

## VOICE OF THE FAIR.

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Chicago, Tuesday, June 6, 1865.

## FAIR GOSSIP.

—There are at least ten thousand curious and wonderful objects at Bryan Hall, and each object has a distinct and singular history of its own. No one can fully appreciate all there is in this department, unless he be a thorough antiquarian, perfectly read in all history, well posted in the annals of our national troubles, and possessed of at least a smattering of the world's men and events for a thousand years. Were even the closest observer to pursue his investigations among this vast collection of arms, trophies, relics and curiosities, for every day during the Fair, he would still find things to wonder at and study. It is a great museum; but of all its many curious things, none possess to us so much real interest as does the large collection of trophies of the late war—the arms, the tattered battle-flags and the many other relics of the recent struggle for the national preservation.

—But seldom have we witnessed a more brilliant assemblage of people anywhere than that in the main building of the Fair on Saturday night. The throng continued undiminished from early in the evening until late in the night. Yesterday, too, the crowd was large, and last evening the halls were again alive with people.

—The curiosities in Bryan Hall, and the splendid Art Gallery adjoining, are daily becoming more popular among the frequenters of the Fair. To the thoughtful and curious, the real attraction of the grand exhibition is in these departments.

—Gov. Oglesby and lady, who have been daily visitors of the Fair, attended the Opera last evening, and expect to leave for home this morning. The Governor is much gratified by the success of the Fair.

—We have seen a private letter from Gen. Grant, in which he states that he and Mrs. Grant will certainly be at the Chicago Fair before it closes.

—Gov. Morton, of Indiana, who has been a gratified visitor at the Fair, has returned to Indianapolis, but is expected to be here again before the Fair closes.

—T. Buchanan Read, the poet of the Fair, is still in the city, a guest of S. C. Griggs, Esq.

—The attendance at the Fair by people from the country has thus far been quite large. This and the neighboring States are freely represented daily. All the morning trains on all the railroads, arriving here, are filled with comers to the Fair. But the railroad companies would find it to their interest, as well as serve the public good, to reduce the fare for at least a portion of the time of the Fair's continuance.

—“What's the use of this Fair, now, the war being over?” asks an occasional croaker. Why, dear sir, are you not aware that there are to-day some three hundred thousand Union soldiers either in the military hospitals in various parts of the country, or at their homes disabled and dependent upon their patriotic fellow-citizens for the means of a comfortable livelihood? Such is the fact. At no time during the past five years has there really been so much need of raising funds for the care and relief of disabled soldiers as there is now, for the reason that at no time have there been so many needing care and relief. Think of this and stop croaking.

—The purchasers are just beginning to spend their money in the Fair. During the first days of the exhibition, people came in to look—now they come in to look and to buy. Articles on many of the tables are going off rapidly and at good prices.

—“That sword ought to go to our gallant General Logan,” remarked one of our substantial citizens yesterday, while looking at the splendid \$500 sword in the Philadelphia department of the Fair, that is being contested for by ballot, to be presented to the general receiving the largest number of votes. And he paid his dollar and voted “General Jack Logan.” That was right. There is not an abler, braver or truer soldier in the army of the Union than John A. Logan, of Illinois. He has been one of Sherman's right-hand men in all his great campaigns, and has invariably proved himself “true and faithful.” By voting that magnificent sword to him, we will be doing “the handsome thing,” handsomely deserved.

—This is Fair weather, though warm; not a drop of rain has fallen since the exhibition opened, nor has there been even a chilly spell.

—The best way to go through the Fair, is to do it systematically and deliberately. Don't be in a hurry. Take a good look at everything. Enter Union Hall first; take the right side of the centre till you reach the end; then go down the other side of the centre; reaching the end, turn to the west wing; go through that till you reach the Randolph Street door—then go eastward; take a dish of strawberries at the upper end of the “east wing,” and then go down that wing till near the entrance to “Horticultural Hall,” enter that, and take a thorough look all over it, take something to eat in the restaurant at the north end of the hall; then return to the main building, and finish the “east wing”; you will then wish to go back, here and there, to see something the second time, do so deliberately until you have worked your way to the Randolph street door, at which all pass out. While doing all this, be sure and buy to the extent of your ability, wherever you see something that strikes your fancy. You will then wish to see the great ox, “Gen. Grant,” which you will find at the end of Randolph street, by the Lake, and adjoining this building is “Monitor Hall,” where the naval engagement is in progress; and just south of that is the Soldier's Rest building, in the southern part of which is the “Old New England Farm House,” in which meals are regularly served by the old-fashionably dressed ladies. Having taken a meal there, you will be ready to go over to Bryan Hall, opposite the Court House, to visit the Arms and Trophies Department and Art Gallery, in which you will find a greater show of curiosities than you have ever seen before. Carpenter's great painting the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, which you must also see, you will find over the entrance of McVicker's Theatre, between State and Dearborn streets, on Madison street.

—Have you examined the boot and shoe department of the Fair, in the “east wing?” Mr. McDougall, the famous boot and shoe manufacturer of this city, is at the head of this department, and by his liberal contributions, and those of Miles & Son, Philadelphia, Edwin C. Burt of New York, and Mr. Buffom, of Chicago, the display has been rendered a very creditable one. Miles & Co., of Philadelphia, contributed \$300 of their best manufactures—and neater or better ladies' shoes than those they have in the Fair were never made or worn. They are “loves” of shoes. Those from Mr. Burt, of New York, are also of the very best. We advise visitors to supply themselves at this booth with their summer's wear.

—The interest in our Fair extends far and wide. The papers all over the country, east and west, chronicle the fact of its success with apparent delight. Some of our friends in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and other cities are expected here this week, to see and enjoy what they have helped us to do.

—As far as the capacity of the exhibition halls and the immense variety are concerned, all agree that our Fair far exceeds all other similar Fairs ever held in this country. We hope that in its pecuniary results it will also surpass all others.

—\$50,000 of the proceeds of this Fair go to the Soldier's Home in this city—a permanent institution for the residence of disabled soldiers. It is already filling up with homeless and helpless veterans. A nobler institution was never established anywhere. It is a monument of the people's gratitude to the men who have fought, bled and suffered for their country and our's.

—A carload of fresh roses from Springfield, Ill., sent by Mr. Tyndale, Secretary of State, will arrive this morning for Floral Hall, in the Fair—a most acceptable contribution.

—“Horticultural Hall,” that earthly paradise, is much frequented by lovers. A charming place for love-making, if there were not so many spectators. This place grows more beautiful and attractive every day, under the industrious efforts of Mr. Hovey and his devoted assistants who have charge of it.

—When you reach the booth of *The Voice of the Fair*, in the “east wing” of the main building, stop long enough to buy a copy—only 10 cts.—or subscribe for all the copies, back numbers and coming issues included—only \$1.50.

—It is now expected that Gen. Sherman will be here on Wednesday evening.

—Rev. Dr. Bellows, of N. Y., President of U. S. Sanitary Commission, will be here to-morrow or next day. His address at Crosby's Opera House on Friday evening is looked forward to with interest by all lovers of real eloquence and fervent patriotism.

—Our friends are too negligent in furnishing items of interest for the Voice of the Fair. It is absolutely impossible for any one man, or half a dozen men for that matter, to get all the items which should be noticed. For instance, our Michigan friends gave an entertainment at the Opera House on Saturday Evening; we chanced to learn of the proposed benefit late on Friday and sent a notice to the Voice, but in the hurry of going to press it was accidentally omitted. We regret this and trust our patriotic Michigan ladies will be convinced that we were not at fault in the matter.

Our reporters are doing all they can to chronicle the great features of the Fair, but it is a herculean labor.

—The Chicago postmaster having refused to deliver *The Voice of the Fair* to subscribers through the post-office, we have been obliged to engage carriers, who will hereafter deliver the paper regularly. Our post-master might be more accommodating under such peculiar circumstances, one might suppose, looking at the case from a magnanimous stand-point.

—We challenge all the other cities in the Union to make so fine a show of pretty young ladies as we have in Chicago. The Fair brings them out in all their beauty and loveliness. “Sweets to the sweet,” and the fair for the Fair.

—The cash receipts of the Fair already reach about \$150,000. What becomes of your prophecy of “failure,” Mr. Croaker?

—Mrs. Stephen A. Douglas, one of the Superintendents of the Catholic Department of the Fair, is unavoidably detained at Washington, but may be here yet.

—The light in the Art Gallery has not been exactly satisfactory in the evening; but a great improvement was perceptible last evening. Mr. Volk is indefatigable.

PRESENTS FOR MRS. GEN. SHERMAN AND MRS. DOUGLAS.—Two elegant and costly silver sets have arrived at Union Hall and been placed on exhibition in the Catholic department. They are donated by the Woman's Relief Society of Brooklyn, N. Y., and designed as presents to Mrs. General Sherman and Mrs. Stephen A. Douglas. Parties wishing to take stock in these presents can have an opportunity of doing so at any time during the exhibition. Any sum, however small, will be gratefully received. The presents have been donated, with the understanding that their value is to be subscribed and paid for, and placed in the treasury of the Fair, by the friends and admirers of the two ladies named.

THE PRETTIEST LADY'S DRESSING CASE.—The contest for the Ladies' Dressing Case is becoming exciting. Whilst none are allowed to know the “state of the polls,” it is believed that at least six young ladies have received over one hundred votes each, and the balance of the 1200 ballots cast, are about equally divided amongst a dozen others. It is supposed that the total vote will reach 3000 the present week. Every young gentleman visiting the Fair should compliment some lady by casting a vote for her. We are glad to know that although the contest is already animated and exciting amongst the friends of the young ladies, that it is conducted in a spirit and temper eminently becoming to all concerned in it.

RETORT COURTEOUS.—A “cold shoulder” is a good thing in its place, but to be met with an “orange ice” is a kind of “cool reception” more agreeable to one taking a “brief” respite from legal labor for “Fair” purposes only. Old stagers may differ from us, and welcome “*de gustibus non disputandum.*” Our “taste” may not be strange or peculiar, but how did John Wright divine it? that is what puzzles us.

To “Aids.”—All “aids on duty” will be furnished with meals for forty cents at the “New England Farm House.” Our good friends of the “Farm House” kindly consented to this arrangement so as to lighten somewhat the expense of those on duty.

Persons desiring to avail themselves of this opportunity must show their season committee tickets and badges at the Farm House ticket office.

BAPTIST ICES.—Orthodoxy is generally associated with a high temperature; but the “coolest thing of the season” was the sending of Ice Cream and Strawberries to our “Headquarters;” and the ladies at the Baptist stand did it! “Isn't it queer, we ask you?” All people who want a nice (an ice) treat go down and see them, about fifty feet south of the “Headquarters.”

## ENTERTAINMENT LITERARY AND MUSICAL.

Under the auspices of the Michigan department, an entertainment was given at Crosby's Opera House on Saturday evening, by several ladies and gentlemen from Grand Rapids.

Owing to the varied attractions of the great Fair proper, the audience was not large, but those who were present were capable of appreciating a good thing, and were not backward in applauding the performers.

The entertainment consisted of music instrumental and vocal, and recitations of dramatic and patriotic pieces. The duets on the Piano and Violin were fine, as also were the duets on the Piano. Mrs. Wenham sang several Operatic arias in Italian and English, and received great applause. Miss Pierce recited “The Raven” in a manner which evinced not only careful analysis of that remarkable poem, but superior elocutionary abilities and high culture.

In the recitation of “Mary O'Connor” she was encored and gave “Boys in Blue” in a beautiful style. The entire performance was most creditable to all those connected with it, and we congratulate our neighbors in Grand Rapids on their talent both musical and literary.

NEW ENGLAND FARM HOUSE.—All persons holding season tickets will be admitted, free of charge, from 10 to 12 A. M., 2 to 5 and 7 to 10 P. M., others will be charged 25 cents. At meal hours, none will be admitted but for eating purposes. Dinner, 75 cents; Breakfast and Supper, 50 cents; Aids on duty, 40 cents per meal.

LEMONADE.—If you get thirsty while in Union Hall, step into the west wing and near the north end on the east side you will get Lemonade which “can't be beat;” besides Mr. J. F. Bigelow who attends is a “live yankee,” and his assistants Mrs. E. H. Floyd and Mrs. D. R. Fuller, are polite and agreeable ladies.

## 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 Horseman & 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.

## FAIR DIRECTORY.

Dearborn Park Buildings, containing Union Hall, east and west wings, on Lake Michigan, between Washington and Randolph streets. Tickets 50 cents.

Horticultural Hall, east of Union Hall, Tickets 25 cents.

Bryan Hall, Arms and Trophies, on Clark street, between Washington and Randolph, and Art Gallery east of Bryan Hall. Tickets 50 cents.

New England Farm House, southeast of Dearborn Park building, in south end of Soldiers' Rest. Regular warm meals 75 cents for dinner; supper, 50 cents; meals for aids, 40 cents.

Monitor Hall, northeast of Dearborn Park building. Tickets 25 cents.

Season tickets admitting to all the above, \$3.

Carpenter's Great Picture of the Emancipation Proclamation before the Cabinet, over McVicker's theatre, 66 Madison street. Tickets 25 cents, (extra.)

Lincoln's Log Cabin, corner Randolph and Wabash avenue, (extra) 25 cents.

Jeff. in Costume, Bryan Hall, (extra) 25 cents.

“Gen. Grant” (big ox,) near Monitor Hall, (extra) 25 cents.

## “PARING BEE.”

The “New England Farm House” is to be opened this (Tuesday) evening, for a grand “Paring Bee.” All the friends of the family are cordially invited to attend. Apples will be “pared,” “quartered,” “cored,” and “strung” in the most orthodox style. We have not been informed whether “Pumpkin Pie” will be “handed round,” but we “guess” they'll have a “rousing good time.”

Send in your list of donations as promptly as possible that none may be crowded out.