

VOICE OF THE FAIR.

ANDREW SHUMAN, Editor.

Chicago, Monday, June 12, 1865.

FAIR GOSSIP.

After a week of labor and excitement, our Fair folks welcomed the "holy day of rest," for rest they needed, and they did rest. It was an eventful week—a grand gala week to the public, and a week of hard work to the Fair officers and their assistants. The public enjoyed it, and the Fair workers retired on Saturday night after a really "great day" in the halls, satisfied with the result of their devotion to the cause of patriotic benevolence. Nearly \$200,000 of cash receipts is the glorious results thus far, and we have not yet entered upon the second week of the Fair. The fortnight will be up to-morrow evening, and the prospect now is that the Fair will hold out at least a fortnight longer; though this we cannot promise, we merely judge from its continued magnitude and increasing popularity.

The "boys in blue" are dropping into the Fair halls quite freely. The "boys are coming home," and they come to the Fair—the Fair which, as they know, is for the relief and comfort of thousands of their brothers who are not able to come home—who lie suffering in hospitals the objects of the nation's care. Once in a while we see a mutilated form clad in the Union Blue, one with an arm or a leg missing, and others with scars—the evidence that they had been where bullets whistled and swords flourished. Heaven bless all our noble heroes! They have saved the Republic.

What a warm and hearty reception the great military chieftain of the Army of the Union received at the hands of our people on Saturday! Lieutenant General Grant is the great hero of the late war, and the country so esteems him. He is now the "lion" of the Fair. And how modest, unassuming, gentle—how like the truly great characters of history. True greatness and true merit are modest and unpretending the world over. No living man has a larger place in the hearts of his countrymen to day, or a nobler fame throughout the world, than U. S. Grant.

The bands of the 8th and 15th regiments of the Veteran Corps, from Camp Douglas, who alternate from day to day is furnishing the music of the Fair, are composed of excellent musicians. Their music is one of the attractions of the Fair, playing, as they do, from the gallery in the main hall, afternoon and evening. They have the thanks of all visitors.

All who see Mr. Healey's fine portrait of General Sherman, ornamenting the front of the Catholic booth, in the main hall, are struck with its remarkable fidelity; it looks "very like." Mr. Healey has no superior in the world in his art. He never paints a poor portrait. That of Hon. William Bross, in the Art Gallery, is also his, and was nature ever more perfectly represented on canvass?

The editor of the *Voice* feels that it is due to acknowledge, in this place, the inestimable services of E. B. Sherman, Esq., Attorney at Law, 65 Randolph Street, in helping to fill its columns with Fair reports and other acceptable matter. Mr. Sherman has been himself an officer in the army, and feels a deep interest in this Fair for the soldiers. He has been active, early and late, in efforts to insure the success of this publication, and we hereby give him our earnest thanks. He will continue to assist us as long as the *Voice* is published. He and Mr. Geo. R. Kingsmill, an experienced and reliable newspaper reporter, are our chief reliance in reporting the Fair, and we think our readers will agree with us that they have thus far performed their work well.

The stove and hardware department, so neatly arranged in the south end of the "west wing," is a credit to its managers and contributors. There is a splendid array of stoves of all sizes and descriptions, and other articles to match. We see in this department a Kerosene stove, in full operation—a small affair, but apparently a practical success. With an expense of three cents an hour, a flat-iron can be heated, a loaf of bread baked, potatoes cooked and water heated, all at one and the same time. It is a simple contrivance, but a valuable invention.

The pistol which Jeff. Davis had when captured, which Major Hudson, of the 4th Michigan cavalry, who took it from Jeff.'s hands, has donated to the Michigan department of the Fair, is an object of much curiosity. It is a relic worth keeping. Major Hudson is himself a visitor at the Fair, as also is Gen. (late Colonel) Pritchard.

Gen. Sherman is still one of the regular visitors of the Fair, in which his lady is one of the presiding spirits. With the two great heroes

of the war—General Grant and Sherman—present at the Fair, we have with us the brains that conceived the magnificent campaigns and deeds by which the rebellion has been crushed. There are no two men who are better friends, than Grant and Sherman. They have acted in perfect concord together all through the war, and each understands, appreciates and freely testifies to the great military qualities of the other. The world has yet to produce two greater military chieftains than these two men.

We are often asked by visitors in the Fair, "What does that mean?" pointing to the enclosure in the "east wing" marked "Skating Pond." You must enter it and see. It is well to state, however, that you are not expected to skate, but will see others skating. It is a scene worth seeing. It was one of the main features of the great Fair at Philadelphia, and produced over \$5,000 for it.

Send fruit, berries, provisions &c., to the "Old New England Farm House," where donations of this character will be gratefully received by the ladies of that department, who entertain and feed so many people every day. Send them something if you have it to send.

A fine opportunity is afforded to farmers to purchase extra good Mowers, Reapers and other implements of the farm. In the "west wing" of the main building of the Fair, there are all kinds of articles of this kind, and those sending them in would of course not send a poor article for such an exhibition.

The department of Photographs is improving, rather than decreasing in attractiveness. We notice some new pictures there every time we look into the display.

Beware of Pickpockets. These rascals have been operating among the crowds at the Fair, and some purses have been missing. It is always best to keep your hand on your pocket-book when you are in a crowd.

The editors from the interior of this and adjacent States, who have been visiting the Fair, invariably report it through their papers in enthusiastic terms. The grand exhibition inspires everybody who has a whole soul in his body.

Donations are still coming in. The liberality of the people is inexhaustible.

Vote for the general who you think ought to have that \$200 gold mounted pistol at Bryan Hall. Also vote for the general whom you wish to be the possessor of that \$500 sword in the Philadelphia department; and be sure and vote for the "the prettiest lady in Chicago" who is to get that \$1000 dressing case in European department. "Vote early and vote often."

The tickets for the raffle for Gen. Grant's war-horse, presented to Mrs. Gen. Sherman for the Fair, are going off rapidly. If you want a chance in this raffle, go and buy your ticket at once. Old "Jack" is a noble horse, and not very old either.

General Grant will visit Bryan Hall this forenoon and the main Fair building this afternoon at 3 o'clock, and remain until about 5. He leaves for Washington to-night.

ERRATA.

Some ludicrous blunders creep occasionally into our columns. The fault, we shall always sturdily maintain, of the devil solely and exclusively; and so we consider each one a somethingish good sell. But the aforesaid devil indignantly "denies the soft impeachment," and desires to have his statement recorded under the solemnity of an oath, that he has followed "copy" every time. Moreover, he further avers, that he has "set up" Greeley's hieroglyphics with comparative ease, but our manuscript is worse than Choctaw. We give his satanic majesty the benefit of this statement, willing always to give "the devil his due." To refute such a wanton and malicious slander and gratuitous insult, it is only necessary to state the great fundamental and philosophical principles which are embodied in and illustrated by our chirography.

First. Write all the long letters alike, and all the short ones alike.

Second. Make any given word in such a way that with the least possible variation it could be changed to, or supposed to be any other possible word. These two rules are characterized by entire simplicity and remarkable brevity.

A typo who cannot, with these explicit and luminous principles in view, avoid mistakes, is but a little removed from absolute madness. We can only say to him as Dr. Watts' father said to him when complaining of the miserable version of the psalms then in vogue, "Isaac, if you don't like them, make better ones."

Sam., send the devil here that we may give him a withering glance, before which he will quail and shrink away in dismay.

FLORAL HALL.

Floral Hall mingles the substantial of life with the enchantments of fairy land. We have frequently visited John Wright at this spot, and indulged in the many niceties which he spreads so tastefully before one. We deem it unnecessary to mention the winning charms of those sylph-like ones, who supply the wants of the hungered or thirsty wanderer. But among the most graceful and pleasing of the groupe, we were compelled to notice Miss Young, who with an elegance and grace rarely met, supplied us with most delicious ice cream.

CORRECTION.

Our reporter in speaking of the department of dry goods, &c., gave the name of Mr. Boon as chairman. The name should be Geo. S. Bowen. This gentleman, from the well known firm of Bowen Bros., has been untiring in his efforts to make the Fair a success, and is entitled to more consideration than to be transmogrified in Boon or any other man.

OUR FAIR ABROAD.—The newspapers in other cities are reporting our great Fair, and generally do it justice. A "special" to the Cincinnati *Commercial*, dated June 7th, says:—"The interest and excitement in the Northwestern Sanitary Fair continues unabated, and the rush of people is as great as ever. The various departments are very full and complete, and the display is said to be greater than has ever taken place in this country. Contributions are daily arriving in great numbers, and many are still on their way. The department of arms and trophies is especially noticeable, comprising relics from every battle-field of the rebellion. Floral Hall presents a magnificent appearance."

DONATIONS TO THE MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

Watch case and needle book, from Mrs. Magrun, Chicago.

Quilt from Lawrenceburg.

Six book-marks, from Mrs. Herring, Howard, Ill.

Two baskets wax fruit; 1 box of fancy articles, and sewing machine, from Mrs. Conant, Geneva, Ill.

One parcel of children's clothing, valued at \$20.75, from Pontiac, Ill.

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JEWELRY DEPARTMENT.

A. H. Miller, goods, \$80.

Solicited through Gilas, Brother & Co., set jewelry, \$200.

George F. Mills, silversmith, 1 doz. silver tea spoons, \$18.

The goods in this department are marked down to the low figures, and are meeting with ready sale. Many of the most valuable articles are sold by ticket, among them one fine silver epergne or fruit-stand, donated by Matson & Hoes, valued at \$160; also a fine coffee urn, \$40; silver caster \$60, &c., &c. The Jewelers department is the great attraction.

JAS. H. HOES,

Chairman of the Committee.

CHICAGO, June 3d, 1865.

MESSRS. SNYDACKER & Co., Bankers, Gents:—In behalf of Messrs. Miller & Willmarth, I have the pleasure to enclose twenty five dollars for the German department of the Sanitary Fair.

Respectfully Yours, SIMON FLORSHEIM.

SIMON FLORSHEIM, Esq., Sir:—Your donation of twenty five dollars, handed in by Messrs. Snyder & Co., for the German department of the Sanitary Fair is received. In returning our sincerest thanks for your generous contribution to this noble object, I earnestly hope that your example will find numerous imitation. I remain, Sir, Respectfully Yours,

MRS. C. BUTZ,

Treas. of the German Department.

CHICAGO, June 7th, 1865.

MR. EDITOR: Dear Sir:—In looking over the columns of your paper, (June 5,) a mistake occurs in one of the items, which I, being interested in, would like corrected. It is this. In acknowledging the receipt of an ornamented cake from Kendall's bakery, you give the credit to Mr. Kendall, please substitute for his name that of his employees who have contributed from their hard earned wages towards this most worthy object. The cake is solid fruit, weighs one hundred pounds, is valued at seventy-five dollars, (\$75.00).

CHAS. A. ALEXANDER, Clerk.

In behalf of employees.

ARTICLES TO BE DISPOSED OF BY VOTE, OR TICKET, OR RAFFLE, AND THEIR VALUATIONS.

UNION HALL.

Dressing case. European department, worth \$1000.

Four grand pianos, four organs, four melodeons, and quantities of sheet music, all worth \$7000. In one grand raffle.

Silver epergne, \$160; tea set, \$60; custard stand, \$50; wine stand, \$60; tea set, \$40; pearl set, \$200; watch, \$100; all in the jewelry department.

A brown statuette, \$100; two albums, \$50; each in Berlin department.

Sofa cushion, \$35. London department.

Black silk basquine, \$75. Dry goods department.

Afghan, \$75; two statuettes, by Rogers, \$25; each painting of flowers, \$30; shell pictures, \$25; baby set with afghan, \$75. New Jerusalem department.

Embroidered stand, \$45; sofa pillow, \$50; doll bride wardrobe and bed, \$50; hair wreath, made from hair of President Lincoln and Cabinet, \$1000. Episcopalian department.

Lamb's knitting machine, \$100; two Wilcox & Gibbs sewing machines, \$75 & \$100; one Singer's machine, \$100; button hole machine, \$175. All at sewing machine department.

Crayon sketch, \$75; silver pitcher, \$30; portrait of Lincoln, \$30. Friends of Progress department.

One splendid autographic album, \$10.

One music stool, \$25.

RESTAURANT.—The ladies acknowledge the donation of fifty gals. pure milk from the Suburban farm of Col. Alfred H. Cook, near Joliet, Ill., in behalf of the Sanitary Fair.

FEARS OF RETURNING SOLDIERS.

We profess not to be of the number or the class who expect our returning soldiers to be a terror and a curse to society. The great body and the great heart of the nation do not entertain this silly apprehension. It is not a matter of surprise that such as had no esteem for our soldiers in the field should have little respect for them on their return. The number of such persons, however, is small.

Our army, in this war, has not been composed of the same sort of men that usually constitute the soldiery of a country, but of a far better class of men. No army ever had so extensive a moral and religious agency employed for its benefit. The best of mail facilities have been enjoyed, for keeping up, through epistolary correspondence, influences of home upon the absent men. Through letters and through the press, they have been kept in constant mindfulness of the ties that bound them to home, society and of the love and respect felt for them in neighborhoods where they belonged. Our soldiers knew what they were fighting for—government, peace, liberty, union, and their voluntary and severe sufferings for these ends have made them dearer to them than ever before. This gives strong assurance that they will not be disturbers of society, or worthless members of it.

That among so large a number of men, as compose our armies, there should be some, nay, many bad characters, is not surprising, and it is not strange that, on returning from their long course of campaigning to the city of Washington, some should be guilty of misconduct and excesses. But that these give ground for alarm, to the extent that some have felt it, we utterly disbelieve. The drinking, and consequently bad conduct referred to, was very limited, compared with the immense multitude of men suddenly brought together, and suddenly released, in a measure, from the close discipline of soldier life. This evil will grow rapidly less, as men approach and enter the old home scenes, and mingle, as sons, brothers and fathers, with those whom they love. Employment, in their individuality, will give new direction and impulse to their thoughts. The renewed and diversified associations in which they will be placed, will be helps to virtuous conduct. The *esprit du corps* of the soldier will be gently overlaid by the feelings of the citizen, and the affections of the husband and father, and the offices of common life.

We believe our soldiers will be useful and honored members of society; as a class of men, their morals are not below the average. The bad ones should not be taken as samples but as exceptions. Our hope is, that every man will get into business of some kind as soon as possible, live soberly and honestly, and be something in the country for which he has done so much.

It is whispered around that the girls have changed the pronunciation of the word "petticoats" to Jefficoats."