

VOICE OF THE FAIR.

ANDREW SHUMAN, Editor.

Chicago, Thursday, May 18, 1865.

ABOUT SOME "QUEER PEOPLE" HERE AND THERE.

There are some queer people in the world—people who have queer ways of thinking, and queer ways of doing things—whose study it is, apparently, how not to agree with the rest of mankind, or how to be odd, singular, and peculiar—who, in short, appear to take delight in being contrary-minded with all the world. Fortunately these people are in the small minority, and carry with them but little influence, in the long run, and, in the end, receive only the contempt of the fair-minded, the candid, and the reasonable, and, being obstinately or habitually querulous and negative, this is indeed all that they deserve.

We are led into these reflections by the "tough customers" that the ladies and the department committees of the forthcoming Northwestern Sanitary Fair occasionally encounter, while in the performance of their "labor of love" and patriotism. As a general rule, our citizens, when asked to do their share towards making the Fair a success, unhesitatingly and generously comply, comprehending and appreciating the full scope, necessity, and object of the movement in behalf of the tens of thousands of victims of the rebellion, who are laid up in hospitals, from wounds received or sickness contracted while serving in the ranks of our patriot army, in the nation's defence. But the exceptions to this general rule are those, who, to apply no harsher term, we class among the "queer people" referred to above. When the Fair is named in their hearing, they become nervous, spit out ill-natured and ill-mannered expressions, throw out ungenerous intonations, and conduct themselves altogether unhandisomely and uncharitably. One exclaims, "Why the war is over, our armies are disbanding, our soldiers are coming home, and what is the use, then, of all this fuss for getting up a great money-making Fair for the soldiers?" This person's thoughts do not extend further than his nose, or he would see, before finishing his outburst of censoriousness, that the soldiers who are well are coming home, but that the hundred thousand or more who are lingering in the hospitals in various parts of the country cannot come home, and will continue to be objects of the public care for months and perhaps years to come. Shall we, in our felicitations over the ending of the war and the homeward marching of our great armies, forget, neglect and withdraw our sympathy from the multitude of unfortunates, belonging to those armies who must be left behind, disabled and suffering? In our welcome-home to those of our veterans who have escaped the rebel bullets, been proof against the diseases of the South, and are strong and robust, shall we turn the cold shoulder of neglect to their less fortunate but not less brave or deserving brothers who lie upon weary beds of pain, unable to accompany their regiments in their homeward march or share in the joys and congratulations of the loyal people who welcome, with plaudits and cheers, the return of our conquering and laurel-bedecked heroes? To do so would be in us the grossest ingratitude—the cruelest of thoughtlessness.

Another of this class of "queer men," in answer to an appeal to help the Fair, exclaims, "The Government is abundantly able to take care of the army's invalids; why, then, these private contributions for the sick and wounded soldiers? What's the use of this great Fair for this purpose now?" With as much reason and charity might we say that God is abundantly able to take care of all his luckless, unfortunate and helpless creatures in the world—why, then, the efforts of philanthropists and charitable institutions? What's the use of anybody being charitable towards anybody else? The Government of course will tenderly care for the inmates of the army hospitals, as it has, as far as possible, done hitherto. But has our objector anything like an adequate idea of the actual number of the inmates of all the military hospitals in the country? Let him visit Mound City, Paducah, Louisville, Memphis, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Little Rock, Vicksburg, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, Charleston and the scores of other points where military hospitals are located, and he will open his eyes with amazement on finding how many of our brave soldiers and marines are suffering there, and have his heart moved, if it be not made of stone, with compassion at the spectacle that his eyes will behold. It is impossible for the Government to care for all these thousands of invalids with that degree of tenderness and success which their services and their condition deserve. The Sanitary and Christian Commissions, for the replenishment of whose almost exhausted treasuries the forthcoming Fair is to be held, through their agents, afford relief and administer comfort to these thousands of sufferers, and, by supplying them with needed delicacies and attentions that the Government does not include in its surgical or medical arrangements in the hospitals; cheer, encourage and thus hasten the recovery of many a noble fellow who otherwise would never survive his wounds or his fevers.

But is not this objection—that the Government takes care of its disabled soldiers, and that therefore there is no need of private contributions for their benefit—the exhibition of a most mean and niggardly spirit by the person who makes it? Why, sir, these soldiers of ours have risked health, life and everything for your country and your interests as a citizen and an American—and yet you, who have been enjoying all the comforts and blessings of a safe, peaceful and prosperous life at home during the war, object, ungratefully and meanly, to giving something or doing something for the aid, comfort and recovery of those brave soldiers who have been crippled or otherwise disabled in their efforts, amid great dangers and perils and by personal endurance and sacrifices, to defend and

preserve your country and your interests. Shame on the thoughtlessness, ingratitude or stinginess of such a man. He hardly deserves to enjoy the blessings, privileges and immunities of American citizenship.

Can we not afford to be liberal and generous towards our heroic soldiers? Have we not made money and been prosperous while they have been fighting and suffering for us? Have they not richly earned our gratitude and good offices? Why then will any man, if he have the true element of manhood in him, object or even hesitate, when asked to lend his helping hand to so sacred and noble an object as that of the coming Fair for the aid, help and comfort of the sick and wounded soldiers?

Good people—patriots, citizens, all—we pray you come in with us, with your generous good-will offerings and your hearty efforts, and let us, by a union of earnest hands and of patriotic hearts, labor to make the approaching Fair a splendid success—such as will demonstrate the spirit and the ability of the loyal Northwest, and surround her name and fame with a halo of patriotic glory through all coming time. This will probably be the very last opportunity the West will have to show her patriotic spirit with anything like a full and just emphasis—let us make the most of it, and make the emphasis so gloriously significant, that even our posterity will be proud of what we will have accomplished.

DONATIONS FOR THE FAIR FROM DENMARK.

Geo. P. Hansen, Esq., of Chicago, and at present U. S. Consul at Elsinore, in Denmark, (and who is a member of the Northwestern Sanitary Fair committee on arms, trophies, curiosities, &c.) has sent the following donations to Judge Bradwell, chairman of that committee.

Fifty-five rare old coins, some of them from 200 to 450 years old—one is a small square silver piece that was issued in 1648, by King Frederick of Denmark, on the occasion of his coronation, and scattered among his people; another of the time of Margaret, Denmark's great Queen, over 450 years ago, of which Mr. Hansen writes: "A mere shell of it is left, but that little bit of rusty silver is now a great rarity here, and ought to bring at least \$5,000, or, if it comes to a pinch, leave the ciphers off."

Forty photographs of the King and Queen of Denmark, Prince Dogmar and others; 12 pictures of Danish scenery; an album of scenes around Elsinore; 7 ivory brooches; 2 ivory pinbooks; 24 ivory and pearl silkwinders; one paper with pressed flowers from the grave of Hamlet; 2 milk cups with painted pictures of the Vierlander peasant women; 1 pair wooden shoes; half dozen comb cleaners; one watch stand of pebble stones from the beach of Crawborg Castle; a sketch by Miss Isabel Carey, youngest daughter of the Vice-Consul at Elsinore, of a view near Elsinore.

Mr. Hansen, in his letter, expresses great joy at the news of the capture of Virginia, and says ever since he has been there, he has been battling the notion there prevalent that a republican government cannot exist, and that our republic is a failure. Now, however, he says, the opinion is rapidly changing; the common people of Europe, he tells us, are heartily in sympathy with us.

MAGNIFICENT ART GALLERY OF THE COMING FAIR.

The ART GALLERY that will be opened in this city in connection with the great Sanitary Fair, promises to be the most extensive and magnificent exhibition of art ever witnessed in this country. Besides the contributions of our home artists, the great painters and sculptors of the eastern cities will send for exhibition master-pieces from their hands.

We will have the great "Rocky Mountains" picture of Bierstadt, who sends also other paintings, Miss Hosmer's statue of "Zenobia," several pictures each by Church, Sontag, Rothermel, Leutz and Gignoux, one each from other eastern painters, and a number of statues and statuette by the best sculptors in America. There will be several hundred of superior works of art in the gallery. Our own good Mr. Healey is painting a portrait of Gen. Sherman for the Fair, and we shall have other of his works, and some of the best of each of our western artists.

A large fire-proof hall is being arranged, adjoining Bryan Hall, for the purposes of this magnificent Art Gallery, and it will, we are sure, be one of the most attractive features of our great Fair.

PRICES OF ADMISSION TO THE FAIR.

The following schedule of prices for admission to the approaching Fair has been adopted:

Opening ceremonies (May 30) single.....	\$2.00
Season ticket.....	5.00
Aids' tickets, admitting to every department of the Fair.....	2.50
Single entrance tickets.....	1.00
Children's tickets.....	50
Ticket to Art Gallery.....	50
Ticket to Monitor Hall.....	25
Ticket to Horticultural Department.....	25
Ticket to Skating Pond.....	10
Ticket to Arms and Trophies.....	25
Public School children, single.....	10
Minor's ticket, season.....	2.50

ONE WEEK FROM NEXT TUESDAY (May 30th), the great Northwestern Sanitary Fair will positively open. It will continue at least two weeks, and perhaps longer, but the best time to see it in all its glory will be during the first week.

An entire block, extending from Dearborn street to Washington street, and enclosing the entire "Dearborn Park," will be occupied by the Fair buildings, which are now rapidly approaching completion.

Contributions continue pouring in abundantly from all directions—from East, West, North, South and the Old World. The exhibition of novelties, finery and magnificence will be unparalleled.

RELICS, ETC.

James B. Bradwell, chairman of the committee on Arms, Trophies, Curiosities, Autographs and Relics, reports the following receipts:

From J. W. Chickering—Hair of Gen. Washington, and two rings.

From Major-Gen. Ord—4 lances, 5 sabres, 1 heavy antique rifle, 2 muskets, 3 bricks from the wall of Libby Prison, 2 pairs handcuffs and 2 chains used to manacle runaway slaves; specimens of shot and shell; saddle made in England for the use of the rebels; chairs taken from Castle Thunder; 3 wooden sabres; 3 canteens; 1 breach-loading rifle; 1 pistol.

From E. R. Durkee, of N. Y.—Rare old coppers.

From John Ellis, of Shasta Co., California—1 very rare masonic pipe from Manzaneta wood.

From J. T. Trowbridge—Autograph poem.

From Lord Houghton, Poet and Peer of England—6 original autographic poetic sentiments.

From Robert Lincoln—Autographs.

From Horace Greeley—Autograph letter and photographs.

A letter from Miss Emily C. Blackman, Secretary of Soldiers' Aid, Montrose, Pa., saying: "We forward to-day to your care a box containing thirty-one small blocks of wood of the Cedar of Lebanon. They are from the *Ancient Cedars*—those standing in the days of Solomon."

From Frederick N. Knapp, of Washington—Telegraphic dispatch from Mobile to Richmond in regard to the purchase of eight million dollars' worth of cotton.

From Bamford & Baldwin, of this city—1 very rare old Latin work of orations, printed in 1612; autograph of Patrick Henry; an American letter dated 1755; a letter from James Stevenson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence; a very rare parchment deed, dated in 1756; a three-pound note of the Province of New Jersey, upon which is the inscription, "To Counterfeit is Death"; eight dollars Continental bills; and eight volumes of very rare old books.

From W. Pitt Putnam, great grandson of Gen. Putnam—His powder-horn, bullet moulds, magnet, and deed signed by Patrick Henry for Blennerhassett's island, where the Burr conspiracy was concocted. Upon the powder-horn is a plan of Fort Wm. Henry, and the following: "Capt. Israel Putnam's horn, made at, &c., Nov. 10th, 1756."

"When bows and weighty spears were us'd in flight, 'T were nervous limbs deck'd a man of might; But now gunpowder scorns such strength to own, And heroes, not by limbs, but souls, are known."

From Dr. Roderick Duke Badger—His free papers as given to him by Gen. Thomas. The donor was the slave and son of a Doctor of the same name, at Atlanta.

From Hon. Leslie Combs—His own and the following autograph letters: 2 of J. R. Underwood; 2 H. Clay; 2 John Sergeant; 2 J. Randall; 2 C. S. Todd; 5 J. J. Crittenden; 3 R. Harris, late rebel governor; Robert R. Letcher; Major-Gen. H. B. Hill; W. Whetmore (the great inventor); E. J. Winter; Gov. Jos. Clark; Gov. Isaac Shelby; Samuel McRoberts; D. Trimble; A. D. Mann, and others.

From H. Winter Davis—Autograph letter and photographs.

From Judge Leavitt—The original indictment against Aaron Burr for treason; also one against Harman Blennerhassett.

From E. P. Cone, Clerk of Senate—The autographs of the State Senators of Tennessee.

Presented by Capt. E. L. Wadsworth, A. Q. M.—A rare document signed by Patrick Henry; also letter from Gen. Lincoln to Gov. Harrison of Virginia, and others.

From the colored Masons of Chicago, for exhibition—A beautiful silk flag, upon which is inscribed "North Star Lodge—Founded 1851"—"Masonry is Universal."

From J. T. Headley—Autograph letter; one of the poet W. Beattie, and an original manuscript of the poet Campbell.

Autographs from Major-Gen. Scofield; photographs and autographs of Boston Corbett, and photographs of Capt. Doherty.

MAGNIFICENT PISTOLS FOR THE FAIR.

The Brooklyn Arms Company has, through Messrs. Howard, Sanger & Co., its agents in New York, and E. R. Bowen, its agent No. 20 Clark street, Chicago, presented to the Committee on Arms and Trophies, two magnificent Slocum's side-loading Revolvers, in rich cases, with all the tools and cartridges complete. These pistols were made by the Company expressly for the Fair, without regard to cost, very richly mounted, chastely engraved and inlaid—one full gold, the other silver and gold, with pearl stocks. They are perfect gems, and probably the richest pistols ever made.

The one in full gold will be in charge of a handsome young lady, at the Fair, and at the close of the Fair be given to the General having the greatest number of votes, each vote representing a sum of money.

LETTER FROM GOV. YATES.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL., May 11, 1865.

J. B. BRADWELL, Esq., Chairman of Committee on Arms, Relics, Autographs, &c.

Praised be the Chicago Sanitary Commission! Our brave boys have borne the standard of the Republic in triumph over our foes. Let our hearts go out to them with gratitude, and let us never cease our efforts to make ample provision for the wounded or disabled, and for the widows and orphans of our deceased soldiers.

Truly yours,
RICHARD YATES.

The chairmen of all the various departments of the coming Fair report a gratifying degree of success in receiving contributions of articles for exhibition and sale. Every department promises to be well filled.

DONATIONS FOR THE FAIR FROM EUROPE.

Charles L. Wilson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Department, acknowledges receipts as follows:

From Hon. Freeman H. Morse, United States Consul, London—1 splendid gold inlaid escrutoire; 1 do. do. do. inkstand; 1 do. do. do. card basket; 1 do. do. do. portfolio; 1 do. do. do. book stand; 1 splendid carved ivory and inlaid card case and portemonnaie.

From J. Eastman, U. S. Consul, Bristol—Steven's magnificent quarto edition of Shakspeare, one of the finest editions ever printed, 9 volumes, with plates; "The Landscape," a didactic poem.

From Miss Eastman—Splendid afghan and a piece of embroidery.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BELFAST, IRELAND.

From Miss Ellen Hamilton, Mrs. McClement, Mrs. Heron, Mrs. Wm. McComb, Rev. George Bellis, and John Workman, Esq.—A grant of tracts from the English Monthly Tract Society; tracts from other societies; 128 in the Irish language; 4 Romans to Revelations; 3 Metrical version of Psalms; 3 Grammar version of Psalms; Dr. McKees' Syrian shorter catechism; do. do. in Hebrew do.; sketches of Irish highlands; 2 Pilgrim's Progress; Bible lessons; music laffets; lindsey woolsey for a skirt; 8 pairs of socks; 2 bags V. S. pin-cushions; 2 woolen polkas; a white Knillenwood waistcoat; a calico petticoat, baby; muslin, with pattern and cotton; a calico chemise; 9 yards tumbourial muslin; 2 yards of pink stiff muslin; working cotton; 4 yards blue striped calico; 7 do. linsey woolsey.

A GREAT FAIR MEMORIAL.

The officers of the Northwestern Sanitary Fair are having a magnificent bronze medal manufactured, to commemorate the event and the time in which it occurs. The design on one side will be illustrative of the national care of the soldiers, and on the other will be a splendid likeness of President Lincoln, with the motto "Memoria in Eterna."

A limited number of this medal will be struck off for sale during the Fair, to all desiring them. Price \$2. Those wishing to secure the medal must do so early, for they will no doubt go off rapidly and the supply be soon exhausted.

A NAVAL ENGAGEMENT AT THE FAIR.—A pond

of water is being arranged on the grounds of the coming Fair, for a representation of the engagement between the union "Monitor" and the rebel steamer "Merrimac." The vessels will be fully armed and manned. The Monitor will be eight feet long, and the Merrimac eighteen feet. A fort is being constructed in the centre of the pond, which is to take part in the engagement. The fort will be armed with miniature cannon, donated from Pittsburgh. The exhibition will continue daily during the Fair, and much amusement is anticipated therefrom.

BRILLIANT DISPLAY IN PROSPECT.—C. L. Wilson, Esq., of the Foreign Department of the Fair, has already received enough of various kinds of goods, curiosities and unique articles of wear, ornament or utility, from our friends in Europe, to fill a large store-house. This department promises to be the most brilliant and curious of any in the Fair. The ladies, especially, will be attracted by this great display of foreign novelties and valuables.

We know of two very foolish men. The one is a poor man desirous of riches, who buys lottery tickets, expecting to draw a prize; and the other is a very loud talking man, who uses profane language, thinking it manly. The one wants dollars, the other sense.

FROM THE LOYAL AMERICAN LADIES OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.—A splendid variety of very valuable donations for the Fair, from the loyal American ladies of Liverpool, have just come to hand, and will be acknowledged in detail in our next.

The chairman of the foreign department of the Fair, is receiving lots of fine things from Europe. But these valuable contributions are not "foreign to the purpose."

THE WANTS OF OUR DISABLED SOLDIERS.

The Executive Committee of the Northwestern Sanitary Fair to the Public.

The Executive Committee having in charge the Northwestern Sanitary and Soldiers' Home Fair, make the following statement of facts:

First. The wants of our suffering soldiers are more pressing now than at any time during the war, and the means to relieve them within the control of the Sanitary Commission are less adequate.

Second. The bravest and the best of our fellow-countrymen, who shall have been wounded in the last charge and the crowning victory, are in danger of suffering the most.

Third. No former contributions can absolve the patriot from hastening to this appeal in behalf of the 300,000 men now lying in hospitals, at least 100,000 of whom are permanently disabled, and will need aid for a long time to come.

All persons having in their hands money contributed for the Fair, are urgently solicited to forward it at once, and the Committee will see that it is credited to the department to which it belongs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

TO MERCHANTS AND BUSINESS MEN.

THE VOICE OF THE FAIR will be a desirable advertising medium, it will be sent broad cast all over the North West, by Soldiers' Aid Societies, News dealers and otherwise. The rates of advertising are \$1.25 per square. Advertisements will be left at the office of Rounds & James, 46 State Street, where the paper is published.

The only persons who are authorized to receive advertisements are the members of the Fair paper committee, Messrs. Rounds & James, Miss Helen A. Butler, Miss Gertrude Van Patten, and Mr. Schwarlose.

All the money received for advertisements and subscriptions will go to the funds of the Fair.