

VOICE OF THE FAIR.

ANDREW SHUMAN, Editor.

Chicago, Thursday, June 1, 1865.

NO "VOICE" TO-MORROW.

To-day is the day of national fasting, humiliation and prayer, by appointment of the President of the United States. Operations in the printing office will be suspended, and no copy of this paper will therefore be issued to-morrow morning. The next number will be published on Saturday.

THE OPENING.

The opening of the Great Fair, on Tuesday evening, was a sublime spectacle. The cheering music, the charming poem of Mr. Reed, the eloquent address of Governor Oglesby, whose soul is all patriotism, and whose heart is all honor, earnestness and generosity, the applauding crowd of spectators, and the brilliant scene of the grand exhibition in that great and glorious hall, formed a spectacle and a treat that those present will never forget.

The crowd came in numerously at a later hour, when the doors were thrown open to the general public. The opening night gave encouraging promise.

And on yesterday, what a multitude thronged the Fair! Youth and beauty were there in brilliant and smiling array. Admiration and surprise were depicted on every face. Everybody is disappointed, but favorably so, for everybody finds the Fair more vast and magnificent than fancy had painted or expectation anticipated.

The Fair is prodigious in its proportions, gorgeous in its display, admirable in its arrangements. We wish every loyal man and woman in the Northwest and every true Western soldier could see this Fair, and become inspired by its spirit and gladdened by its success.

CHARITY.

O, never-failing theme! fresh and exhaustless; sea of good unfathomable; spring of delight, bubbling up forever; fountain whence flow all the sweet courtesies of life; offspring of DIVINE LOVE; twin sister of Piety; effluence of Virtue! Celestial Goddess, thy home is in heaven. Queen of the Earth, with gentle sway, thou reignest; all the virtues are thy maids of honor, and the graces follow in thy train; thy breath is redolent with fragrant odors, and thy voice sweeter than the song of birds. Thou didst follow the desolate track of war and minister with gladness to the wounded and dying; thy soft hand wiped the damp dews from the brow of death when mother and sister were far away, for thou delightest in patriotism, and with heavenly tenderness carest for wounded heroes, and bindest up the broken heart and comfortest the bereaved.

Daughter of the skies! We have builded thee a glorious Temple. Genius devised its fair proportions. Beauty adorned it with magic skill and exquisite taste. Science enriched it with her costliest treasures. Art brought her rarest gems, and crowned it with a diadem of radiant loveliness. Eloquence and poetry consecrated it to divinity.

Potent Queen! touch the hearts of thy loyal, loving subjects. Woo them to thy Temple, to make a generous, worthy offering upon the holy shrine dedicated forever to thee!

ICE CREAM AND COFFEE.

In the east wing of the main hall the table of the Baptist ladies is spread. Though 'tis true, 'tis pity; and pity 'tis 'tis true," that the strawberries and cream

"Are not so sweet as woman's lips,
But O! far more sincere."

Still they are perfectly delicious! Taste them. "Seeing is believing, but tasting is conclusive beyond a doubt."

The *Voice of the Fair* is now for sale at the Department of Arms, Trophies, &c., at Bryan Hall, and also at a separate stand in the main Fair building. Price 10 cents a number, or \$1.50 for all the series, from the beginning to the end.

40,000 troops are coming to Chicago to be mustered out, ere long—probably during the Fair.

Gen. Sherman and family are expected in Chicago the last of this week, to attend the Fair.

DIRECTORY FOR THE FAIR—THE BUILDINGS, ETC.

First, "Union Hall," the main Fair building.

This mammoth building is located on Michigan Avenue, extending from Washington to Randolph street. It is a wooden structure, 400 feet long and 162 feet in width, enclosing the entire grounds of "Dearborn Park." The central or main room is called "Union Hall"; it is 400 feet long and 60 feet wide. This hall will be devoted exclusively to foreign and denominational departments. On either side of the main hall is a wing, each 60 by 400 feet in extent, to be used for miscellaneous purposes. East of and adjoining the main building is "Horticultural Hall," which is also 60 by 400 feet in size. This hall embraces also the Floral Department, and will constitute one of the most attractive features of the entire exhibition. A short distance from the exhibition building, and nearer the lake shore, stands "Monitor Hall," a circular building, 176 feet in circumference, with an outer circle 14 feet wide, for seats. In the center of the pond—which is 80 feet in diameter—stands the fort, which is to bear a conspicuous part in the grand naval engagement to take place between the "Monitor" and "Merrimac"—two beautiful little iron-clads sent here for the occasion by the proprietors of the Fort Pitt Foundry, Pittsburgh, Pa. This miniature naval battle will come off on the opening day of the Fair, and be repeated every day during its continuance. It will be a perfect novelty to most persons, and cannot fail of attracting very general attention.

One of the most attractive departments of the Fair is the "New England Farm House," established in the Soldiers' Rest building. Here will be found a complete representation of the manner in which household duties were performed in the early history of our country. Spinning, weaving, baking in old fashioned brick ovens, and numerous other domestic transactions performed in antiquarian style, and with the uncouth utensils peculiar to primitive times, will lead the spectator, in imagination, back to the days when his grand or great grand-parents were children. From this department, also, the refreshment table will be supplied with all the substantial "good things" which the occasion may require. The ladies in charge of the "Farm House," will prepare three meals daily, of which all who wish may partake, for a moderate compensation. Besides the regular meals thus provided, there will also be refreshment stands where visitors can at all hours easily satisfy their hunger.

Bryan Hall will be used for the "Arms and Trophy Department," and will contain a vast collection of arms, trophies, relics, etc., gathered from all portions of the land. To a large proportion of the public, who will attend the Fair, this department will prove more interesting than any other. It will afford an opportunity for all to see many of the most notable and novel objects in existence, which have never before been exposed to public view, and which may never be again. In the rear of Bryan Hall is a building erected expressly for the GALLERY OF FINE ARTS, which will comprise one of the finest collections of paintings ever exhibited.

At McVicker's Theatre, front hall, up stairs, may be seen Carpenter's grand painting representing the President's EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION. Miss Hosmer's world-renowned statue, "Zenobia"; the mammoth ox, "Gen'l Grant," from Boston, and other specialties, will help to render the Fair all that the variegated tastes of visitors may require. Every department is in charge of competent parties, and no labor or pains will be spared to render this mammoth Fair the most attractive and successful of any held during the war, now happily ended.

NEW ENGLAND FARM HOUSE.

The most unique, quaint, comical, entertaining feature of the Fair is the New England Farm House, in the south part of the Soldiers' Rest, conducted by the ladies of the First Baptist Church. An ancient loom, spinning-wheel, clock, crockery, fireplace, and all the antique furniture adorn the room. Here the most elegant and accomplished ladies from the avenues attend to the wants of the inner man, in the most polite style. They are all dressed in the peculiar costume of "ye olden times." Nothing can surpass the grotesque effect of the "make up" of these fair ones. We dropped in yesterday noon and dined with the "Yankees," and can speak what we do know by personal experience, when we assure our readers that this is the place to dine. Witness our hand seal also hereunto appended.

BILL OF FARE.

DINNER.			
Bean Porridge.	Soup.	Fish Chowder.	
Baked Pork and Beans.			
ROAST.			
Beef.	Mutton.	Veal.	Pork.
Baked Fish.			
BOILED.			
Corned Beef.	Ham.	Tongue.	
VEGETABLES.			
Salads.	Pickles.		
PUDDINGS.			
Baked Indian.	Rice.	Bread.	Apple Dumplings.
PIES.			
Mince.	Apple.	Custard.	Pie Plant.
Gooseberry.			
Tea and Coffee.			
EXTRAS.			
Ice Cream,	- - - - -	20 cents.	
Strawberries and Cream,	- - - - -	20 "	
Breakfast, from 7½ to 8½;	Dinner, from 1 to 2½;		
Tea, from 5½ to 7.			

When you hear "The Horn," know ye that "Dinner is ready."

MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

AMERICAN OPERATIC ARTISTS.

This country has produced at least eleven *prima donne* during the comparatively few years that the opera has been established here. Some of these have been very successful abroad.

Adelina Patti, Madame Van Zandt, Adelaide Phillips, Cora de Wilhorst, Madame Whiting-Lorini, Carlotta Patti, Miss Lucy Simons, Madame Guerrabella, Miss Kellogg, Miss Laura Harris, Miss Morensi and Madame Hinchley Susini make up a brilliant list of names.

We have brought out twelve *prima donne* in less than a quarter of a century, and have many more in training for the stage.

Adelina Patti has the European capitals at her feet. Carlotta Patti, who sings only in concerts, makes kings pay dearly for the privilege of hearing her beautiful voice.

Madame H. Hinchley Susini is dead; and the recent decease of Madame Whiting Lorini has hushed one of the sweetest and most cultivated of American singers.

Mrs. Van Zandt has a fine voice and good execution, but is not a great actress, nor any of the other American *artistes* except Patti and Miss Phillips.

Of Miss Kellogg, an old friend of her family says she began to play the piano before she was five years old, and that her musical ear was surprisingly nice even at that early age. When she began to study for the lyric stage she made rapid progress, and was soon able to rehearse her first opera. When that event occurred, an unusual compliment awaited her. At the end of the rehearsal, Maretzek's orchestra laid down their instruments and unanimously applauded the lady. "Do you know," said Maretzek to Miss Kellogg's father, who stood near; "do you know that the orchestra has just paid your daughter a great compliment? In all my operatic experience, this is the third time this has happened; it was because your daughter struck every note perfectly."

Miss Kellogg has been well trained; but her voice does not grow stronger with training. It is a parlor voice. People at the academy complain that they cannot hear her.

Laura Harris has surprising facility of execution, but no strength of voice, and is a greater favorite at concerts than on the stage. She is in reality English, and not American.

The above does not comprise all the names of successful singers, but only of those who have sang in Italian Opera acceptably. There are also Mrs. Seguin; Miss Richings; Miss Stockton; Mrs. Farnam; Mrs. Varian James Hoffman; and many others all of whom have sung in Italian and English opera with more or less success.

Among American tenors who have sang on the stage are, Squires, who was a beautiful singer; Castle, whom we all know; Millard, who has settled down into private life; Frazor, who was only what is called a "sweet singer," and Chas. Adams who went from Boston to study in Italy, and has played in Italian opera in Italy, Germany and England with success. He sings the part of "Arnold" in "William Tell," which takes an "ut du potrine." He is claimed as an Englishman.

Among baritones there are few finer than Campbell.

Finally, look at our American Pianists—Gottschalk, Pattison, Wm. Mason, Hoffman, Pease, Sanderson and the rest, and let me ask, has not America much to be proud of in the way of musical talent, and does it not show a wonderful advance in music within a few years, and prove conclusively the innate talent that Americans have for art?

I am one of those who believe that we possess as great natural musical talent as Germany or Italy, and more than France and England. Give us but their advantages and we will excel them all.

The Castle and Campbell troupe are to play in Louisville shortly.

The following letter from "Max" explains itself:

CINCINNATI, May 17.

EDS. GAZETTE: I find in the *Commercial* of yesterday, the following line:

"Brignoli is in London unengaged."

Permit me to state that Mr. Brignoli is, to my positive knowledge, engaged for three successive seasons at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, London, at the rate of £320 per month for the first year, with an increased salary for the succeeding ones. He has met, so far, with most extraordinary success in Paris, where he is also engaged for three successive winter seasons.

You will oblige me by publishing these facts, as I am sure your citizens will be pleased to learn that their favorite tenor is so well received on the other side of the Atlantic.

Yours very truly,
MAX STRAKOSCH.

—Queen Isabella has enriched the jewel casket of Adelina Patti with cameos and amethysts.

—A Signora Lotti is creating a sensation by her singing in Milan. She is very pretty and of very humble origin, her mother having been the sweeper of the theatre in Mantua.

—Madame de la Grange has appeared at Madrid in "Don Pasquale."

—The best Marguerite, in Gonnod's Faust, that ever sang the part in Germany is said to be Miss Stehle.

—A concert was recently given at the private theatre of Mr. Jerome, in New York, at which a lady recently from Paris, and on a short visit to her own country, was the chief attraction. Beautiful and accomplished, she is as much admired at the French court as in New York. Her name is Madame M.—

—London and Paris Journals don't like it that La Forza del Destino was performed in New York, before it was in Paris and London. This is a fact, but they console themselves by saying the opera is not a success.

—Badiali, the veteran baritone, is singing in Florence. He must be nearly sixty years of age. He was the finest baritone singer, as an artist, ever in this country.

—M. Ollivier, who married the daughter of Liszt, the Pianist, being now a widower, is about to marry the daughter of Meyerbeer. He evidently believes in the daughters of harmony.

—A letter from Rome states that Liszt was to take the tonsure on the 26th ult. This is a very old story. Some of his pieces will take the hair off of performers and listeners' heads.

—Signor Negrini, who was in his day one of the most celebrated tenors of Italy, died recently at his villa, near Naples. He was for many years victim to a malignant sore throat, which prevented him from singing. He appeared, some fifteen years ago, at the Royal Italian Opera, but his voice failed him, and he left England without, we believe, being heard.

—Henry Russell, the composer and singer, is expected to receive the honor of knighthood from Queen Victoria, in recognition of his musical talent. A portion of his *talent* consisted in stealing other people's compositions and pitching into America and the Americans; however, he wrote some very good songs.

—Sterndale Bennett's famous "May Queen," sold recently at auction for £519 8s 6d, a pretty sum for an old copyright of a poor composition.

—Parodi, the singer, was the best pupil of the late Madame Pasta. When Parodi debuted, she was by many compared to her great teacher, but others said Parodi was only a parody on Pasta.

—Lord Palmerston has become a member of the Civil Service Musical Society. As usual, he plays first fiddle.

—The *Commercial Bulletin* of Boston says that the best Ethiopian troupe in the country is undoubtedly Weitzell's.

THEATRICAL.

—Laura Keane and company are in Louisville playing Our American Cousin.

—Vestvali is playing in Boston.

—The Davenport and Wallack combination are at the Chesnut Theatre Philadelphia, and doing well. Caroline Richings and her father are at the Arch Street Theatre.

—Avonia Jones, the admirable actress, whom her father, the Count Joannes, called in court the other day his "demon daughter," is playing a successful engagement at Portland Maine.

—Mrs. Mowatt Ritchie gives charming parties in the beautiful little theatre of Palazzo Rimiccini, Florence. A representation recently took place there for the benefit of the Polish Operative Societies. Three comediettas were given, two in Italian and one in French.

—The new theatre for Sothorn, in London, is to be immediately commenced on the site of Saville House, lately destroyed by fire.

—The Davenports have gone into the hands of a French "Barnum," and will shortly appear in Paris.

—Among the actors who will pass the coming summer abroad, are Lester Wallack, Mark Smith, John Shefton, James Collier, Sol. Smith, Jr., John E. Owens and Lucille Western.

—Fanny Browne, the soubrette, formerly of Winter Garden, has been married to an actor named Carlo, and was at last accounts at Virginia City. She was formerly the wife of Fred. Buckley, of the Buckley's Minstrels.

The *Voice of the Fair* has a very large circulation in the city and country. It is therefore an excellent medium for advertising.