

VOICE



FAIR.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
NORTHWESTERN SANITARY FAIR.

"The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what our brave men did here."
[President Lincoln's Address, dedicating the Soldiers' Cemetery, at Gettysburg.]

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CHICAGO, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1865.

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POEM BY DAVID PAUL BROWN.

David Paul Brown, of Philadelphia, has kindly contributed the following happy poem to *The Voice of the Fair*:

"WHY IS THE ROSE MOST BEAUTIFUL?"

Why is the rose most beautiful
Mid all the flowers that bloom;
Where lily, daisy, daffodil,
All mingle their perfume?

Is it, because her varied tints
Are blended into one,
Or, jeweled with the morning dews,
She sparkles in the sun?

The colors of the violet
Are not less pure or bright—
The dews upon her azure cheek
Resemble stars by night.

And yet more varied are the tints
The gorgeous dahlia shows;—
Still is the rose most beautiful,
Still loveliest is the rose!

But, 'tis not from the outward charms,
That captivate the eye;—
That thus in grove and bower she reigns,
In peerless majesty.

The magic that sustains her power,
So innate, secret, sure!
There's many a gayer, prouder flower;
But, ah! not one so pure.

Not one so fragrant in its prime,
Not one whose balmy breath;
Survives like her's the touch of time,
And triumphs over death!—

In bud—in bloom—or in decay,
That sacred charm remains;
Bruised, broken, trampled under foot,
She still that charm retains;

Imparts her fragrance to the blow,
That robs her of her bloom;
In life is redolent of sweets,
In death outlasts the tomb.

By virtue to the beautiful,
The chiefest charm is given,
And when external grace decays
The soul still breathes of heaven!

AN INDIAN LOVE STORY.

One of the muta wives of the king, who had been betrothed to a fellow villager, a playmate of hers in infancy, escaped once in disguise from the palace. Direful was the commotion in consequence. Guards and attendants were flogged, and the shrieks resounded through the courtyard and corridors. Messengers were dispatched in various directions to bring back the fugitive. She was found and brought back on the third day. I saw her after that for the first time. She had large black eyes, an oval face, and a fair complexion. Her features were regular, but wanted expression—all except the eyes, which seemed to look through one, so piercing and lustrous were they, swimming as if in a sea of passion. Instead of punishing her terribly, as we all expected he would, the king seemed to pay her more attention than usual on her return; indeed, so much so, that the queen, my mistress, remonstrated with him. "She is but a villager," said the queen; "instead of indulgence she deserves punishment, and you grant her all she desires." "I grant her none of her desires," was the king's reply; "she will not express a wish for anything. I cannot make her out. Her eyes are full of fire, and all the rest is as a marble statue. She interests me, I offer her jewels and ornaments; she says she does not want them. I get dancing girls for her amusement; she looks on and smiles not. A villager! Yes, she is a villager. But, by the beard of a Prophet, she knows how to act the queen!" The queen, my mistress, said no more. When the king, her son, swore by the beard of the Prophet, she was not pleased, for she was pious, and liked not profane oaths. A month rolled on, and still this muta wife, the villager, was made much of. She was not liked. She had made no friends at court, for she spoke scarcely at all. At the end of about a month after the conversation I have related, she disappeared altogether—but this time it was the king's vengeance caused her disappearance, not her own flight. I forgot her name, and cannot tell what her fate was, but I am sure it was dreadful. The king had done his best to please and amuse her, and she would not be pleased or amused. I heard, too, that she openly told him she loved the village youth, to whom she had been betrothed, and did not love him, the king! If so, what could she expect? Kings will not be treated in that way by village girls. The young man to whom she had been betrothed suffered with her. I do not know what his fault was. Perhaps he had enticed her to leave the palace when she escaped disguised. I do not know. I only know that his mother came to the queen to complain of the loss of her son, and for nearly a month sat at the gate wailing, with ashes on her head, and demanding justice and mercy. She gave a great deal of trouble, poor thing. I could not help pitying her. Whether the queen asked the king, her son, anything about the young man, I do not know. She did not talk of the matter beforehand. Whatever was the true explanation, all I know about it is this, that she ordered money to be given to the poor woman, and that she should be sent back to her village.

GOOD LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR OF MICHIGAN.

The following letter from Gov. Crapo does equal honor to the head and heart of the writer. The sympathy with our soldiers here expressed is echoed by every loyal heart in the land:

LANSING, Mich., May 8th, 1865.

Your letter in reference to the approaching Northwestern Sanitary Fair has been duly received.

The aims, interests and objects of the proposed Fair have my deepest and fullest sympathies; and though I shall be denied the pleasure of being present in person, yet I shall be with you in spirit and with whatever influences I can command.

In the hour of victory, when the shouts of our brave soldiers come to us on the wings of the wind; while their laurels are fresh and fragrant o'er a hundred well-fought battle fields; while the enemy is being captured, not only by regiments and brigades, but by whole divisions and army corps, it is easy for us to join in peans of praise to our triumphant army and navy.

But there is yet in the future a dark day for many of our brave soldiers—the sick and the wounded—unless we, foreseeing the evil, labor with patriotic zeal and persistent effort to prevent it. Many of our brave brothers, fathers and sons, who have lingered in vile and filthy Southern prisons and prison pens, suffering everything but death, will come home with wasted and emaciated bodies and shattered nerves; others who have met the enemy face to face, and have been smitten with sword or bullet, will return with torn and lacerated bodies; and others again, from a thousand hospitals, will come back with broken health and chronic disease. These noble and patriotic men must neither be forgotten nor neglected. Many of them on their return will be without homes, and without the means of procuring them. These we must furnish, and that too on a large and liberal scale; not as a contribution or a charity; not grudgingly and with a parsimonious spirit, but as the payment of a sacred debt.

The governments of the old world have built for their sick and wounded veterans, princely palaces, in which to dwell; and shall we do less for ours? Theirs have fought as conscripts for kings and oligarchies; while ours have fought as heroes, and as patriotic citizen soldiers, for free government and constitutional liberty.

Now, in the hour of our successes, and in the blaze of our military achievements, let us see to it that these suffering martyrs are provided with comfortable Soldiers' Homes, or with well regulated hospitals, where they can spend the remainder of their days in peace and plenty. And should we do all this even then our debt is not cancelled. We can indeed never repay them for their deeds of valor, for their services and their sufferings and sacrifices in our behalf, and for posterity and the world.

I trust the contributions to your Fair will exceed even the most sanguine expectations of its friends; and that after providing an adequate supply for the Sanitary Commission, a sufficient sum will remain for the liberal endowment of a permanent Soldiers' Home.

I am, very respectfully, yours, etc.,

HENRY H. CRAPO,
Governor of Michigan.

LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK.

STATE OF NEW YORK,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
ALBANY, May 16th, 1865.

Dear Sir: **** It is too late to commend the objects of your Fair. We have all seen, and thousands of our heroic soldiers' have experienced, the blessings that have flown from the great system of national charity, which the Commission inaugurated, and which have been so happily and faithfully promoted by similar methods in the different cities of the country.

I congratulate all who have been connected with these enterprises upon the success which attended their efforts, and the good fruits by which these were sanctified and blessed, and I also congratulate you upon the happy consummation of the war, and upon the dawn of that peace and union which the heroic sacrifices and persistent valor of our soldiers have won for us.

Thanking you for this opportunity to express my interest in the success of your enterprise, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

R. E. FENTON.

To JAS. B. BRADWELL, Chicago, Ill.

LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR OF RHODE ISLAND.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
PROVIDENCE, May 10, 1865.

In the storm of battle, as well as in the camp; in the crowded hospital, morning, noon and night, at all times, that friend of the Union soldier, the Sanitary Commission, is present to tend the sick and wounded soldier back to life, or to brighten his dying moments, ere he sink into a martyr's grave.

JAMES Y. SMITH, Governor.

—MUSICAL NOTE.—In what key would a lover write a proposal of marriage? Be mine, ah!

LETTER FROM HON. LESLIE COMBS.

FRANKFORT, KY., May 16th.

To Hon. James B. Bradwell, Chairman of the Committee on Trophies, Autographs, &c., of the Northwestern Sanitary Fair:

DEAR SIR: I now enclose you, according to promise, six photographs. I hope you received the autographs, sent you two weeks since, of Messrs. Clay, Crittenden, &c.

While I contribute my "mite" with great pleasure to your noble, patriotic effort for the benefit of our sick and wounded soldiers, I congratulate you and the country on the present utter prostration of the terrible rebellion, which has devastated our country for the last four years, and caused so much blood to flow from one end of the union to the other.

God grant that our rulers may have wisdom enough to restore speedily our ancient fraternal relations with the South, so that there may be a union of hearts as well as of political relations—ever remembering that "mercy is twice blessed"—it blesses him who gives as well as him who receives it.

Yours truly,

LESLIE COMBS.

LETTER FROM DANIEL S. DICKINSON.

NEW YORK, May 15, 1865.

MY DEAR SIR: You desired my photograph for the Chicago Fair, and it is enclosed; also an autograph letter, and I send it. I lacked a subject until this morning, I read, that Jefferson Davis had been captured running away in woman's clothes, which I thought was the best *shift* he had made since the commencement of the rebellion, of which he seems anxious to clear his *skirts*. Believing his ignoble end befitting his murderous and cowardly career, and that the war-hoops he has chosen become him in his race for the "last ditch," I am,

Sincerely yours,

D. S. DICKINSON.

To J. B. BRADWELL, Chairman Committee, &c.

SENTIMENT FROM GOV. YATES.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL., May 13th, 1865.

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

DEAR SIR: In reply to yours requesting an Autograph letter, I give you—

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN"—Let us pronounce the name in solemn, reverent silence, and leave it in deathless splendor forever shining on!

Truly yours,

RICHARD YATES.

A SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY IN THE REVOLUTION.

To the Editor of the Voice of the Fair.

Having in my possession a copy of the first Aid Society for soldiers, I thought perhaps it would be acceptable. You may have seen it; if not, I think it worthy a place in the "Voice." I give it just as I have it.

Yours, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

THE FIRST SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY. COPY OF A LETTER FROM GEN. WASHINGTON TO MRS. BACHE, (DAUGHTER OF BENJ. FRANKLIN.)

Headquarters in Bergen, N. J., 14th July, 1780.

Madam: I have received with much pleasure, but not till last night, your favor of the 4th, specifying the amount of the subscriptions already collected for the use of the American soldiery. This fresh work of the patriotism of the ladies, entitle them to the highest applause of the country. It is impossible for the army not to feel a superior gratitude on such an instance of goodness; if I am happy in having the confidence of the ladies, I would propose the purchasing of coarse linens, to be made into shirts, with the whole amount of their subscriptions, as a shirt extraordinary to the soldier will be of more service to him than any other thing that could be procured him; while it is not intended to, nor shall it exclude him from the usual supply which he draws from the public. This appears to me to be the best mode for its application, provided it is approved by the ladies. I am happy to find you have been good enough to give us a claim on your endeavors to complete the execution of the design. An example so laudable will certainly be nurtured, and must be productive of a favorable issue in the bosoms of the fair, in the sister states.

Let me congratulate our benefactors on the arrival of the French fleet off the harbor of Newport, on the afternoon of the 10th; it is this moment announced, but without any particulars, as an interchange of signals had only taken place.

I pray the ladies of your family to receive with my compliments, my liveliest thanks for the interest they take in my favor. With the most perfect respect and esteem, I have the honor to be, madam,

Your obedient and humble servant,

GEO. WASHINGTON.

A SOLDIERS' GIFT.

A unique and curiously constructed picture frame, by invalid soldiers in Ward 2, Armory hospital, Washington, D. C., has been received for the Sanitary Fair, manufactured and donated by H. Knight, Sergeant Co. B. 14th N. Y. Vol.; D. E. Adsit, Corp. Co. H. 6th N. Y., H. Artillery; J. W. Beckett, Private Co. A. 126 Ohio Vol.; J. A. Crawford, Private Co. F. 50th Pa. Vol.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FAIR FROM ITALY

To the Editor of the Voice of the Fair.

A friend of mine in Rome, an American lady, who has resided there for a long time, and in whose heart love of country is not dimmed by absence, writes to me in respect to a box containing contributions from the Americans and the friends of our country in Rome to our great Fair, from which I make a few extracts:

"I have been busy in getting up a Roman table for the Sanitary Commission Fair in your city, for which I claim your aid and interest. Dr. Bellows wrote me some time ago, begging that the ladies of Rome would furnish a table for the Fair, and I went to work. Our box contains Roman bronzes, Roman scarfs, pearls, cameos, a fine set of stone cameos, Roman mosaics, paper weights, paper cutters, and cartes de visites. There is also one article of special interest and value to our Catholic friends. It is a chateleine of steel made in the exact form of the chain of St. Peter, in the church of San Pietro, in Tricoli. They all have received the particular benediction of His Holiness. The rosaries attached to the chain have also been blessed by the Pope.

We had a table set with the contributions before they were shipped, and they were much admired, and presented a very pretty appearance. We hope the contents of the box will realize at least two thousand dollars.

In addition to the articles named, there is a beautiful *bas relief* of Pasquella, the beautiful Roman model, by Miss Foley, an artist of great merit, which was disposed of by a raffle, drawn by Rogers, the sculptor, and presented by him to the Fair.

The feeling for our brave soldiers which inspires the hearts of our countrymen and countrywomen in distant lands, and prompts such contributions as these, is worthy of all honor, and I trust that the beautiful offering which the Americans of Rome have sent, will receive the admiration they deserve, and realize such a generous sum for the cause as shall delight the hearts of the donors."

E. C. LARNED.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FAIR.

The following letter from T. B. Bryan, Esq., President of the Executive Committee of the Northwestern Sanitary Fair will be read with interest:

To the Editor of the Voice of the Fair.

Now that the time of opening the forthcoming Fair approaches, we ask space in your column to reply briefly to the following inquiries constantly addressed, both verbally and by letter, to the Executive Committee:

1st. Will there be any adjournment of the Fair?

Answer—None. The opening day will be May 30th.

2d. Is not a dollar too high a price for an ordinary single admission ticket to the main Fair building on the Park?

Answer—The original publication of one dollar was promptly corrected by a change to fifty cents.

3d. Will there be any reduction in railroad fares?

Answer—There WILL be on most if not all the roads, as far as we are now advised; particulars to be published.

4th. Has not the sudden closing of the war dispensed with the necessity of so great an effort as was inaugurated by the management of the Fair in the heat of the struggle? Are not the buildings much too large and expensive for the diminished sympathy and zeal under the changed circumstances?

Answer—No. The buildings in progress of erection were not contracted for until after the sudden collapse of the rebellion was apparent. In conference with the architect, the undersigned enjoined the strictest economy, the avoidance of all useless expenditure in mere ornamentation, consistently with symmetry and appropriate design. The work has been thus executed with common lumber, *neither planed, nor painted, nor even white-washed*. Although well-meaning friends outside of the Executive Committee have repeatedly urged us "to curtail the dimensions of the buildings to adapt them to the altered circumstances," we have persistently declined, knowing that there is such a thing as false economy, and persuaded that there would be no waste of either money or room in the buildings as originally designed. Our friends abroad may rest assured that they will be amply repaid for a visit to the Great Fair, the extent and elegance of which may in some degree be anticipated by reference to the lists of magnificent donations reported in the *Voice of the Fair*, and the daily press, as received from all parts of this country and Europe. The sudden declaration of peace may prove to be a balm to millions of hearts, but scarcely can be expected to heal the bodily wounds of a hundred thousand soldiers. Hospitals must be sustained for many months to come, and there are numberless ministrations to the sick and wounded which the Government CANNOT, but the Sanitary and Christian Commissions CAN render. The accommodations of the Soldiers' Home never were so inadequate as at present, to meet the wants of the noble wrecks of soldiers now claiming admission and tender care.

Shall it be said by these scarred heroes that their services were appreciated only so long as the danger lasted, and that on returning to our midst they find themselves forgotten or neglected, the doors of the institutions of which they have heard so much suddenly closed against them? We were unwilling that the meagreness of the forthcoming Fair should cast any such unjust reflection upon the patriotism of the Northwest, and we have an abiding faith in being sustained in this great tribute of gratitude to her heroic sons.

Very respectfully,

THOS. B. BRYAN,
President of Executive Committee.
CHICAGO, ILL., May 20, 1865.

—The question of the decline and fall of crinoline, in imperial circles, may be answered by the statement that the Empress of France wears seventy-eight lace skirts at once.