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NEW YORK LETTER

OBSERVATIONS OF MEN AND THINGS IN THE GREAT METROPOLIS.

The Influx of Immigrants and the Hospitable Treatment Extended to Them—How It Has Been and Will Continue to be Paid for—How a Polished Scoundrel "Works"—Etc.

Special Correspondence of the Times.]

NEW YORK, June 21.—We are just beginning to find out how big we are in New York—that is to say, how big New York city is. In square miles we knew all about it long ago, and in superficial area we give in to the broad-brimmed sons of Pennsylvania, who can call their city the largest in the country without lying more than is good for them. But the world don't measure influence by the yard, nor power by the tape-line. Daniel Lambert don't count for quite so much as William M. Evarts, although he might cover the latter up and not know anything was under him, and Barnum's fat woman don't fill as big a place in the world's estimation as George Eliot, although the circumference of her calf was greater than the span of the other's waist. The census tables are slow in coming out, and we have waited two years to know just how many souls made Manhattan Island their home in June, 1880. I say "souls" because that is the convenient phrase, but in point of fact the supply of souls would be found to run alarmingly short if there was any trustworthy way of determining how many of the visible bodies contained nothing worth the name of soul, but in its stead, only the greed of the wolf, the lust of the goat, the cruelty of the hyena, the cunning of the fox, and the venom of the snake.

There were 1,306,299 persons living in New York City two years ago. If the enumeration had occurred fifteen minutes later in some of the tenement house districts, it might have been an even 300 instead of 299, by the arrival of a new baby, but the baby probably didn't know the Marshal was coming around so soon, and didn't hurry on that account. As the city contains some 25 square miles, a simple calculation shows a density of over 48,000 to the square mile. Take off the upper third of the island, where there is much land not yet built upon, and wherein is Central Park with its 846 acres, and the remainder would be found to have nearer 100,000 than 48,000 to the square mile. There were 167,290 children under five years of age, enough of themselves, to make a city as large as Cleveland, and nearly enough to entitle them to petition Congress for admission as a State, requiring liberal appropriation for internal improvements. Then at the other end of the line were 346 men and women who, like "Grandfathers Clock," had "stood ninety years on the shelf," and were, presumably, nearly run down. How many of these had cut short their days by rum and tobacco we are, unfortunately, not told. It would make such a strong temperance sermon if we knew. There were 25,271 more females than males—a fact that you had better not publish prominently because there is already too great a propensity, on the part of the country boy, to come to New York for fame, fortune and wife, and I don't want to stimulate his coming to look over these 25,000 assorted females. There were only 20,456 colored people here, which insures a good water-melon market, but don't endanger the demand for white labor.

But these were the figures of 1880 and don't tell the story of to-day, because we are getting a new population at the rate of

FIFTEEN THOUSAND A WEEK.

In the past fortnight over thirty thousand emigrants have landed here, and over two hundred thousand have come to our shore, so far, in 1882. There has never been such a rush from Europe as now, nor so many nationalities represented. It has been estimated by our political economists, that every man arriving as an emigrant, was worth to the country, in actual present or prospective wealth, not less than \$1,000. Figure it up yourself, and see how much richer we are as a nation, than we were six months. Even if your own pocket does not feel the weight of any part of the \$1,000 per capita, you can

congratulate yourself that out of the labor of these hardy workers are to come future national surpluses, to be voted away by Congress for the appropriations for the navigation of duck ponds and the building of marble post-offices and custom houses for every landing place on the Atlantic, and hamlet on the shores of the Great Lakes.

CASTLE GARDEN

is the door to the United States for nine-tenths of the emigrants, and a hospitable door it has been. Here he (and his wife and brood of children) has been housed and sheltered on arrival from the big steamship in the strange land; here he has found interpreters who could speak every language ever heard of, and give points to the learned blacksmith; here he could get his store of foreign money changed into American currency without being cheated; here he could buy tickets to any part of the broad land; here he could find chances to engage himself to labor in New York and surrounding country if so disposed; from here, if he was sick, he could be taken to the hospital, under the same general supervision, and be doctored and nursed. In short, it has been the very best friend and protector the emigrant could hope to find, and at a fraction of the cost which he would otherwise have had to pay for the introduction into American life. There was danger last week that the Garden, with all its usefulness, was to be closed, for want of funds for current expenses. The State of New York has paid the expenses until now, but it was rightfully felt that, as not one in ten of the beneficiaries remained in New York, the National Government should pay the cost of what was so largely for the public good. Congress had done nothing, and even if it should suspend the usual grab-game long enough to consider the case of the immigrant, it would be after so long a delay that great suffering and loss would have been involved. The only other source to look to for the money was the steamship companies who brought the immigrants to this country. They were asked to pay fifty cents a head for all whom they landed. This was reasonable (in the end), and no expense to them, as they will, of course, add fifty cents to the cost of steerage tickets. At the last moment they have consented to this arrangement, and Castle Garden will continue to remain and protect the strangers. But for this they would be landed on the piers of the several transportation companies and left to shift for themselves, and to be the prey of sharpers, thieves, and procurers.

A CARD IN THE "EVENING POST" HAS DISCLOSED THE PRACTICES OF A POLITE AND POLISHED SCOUNDREL.

Who infests railway trains to and from New York, and against whom the widest warning should be given. A gentleman says his sister was coming to New York on a train, when a well dressed and polished gentleman (apparently) asked if the seat beside her was engaged, and finding it was not, he took it. Gradually he led the way in a courteous conversation, and finally producing a box of confectionery, invited her to partake. She declined this in spite of his urging. Undoubtedly it was drugged, for failing in this plan, he soon pulled out his handkerchief and flourished it about until the lady felt herself becoming overcome with the perfumes and chloroform upon it. With great exertion, and by strong will, she managed to get the window open, and to revive in the fresh air. Finding himself foiled the man left the seat, and soon after the train. A few days later, the lady saw the same man pursuing similar tactics toward a lady on another train. She asked to speak to the lady, when he recognized her, and left the train hurriedly. There is no doubt he had selected victims who probably had purses and jewelry about their persons, and intended to rob them as soon as they became unconscious.

THE WEEK IN NEW YORK.

The police made a raid in Madison Square Park and arrested 26 men and boys as vagrants. The condition of Central Park reflects no credit upon the authorities of the metropolis of the country.

A drummer for a city house, who has just returned from Salt Lake, has made the important (if true) discovery that the Mormon women are happy. The writer's observations are very much to the contrary.

A petition is in circulation, asking the governing committee of the Stock Exchange to punish members detected in floating rumors affecting the credit of other members.

That warm weather has begun in earnest may be inferred from the fact that a genuine Arab, just from the hot and sandy deserts of Arabia, was overcome by the heat in Brooklyn,

yesterday, and taken to the hospital in an ambulance.

The Brooklyn bridge matters are to be investigated. Let it be thoroughly done.

A Sing Sing postoffice clerk has been arrested on charge of embezzlement. He has been in office nine years.

One hundred and four business failures in the United States are reported for the past week.

It is proposed to erect a suitable monument in Brooklyn in honor of the soldiers and sailors of the city who fell in the war of the rebellion.

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STAGE COMPANY,

Carrying the U. S. mail, Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express, passengers and fast freight. Dispatches coaches daily, at 8 a. m., from

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For Boise City, and Points in Western Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

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Feed and Sale Stable

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Fifty Cents Per Barrel.

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New House and New Furniture. First-class in Every Respect.

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Mrs. Carrie Bache, Proprietress. j110-82

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