

POE, on the "AMERICAN REPUBLIC".

They started with the queerest idears conceivable; viz: that all men are born free and equal - this in the very teeth of GRADATION'S laws, so visably impressed upon all things, both in the moral and physical univerae. Every man voted, as they called it, until at length it was discovered that what is everybody's business is nobody's, and that the 'Republe' (so the absurd thing was called) was without a government at all.

It is related, however, that the first circumstance which disturbed the self-complacency of the philosophers who constructed this "Republic" was the startling discovery that universal 'sufferage' gave opportunity for fraudulent schemes, by which any desired number of votes might at any time be poled, without the slightest chance of prevention or even detection, by any party which should be merely villainous enough not to be afraid of the fraud.

A little reflection on this discovery suffered to render evident the consequences, which were, that rascality must predominate - in a word - that Republican Government could never become anything other than a Rascally one.

While the philosophers, however, were blushed at their own stupidity in not having foreseen these inevitable evils and intent upon new theories, the matter was put to an abrupt issue by a fellow by the name of MOB, who took every thing in his own hands and set up a despotism in comparison with which those of the fabulous ZEROS and HELIOFAGABALUSES ^{ere} ~~were~~ both respectable and delectable. This MOB, by the by, a foreigner, is said to be the most odious of all men who ever encumbered the earth. He was a giant in size, insolent, rapacious, filthy; had the gait of a bullock, the ~~brains~~ ^{heart} of an hyena and the brains of a peacock. He died at last by dint of this own ~~energies~~ ^{energy}, which exhausted him.

Up 07 "More remarkable still is that Poe was practically the only American writer of his age who foresaw some of the inevitable weaknesses inherent in the democratic theory and boldly commented ~~vapentiam~~. "In MELLONTA TAUTA" - a conversation supposed to take place in A. D. 2848, Poe makes the above observation on democracy in the United States".

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PS. Are you willing to hazzard a dime that, with conditions as is in this Nation of ours today where Mob is a festering sore at ever by pass and voting 'en mass' is an innovation, glaring, and the 'tail' just about begins to wag the dog, 1000 years will elapse ere Poe's prognostication is a reality ?