

BRYAN HALL.

Well may the heroes of the war cluster around this depository of arms and trophies. Well may they make a nucleus of that spot, in which centre objects the most likely of all others, to stir fresh the warmest emotions of loyal hearts. The soldier's heart must leap with joy, and his eye flash, as he glances here, and sees the crimson banners waving o'er him, while from out the battle torn group, he spies the flag he proudly bore, pierced by rebel shot and shell, but untaunted by a rebel's touch. What scenes of unrecorded heroism cling to these rent and shivered emblems. Amid the tempest of the strife, amid the shrapnel and the shell,—the color sergeant thought of home, of her he loved—after his country—best; of little ones that crept about his knees, and played familiar with his bronzed cheek, and yet he plucks from out his heart, these recollections sweet, and with an almost gush of woman's tenderness, sheds his soldier's tears, and still fights bravely on, till pierced with wounds, and hemmed on either side, he hurls his banner o'er the traitors' lines, and fighting, dies. Around these symbols of national triumphs, which absorbed the blood of the slain, and the tears of the fatherless,

"The broken soldier, kindly bade to stay
Sits by their folds and talks the night away,
Weeps o'er his wounds and tales of sorrow done,
Shoulders his crutch, and shows how fields were won."

And beside these soul inspiring relics, we find specimens of Tower armour, such as in the days of pure "chivalry" were worn by knights Errants, and in perfect amazement, we looked upon a piece of the monument on which Patience stood. The spade with which Hercules cleaned the Augean stables; a tine from Neptune's trident, and a scale of the dolphin on which he swam the Olympian seas; the scorched reins, with which Phaeton attempted, in order to prove his divinity to guide the unmanageable steeds; and a hoof from the wooden horse in which the Greeks passed the walls of Troy.

From these we glance at those conical and spherical shells from Vicksburg, at that root from the tree at the base of which Grant and Pemberton sat, a pair of "slave" shoes, which conclusively prove that the negro is a person of no ordinary understanding; besides these, in merry contrast, are Chinese gaiters, proving that the ladies of Japan are beyond cavil *no toe rious*. A gas pipe from Fort Sumter, at which rebel orators did reverence; a quaint bow supposed to be the same the bend of which sent Tell's unerring arrow through Gesler's heart.

It seems almost incredible that we can thrust our hands down the polished throat of that cannon, out of which "God spake to treason as *no man spake*;" that a child can cradle in that mortar there, and pat with its tiny hands those weapons sharp, whose deadly thrust no legions could resist. Those things whose cruel twist laced the bondman's limbs, the lash whose knotted leash drew blood at every blow, mingle harmless with the weapons and relics of our dead—weapons which once felt the touch of men as fearless and heroic as those three hundred Spartans who, in the defiles of the mountains, crushed Xerxes host. Priam mourning over the body of his slain and mangled Hector is unmindful of the living sons who gather tearfully around him, so we, gazing at these recent legacies of a hard-earned triumph, seem to neglect those of an earlier date, the memories of which are equally dear and precious.

Besides those, bludgeons, spikes, and battering rams, which would do honor to a Jacobin mob, lies the old revolutionary drum, whose "spirit-stirring" beat sounded amid the sacrifices of Valley Forge, and speaks of those saintly men, the warmth of whose patriotic hearts alone melted the snows which encompassed them. Near this is a strip from the flag which waved in triumph at Trenton, and near this a chip from Charter Oak, conjuring up those old historic times when a cowardly king imbued his hands in the princely blood of Arthur, of King John, who, forsaken even by hope, with his Kingdom under interdict, yielded to the Baronial league, and granted to his kingdom that Magna Charta from which all liberal constitutions were drawn; and reminds us later of that Charter hid in the Connecticut Oak, and which the wily Andros failed to detect or secure.

It is well that while the nation sends up its joyful anthem, and angel choirs lift it upwards to the throne, that Grant and Sherman,

"The foremost men of all the world," should meet at this almost consecrated spot, and amid the triumphs which here stand revealed, strike hands. Heralded by a thousand victories, they come in our midst not

"As earthly conquerors always come
With blood and splendor, revelry and woe,"

but as men, receiving with simple modesty the plaudits of the people, who can never forget that wherever they spread their banners *they always remembered that*

"Jove fixed it certain, that whatever day
Makes man a slave, takes half his worth away."

It is well too that Miss Fanny Courtney, the heroine of Tennessee, who shed such deep and permanent lustre on the escutcheon of her state, should also visit here, and under the colors of her own now loyal state, mark the triumphs she helped secure; true, unlike Joan of Arch, she sought not for fields of adventurous honor, nor like Charlotte Corday has she done deeds which startle and change the destiny of Empires. No! her truly feminine actions and virtues have simply linked her name with a tender tie, to the warm hearts of a grateful people, and forever placed her beside the best and purest women in history. Her rightful praise no pen can fitly paint, and untutored in ingenious flattery, we simply hearken to the expressions of an exalted admiration, remembering that in the full blaze of treason she stood unflinching, seeking neither fame nor praise, but as one

"Whose life is the pouring out of rich and deep affections," she dearly loved and served her country well.

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 & Gibb's sewing machines, \$75 & \$100; one Singer's machine, \$100; button hole machine, \$175. All at sewing machine department.

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

Wine stand, \$50. Miscellaneous department; Shell basket from Cuba, \$75; silver set, \$75. Catholic department.

One basket wax flowers, \$50. Philadelphia department.

Pictures:—Home of Washington, \$60 Heart of the Andes, \$60; Fruit pieces, \$60; Irving and Friends, \$50. New York department.

Tea-set, \$80; Wax fruit basket, \$50; Rustic seat, \$50. Iowa department.

Ermine set, \$60; Two Robes, coon and wolf, \$50 each. Hat, cap and fur department.

Billiard table (Brunswick's) \$1000.

Plated tea-set, \$200; seed wreath, \$50. Good Templar's department.

BRYAN HALL.

Magnificent autograph book containing autographs of eminent persons in Europe and America, \$1000. Miscellaneous department.

14 paintings, \$250. Michigan department.

Elegant scrap book containing portraits of nearly all eminent persons mentioned in English history, \$50. Baptist stand in east wing.

Washington ring, \$250.

Lock of Napoleon's hair.

Spoon used by Gen. Sherman at Fort Moultrie, \$30.

Ivory card box (most exquisite,) \$30.

Gold-headed cane made from wood cut from tomb of Washington, \$60.

Pen used by Lincoln in signing the resolution of Congress submitting to the Legislature of the several States a proposition to amend the Constitution of the United States.

Antique silver watch chain owned by William of Nassau, Prince of Orange, \$100.

A PREMIUM TO WRITERS.—The publisher of the *Home Weekly*, of Philadelphia, announces that he will give \$1,000 for the best story, \$300 for the second best, \$100 for the third, and two premiums each of \$50 for those next best. The merits of the stories are to be decided by eminent and well known literary men, whose names will be published with their decisions. All manuscripts must be sent in by the first of October next.

HERE AND THERE THROUGH UNION HALL.

CHANGES, ATTRACTIONS AND NEW FEATURES.

Throughout yesterday Union Hall was as crowded as ever, and the interest taken in the Fair did not appear to have abated in the slightest degree. Thousands of persons flocked into the buildings, purchases were briskly made and the receipts must have been nearly as large as those of any preceding day. General Grant and staff were there before ten o'clock, the hour at which the public are admitted, and had a fine opportunity of inspecting the various departments which could never be done were the people around to follow and incommode them. The General seemed highly pleased with the inspection and frequently expressed his gratification of the great success of the Fair. Just as the public were being admitted he made his exit and escaped without the crowds being aware of his presence.

Changes, alterations, and improvements are constantly being made in all departments of the Fair, in order to make places for new donations, or improve the arrangement of the old departments.

THE INDIANS.

The five live Indians from Minnesota, whose yells are heard every now and again echoing through the building, have hitherto occupied a small cramped up place in the south end of the hall, which would not hold more than twenty persons comfortably, and in which the Indians experienced considerable difficulty in performing their dances, which, though they may not be graceful, demand considerable exertion and plenty of room. In order to make matters more convenient for them as well as for the public, the furniture department, which was along side of the wigwam, was removed, and the whole of the south end of the east hall was enclosed. Here the Indians now hold forth and they certainly seem well pleased with the change, and perform their dances with much more vigor and energy than they were able to display in their former contracted place. We believe it is the intention of the managers to have Dudley Waller, the young orator, deliver recitations and speeches in this place at times when it is not used by the the Indians. By placards near the door the public will be informed at what hours Master Waller will delight and surprise the public by exhibitions of his wonderful powers.

THE FURNITURE DEPARTMENT.

The enlargement of the Indians' quarters involved a removal of the furniture department, which was in the south-east corner of the east hall. It will now be found in the north end of the same hall, two stalls from the large refreshment table. The place is somewhat too small for the purpose, but arrangements are being made by which the beautiful articles of furniture contained in the department will be displayed to much better advantage than heretofore.

THE GREAT BABY HOUSE.

The great baby house of which we have already spoken, has at last arrived, and was yesterday placed in the Fair the first time. It occupies a prominent position near the large fountain in the centre of the cross hall. It is one of the most interesting objects of the Fair, and was yesterday examined by thousands of persons, all of whom expressed their admiration of the perfection and beauty of everything around it. It is a perfect house in miniature, being complete in every respect. It is composed of wood sanded, giving it the appearance of a fine brown stone building, three stories high, and surmounted by a French mansard roof. The whole of the interior is divided into rooms in a very architectural manner, the apartments being all appropriate and of proportional sizes. Every room, from the kitchen to the garret, is furnished in a suitable manner, with chairs, tables, carpets, beds, bedding, ornaments, and everything in fact that is necessary to make the miniature complete, even to pipes by which good water is conveyed to every part of the house. It is one of the most complete and beautiful articles we have ever seen, and no labor appears to have been spared in the construction of it, as everything is made in the most finished and costly manner. It is valued at \$1,000, and will be raffled for that sum, though we do not know what the price per chance will be. It was made by the Messrs. Biddell, of Philadelphia, and presented by them to the Fair held in that city last year. It was there raffled for a \$1,000, and won by a Mr. Kennedy, who now presents it to the Chicago Fair, his little niece, for whom it was designed, having died a short time ago. It is in charge of Miss Le Duc, of the miscellaneous department. It is beautiful and valuable, and we anticipate that there will be no difficulty experienced in selling chances for it.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.

A short distance north of the main entrance to Union Hall will be found the Miscellaneous department, presided over by Mrs. LeDuc, assisted by a corps of handsome young ladies, from whom we feel a pleasure in purchasing. The stock of articles in this department is as the name denotes, of the most miscellaneous description. All articles sent to the Fair and not directed as donations to any particular department are to be found here, and therefore it is that we see needle-work, wood-work, pencil sketches, toys, fancy goods, and various other articles lying around in beautiful confusion, and giving one an idea of what might be the contents of the trunks of old Santa Claus were he to set out loaded with gifts for old and young. Among the articles are numerous single gifts from the poor wives, daughters and children of our noble soldiers, which are all the more valuable because, like the widow's mite, they were all their owners had to give, and they were given with their whole heart. Their intrinsic value may not be great but each little article seems to say—

"I give thee all, I can no more
Though poor the offering be."

And for this reason their value is enhanced ten thousand fold. Go and buy some of these little things, and make the hearts of those who gave them rejoice by knowing that their single gifts were appreciated, and found purchasers even amidst the rich and rare articles by which they are surrounded.

OUR COLORED SOLDIERS.

The war is virtually at an end. Everywhere east of the Mississippi our armies are disbanding. Thousands of our brave veterans are already "homeward bound," visions of the warm welcomes in waiting making glad their way; and now while we reach our hands to these with cordial greetings, let us not forget the brave black soldiers who have shared with them the perils of the field. For the majority of these there are no family ties to be resumed. In the exodus from the land of bondage there were such wide scatterings of the household that many will never again hear tidings of wife or little ones, while their military services in the Federal cause have raised, in numerous instances, an impassable barrier to their return to the old abodes where their former masters, fierce, vindictive, are but waiting opportunity to be revenged.

Patient, far-seeing, confident of its coming, they bided God's time for their day of jubilee, and when the magic word proclaimed its advent, from the Potomac to the Mississippi went up their shout of joy. Freedom was theirs at last, and for the maintenance of that freedom they were ready to venture life itself. When there came the call for colored recruits they were not slow to answer, and thousands rallied at once to our standard.

As soldiers, brave, hopeful, enduring, they have borne themselves manfully throughout, facing all danger unflinchingly, and shrinking from nothing in the way of duty; Fort Fisher, Port Hudson and Fort Pillow, bear witness to this.

Their valorous deeds have won them an honorable place in the history of this war, and the impartial historian will not fail to accord them the praise which is their due. For the honor of our country, for the honor of humanity, let justice be done them. Surely there has been blood enough spilled to wash out the pitiful prejudice of color, and he who, cherishing it still, withholds from these the gratitude which is so justly theirs, deserved to have turned upon him the finger of scorn.

Wherever the flag of our Union floats, let those who have fought to redeem it receive honor. Let us withhold nothing which can prove to them our grateful appreciation of their services; and even as we do for our own, let us do also for our colored soldiers.

WANTED.—Sixteen swallow tailed coats, one warming pan, one long nosed bellows, pattern of short gown, trenches and peuter mugs, and in short anything to "set up" a young couple in a New England Kitchen, on the sunset side of the Mississippi River. One thousand dollars might be raised for the Fair if we had the necessary furniture in Marshalltown, Iowa, and directed to the care of

DILSIE POTTS,
Cor. Sec'y. Soldiers' Aid Society.

WELCOME.

The 88th and 89th Illinois infantry arrived last night. The Board of Trade regiment will be received at the Board of Trade to-day, and take dinner at the Tremont.