in the construction of war ships. The three smokestacks will be each one hundred feet high, which is from thirty to forty feet higher than the smokestacks of any other war ship in the United States Navy. These towering funnels will detract considerably from the beauty of the ship and give her an exceedingly awkward appearance, but in this case beauty is sacrificed to utility. The increase in height will give additional draught and do away with the necessity of forced draught in ordinary steaming. It will also carry the smoke and gas from the furnaces above the military masts of the ship, and give the men in the tops a chance to fight without being smoked out.

The high stacks have been adopted by the British merchant steamer Scot in the Cape trade and found to work well, but the cruiser will be the first naval vessel to carry them.

John Drew to Give a Matinee for Dr. Houghton's Church.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* My attention has been called to the appeal of the Rev. Dr. Houghton of the Church of the Transfiguration, popularly known as "The Little Church Around the Corner," for funds to pay off the debt of the church. I am quite sure that I express the general sentiment of my brother actors when I say that the movement to pay off the indebtedness enlists their heartiest sympathy and good wishes. As a step in this direction I shall be pleased to give a special matinee performance of "The Masked Ball" at Palmer's Theatre some day next week, with the assurance that my offer will have the sincerest co-operation of my manager and my professional associates.

Yours very truly, JOHN DREW.

NEW YORK, Oct. 5, 1892.

An Ovamation to Cleveland.

From the Philadelphia Record.

RIVERTON, Ky., Oct. 2.—Miss Louella Halley, the daughter of a prosperous farmer a few miles out from town, on Friday evening came in with her marketing, butter and eggs. She called the attention of the merchant to whom she sold the eggs to one of them that had "G. C." in raised letters upon the large end of the egg. Miss Louella says that the egg was laid by a young Domineecker pullet on Friday; that her father has always been a Republican, but says since his finest pullet has laid an egg with Cleveland's initials on it he thinks it almost time to turn from the error of his way and vote for Grover. His family is much elated at his determination, as his wife has always been a Democrat, and Miss Louella is engaged to marry a prominent young Democrat.

A Fraud's Deserts.

From the News & Times.

It is a pity that the whipping post is superseded in reference to a certain class of offenders. If justice fails to be meted out to the *World* it will not be because it has failed in its deserts.

2:04.

From the Indianapolis Journal.

It was a man from Tarry Hut,
From the classic Wabash shore;
I asked him as to politics,
He murmured, "Two-naught four."

Says I to him, "How is the corn?
Is there much wheat in store?"
He turned on me a lofty eye,
And whispered, "Two naught four."

"O man from the town of taro banks,
Why sing those figures o'er?"
Says I. He chortled, "Nancy Hanks,"
And gurgled, "Two-naught four."

THE NAVY YARD LABOR LAW.

Its Application to the Proposed Rebuilding in the Brooklyn Yard.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Secretary Tracy must have the credit of executing in good faith the law which declares that no man can be taken on for navy yard work within sixty days of an election for President of the United States or for member of Congress in the district in which the yard may be situated.

This law took effect for the present canvass early in September, and the records of the Brooklyn Navy Yard show that only twenty-six men were taken on, for the repairs of the Atlanta and other purposes, during the month of August, and only twelve men between Sept. 1 and the beginning of the sixty-day limit. That is simply the ordinary course of business at the yard, so that it cannot be said that the yard was overstocked with labor beforehand.

Since then no hands have been taken on; but the good faith of the Secretary in the matter is shown by resisting a form of local pressure arising from peculiar circumstances. It will be remembered that the recent fire in the machine shop did a great deal of damage, the launch of the Cincinnati having to be postponed, and considerable pecuniary loss being sustained. Some district Republican leaders pointed out that here was a clear case for the application of the exception under the statute.

Congress, in enacting the sixty-day law, was of course determined to stop the old practice of taking on hundreds or thousands of workmen during the few weeks preceding election, with a view of getting their votes for the party that happened to be in power, and that had the patronage of the yard, and such a total prohibition of such labor might come at a time when there was a need of it for the public interests, just as there was last autumn during the troubles with Chili, the case of an emergency requiring extra labor was excepted. Accordingly it was urged that the fire made a clear case of an emergency and a public necessity. One or two large buildings had been destroyed and needed to be rebuilt. The object, it was argued, was not to create new work, nor to increase needlessly the routine work—these being the points which Congress had in view. It was a clear case of a necessity arising out of an unexpected public calamity.

Secretary Tracy, however, has taken a straight course through these importunities. He satisfied himself by inquiry that there was no emergency as contemplated by the statute, and that ended the business.

A CHECK ON PUBLISHERS.

Let the Author Put an Autograph Stamp in Each Copy of His Book That is Issued.

The Association of American Authors met in parlor D., R., of the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday afternoon. In the absence of President Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Gen. James Wilson presided, and ten other American authors attended.

Mr. Wilson, Vice-President Cynthia Cleveland, and Secretary Charles Burr Todd were the only members present for some time. Then a little man with a very large moustache and forehead came in and took a distant seat. The Secretary thought the newcomer was a reporter, and suggested something about getting him pen, ink, and paper.

The newcomer modestly explained that he was George W. Cable, and he was invited to sit with the other authors.

Miss Cynthia Cleveland produced a volume from a dark green bag and handed it to Mr. Cable, saying, pleasantly:

"Permit me the privilege of presenting you my latest."

Mr. Cable thanked her, and General Wilson said, but immediately afterward looked as if he wished he hadn't:

"It is sometimes easier to acknowledge a gift book before reading it than after."

Besides those mentioned these members attended the meeting: Dr. Titus Munson Coan, Albert Matthews, William H. Beard, Edward H. Shannon, Charles F. Wingate, Berthold Fernow, and Edward F. De Lancey. The committee appointed at a report in part, whereby authors who get their works published may keep a check on the publishers, advised the adoption of the French plan.

Authors, under this plan, are to furnish as many autograph stamps as the edition numbers, and a stamp is to be pasted on the inside of the cover of each book issued. The offer of sale of an unstamped book is to be considered a breach of contract. The President said he had talked with a number of publishers, who approve the plan. The matter was laid over for action at the next meeting.

The following gentlemen elected members: Hunter M. Culloch, Brooklyn; Justus Kobbé, Summit, N. J.; and Willis F. Johnson.

SIGNS OF A MILD WINTER.

Dandelions, Grasshoppers, Crickets, Toads, and Bullfrogs in Evidence.

SCRANTON, Oct. 2.—"I saw more signs to-day of a late fall and a mild winter," said an old Lackawanna Valley weather prophet yesterday. "I have lived eighty-six years, and I have never before seen dandelion blossoms in this region on the 1st of October, except three years ago, when we had a very warm fall and an uncommonly mild winter. Goldenrods all over the upper Lehigh plateau are as fresh and bright as they were three weeks ago. I never saw the blossoms so yellow and beautiful on the 1st day of October before. Mountain ash berries are two weeks later in getting real red than they generally are, and that is a sure indication of an open winter. There has been no frost to change the color of the forest leaves, chestnut burrs still cling to the nuts, and acorns haven't dropped from the trees yet—good signs of a warm winter.

"Then take grasshoppers, for another sure sign of a late fall. They are as lively as they were in August. I caught three to-day, and they yielded molasses as freely as they did in midsummer. When there is going to be a cool fall and a hard winter, you can't coax a grasshopper to spit out molasses after the 1st of September. Crickets are livelier than they were six weeks ago, and that's another unfailing indication of an open winter. Tree toads have sung after nightfall two weeks longer than they did in 1891. They are good weather prophets, and they tell me that heavy overcoats will be a drug in the market next winter. Bullfrogs croak in the ponds at night with a good deal more energy than they generally do at this time in the fall, and that means a long, pleasant autumn, and a winter without snow. All the indications go to show that people will have to pay about 300 per cent. more for their ice next summer than they gave this year."

Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

A Birmingham steel worker committed suicide in a simple way. He put his head under a trip hammer and had it smashed.

The German Emperor's money matters have steadily grown more harassing. He is said to be so deeply involved with money lenders that the court officials have difficulty in getting their salaries.

A London woman, being tired of servant maids, hired a boy of 16 to do the housework. She was immediately summoned for unlawfully keeping a man servant with out a license. She paid a fine, with testimony to the superiority of boy servants over girls.

A recent report that the White Star line had contracted for a 700-foot steamer, a ship eighty feet longer than the new Cunarders, arose from the request of the Liverpool authorities to Sir Edward Harland for his opinion as to what size of ship they should provide for in the new docks. The answer was that accommodations for a steamer 700 feet long would be sufficient for the future.

In 1876 Senator Perazzi of the Italian Parliament, while coming down an Alpine glacier at the height of 14,000 feet, dropped his coat in a crevasse. The guides, knowing the annual rate of glacial movement, told him that it would probably come out from the glacier's mouth in about seventeen years. Last August some tourists saw a coat in the moraine, and, on examination, it turned out to be the Senator's.

Ouida says she does not write plays, because of the "inexorable laws and limits in dramatic composition which fetter and irritate." To these must be added the "annoyance of all the excisions, additions, and alterations which managers and actors insist on after the piece is read to them. With your novel you are wholly free." Likewise, "with very few exceptions, English actors and actresses act ill. They are stiff and self-conscious. The quality of the acting and the unintelligence of the audience have kept writers of eminence off the English stage ever since the first Lord Lytton."

The most marvellous of clocks has been built by a Black Forest maker and sold for $4,000. Besides doing everything that most clocks do in the matter of time and calendar, it shows the time in Berlin, St. Petersburg, Madeira, Shanghai, Calcutta, Montreal, San Francisco, Melbourne, and Greenwich. Every evening at eight a young man invites the company to vespers in an electrically illuminated chapel where a young woman plays the "Maiden's Prayer." On New Year's eve two trumpeters announce the flight of the old year and the advent of the new. In May a cuckoo comes out; in June a quail; in October a pheasant appears to be shot down by a typical British sportsman who proceeds to bag his game. At sunbreak the sun rises and some bells play a German air entitled "Phœbus Awakes." On the night of the full moon they play another German air entitled "Sweet and Tranquil Luna." There are other features too numerous to mention.

We have to chide the *Brandon Banner*, to which we recently credited a poem of high quality, for failing to put the author's name to it, or to indicating in any way that it was not original. The poem, which appeared under the title of "Honest Confession," was originally known as "Candor," when Mr. H. C. Bunner first made it known to the world. We assure Mr. Bunner of our distinguished consideration.

VOIGHT FILES HIS ANSWER.

A Reiteration of His Charges Against a Baltimore Insurance Company.

Albert G. Voight, an insurance broker, left the employ of the American Casualty, Accident and Insurance Company of Baltimore last spring and obtained employment with the Guarantee and Accident Lloyds of this city. He had had a dispute with the officers of the Ba