

SOCIETY TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

There has seldom been a week so given over to weddings in the city and suburbs as that which has just closed. With the exception of Friday there has been seemingly one continuous procession of brides and bridegrooms up and down the aisles of the principal churches every day, and the wedding bells have not ceased to ring in the steeples for an hour of late. This avalanche of matrimonial events would seem to prove that June, which has always been a favored month for weddings, has come to be the most favored of the year.

Although the wind has hung most persistently in the east, the brides of the past week should be unusually blest, for the sun has shone kindly and almost continuously since last Sunday. So the young couples have entered upon their new journey under the best auspices, and thousands of friends and relatives have again enjoyed the pleasure of starting them with good wishes on their way.

Notices and descriptions of all the more important of these matrimonial events have been published in THE TIMES on the mornings after their occurrence, so that brief reference to them is all that is necessary in this column this morning. It may be said in general that there was nothing particularly new in the arrangements or appointments of any of these or in the costumes worn.

Rather curiously the two weddings of the week which attracted the greatest amount of attention were notable, one for its display and the throng which attended it and the other for its extreme privacy and quietness. The first was that of Harry Cannon and Miss Elizabeth Thompson, which has been talked about for so long and which was celebrated in St. Thomas's Church at 12:30 P. M. on Tuesday, and the other was that of Sir William Gordon Cumming, the hero of the Tranby Croft card scandal, and Miss Garner of New-York, which was solemnized with hardly anybody in attendance in a quiet little chapel in London on Wednesday.

This last wedding, which simply added another and most romantic chapter to the modern tale of English society which has been running its course in the London courtroom for a fortnight past, was of great interest to New-York society people, not alone because the circumstances were of the most unusual and romantic character, but because the bride, who so promptly renounced her family, friends, and the approval of the gay world in which she lived for the man in whom she had faith and whom she loved, is the daughter of a man who in his day was a prominent figure in New-York society, the late Commodore William Garner, whose tragic fate, together with that of his wife, will never be forgotten by New-Yorkers.

The greatest interest has always been felt in the fortunes of the young daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Garner, and the marriage recently of the elder to the Marquis de Breteuil was discussed earnestly in the clubs and drawing rooms of the metropolis. Her marriage, now followed by the romantic nuptials of her sister, recall to many New-Yorkers the fact that time has moved very swiftly since the day when the heart of everybody went out to the orphaned daughters of Commodore Garner on the night the news came that the Mohawk had capsized in the bay. The brides to whom all eyes are now directed and all thoughts turned were little girls in short frocks then, and it would have required a prophetic eye indeed to have predicted on that fateful night the future of the Garner children. Yet one is now the wife of one of the most prominent and best known noblemen of France and the other is the bride of an English nobleman who, whether innocent or guilty, has, in consequence of the verdict of a court against him, received as heavy punishment and must endure as complete social ostracism as any Englishman of his rank probably ever was called upon to face.

Of necessity there is still much conversation and discussion, which will continue for some time to come wherever and whenever society people meet together, as to whether Miss Garner was prudent in marrying Sir William; whether he should have allowed her to do so; whether she fully realized the position in which she would place herself by so doing, and whether, finally, she knew that her family would publicly denounce her action, and was wise in so doing. To these speculations and discussions has been added in the last two or three days further speculation as to the manner of Sir William and his bride's reception here when they come over. While there is hardly an exchange of courtesies between the leading New-York and London clubs, it is hardly probable that the leading New-York clubs would offer any hospitality to Sir William, and it may be safely assumed that New-York society in general, or at least that part of it which has the greater wealth and consequently the more pronounced leadership, is too desirous, even if not closely connected with, to follow the lead of English society, to be willing to receive the couple in any manner or form. The curious spectacle will probably be presented in the event of Sir William and his bride coming here of an American and New-York girl, whose pluck and faithfulness to the man she loved are commended by every one, socially tabooed because she married a man against whom English society has declared.

The Cannon-Thompson nuptials on Tuesday were celebrated according to the programme so elaborately prepared and announced. The throng at St. Thomas's on the morning of the wedding was not only large, but an interesting study, some of the handsomest gowns seen this season being worn. The floral decorations in the church were much more simple than had been expected, but none the less effective, while the dresses of the brides and bridesmaids met every expectation. Miss Hargous, Miss Jaffray, and Miss Ledyard of Detroit looked particularly well in their gowns of rose silk, with the pretty wreaths of roses on their heads and their dainty silk parasols. The bride and groom, with the four clergymen in the chancel, the last all in red vestments, made an attractive picture. The reception at the temporary residence of the bride's grandmother, 101 Fifth Avenue, which followed the ceremony was extremely well arranged, the floral decorations being particularly tasteful and attractive.

The week was not without its country weddings, the most notable having been those of George Turnure and Miss Lizzie Lanier at Lenox Thursday, which a large party from New-York attended; of Dr. George Lefferts and Miss Anna Van Vechten at Albany Thursday evening, and of the Rev. A. T. Atterbury and Miss Catherine Van Rensselaer, which was celebrated at Rye-on-the-Sound, also on Thursday. One of the prettiest weddings of the week in town was that of Charles Coster and Miss Helen Louise Anthon, which was celebrated Wednesday afternoon at the residence of the bride's parents in Thirty-third Street.

The wedding of Cortlandt S. Van Rensselaer and Miss Macaulay will be celebrated very quietly.

Cards are out for the wedding of Miss Park and L. Frederic Requa, at the Presbyterian Church, Rye, N. Y., on the evening of the 24th.

The annual Sophomore reception and ball took place at Princeton Tuesday evening and was, as usual, the jolliest and liveliest of dances, the young girls present from Philadelphia, New-York, and the Jersey cities keeping up the dance so enthusiastically with their student partners that the dawn was breaking before they ceased.

There has been little going on in the city beyond the weddings. Elise Dyer, Jr., gave a theatre party with a following supper at Demonicos on Monday evening, which was chaperoned by Mrs. Rogers, and at which the guests were Miss Sackett of Providence, Miss Newbury, Miss Ferguson, and Miss Ledyard of Detroit, all Miss Thompson's bridesmaids; Miss Rogers, and George Dyer, Howard Gallup, Frederick Allen, Francis B. Cutting, and H. F. Webster. Mrs. Bettner's reception in St. Ann's Church on Friday afternoon was a remarkably well-arranged affair.

The suburbs have been rather quiet of late, except Staten Island and Tuxedo, where tennis has brought together gay throngs on almost every afternoon of the last week. Ladies' day on Friday afternoon at the Staten Island Cricket Grounds was very enjoyable, and promises to be even more so.

Tuesday afternoon will bring the long anticipated open-air performance of "As You Like It" at Castle Point, Hoboken. So great has been the demand for tickets for this novel entertainment that the late comers may now find it impossible to see the play at all satisfactorily. It is to be hoped that good weather will smile upon the event, but if the skies are unpropitious it will be postponed until the next fair day, and due notice to that effect will be given in the principal hotels of the city by 11 o'clock in the morning.

The European exodus is now approaching its height, and yesterday's steamers carried out many well-known persons. Among those who sailed on the Etruria were Mr. and Mrs. Addison Cammack and Mr. and Mrs. Ross R. Winans. Clarence A. Seward, Miss Alice Seward, and Mrs. Delos McCurdy sailed on the Eider. Word comes that London is crowded with Americans, and that Homburg and St. Moritz promise to be the most popular of the Continental resorts to Americans this Summer.

Newport is waking up, and by the end of this week most of the larger houses and cottages will be open. There is little talk of Bar Harbor as yet, but if warm weather comes, there will soon be many departures for that cool spot. The Narragansett hotel keepers are devising plans to bring back, if possible, the old popularity of the pier, which suffered decidedly last year. If they can induce a certain fast element to stay away it will be the most effectual means of accomplishing their ends.

ANOTHER DROP IN COTTON.

Cotton went down again yesterday as if the big drops of the last week hadn't succeeded in putting prices on bed rock. The day's decline was 10 points or so, not a particularly notable drop in itself, but interesting because it came after several other thriving bear days. August cotton was as low as 8.33 cents at one time yesterday, and it closed at 8.35 cents, a new record in the way of low prices since "before the war."

Popularly on the Exchange the decline was attributed to the same causes which had been effective on previous days—a big crop, good weather, &c.