

## CHICAGO'S GREAT DAY.

Evidences of the "great time" enjoyed by the Chicagoans on Friday last are beginning to drift westward, principally through the medium of the newspapers. The *Times* of that city came out in terra cotta colored ink, and the *Tribune* was mailed in a terra cotta colored wrapper; but the *Mail* surpassed all that and everything else in its line by appearing on paper whose hue was that of *café au lait*, or say strong chocolate, throughout. The "reading" is not quite so plain as it is wont, and the general effect, on a cursory glance, is that it has undergone an experience which used to befall western papers very often—running out of white paper and having to fall back upon their job stock and what they could get in the stores. Through it all, however, Chicago enterprise shines forth as brightly and conspicuously as though the background were like unto the driven snow.

## THE BATTLE OF THE BALLOTS.

The great contest, national and local, takes place two weeks from today, and it is a reasonable supposition that nearly everybody's mind is about made up as to how he will act on that occasion. The few who still waver are not sufficient in number, we take it, to greatly change the result in any place or at large, but the "spellbinder" and the "organ" will keep up their work till the last day in the evening; then the people may look for a long and needed rest.

A glance at the chances of the two parties through uncolored spectacles is a pleasant diversion at this stage of the proceedings. Both the Democrats and Republicans are confident of winning, and it is as well for us to know beforehand what either has to do to accomplish it.

The Republicans, in order to come out ahead, have only to do as well as they did four years ago, when Harrison carried every northern state but New Jersey and Connecticut, receiving 223 electoral votes against 168 for Cleveland. Of course under the new apportionment the electoral vote is increased, but if the Republicans can carry the same states as last time they will succeed, for they would have 226 voters, or three more than a majority. (The increase is from 391 to 444—fifty-three voters). It is practically impossible that they will lose all the new voters; and those they may lose, at least those of the new states, will be no direct gain for the Democrat, who have fused with the Populists in all of the states but Montana and Washington. It thus appears that the Democrats have to rely upon states which gave them nothing in 1888 to win, and probabilities thus become a factor in the computation.

It is conceded, especially since the recent state elections, that the entire roll of the South will respond to the Democratic call, giving Cleveland 159 votes, to begin with, leaving him 64 short of a majority. If he again carries New Jersey and Connecticut, the former with 10 and the latter with 6 votes, the gap

will be narrowed to 48. He is reasonably sure of at least 5 in Michigan, which further reduces it to 43. His friends and himself are confident of capturing Indiana this time, which would give him 15 more and leave but 28 to be gained to reach the goal. Montana may reduce this to 25, but it cannot be depended on; however this may be, there is still a big deficit, and the only other state which the ex-President came anywhere near carrying was New York; this, with its plump 36 votes, would take him away beyond the winning post, having 11 votes to spare. Carrying the Empire state, therefore, he could do without New Jersey or Connecticut, but not without both, and with both he would not need Michigan or Montana.

While the Democrats are counting strongly on some of the Northwestern states which went Republican in 1888—Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and as stated, a part of Michigan—and of a negative gain by fusion and thus giving to Weaver Kansas, Minnesota and Colorado, it will be seen that the real battle ground is, as usual, New York. While it is possible they may win the states named, and thus be compensated for the loss of the Empire state, such a thing is hardly probable and it is likely that only in Michigan will there be recorded any changes from Harrison to Cleveland in that quarter. It would seem that the managers so regard it, too, for each side is holding 1500 meetings in the former state every week! As to the importance of this one mighty commonwealth the situation may be briefly stated thus: Cleveland cannot win at all without New York; Harrison can win without it but in all probability will not; so that as New York goes, so goes the country.

On the basis of the new registration in New York city, the Republicans cipher the Democratic majority there down to 55,000, about 8000 less than four years ago; this would mean about 65,000 or 70,000 for the Republicans to overcome at Harlem river, and they came down to it in 1888 with upwards of 80,000. They thus count on carrying the state by 10,000 to 15,000. On the other hand the Democrats, from the same source of information, claim a majority in the city of 95,000, which, with Brooklyn and its surroundings proportionate, would run the total up to about 120,000 and beat the Republicans in the state anywhere from 25,000 to 50,000. These, however, are only figures, which the people can easily, as they often do, change considerably one way or another.

It should be remembered in this connection, that not only the Presidency but every branch of the government, excepting the Supreme Court, is in the issue. Chairman Carter, of the Republican National committee, announces this, saying the election of Cleveland means also a Congress Democratic in both branches. It is hardly probable that the House of Representatives will be subjected to such a revolution as to change a majority of 144 for the Democrats into a minority for that party, though undoubtedly this huge preponderance will be somewhat, perhaps greatly, reduced. The Senate thus becomes the cynosure of the occasion next to the Presidency. In order to change the political complexion

of this body, the Republicans have only to lose three members; there are now forty-seven members of that party, forty Democrats and one Populist (Peffer). In this footing Kyle of South Dakota is classed as a Democrat although elected by the Farmer's Alliance and Democrats jointly and being considered at the time as belonging to the former; but he votes with the latter usually and has received all his committee assignments from them.

Three Democratic senators have already been re-elected—Gorman, of Maryland; George, of Mississippi, and Daniel, of Virginia. The states which have to elect senators in place of sitting Democrats are Florida, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Delaware, Indiana and New Jersey. The first four of these will choose Democrats, and it is considered reasonably certain that all but one of them will. The present legislature of Delaware is Republican by a majority of eight in a total membership of thirty, and the preceding legislature was Republican. The present legislatures of the others are Democratic by heavy majorities. Delaware would seem to be the only really doubtful one in the list. Two Republican senators, Sherman, of Ohio, and Aldrich, of Rhode Island, have been re-elected. The Republicans are certain, or reasonably certain, to control the next legislatures in Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, Pennsylvania, California, Washington and Nevada. The states regarded as doubtful are Connecticut, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and Montana.

The probabilities and possibilities, the claims and counterclaims being thus placed before the reader he can proceed to post the books for himself; doubtless he will do it as it is done elsewhere, in accordance with his political predilections.

## MRS. HARRISON IS GONE.

There is one man in this vast republic who more than any other realizes how unsubstantial, how fleeting and insecure are all the honors mortality can bestow! His name is Benjamin Harrison. Occupying the loftiest position man can hold, with a record in which there is no ground for reproach, with friends whose name is legion, enjoying the comforts of life and the happiness of a domestic home, the President is confronted with a calamity which dissipates all, which leaves him with nothing that is adequate to lean upon or he ambitiously for. The armchair on the other side of the fireplace is vacant, the voice of its long-time occupant is hushed forever, and the solemn quietude sinks deep into his soul.

Mrs. Harrison died at forty minutes past one o'clock this (Tuesday) morning. She had been ailing for several months, but her condition was not considered serious until quite recently. She contracted la grippe in the winter of last year, and while the attack was modified from time to time it never entirely let go, and finally, in September last, it became acute; then the discovery was made that the patient's illness was a dangerous one, the half of her right lung being completely