

OUR RETURNED SOLDIERS.

RECEPTION OF THREE REGIMENTS AT UNION HALL.

Coming home! coming home! what joy, what rapture, what delight there are in those simple little words. Home, sweet, sweet home, is ever dear, ever cherished, ever holy to each and all of us, and he has not yet experienced the very acme of earthly bliss who has not, after months or years of absence, returned to his home, to which his soul is bound by many a tender tie, and clasped to his heart again those loved ones, those dear ones at home. To us who move in the every-day walks of civil life, the joy and happiness of such meetings are great, and when we experience such pleasure in such moments, who can estimate that of those who, after having fought their country's battles, come back again to the home scenes and friends of other and happier days. In all ages, all countries, and all nations, the soldier's return has been an event of happiness and pleasure. When such is the case among people whose whole history is one of warfare and bloodshed, and whose soldiers are trained almost from the cradle in the art of war, how much more ought it be the case with us, whose soldiers are citizens like ourselves, who only left the peaceful walks of life and marched to the battle-field because their country was in danger and called upon them for assistance. They were not soldiers bred, but of ourselves and like ourselves, loving peace rather than war, but ready, ever ready, to participate in the battle when their country, their rights and their laws are at stake.

The fratricidal carnage which has been raging over our land for the last four years, is at last at an end, and our war-worn veterans, covered with honor and with glory, are returning to their homes to resume those places at the plow, the bench and the counter, which they left for the rifle, the sword and the cannon. Every day brings some of them to us. And they do not come back as they went out, strong in numbers, with bright muskets, fine dresses and beautiful banners; but reduced in strength, dust-stained, battle-marked and war-worn, their whole appearance indicating "moving accidents by flood and field," and "the imminently deadly breach." They come back to tell us of "the insolent foe," of "the dangers they have passed," of battles won, of sieges made, of troubles passed,

"Their brows bound with victorious wreaths,
Their dread alarms turned to merry-makings."

And they come to receive the warm welcome of wives, mothers, sisters or sweethearts, and to feel the earnest grasp of the hand and hear the cheering voice of the friends of other days. Nothing that we can do can be too good for those noble fellows, and though, unfortunately, some of them have been neglected, we are happy to say that, hereafter, every one shall be received with open arms, and get such a welcome as their gallant doings in the field entitle them to.

Yesterday the first public reception given our returned veterans took place in Union Hall and was one of the most interesting affairs that has yet taken place in connection with the great Fair. The regiments received were the 88th, or 2nd Board of Trade regiment; the 89th, or Railway regiment; and the 90th, or Irish Legion. The latter, however, did not arrive on the ground till after the ceremonies of reception were over. The hour announced for the reception was eleven o'clock, and with military punctuality the two regiments arrived at Union Hall as the clock struck the hour. They came direct from Camp Douglass, where they have been since their arrival here a day or two ago, and marched along Michigan Avenue headed by the fine Light Guard band playing appropriate and popular airs. As they neared the Hall a portion of the 24th Ohio battery, stationed on the Lake shore, commenced firing a national salute and continued until the requisite number of guns were fired. A halt was ordered for a few minutes on the corner of Michigan Avenue and Washington street, and then the crowds gathered around to look at the heroes of a hundred fights. They might not be as fair a sight as when months ago they marched away with colors flying and bands playing to take their place in the field; but their appearance amongst their old friends once more was much more pleasant, travel-stained as they were. Since leaving here their numbers have been fearfully decreased by battle and sickness, the 88th especially, having suffered very heavily. Their tattered uniforms, their blood-stained and bullet-rent colors, and their whole appearance tell the tale of their history in the field. In everything about them we can see the marks, the unmistakable marks of war, of battle and of strife, and the flags they carry bear testimony to the gallantry they have shown on many a bloody field.

As these two regiments were raised in Chicago many residents of the city had friends in them, and therefore it was that so many persons rushed forward as they caught sight of some familiar face, bronzed by the rays of a southern sun, and shook some soldier long and warmly by the hand and welcomed him back to his friends and home. And many too who had seen those regiments start out, now looked on with sorrowful faces, for they saw many vacancies in the ranks, and missed the familiar form of some one they had known in days gone by—some one who will never, never return. Hundreds of those gallant fellows have gone to their long, long rest. They met death as brave men, while upholding the righteous cause of their country; and they now sleep in the far off sunny south, in the honorable grave of the soldier; and though the tears of loved ones may not moisten the sod that covers them, a grateful country shall ever remember them. Several ladies, mothers of the fallen brave, passed along the line, and shaking the hands of those rough fellows, welcomed them home, while at the same moment, with tears in their eyes, they asked them how the loved ones they buried had fallen, and how they had died. It was a touching sight, and even the soldiers, accustomed to bloodshed, horror and misery, and everything that would tend to harden men's hearts, had to turn their heads aside, and many a tear was brushed away by those dusty coat sleeves.

After remaining drawn up on Michigan avenue for a short time, the men again moved forward, and proceeding up Washington, they went around the block and entered Union Hall by the north door. The moment they made their appearance in the hall, they were received with round after round of cheers, and while the men shouted and waved their hats aloft, the ladies waved their handkerchiefs and said, "God bless the noble fellows." They marched down the hall to the south end and formed in front of the gallery while their tattered colors, amid the cheers of the whole assemblage, were carried up and placed in the front of the gallery.

T. B. Bryan then in a few well timed remarks, welcomed the men to Chicago and complimented them on the glorious triumphs they had achieved and the mighty victories won. He concluded by calling for three cheers for the returned veterans, which were given with a will, and three more after them.

General Sherman just then entered the building and was at once loudly called for, working his way through the soldiers, who cheered him as he passed, he ascended into the gallery and on his appearance in front, was received with loud and continued cheering. As soon as the applause had subsided, he addressed the soldiers in a short and appropriate speech in which he said that knowing them to be good soldiers he felt sure they would all be good citizens, and ready as ever, did their country call them, to take the field.

The soldiers were then informed that they were at liberty to visit the Floral Hall, and other parts of the Fair, which they immediately did, and seemed highly delighted with all they saw. As they marched around General Sherman shook hands with all who came near him, and the men seemed immensely rejoiced at meeting their old commander again.

They subsequently proceeded to the Board of Trade Hall where they were formally received in an appropriate manner and afterwards partook of a substantial dinner provided for them at the Tremont House, which it is needless to say was done full justice to.

The gallant 90th regiment—better known as "the Irish Legion"—visited the Fair just after the departure of the other regiments, and were received in a right hearty manner. They visited every part of the Fair, and spent an exceedingly pleasant hour, everyone doing everything in their power to show that they fully appreciated their noble conduct in the field.

PRIZES.

No. 4 of those elegant Bohemian Toilet Sets, at the Rochester, N. Y. Perfumery Booth, has been drawn by Miss Nettie Hubbard, Ticket No. 18; No. 5 by Miss Josie Egan, ticket No. 1; No. 6 by Mr. Newton, ticket No. 7; No. 7 by Mr. J. L. Howe, ticket 26; No. 8 by Miss Kate Dennison, ticket 32; No. 9 by Mrs. A. E. Rhodes, ticket 5; No. 10 by Mr. J. B. French, ticket 20; No. 11 by Mr. Carr, ticket 46; No. 12 by Mrs. F. M. Smith, ticket 19. They are very desirable as are many of the beautiful articles to be found at this booth.

Rogers' "One More Shot," drawn by Mr. Hitchcock. Rogers' "Country Post Office," drawn by Miss Latimer. Smoking Cap, drawn by J. G. Scammon. Shell picture, drawn by F. H. Mather.

THE GENERALS AT THE OPERA.

The Opera, Monday night, was favored by the inspiring presence of the military chieftains who have been visiting the Fair.

The house was filled to repletion with the elite of the city, not a seat being vacant, and many hundreds occupying the aisles and auditorium. It was, par excellence, the most brilliant night of the season. The Opera selected in honor of Lieut.-Gen. Grant, was Donizetti's famous "La Figlia del Regimento," and the rendition was well nigh perfection and won incense from the distinguished guests. Kellogg, as *La Figlia*, being an especial favorite.

Gen. Grant, attended by his wife, several friends and some of his staff, entered the middle proscenium box on the left just as the orchestra were finishing the overture. A burst of applause followed, which was renewed and continued for several minutes—the orchestra gracefully yielding to the furore and joining in Hail Columbia.

On Gen. Sherman's arrival, a little later, the ovation was repeated, causing an interruption in the rendition of the Opera.

At the close of the first scene the cheering was renewed and loud calls were heard for "Grant" and "Sherman," and the orchestra played the Star Spangled Banner.

Gen. Hooker who was present, accompanied by Senator Yates and family, was also complimented and gracefully acknowledged it by a bow. A vast crowd gathered around the doors to see the distinguished guests arrive and depart.

The irrepressible enthusiasm of Gen. Grant's reception in Chicago, is only equalled by his unaffected modesty in receiving so magnificent a demonstration.

GEN. GRANT ON HORSEBACK.

We were shown yesterday, a splendid steel plate engraving of Lieut.-Gen. Grant, which has been issued by Geo. E. Perrine, of No. 111 Nassau street, New York.

Mr. Perrine left New York, as he supposed, to be at the Fair in time to have presented the Lieut.-General with a copy, before leaving our city. It will, however, be presented to his estimable lady, who no doubt will highly appreciate the gift. Those of our citizens who saw the India proof copy, pronounce it one of the best and most perfect ever issued of any of our Generals. Mr. P. is stopping at the Matteson House, and proposes to visit the Fair to dispose of them for the benefit of our noble soldiers. Orders may be left with him at his rooms, or at the Fair building, or may be addressed to him in New York.

Lieut. Gen. Grant, Dr. Bellows and other noted personages visited Zenobia yesterday, and added their testimony to that of the multitudes before them of the exceeding beauty of this work of art. It is not a matter of surprise, now that the Statue is before us, that it created such an intense interest in our Eastern Cities. More than thirty thousand (30,000) in Boston alone, visited her majesty. None of our citizens must fail to see the Statue. No work of art has come to our country of equal merit, and it is not probable we shall soon have a creation of equal genius before the public. It remains but a few days in our city.

GREAT AUCTION SALE OF LANDS AT THE FAIR.—On Thursday morning at 11 o'clock, in Union Hall, there will be a sale, at auction, of 160 acres of farming land in Harrison Co., Iowa, the Army Farm, donated to the Fair. Also, seven village lots in St. John's Town, Harrison Co., Iowa; village lot in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 40 acre tract in Chickasaw Co., Iowa; 160 acres in Emmett Co.; and 40 acres in Franklin Co., Iowa. Also, the gold watch presented to the Fair by a dying man in Iowa. All of which will be sold to the highest bidder.

MUSICAL CHAIR.

Mr. G. B. Brown, of the firm of Hogg, Brown & Tyler of Boston, donated to the New England Farm House, a musical chair, which has attracted great attention from the crowds which have thronged the Farm House. The chair is of solid mahogany, beautifully cushioned and finished, and plays eight tunes by means of stops similar to organ stops.

This chair cost \$200, and is to be sold for the benefit of the Fair.

Mrs. ARTEMUS WARD is expected to visit the Fair as Fortune Teller and Beyggist. Tent pitched in Union Hall, one weigh or t'other from the Chief Indyjuns. Kant make out the pints of the kumpus. Kname on thee Door Plate. As eny One he nose.

DONATIONS TO THE FAIR.

- Employees in Asst. Q. M. Office, Cairo, Ill., by A. C. Woolfolk, \$4,50.
- Pub. Sch. dept., Jasper Co., Iowa, per J. L. Pickard, 39,85.
- Amateur musicians of Fairview, Ill., per J. F. Perrin, 100,00.
- Officers of Mound City, Girl Hospital, per Col. E. T. Sprague, 27,25.
- Soldiers' Aid Soc., Rock Island, Ill., per Mrs. H. C. Blackburn, 200,00.
- Committee City of Gelena, per Rebecca Col-dows, 200,00.
- L. L. L. 414, Spring, Ill., by festival per Miss Julia A. Randolph, Sec., 50,00.
- Clerks and employees in Q. M. dept., Spring-field, Ill., by Capt. James Campbell, 66,10.
- Sigourney & Lancaster, Keokuk Co., Iowa, by Mrs. L. W. Grant, 59,35.
- One county school, Indianola, Iowa, by Julius Chappelle Clark, 16,00.
- Crawford Co., Iowa, by Mr. E. B. Denison of Denison, Iowa, 4,20.
- Sol. Aid Soc., Garnaville, Iowa, by Mrs. S. M. Porter, Sec., 30,00.
- Officers and enlisted men at Soldiers' Rest, Cairo Ill., Capt. A. C. Woolfolk, 30,00.
- Sol. Aid Soc., Palo, Iowa, by M. E. McCauchy, 51,00.
- Young Ladies' Atheneum, Jacksonville, by R. C. Crompton, 28,00.
- Concert in Presby. Ch., Virden, Ill., by hands of Wm. L. Tarbet, 59,45.
- Citizens of Mitchell, Iowa, per C. S. Prime, Tres., 100,00.
- Aledo, Ill., per Isaac Edwards, 51,75.
- Universalist dept., S. School Dowagiac, Mich., per G. C. Jones, 17,37.
- Nebraska dept., citizens of Platsworth, Cass Co., Neb., per Mrs. B. S. Spurlock, 23,55.
- Nebraska dept., citizens, per Mrs. A. L. Pad-dock, N. T. Omaha, 197,20.
- U. L. of A. Leighton, Mich., per V. N. Lister, 3,60.
- Minnesota, per Nellie Walcott, Sec., 35,50.
- German dept., La Salle, Ill., per Mrs. Cora Wilburn, 11,50.
- La Salle Co. dept., per D. H. Petefish, 17,25.
- Citizens of Jr.] Blanc, Mich., per J. W. King, 21,00.
- Public School dept., Rock Island, Ill., per C. L. Basom, Blackhawk Centre sch, 3,00.
- Bloomington, Ill., 92,00.
- Ogden School, Chicago, 8,00.
- Marengo, Ill., 90,00.
- Union School, Grass Lake, 9,20.
- West Port, La Parte Co., Ind., 5,25.
- Bremen Co., Iowa, 83,60.
- Center School Clear Creek, Ill., 10,00.
- High School, Rock Island, 140,40.
- Military dept. employees in Forage dept., A. Q. M. Cairo, Ill., per Capt. A. Woolfolk, 185,25.
- Third R. I. Cav., Hermitage, Louisiana, per Col. Chas. H. Parkhurst—officers 42,00; Co. A, 18,00; B, 24,50; K, 36,00.
- Mrs. E. G. Porter, Beloit, Wis., 40,00
- Military dept., Ft. Leavenworth, Kas., per Maj. F. E. Hunt—Maj. Smith, 10,00; Charles A. Wright, 5,00; Maj. J. Bowen, 10,00; Maj A. P. Shreve, 10,00; Maj. J. H. Ellis, 10,00; Maj. F. E. Hunt, 10,00; Mr. F. E. Hunt, 5,00.
- Asst. Q. M. office, Quincy, Ill., per Capt. R. C. Rutherford, 50,45.
- Aid Soc. Albion Ill., per Miss Florence Mayo, 31,75.
- Sol. Aid Soc., Fall River, Ill., per D. Richard-son, Pres., 21,80.
- Sol. Aid Society, Walta, Ill., per Mrs. E. P. Townsend, Sec., 20,00.
- Sol. Aid Soc., Dement, Ill., per E. L. Wells, 75,35.
- Sol. Aid Soc., McHenry, Ill., per D. S. Smith, Sec., 72,00.
- Iowa dept., Beaver Township, Polk Co., per W. F. Tate, 3,50.
- Park Township, Bremen Co., 8,00.
- Sol. Aid Soc., Agency City, per John Doannah, 40,00.

GRAND DRILL.—Go to the New England Farm House, to-night, and see the grand blindfold drill of Major DeWitt, and the combination drill of DeWitt and Burton, of the 19th Illinois. It will be a fine treat.

MUSICAL.

Among the many pleasant features attending a visit to Bryan Hall, not the least is the delightful music upon the Piano discoursed by that accomplished lady and gifted musician, Madame Pattiona. Her most excellent taste is evinced by the choice of patriotic airs, and such as stir the hearts of the audiences, and harmonize with the occasions and surroundings.