

VOICE OF THE FAIR.

ANDREW SHUMAN, Editor.

Chicago, Saturday, June 3, 1865.

FAIR GOSSIP.

Wednesday evening the halls were again thronged, as they had been during the entire day, by multitudes of ladies and gentlemen, admiring and purchasing.

What a splendid scene "Union Hall" presents when lighted up by its thousand of gas burners! Was ever a more charming spectacle seen anywhere?

"Horticultural Hall" looks like an illuminated paradise in the evening, the waters of the playing fountains glistening in the gas-light, and the shadows of the trees and shrubbery falling gently over the passing and re-passing crowds of people. It all seems like a beautiful dream.

The "New England Farm House" old folks have engaged a couple of young people from Niles, Mich., to get married in their "kitchen" in the old-time style. The time of the ceremony will be duly announced.

Jeff Davis, as large as life, has been placed in a separate "cell" in the Arms and Trophies Department of the Fair, at Bryan Hall—made of wax, and said to be a true representation. Jeff's female apparel is exhibited with him.

What a magnificent painting is that of the Rocky Mountains, by Bierstadt, in the Art Gallery of the Fair, at Bryan Hall. Some parts of that picture surpass any specimen of art we have ever seen—the twilight scene under the trees, for example—what a delightful effect! This Art Gallery is full of gems. Mr. Healy's life-size portrait of Lieut. Goy Cross—a perfect likeness—is there. It is the "deacon," and nobody else.

Gen. Grant and wife will be here some time during the Fair. The precise time is not fixed.

The noble Dr. Bellows, who has done so much labor for the sanitary work, will be at the Fair in a day or two.

What a brilliant variety of pretty things in the European Department of the Fair! Was ever so much richness and attractiveness of handiwork collected in one place before? These pretty things are selling rapidly.

The contest among the young gents for the lady's \$1,000 dressing case from England, is becoming a subject of great interest. It is to be presented to the Chicago lady receiving the greatest number of votes as the "prettiest young woman." Many votes are already polled, and the excitement grows apace.

The contest, by ballot, for the two prize pistols, valued at \$200 each, at Bryan Hall, is also quite exciting. The golden one is to be presented to the Major General receiving the largest number of votes, and the silver one to the officer of lower rank receiving the largest number of votes.

The officers of the Fair are being kept constantly busy. They find a large elephant on their hands, and hardly know how to handle the prodigious animal. To superintend and manage so immense a Fair as this, is a gigantic task, but they appear to get along with it with wonderful success, though annoyed and importuned "almost to death" by almost everybody wanting to know something, to have something done, or to do something. By the time the Fair is over, the managers, if they survive the event, will be thorough philosophers.

That mammoth Ox, "Gen. Grant," on exhibition on the Lake Shore, is indeed a monster in looks, but as gentle and pleasant to look at as a fawn. What a huge fellow, and how beautifully white!

The ladies of the "New England Home," in the Soldiers' Rest part of the Fair, provide an excellent table for the hungry. Their breakfasts are admirable, and their dinners a feast. And then those pretty waiters! A treat indeed!

The beauty and fashion of the city are expected to be at the Fair in full force to-day.

The "Iowa Department" is one of the most complete of the Fair. Iowa's ladies are as generous and public-spirited as her men are brave and patriotic—and that is saying a good deal.

The people don't seem to "get the hang" of the Fair arrangements. You enter "Union Hall" from Washington street, and leave it, on going out, from Randolph street. This arrangement is made to prevent confusion.

Some of the superintendents of departments in the Fair, have thus far neglected to prepare their lists of donations for publication in this paper. They should attend to this immediately.

The departments in Union Hall are fortunate in having none but pretty women as assistants. They are all sweet-faced creatures, and if any

bachelor can withstand their smiles, he is stone-hearted—must be—how can it be otherwise?

If you don't subscribe for the whole series of the *Voice of the Fair*, you will make a mistake that you will be very likely to repent by and by. It will be a good thing to keep, for binding or preservation, as a memento of these times, and especially of this event. Being so beautifully printed, it will be an ornament in a library or on a centre-table, even in the generations of the future. Subscription price, for all the numbers—those that have been and those that are to be published—only \$1.50. Why not have half a dozen copies mailed to your friends?

THE LINCOLN CABIN.

One of the great features of the Fair is the original log cabin, located on corner of Randolph and Wabash Avenue. It was brought to this city by John and Dennis Hanks, from the farm formerly owned by Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham, in Macon County Illinois, twelve miles west of Decatur. The Messrs. Hanks are old companions of Mr. Lincoln, and can be seen day and night in the cabin, they are very gentlemanly, and answer all questions pertaining to the cabin and the history of our late president. The building is sixteen by eighteen feet, and was erected in the year 1830 by Abraham Lincoln and the two Hanks.

We hope that the cabin will receive a large share of citizens and visitors, as the proprietor, John Hanks, proposes to donate half of the receipts to the Sanitary Fair. Gov. Oglesby says in a letter published in several of the city papers, that old John Hanks and the cabin are genuine. Hundreds of visitors daily pay their respects to the old log building.

A PRIZE SWORD.

In the Philadelphia department of the Fair, there is a magnificent sword displayed, valued at \$500, which is to be voted to the most popular General. It was manufactured by Horsemann & Son, of Philadelphia. Votes are taken at the stand where the sword is displayed, \$1 for a right to vote. The question is, shall this splendid sword be voted to Grant, Sherman, Logan, or some other general? It is suggested that Schofield has proved himself "faithful and true," and being an Illinois officer who has never been fully recognized for his merits, and that he ought to have the sword. Then let those who think so, vote it to him.

THE LINCOLN TABLES.

Among the many beautiful things exhibited at the great Fair, will be those curiosities made by a Mr. Glass, of Wisconsin, and which are to be formally presented to Mrs. Lincoln during the Fair. The largest table is a centre, with a large, beautiful bouquet of flowers made from various colored woods, outside of this is a circle of about six inches in width of black walnut, highly polished, said to have been taken from rails split by the late lamented President. Beyond these circles there is still another of flowers and fruits, in which are placed four well executed medallion portraits of Lincoln, Johnson, Grant and Butler. The smaller table is a work-stand inlaid in a most beautiful style. No one should fail of seeing these curiosities.

INDIANS.—The Minnesota department have brought to the Fair and will have on exhibition in the Union Hall, five celebrated Chippewa braves, who will have their wigwam and will be dressed in full war costume, they are Indians who have distinguished themselves for friendliness to the whites, and who are celebrated for their courage in contests with the Sioux.

NO ONE SHOULD OMIT, under any consideration, or for any cause whatever to visit Judge Bradwell in Bryan Hall. His department of arms and trophies is a sight that will never be equalled again, as it has never been approached in the past. Historic, these trophies will become; cherished as hallowed mementoes of the great struggle for freedom.

BRYAN HALL.—Strangers in the city will find the arms and trophies in Bryan Hall by remembering that the Hall is on Clark St., opposite Court House square. Go west on Washington four blocks to Clark and turn north half a block, or west on Randolph Street and turn south.

GOOD TEMPLARS'.—In mentioning the Good Templars' department we spoke of it as in the west wing. This is a mistake; it is located on the west side of the Randolph Street entrance to Union Hall. It has many quaint and curious things which we shall mention in due time.

THE HALL OF ARMS, RELICS, &c.

What a splendid display there is in Bryan's Hall. The department of relics, arms, curiosities and the like. That large hall is literally filled with wonders.

What a field this is for the antiquarians investigations! What a treat to the lover of the curious and the marvellous! And even the worshipper of the beautiful finds here many an idol to pay reverence to.

And the Fine Art Hall, filled with splendid oil paintings, is adjoining, and to be reached only by going through Bryan Hall.

We can in this notice merely generalize, our object being to call the readers attention to the great attraction he will find in this portion of the Fair. Hon. J. B. Bradwell has charge of the Relics department, and he and the bevy of smiling young ladies assisting him, deserve much credit for the excellent arrangement of the multifarious articles in the Hall. Everything there is systematic, and if you don't find much there to please, instruct and wonder at, you are the most fastidious mortal alive. This department alone is a grand Fair of itself.

THE SUBSTANTIALS.

Our great Fair is not only brilliant, but substantial. Not only is it a garden, a collection of art and a gorgeous display of pretty and ingenious handiwork; but also an exposition of the heavy articles of merchandise, commerce and utility. After you have looked through the central aisles of "Union Hall," bright with the beautiful and the gay, you must not fail to inspect also the aisle west of it—the west wing; as they call it—for therein are displayed the real substantials of the Fair—the implements of mechanism, the machinery of labor and the heavy instruments of manufacture and articles of hardware. It is a display worth looking at and worth buying, by those who have occasion to use such-like.

In your admiration for the gay, do not overlook the merits of the grave, features of the grand exhibition.

LITTLE PARADISE.

What a paradise our friend Hovey and his assistants have prepared in the "Horticultural Hall" of the Fair. To look into it, is like peering into the Garden of Eden. To go through it, is like wandering through a fairy world. Really, this garden, with its fountains, its trees, its flowers, its hills, its graveled walks, and its many other rural and sylvan features, seem like a little heaven on the earth; the word *beautiful* does not express its character. The word *celestial* is something like it.

An interesting incident occurred at the Iowa department of the Fair, about 6 o'clock on Thursday P. M. A company of Iowa boys, belonging to the 10th Regiment, just from the front, made their appearance before the Iowa booths and were immediately recognized by the ladies in attendance. They were warmly greeted, presented with the Iowa badge, which was pinned to the left breast of their coats by the ladies, and then escorted to the restaurant and regaled with ice cream and strawberries. The boys seemed surprised and pleased with the attention shown them. Some of them have spent many months in the Andersonville prison, and the change from that to the fairy scene before them must have seemed perfectly enchanting.

All honor to the Iowa ladies for their reception of their gallant braves!

JOHN WRIGHT.—Everybody knows John Wright, but everybody may not know that he feeds the hungry, gives the thirsty drink, cools the heated and rests the wearied in Horticultural Hall, north end. He does all that and more too, and other things.

DONATIONS TO GOOD TEMPLARS' DEPARTMENT.—Mr. W. A. Bradford donates two hundred dollars worth of plated silver ware through the Good Templars' department. His advertisement of Gift Concert may be seen in another column.

Three years life among the prisoners, together with the history of Camp Douglas, by Rev. E. B. Tuttle, Post Chaplain, is in press and will soon be issued and sold for the benefit of the Fair.

CANNED PEACHES for sale at the miscellaneous department in centre of Union Hall, cheaper than any where else. All are donated to the Fair. Buy up your stock at once.

GRANNY JEFF.—See her in her "undress parade" in Bryan Hall; she is creating a perfect furor.

A GREAT DAY ON THE 9th OF JUNE.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION—ADDRESS—FIREWORKS.

On Friday of next week will be the fourth anniversary of the organization of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which is to be celebrated in a grand style in this city, in connection with the North-western Sanitary Fair.

Rev. Dr. Bellows, President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, will be here and deliver an address on the "Sanitary and Christian Commissions as the blooming of Christian Civilization." The Doctor has a most attractive style of speaking and will draw a large crowd. Mr. Crosby has tendered his Opera House, free of charge, for the occasion, and the address will be delivered there.

In the evening there will be a most brilliant display of fire-works, free to all the public. The fire-works have been manufactured especially for the occasion, and presented by citizens of New York city. It will require several hours to set off all these fire-works, which comprise many pieces, some of which are appropriate mottoes and illustrations of the works of the Sanitary Commission.

This will be a great day, and the free fire-works, as well as the eloquent address of that fine speaker and talented gentleman, will draw a great crowd.

FROM THE YOUNG LADIES OF FARMINGTON.

The Young Ladies' Society in Farmington, under the unique sobriquet of "a Dime for the Boys in Blue," sends one hundred and ten dollars as a patriotic offering. Thanks to the ladies. The "Boys in Blue" will have a word to say to you in gratitude—if not a tender sentiment, when they "Come marching Home."

LIVE INDIAN EXHIBITION.—A band of five Chippewa braves, just from Minnesota, have arrived here and tendered their services to the Sanitary Fair, in a grand war dance exhibition, which will be given this evening. These Indian are genuine warriors, dressed in all the Indian war toggery, faces painted, &c. They are full of scars received in their battles with the Sioux last year. Their exhibition will be worth seeing.

A BAPTISMAL FONT.—A splendid donation to the Fair has been made by Mrs. Sarah L. Coit, 55 Clinton street, New York, in the shape of a magnificent Baptismal Font, which is now on exhibition. Mrs. Coit had it constructed especially for the Fair, the funds having been collected from her loyal friends in New York city.

SEVERAL DONATIONS OF LADIES' TOILET ARTICLES.—Joseph Burnett & Co., of Boston, have forwarded, as a donation to the Northwestern Sanitary Fair, \$800 worth of their Cocaine, Kalliston, Florimel, Tooth Wash, Cologne Water, and their Flavoring Extracts, and other preparations for the ladies' toilet.

These articles are on exhibition and for sale at the Fair, and we doubt they will receive the attention of the ladies. The generosity of Mr. Burnett is fully appreciated, as are his preparations.

PORTRAIT OF GEN. RANSOM.—Mrs. Shepherd, of Peru, Ill., has painted a life-like portrait of the late Gen. Ransom—a brave and true Illinois officer—and has presented it to the Fair. Mrs. Shepherd is an amateur with the pencil and paint brush, but has done herself great credit by painting so good a picture, which is admired by those who knew the General.

Mrs. Sam'l T. Atwater acknowledges from George E. Pell, Esq., 559 Broadway, New York, the receipt of four miniature "Temples of Liberty," made from wood which, for a period of twenty years, formed a portion of the fence around the residence of Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, Ill. The genuineness of the wood duly authenticated.

ANOTHER SPLENDID DONATION.—Mrs. S. Constant, of New York, has sent two cases of magnificent silver tea-spoons, ladles, &c., as a donation to the Fair. The articles are beautiful to look at, and will be a great possession to the family that will be fortunate enough to secure it.

THE MONITOR AND MERRIMAC.—Crowds assemble to witness the battles between these monsters, which occur three times each day. It is a genuine affair and no side show on a small scale.

PUMPKIN PIE, Bean Porridge, Pork and Beans, Brown Bread, Chicken, Tongue, Strawberries, Coffee and Ice Cream, always ready at New England Farm House when the "horn" blows.