NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXXVI.....No. 124

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF HORIZON.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, 23d st., between 5th and 6th avs.—A WINTER'S TALE.

WOOD'S MUSEUM Broadway, corner 30th st.—Performances every afternoon and evening.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—THE LIAR—AMERICANS IN PARIS.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—A NEW WAY TO PAY OLD DEBTS.

LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 720 Broadway.—COMEDY OF PLUCK.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 8th av. and 23d st.—SKETCHES IN INDIA—BARBE BLEUE.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—WHO SPEAKS FIRST—SCHNIDER.

NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, No. 45 Bowery.—L'AFRICAINE.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—THE CRITIC—A THOUSAND A YEAR.

GLOBE THEATRE, 728 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, &C.—PEARL OF TOKAY.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—HELP.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Montague street—UN BALLO IN MASCHERA.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 585 Broadway.—SATSUMA'S ROYAL JAPANESE TROUPE.

BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 23d st., between 6th and 7th avs.—NEGRO MINSTRELSY, &C. Matinee at 2.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—COMIC VOCALISMS, NEGRO ACTS, &C.

NEWCOMB & ARLINGTON'S MINSTRELS, corner 28th st. and Broadway.—NEGRO MINSTRELSY, &C.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, May 4, 1871.

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DEADLOCK AT HARRISBURG.—There is a deadlock in the Pennsylvania Legislature. Send for the "Boss" and he will make it all right in the twinkling of a bedpost.

TWO NEGRO MILITIAMEN were executed at Union Court House, S. C., on Friday last for the murder of a white man named Stevens. Ten other negroes were hanged some time ago by masked men for the same crime, thus making twelve lives in all taken for the murder of one person—certainly a complete and fearful vengeance.

THE PARK COMMISSIONERS met and reorganized yesterday, Mr. Sweeny being again chosen President. They transacted a good deal of regular business during the meeting. The Park Commissioners have done good work among our city garden spots, and we are glad to see that they are intent on doing even better still. The children of the present generation will rise up and call them blessed even if taxpayers and radicals bless them in another way at present.

THE PARIS COMMUNE AND THE DESTRUCTION OF MONUMENTS.—A despatch from Paris says that the Column in the Place Vendôme is to be demolished on the 8th day of May, and that all the statues and other vestiges of the monarchical *régime* are to be destroyed on the same day. We have no reason to be surprised at this, for we believe the Commune and its satellites to be capable of anything in the way of atrocity. The 8th of May, then, is to be a holiday of destruction with the Reds, and while one gang is destroying the Column the others will be demolishing nearly all that is beautiful in Paris. They may, and probably will, wipe out the Tuileries and the Louvre, and when their hands are fairly in the work they had better keep on and destroy all of Paris—make a big bonfire of it, and when the torch is applied to the last building and it is fairly on fire, if they will only jump into the flames there may be yet some hope for France.

FEMALE SUFFRAGE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The irrepressible champions of woman's rights have again introduced the question of female suffrage into the House of Commons. Mr. Mills, the prime mover of the agitation, was, however, not there, or else we should have heard some forcible arguments in favor of the proposed measure. As it is, the bill fell through after some lively and interesting discussion. Mr. Gladstone did his best to kill it by proposing compromise—a sort of qualified female suffrage, which would be simply no suffrage at all. He recommended that women should vote by proxy—that is to say, their husbands or male protectors should vote for them. Another speaker called female suffrage "an outrage upon womanhood," and gave thereby the *coup de grâce* to the bill. But the advocates of female suffrage will never say fail, and the question will probably be revived again and again in Parliament until British legislators will concede the demands of the strong-minded portion of the fair sex.

The Joint High Commission—Prospect of a Great Treaty of Peace.

We have great expectations of a satisfactory treaty from the Joint High Commission—a treaty which will mark the beginning of a new epoch of peace, harmony and prosperity, not only to the two great commercial nations directly concerned, but to all the civilized States of the globe. The heavy work of the Commission, we understand, is finished; the secondary details are nearly all settled, and the reciprocities agreed upon will within a few days be ready for submission in due form to the Senate at Washington and the government at London for ratification. General Grant, in expectation of this treaty, has called an extra session of the Senate to meet on the 10th instant, and our Secretary of State, Mr. Fish, has made his arrangements to retire from the Cabinet on the 1st of June; from which we infer that, as Secretary of State and as a member of the High Commission, he expects that by the 1st of June the treaty in question will have become an established law between the two countries, justifying his official retirement with the public approval of "Well done, good and faithful servant."

The labors of this High Commission have embraced the settlement of the international disputes and embarrassments connected with the Newfoundland and Nova Scotia fisheries, the navigation of the St. Lawrence, a boundary question on the Pacific coast and the Alabama claims. From the various reports and rumors set afloat touching the arrangements and engagements entered into by the high contracting parties, we conclude that upon the fisheries question the Commission have agreed that American fishermen shall have substantially the same rights as her Majesty's subjects in the sea fisheries of her North American provinces to the shore line; that her Majesty's fishermen shall have corresponding privileges along our Atlantic coast down to Delaware Bay, and that a board of arbitrators—one to be appointed by President Grant, one by Queen Victoria, and the third, or umpire, by these two, or, if they cannot agree, he is to be chosen by the Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary—and these three arbitrators are to determine the difference in cash between these fishery concessions on the one side and the other, and the difference is to be paid in cash by the party having the best of the bargain.

Is not this a fair arrangement? We think it is. Under existing treaty stipulations American catchers of cod and mackerel in those wonderful cod and mackerel placers of the Gulf and Banks of Newfoundland are prohibited fishing within a marine league from the shore. To make this exclusion worse, the New Dominion authorities have construed the treaty line as running from headland to headland across their smaller gulfs and bays, inside of which our fishermen cannot venture without danger of seizure and confiscation. General Butler, in behalf of his fishing constituents, has threatened war upon this question, and to quiet him and his belligerent fishermen the Joint High Commission have agreed that his fishermen shall have full sweep, even to the shore line of her Majesty's provinces, and certain shore privileges to dry their fish, &c.; but that between these and similar concessions granted on our side we shall pay the difference on a fair cash valuation. General Butler, and likewise General Banks, it is said, will oppose this arrangement with all their might; but still we think it ought to be, and will be, satisfactory to the Senate.

Next, in regard to the navigation of the St. Lawrence, it is agreed that we shall have the same rights as the Canadians, in paying the tolls of the St. Lawrence canals. To our readers who do not know exactly what this means we may say that the St. Lawrence, notwithstanding the tremendous volume of water which it bears to the sea, is not a navigable river between Lake Ontario and Montreal, in consequence of its rapids. Flatboats, pirogues and steamboats frequently descend these rapids at great risks, but no sort of craft can ascend them. These rapids are named the Long Sault (twelve miles), the Gallopades (where the descending boat seems to be galloping like a horse over the waves), the Cedars (from the numerous cedars there among the rocky islands), the Cascades and the Lachine rapids, the worst of the line, just above Montreal. Around all these rapids our British American neighbors, at the cost of many millions of money, have constructed great canals, with walls of stone block equal in size to the stones in the Egyptian pyramids, and thus, including the Welland Canal, the rapids of the St. Lawrence and the Niagara Falls themselves are surmounted by vessels from Montreal or from Liverpool. The British concessions, therefore, in regard to the navigation of the St. Lawrence, are all that we can ask.

The Northwestern Pacific coast boundary dispute is about a little island in the dividing straits of San Juan de Fuca, which to a great extent commands those straits. This island the High Commission surrender to the United States, which is all we demand in that quarter.

The main difficulty of those Alabama claims, then, is all of this budget of difficulties that is left, and upon this the High Commission have adopted the saving alternative of arbitration. A board of arbitration of five members, impartially constituted as possible, is to determine our claims against England arising from the depredations upon our commerce, during our late rebellion, of such Anglo-rebel cruisers as the Alabama, the Florida and Shenandoah; and another and similar board of arbitrators is to determine the claims of British subjects upon the United States for property seized or destroyed during our late rebellion, &c. And what plan calculated to be fair and satisfactory to both sides could be devised better than this we are at a loss to imagine. It has been reported that these British claims will overtop our Alabama claims to the extent of twenty or thirty millions, in embracing losses for slaves, losses of blockade runners, and, peradventure, losses from the rebel cotton loan. But slaves are not property in England or under English law, and while Lord John Russell, during our rebellion, warned those English blockade runners that there was no law for them, our own government has settled that rebel cotton loan in the repudiation of all rebel debts. We dare say that Mr. Secretary Fish, if those Canadian Fenian raid claims have been touched upon in the deliberations of the High Commission, has settled them in a simple reference to the claims of American neutrality in this business.

It is given out, however, that Mr. Senator Sumner will stoutly oppose this Alabama settlement on the ground that it does not touch the main question—England's great offence to us in connection with our rebellion, in the matter of belligerent rights. Against the Clarendon-Johnson treaty Mr. Sumner contended that England, in her application of belligerent rights to Jeff Davis, was morally responsible to us to the extent of at least a thousand millions of dollars, and that she must at least apologise for this great wrong. For ten years she has stubbornly contended that in this thing of belligerency she did no wrong according to law, and it is evident that if we stick to Mr. Sumner's legal argument as our ultimatum upon this question we never can have a settlement short of a war, turning, perhaps, our own country into political confusion, and deranging the affairs of the whole civilized world.

General Grant, then, in dropping this extreme demand of Mr. Sumner, has given the cue to our side of the High Commission, whereby we have the agreement indicated in a practical, common sense business view of the facts and the situation. The treaty, we understand, will embrace a provision defining the duties of the high contracting parties as neutrals in the future, and abandoning only that extreme issue of Mr. Sumner, upon which there can be no retroactive agreement. We think that upon the issues presented, and upon the points we have indicated, the treaty agreed upon by the Joint High Commission, as we understand it, covers the whole ground practically in dispute, and presents a plan of settlement fair and honorable to both sides. What, then, becomes of "manifest destiny?" We believe in the manifest continental destiny of the United States; but we are strong and secure in our position and increasing strength in peace, and we can bide our time. "Let us have peace," then, for with peace, in co-operation with England and the new empire of Germany, and France restored to her senses, we rule the commerce and civilization of the globe; and the moral weight of our institutions meantime will carry the cause of popular rights even in Ireland. "Let us have peace," and the United States, England and Russia have but to say the word in order to establish the law of civilization even in the empire of China. Looking to these grand results, we have high hopes of a new and glorious era of prevailing peace from the labors of the Joint High Commission.

The Prosperity of the Herald.

Some of our contemporaries are much exercised about the wondrous prosperity of the HERALD. Sixty columns of advertisements, given in the one day and printed the next, make a show which, under the same conditions, has had no parallel, so far as we know, in the history of journalism. Quadruple sheets during this busy season have been with us more a necessity than ever. Our contemporaries know and feel, although they do not confess it, that our enormous advertising patronage is a substantial vote of confidence in the HERALD. Why the New York public should stand by us and cling to us in this manner it is not difficult to answer. We stand by them and by the whole American people. We print a great newspaper. In getting it up we spare no expense. Our money is freely given out; our agents in consequence are numerous and everywhere—at least where they ought to be—and we insist that they shall not be beaten. In whatever point the interest of the public centres our agent is there; and whether it be in London, Paris, Berlin, St. Petersburg, or in the heart of China or on the heights of Abyssinia, our agent must be ahead of all rivals. As cost is no hindrance his difficulty is the less. This, however, is not all. The HERALD calls no man, no party, no creed, master. It is its pride, its glory to be independent. Being independent, we have the less difficulty in being impartial. If our views of men and movements in the political, social, mercantile and religious worlds do not always please, they are at least our views, and that is their value. The New York public and the American people as a whole have learned to trust us, because they know that whatever others may do we shall not betray their interests. Our enormous advertising patronage is not the principal proof of the HERALD'S prosperity and power. More potent proof is to be found in the fear of dishonest politicians, in the dread of tricky Cabinets, in the watchfulness of nations. In certain matters our voice is as powerful in London as in New York, in Pekin as in Washington. If we know how to make a great newspaper, how to reflect the times and to improve them by the process of reflection, that may be a reason for admiration, but it ought not to be a cause of jealousy. Much as the HERALD has done and is doing, we look forward to greater victories, because we feel the impulses and outgoings of increasing strength.

The Street Car Murder.

It is unfortunate that no great reform in civilized communities can be reached nor any great wrong righted without some person or persons first becoming victims. It is so in the case of the murdered Mr. Putnam. That the management of our public conveyances has been entrusted to improper hands has for a long time been notorious, and it perhaps required some signal act like that perpetrated by the murderer Foster to arouse our citizens to the necessity of adopting some measures tending to protect themselves from assassination and their wives and daughters from insult. Now that the community is fully awakened on the subject we trust the agitation will not be allowed to cease until the city railroad companies are in some manner made responsible for the good conduct of their employés, particularly conductors and car drivers. Moreover, we trust our authorities and criminal prosecutors will take timely precautions to see that justice is not cheated of its due in the case in hand. It is understood that money will not be wanted, nor legal talent deficient, to shield Foster from the punishment he so richly merits. An example against ruffianism must be made, and a better subject could not be secured than in the person of the murderer now in custody.

The Investment of Paris—Progress of the Siege Operations.

Marshal MacMahon is steadily pushing his operations against the positions of the insurgent forces. He is giving the forts upon the south of Paris particular attention, and the assaults upon different points are resisted with great stubborness. The bitter enmity existing between the troops of the government and those of the Commune render the contest a most bloody one, the latter having lost in killed, by the bayonet alone, in the attack upon Clamart, over three hundred men. No quarter is given by the former and none is asked by the latter. The fight is hand to hand, breast to breast, and ends only in death or a mortal wound. There will probably be no attempt at an assault or nearer approach to the city in any direction until after the southern forts are reduced. The minor engagements on the west of Paris amount to nothing, comparatively. A few affairs of outposts have occurred at Neuilly, but both parties remained in their positions, and there is nothing to indicate at present a further advance in that direction. The heavy bombardment against Fort d'Issy is maintained, and the others to the eastward receive a full share of attention from the government batteries. The news of the surrender of all of them or their being carried by storm may be received at any moment, and when it occurs there will be an important change in the programme. The siege guns then will be advanced to within easy breaching distance of the *enceinte* and the southern part of the city will come in for its share of projectiles. The prospect of peace appears to be as far removed as ever, and there is evidently no chance of its being brought about except at the point of the bayonet.

Austria and the Concordat.

A cable despatch, which we print this morning, announces the fact that the Minister of Instruction in the Austrian Reichsrath yesterday declared that the government had taken a position in favor of the abolition of the Concordat with Rome. It is added that the Reichsrath will now consider the practical consequences to the empire of the dogma of infallibility. Remembering what Austria was up until 1858-9, we must regard this piece of news as full of hope. Sadowa gave Von Beust power, and all honest men must admit that his influence has gone on the liberal side. Dr. Döllinger, as all our news has shown, is as much a favorite in Vienna as he is in Munich. This expression of feeling in the Austrian Reichsrath against the Concordat and not in favor of infallibility means that Rome is no longer to be regarded as the world's centre. Francis Joseph to-day is a wiser man than he was in 1848, and Francis Joseph, with his larger wisdom, says, with the full consent of his subjects, "No more Concordats." Italy united and strong, and not in sympathy with Papal sovereignty; France defeated, demoralized and a world's shame; Protestant Germany omnipotent—all these things have opened the eyes of Austrian statesmen and exercised some influence on the chief of the House of Hapsburg. Time was when the Pope of Rome distrusted the people; time was when the present Emperor of Austria hated the people; but immense as was the power of the one and the other, the popular cause has so been adding victory to victory that the Pope and the Kaiser have both found it necessary to court popular favor. The poor Pope, an old man, worn out and fond of rest, has unhappily committed himself and his cause to infallibility. Francis Joseph, yet comparatively a young man, finds out and admits his mistakes. The attitude of Italy, the condition of France, the gathering strength of the new German empire, all give significance to this Austrian movement, and the lesson is that the Papacy in its ancient sense is no more. The first Napoleon humbled but used the Papacy; the treaties of Vienna gave it a new point of departure; the second French empire saved it and propped it; the Döllinger movement has all but killed it, and unless the Pope and his friends make up their minds to make concessions and chime in with popular sentiment the Papacy will be put in permanent trouble. If the Papacy is wise the opportunity is not yet lost.

The South Carolina Tempest.

The hot bloods of the Palmetto State are forming rifle clubs and organizing volunteer militia companies and regiments. Our correspondent, in his special despatch, says they have been chartered as clubs only, but some have armed themselves and others have humbugged Governor Scott into letting them have arms from the State arsenals. They have no avowed purpose in thus organizing, but it seems to be the accepted opinion among the old scions of chivalry there, who may be excused for not comprehending that a revolution has passed over the land, that their sole aim and object is to fight and sweep out of existence the "nigger" regiments that compose the State National Guard. South Carolina has always been an inconsiderate and thoughtless State, as her nullification acts under Jackson and her ordinance of secession under Buchanan have fully shown, and such a reinauguration of civil war may actually be in contemplation among her youthful Hotspurs. As the able-bodied negroes number thirty thousand more than the able-bodied whites the proposed opening of hostilities is more honorable to their pluck than to their discretion. The United States troops seem to be concentrating in large force in Columbia and Charleston, doubtless in pursuance of the President's Ku Klux proclamation, and we may safely depend upon them to maintain peace among the people.

FOSTER, THE MURDERER OF PUTNAM, was arraigned in the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday, but his counsel asked that he be allowed a short delay, as he intended to put in a special plea. Judge Cardozo finally consented to postpone the case until to-day, when a special plea, probably in reference to the jurisdiction of the Court and looking to a change of venue, in consequence of the excited state of the public mind in this city, will be offered. The lawyers engaged for the defence of Foster are among the best that the bar of our criminal courts affords, and they are not likely to allow any technicality or quibble to escape them which may by any possibility offer their client the slightest loophole of escape.

The Erie Suits in the Federal Courts.

There is still balm in Gilead for Heath and Raphael. The contempt case in which Jay Gould, claimant of thirty thousand shares of Erie stock—the property, as counter claimed, of Heath and Raphael, English stockholders—argued on Tuesday last before Judge Blatchford, in the United States Circuit Court, was decided yesterday by a determination on the part of the Court to issue an order for the arrest of the recalcitrant Gould. The original demand, and on which the suit before the Master in Equity is based, is for sixty thousand and fifty-four shares of Erie stock. The sudden disappearance of these shares, and the positive refusal of the Erie directors to account for them on their book returns or otherwise, instigated the litigation which has been going on in the United States courts for several weeks. A clear statement of all the points in the case, what Heath and Raphael claim and the ground on which their claims are resisted on the part of the Erie Company, was given in a HERALD editorial some days ago, in addition to the evidence reported on each day of the examination. After a most exhaustive process of questioning and cross-questioning on the part of counsel, and of unblushing prevarication and evasion on the part of the principal witness, Jay Gould, a deadlock was reached, and the Master foiled—his orders being contemned and resisted at every point—was compelled to appeal to the Court. Counsel brought up the question on a motion that an attachment be issued for the arrest of Gould for contempt of the Master's order and his detention until such time as he shall produce in court the books which, it is supposed, will give some light as to the disposition of the missing stock and in what way a new issue of stock to cover deficiencies was manipulated. After hearing counsel at great length on all the questions involved it was yesterday ascertained that Judge Blatchford will this morning issue an order of attachment for the arrest of Mr. Gould. Whether this course will have the effect of bringing matters to a satisfactory finale to the English stockholders remains to be seen. It is, however, certain that a crisis in the case will be reached in a day or two.

The Darien Ship Canal—Prospects for Its Construction.

Although the survey of the Napipi route for the ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien has not resulted as favorably as it was hoped it would, still we have no doubt that ultimately a practicable route will be found. Even the one which has just been surveyed, and the summit determined to be six hundred and twelve feet high, may yet be used by means of locks. The Tuyra route, which has still to be explored, may turn out the best and afford all the facilities for rapid and economical construction. Notwithstanding the many difficulties that have been encountered by the different exploring expeditions sent to the isthmus, and the natural impediments in the way of carrying out the enterprise, we yet have every confidence that the canal will be made. For a long time it was thought impossible to build the Panama Railroad; but energy, perseverance and money overcame every obstacle, and it was completed. So it will be with the ship canal; if not made at one point of the isthmus it will be at another, but it must and will be constructed, sooner or later. The special telegram from the HERALD correspondent with the surveying expedition informs us that Commander Selfridge pronounces his exploration a success, and suggests a series of locks on either side and a tunnel through the summit in order to make the canal all that will be required. Before believing this immense work necessary we await further information respecting the width of this summit. It may be only a narrow ridge, descending rapidly on either side, and if this is the case the difficulty to be overcome will not be as great as we are at present led to suppose. It will not do to say that it cannot be done. Americans believe in no such assertion. They will not let the matter rest until ships are passing from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

The Coal Troubles—Almost the End.

The coal troubles have substantially ended, the Wilkesbarre men having already returned to work on the old basis, and the Pottsville men having signified their willingness to abide by local arbitration, which is equivalent to following the example of their Wilkesbarre friends. Thus the miners, after all their long and earnest fight, have lost heavily. Some of the cherished principles of the trades union, founded upon false premises, however, as we have always held in our friendly advice to the miners, have been overthrown, and their long-continued idleness has eaten up their funds. The combinations of capital, railroads, legislatures and courts have been too powerful for them. It was an unequal match from the first; but if ever oppressed workman or downtrodden nation had right upon its side in rebellion the miners had right upon theirs in their strike. The interests of all the people of the Atlantic sea coast were directly identified with them in the struggle, and the great powers of railroads and monopolies have been sufficient, for the present at least, to overpower public sentiment and public interest.

The Scranton men, it is stated in our special despatch, are moody and sullen. They have not yet given in, and still have a faint hope of some concession from the operators. If they get none our correspondent intimates that riot and revolution may ensue, and the property of the operators and the mine owners will be likely to suffer severely. Men driven almost to desperation by hunger, as these men are, are dangerous enemies; and we think that the companies may yet find it to their interest to offer at once some generous concessions. It is worth something pecuniarily to have willing workers instead of quarry slaves in their mines, and a generous concession may not only prevent riot and destruction of property, but it may insure them more cheerful and, consequently, more zealous laborers.

THE CONUNDRUM OF THE CONNECTICUT ELECTION will probably be solved next week. The Legislature now awaits an investigation into the alleged false counts in New Haven and Enfield to decide who is Governor of that distracted State, and thus put an end to the frenzy of the militiamen who have been wailing over the postponement of their annual parade day.

"Sartor Resartus" in the Custom House.

The distinction between a uniform and a livery is very fine, though not always as finely discriminated. Outside of that imported class known as liveried servants there are few here wearing a dress distinctive of their occupation who will submit to the term. Let a man wear a garb in any regulation cut and color and his first endeavor is to convince himself that it is a uniform; this once done, it is not difficult getting others to believe it. The soldier is at one extreme of those condemned to prescribed apparel; the flunky in plush at the other. Between these, the one bearing a badge of honor, the other a badge of servitude, there are many intermediary grades, and what makes the drawing of strict lines difficult lies in the fact that social station is no criterion. The courtier, for instance, in his gold-slashed coat, deny it how he may, is as much in livery as his coachman. The true interpretation, perhaps, is, that he thus forced to dress, no matter what his rank, who serves a single direct master is in livery, while he who serves a people or a nation wears a uniform. The question of those who are flunkies at heart does not enter into this article.

For the last week deep agitation has been caused among some two hundred and forty of Uncle Sam's public servants. These are the night watchmen and inspectors of the New York Custom House. Thomas Murphy—Honest Tom—in the simplicity of his soul, germinated the idea that such important personages should wear a uniform. Hence much bitterness among the inspectors, both of the day and night order. They are abashed and ashamed at the idea of donning what they call a livery. Fools! In their anger they forget that they are only asked to take the position which of right belongs to them—uniformed protectors of the import interests of the United States. There is, however, something in their dislike to assuming a dress distinctive of their occupation which has two separate causes.

The first is in a certain measure honorable, because it is a result of one of the best steps in modern civilization—namely, the instinctive aversion to the sumptuary laws of mediæval times in the matter of dress. Unfortunately for the inspectors, this reason has not much weight in their course of thought. It is centred in the second alternative of their dislike to a uniform—namely, that they do not wish to be known outside the circle of their official duties for what they are. A simple little badge is so easily put in the pocket, and then our Custom House inspector can become "a man as other men are." Of course Tom's honest, or Honest Tom's, idea is to keep the public eye upon them when they are on duty, to make them an object of respect to incoming foreign sea captains, and make them proud of their positions generally and anxious to maintain it respectably at all times. Now, in this sartorial side issue there are many points worth the settling. The color of the coat will not so much matter; but it is sincerely to be hoped that pockets will be peremptorily forbidden. On biblical grounds the night watchmen should wear a flame-colored garment, and the day inspectors white or a light gray. They should, in fact, be pillars of fire to smugglers by night and a cloud by day. This is thrown out as a suggestion; for we mean no offence to the heaven-tinted sky-blue which some of the inspectors have in their mind's eye. Lest the public should deem we have a sinister intention in the matter we can freely say that we have no knowledge of Honest Tom having a contract for the inspectors' caps in perspective. Mr. Murphy was an army contractor for head gear, it is true, but the two hundred and forty inspectors would not offer a fair target for the meanest speculator.

If this uniform question be once fairly started we cannot for the life of us see why the poor inspector, at four dollars a day, or the humbler night watchman, at three, should alone be marked out to public notice. Why not Honest Tom himself? Should he not strut in something indicative of his great public value, some pumpkins color, say? Should not the newly-appointed Naval Officer roll like the billows of the ocean in a suit of sea green? Should not the Surveyor take men's and vessels' measures in a uniform of measuring tape? Should not the Appraiser calculate his duties on merchandise in a suit of tariff regulations printed in large type? Should not Mr. Terwilliger, Honest Tom's secretary, bind himself up in bandages of official red tape? Should not Mr. Murphy's porters have some outward resemblance to Guinness' XX? Why stop at the Custom House? There are other public servants who want labelling, too, such as the Internal revenue. The collectors should be draped in something of a greenback device, the assessors in a color between cigars and whiskey, the deputy assessors in blank income tax forms, the gaugers in a wooden armor of gaugers' rods. We leave to the fertile minds of our public-spirited citizens the carrying of this idea to the highest positions in the country.

It has a cogency which none but the narrow-minded can waive. Pity, indeed, it were that a public servant should feel this movement antagonistic to his reputation. They should not cry with Adam in "As You Like It"—

> Oh, what a world is this, when what is comely
> Envenoms him that bears it!

They must remember Ruy Blas' reproach to his master, "I wear the dress of a lackey; you have the soul of one," and on this build their self-esteem.

With regard to city officials, there is a difficulty in putting this uniforming idea into practice. When a man holds say six offices how could he humanely be expected to wear six uniforms? It might be gotten over by a citizen wearing a scavenger's sleeves, a policeman's club, a deputy sheriff's body to his coat, a registry office pants, a coroner's office hat, and so on. There would be some curious apparels seen in Gotham, and the public might arrive at a just idea of who pays for the "motley" and who wears it. Here is a new plank for an enterprising political party to plant in their platform. Who bids?

OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.—It appears from the debate in the British Parliament on the reduction of ocean postage to one penny, as on land in England, that the Gladstone government resists the change, on the ground that it would cause too great a loss to the Post Office Department. The Ministry defeated the