

VOICE



FAIR.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
NORTHWESTERN SANITARY FAIR.

"The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what our brave men did here."
[President Lincoln's Address, dedicating the Soldiers' Cemetery, at Gettysburg.]

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VOLUME I.
NUMBER I.

CHICAGO, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1865.

ROUNDS & JAMES, Printers,
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OUR BOYS ARE COMING HOME.

Thank God, the sky is clearing!
The clouds are hurrying past;
Thank God, the day is nearing!
The dawn is coming fast.
And when glad herald voices
Shall tell us peace has come,
This thought shall most rejoice us,
"Our boys are coming home!"

Soon shall the voice of singing
Drown war's tremendous din;
Soon shall the joy-bells' ringing
Bring peace and freedom in.
The jubilee bonfires burning
Shall soon light up the dome,
And soon, to soothe our yearning,
Our boys are coming home.

The vacant fireside places
Have waited for them long;
The love-light lacks their faces,
The chorus waits their song;
A shadowy fear has haunted
The long deserted room;
But now our prayers are granted,
Our boys are coming home!

O mother, calmly waiting
For that beloved son!
O sister, proudly dating
The victories he has won!
O maiden, softly humming
The love song while you roam—
Joy, joy, the boys are coming—
Our boys are coming home!

And yet—oh, keenest sorrow!
They're coming, but not all;
Full many a dark-to-morrow
Shall wear its sable pall.
For thousands who are sleeping
Beneath the empurpled loam;
Woe! woe! for those who're weeping,
Who never will come home!

O sad heart, hush thy grieving;
Wait but a little while!
With hoping and believing
Thy woe and fear beguile.
Wait for the joyous meeting
Beyond the starry dome,
For there our boys are waiting
To bid us welcome home.

MORRISANIA, April 3, 1865.

W. G.

THE HISTORY OF THE PRESENT FAIR MOVEMENT—ITS PLAN, ETC.

In this, the first number of THE VOICE, we present a sketch of the history of the movement by which the Great Fair will be wrought out.

On Saturday, October 22, 1864, a special meeting of the managers of the SOLDIERS' HOME was held, for the purpose of considering the means to be adopted for the conduct of a proposed Fair for the benefit of that institution. Mrs. Hoge, who was present, suggested that a Fair gotten up for the joint benefit of the SANITARY COMMISSION and the SOLDIERS' HOME would be much more profitable to the treasury of the "HOME," while it would materially benefit the COMMISSION, whose funds are at a low ebb. The suggestion was acted on, it being agreed that \$25,000 of the proceeds should be given to the HOME—the balance to the COMMISSION.

On motion of Mrs. Loomis, it was decided to open the Fair on February 22—Washington's birthday—and to continue it till March 4th—the Presidential Inauguration day. A committee, consisting of Mrs. Hoge, Mrs. Livermore and Mr. Blatchford for the Commission, and Mrs. Hosmer, Mrs. Dickinson, and Mr. Bryan for the Home, was appointed as Executive. This was the little cloud, scarcely larger than a man's hand, which grew till it almost encircled the heavens, spreading into every corner of our broad land, and including every department of industry in its ample details.

On the following Tuesday the ladies of the Soldiers' Home and Sanitary Commission met in consultation at the office of Mr. Bryan. It was then resolved to hold a mass meeting in Bryan Hall on the succeeding Thursday afternoon, for the purpose of enlisting the sympathies and securing the co-operation of representatives of all classes in the preparations for the Fair. At this (Thursday) meeting there was a large attendance of ladies, a majority of the churches in the city being represented; Col. C. G. Hammond presided. Hon. Lyman Tremain, of New York, eloquently addressed the meeting. The Executive Committee reported plan and circular of appeal for aid; also additions to their number by the following appointments:

President—Hon. Mark Skinner.
Vice Presidents—Col. C. G. Hammond, E. B. McCagg, and T. B. Bryan.

E. W. Blatchford had been chosen Treasurer and Secretary, and Mrs. Hoge, Mrs. Livermore, Mrs. Hosmer and Mrs. Dickinson as Corresponding Secretaries.


An adjourned meeting of ladies was held on the following Saturday, in Metropolitan Hall. The leading feature of this meeting was the inception of the denominational plan, a committee consisting of five ladies from each division of the city being appointed to nominate two ladies from each church in the city, as a committee on that church, their duties were defined to be, to request the several clergymen to bring the matter before their respective churches, and ask the co-operation of the members. Every lady present was also constituted a committee of one to do all that lay in her power to further the work. At a subsequent meeting these church committees were reported, and the nominations confirmed. From that time forth nearly every church in the city has been actively engaged in preparing for the Fair. Subsequently the churches were organized into denomi-

A Nation Weeps.

As we write, the cities, towns and hamlets of our broad land are draped in mourning. The air is solemn with the toll of bells. The minute gun reverberates from vale to hill, and mountain to mountain, across this great continent. The nation's heart has been touched by the finger of death.

The "Savior of his country"—our good, noble, much loved President, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, sleeps that sleep which knows no waking—but lives, immortal, in the hearts of his countrymen, and the good in all countries and all climes.

We loved him living. Loved him as a Father—as a benefactor, as a Friend. We revere him dead. Re-Providence, who was ed time to save the life to forever establish Him as the embodied Good, the True, the Honored Martyr! may deep grief which bows of the nation to-day, serve as a final atonement who doeth all things tional Sin—that "sum has scourged our land at last, with assassin's at the very threshold of



While history gives ples of greatness in the serve so well as a model America, of to-day and mented ABRAHAM LIN-people, he was pre-eminently a man of the people, and his sympathies and labors were all for their true interests. Commencing at the bottom of the ladder, by the exercise of the simple virtues of honesty and integrity—persistently following the right, and eschewing the wrong—deeply imbued with a love of country and his race—feeling the profound conviction that his "country could not exist half slave and half free,"—he at last attained the topmost rounds—and assumed a loftier position than that of the proudest potentate of earth—the greatness of true goodness and moral worth.

If we love and revere WASHINGTON as the *Pater Patriæ*—in what reverence should we not hold the memory of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, who, while he became the "Savior" of the country—struck the shackles from the limbs of millions of human beings—made Freedom a tangible, living principle, and placed his country's liberties upon that rock "whose rugged sides shall stand till Time shall cease to be."

national classes, each denomination choosing its own chairman.

For several weeks this organization remained intact; but it was found that the work increased on the hands of the committees, and that very many others were willing to work in the same vineyard. It was resolved to extend the circle of operations, by appointing committees of business men to represent each branch of industry among us; and in order that they might have time to work, to postpone the commencement of the Fair to May 30th.

This decision was formally arrived at about the middle of January, and a meeting was held on Monday, the 16th, in the rooms of the Sanitary Commission, at which the new organization was effected. The officers of the Fair were appointed substantially as follows: the list of Chairmen of sub-committees having, however, been considerably extended at subsequent meetings. The list now given is complete to the present month.

From this time the real work for the Fair commenced. Regular weekly meetings of the Executive Committee have been held on Monday afternoons, in the rooms of the Sanitary Commission, at which general plans have been decided upon, leaving it to the sub-committees to follow out details. These sub-committees in their turn have, most of them, been hard at work, each chairman appointing his own coadjutors. They have prepared each a special circular, which, with the general circular of the Executive Committee, has been sent out everywhere. Already the results of their labors are apparent in the long lists of donations which are only partially reported in this issue. The machinery is so perfect that some one of the meshes will catch everybody; and from present indications it seems as though less space would be required to print the names of non-contributors than of those who will give something to the Fair.

THE BUILDING, ETC.

The main building for the Fair is already under way. It was intended to lay the corner stone with appropriate ceremonies, but on the day appointed for that purpose, the astounding intelligence that our beloved President had been assassinated absorbed the thoughts of all. The erection was commenced quietly. The structure will cover Dearborn Park, near the lake shore, having a frontage of 182 feet on Washington street, and a depth of 386 feet to Randolph. A central hall, 386 feet in length, 55 feet high, and 60 feet wide, with arched Gothic roof, will be devoted to the denominational booths, and other displays of fancy articles. A wing on each side, full length, 44 feet wide and 16 feet high, will be occupied by the heavier goods. The wings will be connected with the central hall by entrances at the middle and each end. The building will be

of wood, plain, and will depend for ornamentation on the internal display of goods, except that the Washington street entrance will be fitted with circular windows of stained glass, surmounted by a large American Eagle on an ornamented shield. On each side of this central building will be a massive tower, sixty feet in height, with embattlements, from which will be displayed the national flag.

Besides this building, several others will be brought into use during the Fair. It is expected that separate buildings will be required for several of the departments; and use will be made of the Soldiers' Rest adjacent, which will be connected with the Fair building proper by a covered way. The apportionments of space have not yet been determined on.

LIBERAL DONATIONS FROM PITTSBURGH, PA.

PITTSBURGH, April 22, 1865.

To Mrs. Hoge and Mrs. Livermore:

Ladies: I arrived here yesterday at 4 o'clock. I am happy to say to you that I have been received with much cordiality. My subscriptions here amount to \$650. I am satisfied, from the reception I have met with since I left home, that if the chairmen of the several committees would make an effort, that much could be obtained in the way of donations. All my donations have been in manufactured articles that will find ready sale.

My donations in all now amount to \$1,600, and I have had only two working days.

Yours, E. HOSFORD.

FROM PARSON BROWNLOW.

NASHVILLE, April 13, 1865.

To the Chairman of the Northwestern Fair, at Chicago, Ill.:

The rebellion is on its last legs, and those legs are on the verge of the "last ditch."

Crowd the traitors until we put them through!

W. G. BROWNLOW,
Governor of Tennessee.

TRANSPORTATION OF DONATIONS FREE OF CHARGE.

PITTSBURGH, April 22, 1865.

To Mrs. Hoge and Mrs. Livermore:

Ladies: I have just concluded an arrangement with the Agent of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad to take all our donations to Chicago free of charge.

Your ob't serv't,
E. HOSFORD.

Let all who visit the Great Northwestern Fair, not leave town until they have seen Ely's Establishment, corner Washington and Dearborn Streets, Chicago, Ill.

PICKINGS UP.

—James Buchanan Reed, the poet and artist, is on a visit to Chicago. We hope to hear from him.

—The "rural districts" are beginning to look up. Vegetable nature is reviving, and soon will put on its best attire.

—An exchange remarks that it is quite evident to the humblest intellect that the favorite singer of Petrolia would be Gris.

—The Louisville Journal wants to have Booth hung so high that all the people on the continent can see him with the aid of a telescope.

—Artemus Ward has his "show" in Chicago just now, and he promises to show some of his wit in the columns of this paper—probably in the next number.

—There is to be a musical festival of no less than 24,000 German musicians at Dresden next summer. Will not such an enormous issue of notes affect the gold market?

—Who are we? Americans whom the war has driven to London spend much of their time in searching out their genealogy and family coat of arms. So says the London Review.

—King Francis Second, sometimes called Bomba, is about to leave Rome, for parts unknown. He will probably leave many unsettled accounts with his former subjects, the Neapolitans.

—Never have the places of public amusement been so well patronized, nor have we ever had so many of them, as now. People have plenty of money, and having come easy, it goes ditto.

—A Boston storekeeper, the other day, stuck upon his door the laconic advertisement, "A boy wanted." The next morning, on opening the store, he found a little urchin in a basket, labelled, "Here he is."

—Exchanges are speaking of the personal beauty of Booth, the assassin, which proves only that Satan often chooses a fine tenement to do his worst work in. There is no beauty like that of the true soul.

—James L. Chapman, son of Sheriff Chapman of Pittsfield, Mass., bears so strong a resemblance to the assassin, Booth, that he was stopped three times while traveling on Wednesday, and made to establish his identity.

—Five sacrilegious thieves were committed by the New York police justices, on Friday last—one of them to the penitentiary—for despoiling dwellings and tradesmen's shops of mourning drapery, marking the popular grief.

—A native gone. The "Old Maid," one of the famous redwood trees of California, fell not long since. It was 325 feet long and 35 feet in diameter at the base, which is 105 feet higher than Bunker Hill Monument, and about the same size.

—There appears to be a first rate field for sanitary reformers in Calcutta. According to the London Times, 5,000 dead bodies are annually thrown into the river at that city, from the superstitious fancy of holiness which the native attach to it.

—A Mary Queen of Scots cup or small vase was sold at the Pourtales sale in Paris. It was presented to Mary when she was affianced to the Dauphin. Though only a few inches high, it is exquisitely decorated, and it brought the enormous price of £1,084.

—The body of a Frenchman was recently found in the Ramble of the New York Central Park, with a neat placard upon the breast stating that he and misfortune were brothers. This unfortunate relationship undoubtedly accounted for his untimely demise.

—Mr. Fremchand Roychund, late an under clerk, at a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars a year, in Bombay, has made a fortune of ten millions of dollars in gold, since the war begun, by dealing in the native cotton. This shows that King Cotton is on his travels.

THE WIND AND THE WEATHERCOCK.

Said the rude Wind once to the veering Vane,
"What a fidgety thing you are?
You turn and you turn and you turn again,
And people look up and stare."
The modest Weathercock replied:
"I fain would be quiet and still,
But 'tis you that shift from side to side;
I only obey your will."

MORAL.

Often the fault which in others we find
Is but our own, to which we are blind.
—[United States Service Magazine, March.

—The wonders of the famous Yo-Semite Valley are eclipsed by new discoveries in Tulare County, further south, in the valley of the Kern River. There are mountains fifteen thousand feet high, walls of perpendicular rock seven thousand feet from base to summit, and groves of trees of immense circumference.

—In Sheldon, Vermont, on the 15th inst., the pastor naturally preached on the death of President Lincoln, and an aged copperhead, after listening as long as he could to the scathing denunciation of traitors and assassins, got up and left the church. Just as he got to the door, the minister called out to him, "Don't stop, brother, till you get to Canada," which was responded to by a hearty amen from the whole congregation.