

VOICE OF THE FAIR.

ANDREW SHUMAN, Editor.

Chicago, Tuesday, June 13, 1865.

FAIR GOSSIP.

—Monday is generally a dull day in business, and merchants generally regard it so; but in the Fair yesterday it was anything but dull. It was as lively a day as any of its predecessors, and the receipts will no doubt show almost as well. The grand total of the cash receipts up to last night approximates \$200,000.

—Gen. Grant had a warm reception in Bryan Hall, yesterday forenoon, and made a very pleasant visit to the main Fair building in the afternoon. He enjoyed the scenes around and before him, and manifested a deep interest in the continued success of the Fair. "The Sanitary and Christian Commissions," he remarked in conversation, "have saved many a precious life and afforded untold comfort and relief to the sick and wounded on the fields and in the hospitals. Only the general officers and those who have been laid up in the hospitals really know how much good these societies are doing." This is strong testimony, and is one more argument in favor of our Fair, to raise money for the relief and comfort of the thousands of suffering soldiers who are still in the hospitals, and will be for months to come.

—Geo. P. Upton, Esq., of the *Tribune*, who is probably the best posted man in the West upon the subject of numismatics—the study and knowledge of rare and ancient coins—and who has the largest collection of old coins in the country, has written an article for this paper, which will be found in another place, upon the old coins in the Fair, which the reader will find interesting and instructive.

—Mrs. Gen. Grant says she made the General come to Chicago Fair, because she was sure the people here wanted to see him, and because he would like to see them and our great Western Fair. He finally came to the same conclusion, and so they came on. Both are sorry they cannot stay longer with us. They left for Washington last night.

—Notwithstanding the vigilance of the guard and of the saleswomen in the Fair, petty thieves occasionally succeed in pilfering. Nothing of any material value has as yet been missing, but enough to show that there are thieves about. Especially when there are great crowds in the aisles and in the booths, should a close watch be kept.

—That was a pleasant little episode at the Fair on Saturday, during the grand reception, when Gen's. Grant and Sherman exchanged such happy words about speech-making. This incident will become a part of history, and it is therefore important that it be reported correctly, just as it occurred. Gen. Grant declined making a speech in response to Gen. Hooker's address of welcome, calling on Gov. Yates to respond for him, which he did. The cry of the multitude then was for Gen. Sherman, who was on the stand. That general responded, saying: "I am not here for the purpose of making a speech, I am here, like yourselves, merely as a spectator. I have always been ready to obey my loved commander-in-chief, but I am sure he will not order me to make a speech." Gen. Grant, standing near, then advanced and said: "I never order a soldier to do anything that I cannot do myself." The happiness of the retort immediately struck the crowd, and such a shout of applause as rung through that vast hall has never been outdone on any occasion.

—We continue to hear occasional growls against the Fair by the croaking and bilious portion of the community. Who ever knew of any great movement or enterprise that did not have the opposition of this class of unhappy mortals? The secret of this is that, being extremely self-important, these folks feel themselves offended because they were not consulted by the projectors and managers of the enterprise. But the world and all its affairs have survived the croakings of this class of people for many thousand years, and we guess our Fair will survive their sneers. At all events, it has got along without their friendship very swimmingly thus far.

—Our lady readers who have not seen the wives of Gens. Grant and Sherman will no doubt be interested in knowing how they looked and what they wore, at the Grant reception on Saturday, when both of these ladies were on the platform with their distinguished husbands. Mrs. Grant was dressed in plain traveling attire, having just arrived from the cars. She wore

a white straw hat, with green trimmings, a traveling mantle and dress of drab, and a short black veil over her face—altogether a modest, unassuming attire. She is of medium height, not exactly slender, and has an exceedingly sharp countenance. She and Mrs. Sherman are about the same size and age—probably about 35 years. Mrs. Sherman wore mourning, having lost a son some months since. She is graceful and easy in her manners and has a pleasant face. Neither of these ladies is handsome, but both of them are very lady-like, modest and unpretentious—just such women as men of good common sense would select for wives.

—Everybody who has seen Gen. Grant remarks how much he looks like the pictures that have been published of him—only that he looks somewhat older, having some prominent wrinkles on his face, apparently the marks of time and care. But what a plain, honest, manly physiognomy he has, and how his characteristic quality of firmness "sticks out" on his facial features. When he makes up his mind to "fight it out on that line," he will do it, you may wager your head.

—The fire-works donated to the Fair, which the city of Chicago has purchased, will be displayed in the city on the evening of the approaching fourth of July. The day will be "celebrated" here in splendid style, the returned veterans having a prominent place in the programme.

—The Fair will have been in progress just two weeks, this evening, and yet, much as has been sold in the various departments, it requires a very nice perception to enable anybody to see that the exhibition is in any respect materially reduced in its dimensions or its general magnificence. It is as great a Fair now as when it first opened.

—Col. George Copway, a full-blooded Ojibway Indian—formerly the chief of his tribe—and now and for two or three years past a member of Gen. Grant's staff, was among the notabilities at the Fair on Saturday and yesterday. He is a splendid specimen of the native American, and is said to be an excellent officer.

—Among the recent additions to the large collection of autographs in the department of Arms, Trophies, and Curiosities, at Bryan Hall, are letters from Bassini, the distinguished Italian composer, and Madame Ristori, the famous singer and actress.

—Major General Auger, commandant of the military department of Washington City, was one of Gen. Grant's party while in this city.

—It is now believed that the Illinois State Agricultural Fair, which will be held in this city in September, will engage the great Fair building for a part of its exhibition.

—Our young gents, and their lady friends are still greatly exercised about that \$1,000 dressing case for "the prettiest lady in Chicago." The voting progresses.

—Ladies of Chicago, you are wanted. Your sisters have been devoting themselves with all their hearts and hands to the labors of the Fair, and they need help. Come up, offer your services at least for a few hours, and give those who have been at work so long an opportunity to rest occasionally. They need relief—come and relieve them.

—Major General Hazen, of the eastern army, was at the Fair yesterday. He left, we believe, with Gen. Grant last night.

—The veterans from the army are now passing through Chicago in large numbers daily, on their way home to be mustered out. They arrive and depart by squads and regiments, many bringing their arms with them. Not a few of the soldiers visit the Fair every day, and are delighted with it.

—This is the seventeenth number of the *Voice*. There is scarcely a town or village in the northwest that has not been visited by its cheerful countenance. Many copies are also daily sold at the Fair and elsewhere, and many more delivered to subscribers in the city, by carriers. There is no better advertising medium in Chicago just now.

—Gen. Sherman continues to be a regular visitor at the Fair. His little son, Tommy, eight years of age, whom President Lincoln commissioned as a sergeant, and who wears a sergeant's uniform, is also a frequent visitor. He is a beautiful, bashful lad.

—Some visitors at the Fair continue to insist that the valuation of some of the articles offered for sale is too high—higher than they can be purchased at the stores. This is a mistake. The general valuation is a little below, rather than above, current prices. There are some articles of extra and rare quality that may seem

too high, but try to purchase the same quality of the article at the stores, and you will find that, if it can be had at all, it is priced higher there than at the Fair. Care has been taken not to establish exorbitant prices in any part of the Fair.

—Judge Bradwell's department of arms, trophies and curiosities, continues to grow. He received a large accession of arms from Washington the other day, and the possessors of relics and queer things continue to send them in. What a vast museum Bryan Hall now is!

—We hear that many people who visit the Fair neglect to go and see the admirable marble statue of Zenobia, and the great painting of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. This is a mistake on their part. If they had anything like an idea of what these great works of art really are, they could not be induced to forego a good look at them.

—The mimic naval engagement at Monitor Hall is the wonder and admiration of the little folks—and even older people manifest a great interest in the marvellous ingenuity of the construction and operations of those "little bits" of war vessels. It does not seem possible that operating engines could be constructed small enough to be placed in and to propel those little steamers—not much larger than a big man's hand.

—Gen. Hooker and Gov. Yates will be happy to see their friends at Bryan Hall this forenoon.

SENATOR YATES.

Among the distinguished visitors to the Fair, none has a deeper hold upon the affections of the people of Illinois than glorious Dick Yates; and the undisguised admiration everywhere accorded him evince the high estimation conceded him in popular favor. Even the radiant lustre of our most renowned military heroes fail to eclipse or dim the glorious record of the "best Governor in the United States," to whom more than any other man, President Lincoln was indebted in the early part of his administration, and in whom he always found a steadfast friend and ardent uncompromising supporter.

The gallant senator and his accomplished lady are still in the city and take the deepest interest in the Fair. We understand that he is received to-morrow with Gen. Hooker at Bryan Hall.

FLOWERS.—Louis Ellsworth, of Napierville, has donated eleven boxes of choice varieties of flowers. This most liberal donation entitles him to the gratitude of the officers of the Fair, and all who have been pleased by the beauty of Horticultural Hall, to which he has thus contributed so much.

RECEPTION OF GEN. HOOKER AND SENATOR YATES.

By the invitation of Hon. J. B. Bradwell, Gen. Joseph Hooker and Senator Yates will be received at Bryan Hall to day at eleven o'clock.

GEMS OF ART.

We have already referred to the collection of exquisite little oil paintings—"the Ruggles Gems"—exhibited at the Fair in the "west wing" of Union Hall, by Mr. Fry. Since then we have taken another good look at them, and cannot resist the impulse of again expressing our admiration of them, and commanding them to the attention of our readers.

Mr. Ruggles, of New York, who has attained an enviable reputation at the east by his singular skill in painting faithful landscapes and marine views from nature, in small compasses, assuredly deserves all the fame he enjoys, as the pictures in Mr. Fry's collection, about a hundred in number, conclusively attest. We cannot imagine of a more beautiful or acceptable gift, either for holiday or bridal occasions, or as a friendly testimonial, than sets of these admirable little paintings, so true to nature, so perfectly and delicately executed, and so charmingly ornamental in parlor, drawing room, or gallery. They are *gems* in the true sense of the word. Many have already been sold at the Fair, but we are surprised that the entire collection, which cannot but captivate the fancy of the lovers of the beautiful in art, has not long ere this been disposed of. Such pictures, so elegantly framed and so reasonable in price, ought to "go off" with a great rapidity, in a city possessing so much love and appreciation of art as Chicago.

We earnestly advise all visitors at the Fair—towards which Mr. Fry has been very liberal—to pay their respects to the "Ruggles Gems." It is a little unfortunate that more room could not have been accorded to their display, but they make an imposing show even in the present nar-

row limits of their exhibition, and cannot but attract those who possess that commendable and elevating quality of character—a love of the beautiful and an admiration of the fine arts. Any one of these pictures is an object of study and a perfect thing of itself—a "thing of beauty," indeed, and to its possessor "a joy forever."

We learn that Mr. Fry will leave Chicago as soon as the Fair closes, and this is therefore probably the last opportunity that our people will have to secure any of these gems. If you wish paintings for your parlors or your private rooms, or if you wish to make a beautiful present to a friend either now or hereafter, by all means buy some of these exquisite little paintings.

T. BUCHANAN READ.

The conspicuous part taken by this eminent gentleman in connection with the opening of this Fair, and the wide celebrity of his soul-stirring, patriotic poetry during the rebellion, render it peculiarly fitting and desirable to present our readers with a brief sketch of his life.

Thomas Buchanan Read, the poet and painter, was a native of Christian Co., Pa., but became a citizen of the west when yet a boy. Inspired by the example of his friends, Powers and Clevenger, he early turned his attention to the study of art. In 1840 he painted a full length portrait of Gen. Harrison, and subsequently went to Boston to avail himself of the artistic advice of Washington Allston, then the most distinguished artist in America. During the four succeeding years he resided in Cambridge, enjoying the friendship of Felton, Longfellow, Everett, and other eminent literary men. In 1860, Mr. Read went to Italy, where, surrounded by the first artists in the world, and breathing the atmosphere filled with celestial inspiration he pursued his profession until the breaking out of the rebellion. Fired with patriotic ardor and imbued with a quenchless desire to perform his part in the great contest, he returned to America. What he has done since that every American knows. Trumpet tongued, his words have summoned patriots to the field, and inspired their hearts anew with undying devotion to the flag.

His poetical works were first published by Ticknor & Fields, and afterwards by Trubner & Co., and the Longman's of London, Thackeray, Dickens, Leigh Hunt, and Mowbray Morris, were among those with whom he was intimate and who paid him honor.

The *North American Review* unhesitatingly puts him at the head of American poets, and the *London Quarterly and Chambers Magazine* have endorsed the opinion. His poems have been translated into German and a portion of them into Italian.

But as Americans, we take more pride in the lofty patriotism of our fellow countrymen, than in all the complimentary notices of foreign critics. He has won a place in the heart of the nation of which any man may be justly proud, and a niche in her history which will make his name immortal. Several of his paintings are on exhibition at the Art Gallery, of which, the most famous is the "Spirit of the Waterfall"—a picture which has, to a great degree, made the reputation of the artist. T. Buchanan Read, has essayed two of the most difficult things, to become a poet and a painter. Most men fail in either, he has succeeded in both.

GARIBALDI ON THE WAR—THE RELATIONS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

The following is a translation of a letter which Garibaldi had addressed to the editor of the *London Public Opinion* on the relations between England and America:

Sir: I always considered from the beginning that the American question was one which concerned all humanity and the whole world, and I was grieved to see that a part of the English public were opposed to the restoration of Union in the great Republic, which arose, it is well known, from causes of rancour which pre-existed between England and America; but it was a sad thing that the good sense of the people who first established the principle of the emancipation of the slaves, did not manifest itself in applause to the North Americans, who showed themselves to be the instruments of Providence in carrying out that sublime idea.

May these lords of the ocean agree, then, for the good of oppressed humanity! Sons of the same mother, may they see that their noble race is now—a-days the bulwark of the right of nations, and that despotism foments dissension between them because it fears them, and because it knows that if they were on good terms it would be impossible for it to execute its designs, which are fatal to liberty everywhere.

Yours, &c.,

G. GARIBALDI.

CAPRERA, May, 1865.