

VOICE OF THE FAIR.

ANDREW SHUMAN, Editor.

Chicago, Wednesday, June 14, 1865.

FAIR GOSSIP.

The two weeks are more than up, and still the great Fair goes on with undiminished eclat. \$200,000 have already been realized, and not a quarter of the articles on sale have yet been disposed of. The grand exhibition continues to be as extensive, imposing, and attractive as ever, and the crowds that throng the halls do not fall off perceptibly. And contributions continue to arrive, replenishing some of the departments almost as rapidly as articles are sold. It is a very difficult question to decide as to when to close up the Fair. It certainly would not be advisable to wind it up so long as it runs as well as it now does. By the end of the present week, however, this question will probably be definitely decided. The original intention was to continue the Fair for a fortnight, but then the most sanguine of its friends had nothing like an idea of its magnitude or the unprecedented success that has thus far attended it. Let our people continue to patronize the Fair, and swell the fund for the soldiers to a figure that will astonish our eastern friends, who, by the great success of their fairs, had supposed that they had reached the climax of charitable and patriotic triumph.

Gen. Sherman and his family are still the "lions" of the Fair and of the town. Gen. Hooker and Gov. Yates are also still with us.

Some of the soldiers, rough, tough and a little reckless, occasionally frighten the ladies attending the booths, by their unreserved exercise of free speech when passing through the Fair. But there is no occasion for alarm. These bronzed and toughened heroes are brave men, and the truly brave never intentionally insult the ladies. They have been outside of the refining influences of women's society so long, that they are perhaps a little more blunt and uncouth now than formerly, but after returning home and falling into the good old ways of peace again, the rough edges in their warlike character will soon wear off, and they will be just the same as the rest of us.

That is a very excellent arrangement that has recently been entered into between the Board of Supervisors of this county and the officers of the Fair, respecting the families of soldiers who cannot afford to pay to enter the Fair. All that is required at the entrance door to admit soldiers' families of this description, is a ticket from Dr. Gibb's, chairman of the War bounty Fund Committee.

Gen. Sheridan continues to keep ahead in the ballot for that gold-mounted pistol at Bryan Hall; Sherman is next, and then Grant. Gen. Osborne, late Colonel of the of the 39th Ill., seems to have a sure thing on the silver-mounted pistol, being far ahead of all his competitors.

People generally do not seem to "see the point" of Gen. Hooker's remark at the Fair on Saturday, when, in response for a call that he would introduce Mrs. Hooker to the audience, he thanked them for the interest they manifested in behalf of that lady. The "point" is that there is no Mrs. Gen. Hooker, though there no doubt ought to be one.

The little folks have a great admiration for that swing in Horticultural Hall, and the man in charge takes many half dimes during the day, and the little ones get the full worth of their money in having a good swing. One of them told us yesterday that she didn't see Gen. Grant, but she had a good swing, "which is almost as good."

Who is "the prettiest lady in Chicago?" Answer the question for yourself by voting for her in the exciting contest going on the European department of the Fair for that \$1,000 dressing-case from London. Whoever gets the most votes will receive that splendid prize, and be considered "the prettiest" besides.

We notice considerable "style" displayed in dress among the fair visitors of the Fair. Many seem to do their best for their visits and loiterings in the grand halls. Great variety is apparent, however. As regards the crinoline, we observe a decided *ensmallment* of the late expansive style; it is an improvement. The bonnets, which are very small, can hardly be called so, being nothing more or less than highly ornamented head-dresses, with wonderful combinations of lace, grasses, sprays of flowers and straw trimmings; they are, when of well-chosen colors, very beautiful and becoming as a summer style; notwithstanding their extreme unsubstantiality. Many a new style of dainty little hats and caps, of straw, with trimmings of black and the short masque veil, also daily make their appearance, which,

with form and face to correspond, are very becoming to the younger ladies and misses who wear them. The airy bonnets and dainty hats and caps, harmonize beautifully with the jaunty sacques and basquines now so much the *mode*.

The lady attendants and aids at the Fair have adopted as their mark of distinction, some charming little head-dresses of tulle, Valenciennes and muslin, formed into the most exquisite shapes. These worn over the curls and waterfalls, give the "dear creatures"—they are all pretty and lovely—a most attractive appearance. We should speak more frequently of these ladies, who are so devoted in their "labors of love," but they are so modest, that we must, for "prudential reasons," as our military men say, be very careful how we mention them. We must, however, be permitted to say that they are entitled to all the credit that we can possibly give them for their efforts to keep the various departments of the Fair in such fine order and to swell the cash receipts. To their good taste and diligence are we largely indebted for the attractiveness and success of the Fair.

There is a beautiful fawn in Horticultural Hall—the sole occupant of a tiny park, in which it dwells as gently and cosily as a lamb. A little girl yesterday cried bitterly because her mother would not let her go up to the gentle creature to "love" it.

There is a fine collection of plants and flowers under "Lookout Mountain," just as you enter Horticultural Hall, from the south end. Those wishing to supply their gardens with flowers and their verandas and windows with choice plants, have here a good opportunity for doing so.

The restaurants in the Fair are never without customers. This speaks well for their attractiveness. Indeed, how can a person with an appetite for good and sweet things, resist the fascinations of the pretty waiters in charge?

There is an old-fashioned spinning-wheel in the "Old New England Farm-House," which one good lady has charge of and knows how to manage. But in the "West wing" of Union Hall there is an improvement on the old style—a new invention. The lady in charge of the spinning-wheel quietly sits in her chair, fashioning the rolls of wool into yarn, which is wound upon a spindle that comes to and goes from her like a thing of life.

We are asked when Maj.-Gen. John A. Logan is coming to the Fair. All our Illinois people feel interested in this brave and gallant officer. He will probably be with us some time during the present week.

The life-size figure of Jeff. Davis, which is on exhibition as a side-show in Bryan Hall, is a curiosity that attracts many. The head and face, which are "true to life," were made in England, at an expense of \$400. The straw-hat that crowns the head, is one that Jeff. actually wore, and the dress he has on, as is certified by the dress-maker, is one that Mrs. Jeff. has actually worn. These are veritable facts. One lady, while looking at the figure, the other day, declared that she saw the face move and it required tangible evidence to correct her mistake.

We should think that the apologists of the barbarous, immoral and ungodly institution of slavery would become cured of their admiration of it, after seeing that horrid looking slave-collar among the trophies at Bryan Hall. It consists of about six pounds of solid iron, with sharp-pointed prongs, and looks worse than any dog's collar or hog or cattle yoke that we ever saw or heard of. An institution that requires such instruments of torture for human beings guilty of no crime, deserves the execration of the whole human race. This collar was taken from a slaves neck south of Nashville, last March, by our soldiers. The services of a blacksmith were necessary to remove it from the poor fellow's neck.

Several regiments of returning soldiers have, by invitation of Mr. Bryan, Superintendent of the Fair, been marched through the Fair halls during the past two days, and refreshed with lemonade at "Jacob's Well." The soldiers enjoyed the treat vastly.

So great was the rush to see Gen. Grant when he was announced to be at the Fair, that he could not see the great exhibition to enjoy it. Consequently, by a special arrangement, he, Mrs. Grant and a few friends quietly and leisurely, took a good look through all the halls, on Monday morning, before the Fair opened to the public. Thus did the General have an excellent opportunity to see the show he came to see. He expressed great gratification at the magnitude and splendor of the great exhibition.

The old log cabin, built and occupied by Mr. Lincoln, in his early pioneer days, is surrounded in an enclosure near the north-west

corner of Randolph street and Wabash avenue. It is a most interesting and valuable memento of the early life and struggles of the lamented president, and should be visited by every one attending the Fair.

Messrs. Bryan & Hogins, of Cottage Hill have donated a splendid new Mowing machine, (Curtis' Improved), to the machinery department of the "west wing." It is a beautiful machine, of peculiar construction, and valued at \$160.

Another fine lot of flowers for the Fair was shipped from Springfield yesterday, reaching here last night. Horticultural Hall will consequently have an accession of beauty and fragrance this morning.

Gen. Grant and lady did not leave the city for Washington until yesterday morning in the early train.

Among the most valuable donations to the jewelry department of the Fair was that of Benjamin Franklin, manufacturer of jewelry in New York, who, through his agent, Mr. J. W. Lucas, contributed \$100 worth of goods.

The printer made us say a very discourteous thing about Mrs. Gen. Grant, yesterday. We tried to say that she has "an exceedingly cheerful countenance." Most unaccountably and annoyingly, the printer got it "a peculiarly sharpened countenance"—which is by no means true.—The name of Rossini, the Italian composer, was also made to read *Bassini* in our issue of yesterday. "Mistakes will happen."

NEW ENGLAND FARM HOUSE.

Owing to the advance in prices of provision and the great expense attending the Farm House, the price of dinner has been raised to \$1. Breakfast and supper remaining the same as before.

All the distinguished guests of the Fair dine here. During the week, Gens. Sherman, Hooker, Logan, and all the notables, will honor the Farm House with their presence, and be served by the Fair ladies with an old fashioned dinner.

Senator Yates and family have accepted an invitation to be present to-day at dinner.

Every evening some novel and interesting feature will be introduced.

A SPLENDID ENGRAVING.

Carpenter's great picture of "President Lincoln and Cabinet," now on exhibition at Lower Bryan Hall, is to be made popular by a steel engraving of the highest order of artistic excellence, which is being executed by Ritchie of New York. It is to be published in January next by Derby & Miller, of that city, and furnished only to subscribers. Subscriptions are taken by the agent at the exhibition room, where may be seen the autographs of President Lincoln and Cabinet, Edward Everett, and many other celebrities, all of whom have subscribed for the forthcoming engraving.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND OUR FAIR.

The Albany Evening Journal says: "The managers of the Chicago Fair will please consider themselves snubbed. By way of giving eclat to the enterprise, they wrote a very "umble" letter to the Prince of Wales, asking His serene Highness to contribute. He answered with freezing courtesy that although heartily approving of the humane object of the "Fair," circumstances rendered it impossible for him to gratify the request. We wonder what these "circumstances" are? It is a breach of etiquette for Royalty to exercise benevolence? Is it vulgar condescension for the heir of the British throne to be philanthropic? Is it accounted a heresy in the creed of Courts for Princes to yield to the promptings of humanity? Or is it poverty that tightened the purse-strings of His Highness? Does the expense of maintaining a wife and baby exhaust the Imperial income? Does the increased cost of living compel the imperious tenant of Marlborough House to retrench his personal expenses to a semi-starvation standard? Surely it cannot be niggardness. It is a slander upon Royalty to insinuate that the Prince is too mean-spirited to do what the meanest of his future subjects would be ashamed to refuse if asked. Nor can it be because of indifference or dislike toward our people. He would be the basest hound that ever lodged in a kingly kennel to forget the tributes which we paid him during his sojourn among us.

"There is but one rational explanation of the refusal of His Highness to contribute to the Chicago Fair. He is hard up. The spirit was willing but the purse was empty. The young man's salary should be raised."

How to learn all your defects. Quarrel with your best friend.

LIST OF DONATIONS TO FARM HOUSE.

Mrs. C. Walker, Pickles.
Mrs. James Hatten, Lettuce.
Mrs. Wm. Wrenn, " "
Sanitary Commission, Rusk, Cake and Cookies, and 3 roasted chickens.
H. H. Nash, 3 Loaves Bread.
Mrs. Maynard, Pieplant.
Sanitary Commission, 2 kegs butter, 2 hams, eggs.
Mrs. Foss, 1 ham.
Mrs. M. O. Walker, 8 chickens, sage cheese, roast of veal.
Mrs. Kendall, 1 loaf of cake.
Mrs. Adams, sour milk.
Mrs. Elkhart, frosted cake.
Mrs. Derod, 4 cans peaches, eggs, ham, butter.
Mrs. DeCree, Pies.
Mrs. Calhoun, Potatoes.
Mrs. M. O. Walker, ginger-snaps.
Mrs. J. C. Grant, 1 ham.
Mrs. O. S. Summers, jar mince meat.
Mrs. Kelley, 2 tongues; 1 cake.
Mrs. Campbell, 6 pies, and pickles.
Bowen bros., 2 doz. vinegar cruse, \$3
Reed & Co., olive oil, \$12.
Mrs. Bellamy, fried cakes.
Mrs. M. W. Clark, 3 pans of biscuit.
Mrs. Dake, roast beef.
E. Gould, 10 doz. pie-plant; 10 doz. asparagus; 10 bush spinage.
Hall, 2 loaves of bread; 1 roast beef.
Mrs. C. Walker, bread.
Barton, 1 ham.
Simonds, 1 jar of butter; Dutch cheese.
D. D. Evans.
Chicago Committee, dried currants; pillow cases.
Mrs. Hastley, 2 pans biscuit.
Mrs. M. D. Goodman, 3 pies; biscuit, and tongue.
Mrs. Long, 2 loaves brown bread.
Mrs. M. G. Clarke, huckleberry pies.
Mrs. N. T. Guiney, biscuit.
Mrs. R. McClune, cakes.
Mrs. Wilson, 2 tongues and biscuit.
Mrs. Pope, 1 ham.
Mrs. Bellamy, Indian bread.
Mr. Simonds, Dutch cheese.
Mrs. Williams, 3 pies.
Mrs. Tappan, 6 pies.
Mrs. E. Locke, biscuit.
Mrs. Gates, biscuit.
Mrs. Kent, ham and biscuit.
Mrs. Salesbury, 5 lbs. butter; biscuit; cheese, 1 lb. tea.
Mrs. Updegraff, catsup.
Mrs. Akerstraw, bread.
Mrs. Fleming, cakes and orange.
Mrs. Hill, 2 tongues.
Mrs. Hitchcock, 1 cake.
Mrs. Newell, cake and ham.
Randall, vegetables, 2 blbs.
Mrs. McClune, pickles and loaves of cake.
Mrs. Myers, biscuit; small cakes and pies.
— Cake; gilatine and pickles.
— Biscuit; cakes and cookies.
J. McCune, 2 blbs. crackers.
Mrs. Brown, nutcakes; bread; tongues and frosted cake.
Anderson, bread; roast beef.
Frederickson, biscuit.
Hadley, eatables.
Mrs. Jones, mutton roast and gravy.
Mrs. Dalton, pies; cake and bread.
Mrs. Phillips, 4 doz. biscuit.
Barton, —
Long, brown-bread and doughnuts.
Doolittle, meat.
Miss Chase, needle-books.
Neeley, 6 pies.
Allport, 2 loaves of bread; 1 roast.
Brownell, cakes.
Legg, fried cakes.
Bogart, 100 tarts.
Campieu, biscuit and cake.
F. J. Clark, biscuit and doughnuts.
Mrs. Wm. B. Sherman, biscuit.
Mrs. Darby, biscuit; cake and pickles.
C. G. Wicker, 1 ham.

FACTS AND FANCIES.

Maladies of the mind and heart, unlike the small pox, are the more dangerous the earlier they are taken.

The educators of childhood and youth are the hours that open or close the gates of Heaven.

The professional sponge is the true taxer who "calleth all the world up to be taxed."

He is a foolish lover who praises his mistress in the presence of a rival more qualified to carry her off than himself.