

AN ODE TO SPOKANE.

I have watched at summer's twilight
 The soft rainbow span the sky;
 I have heard the merry wild birds
 Fill the woods with melody;
 I have listened, soul-enraptured,
 To the tempest's angry roar,
 Telling tales of wild disasters
 As it lashed the rugged shore.
 I have watched alone at ev'ning
 The bright stars in heaven arise,
 Oft beheld the roseate beams that gild
 The Olympian paradise;
 I have seen Sierra's lofty peaks,
 Where the eagle dare not build,
 Whose majestic coronals of snow
 O'ertop the clouds distilled.
 Oft in solitude I've wandered,
 Often knelt at Fancy's shrine,
 And have drawn an inspiration
 From fair Nature's works divine;
 But of all the scenes that thrilled me—
 Reach as far as mem'ry can—
 None have moved me more with rapture
 Than thy lovely falls, Spokane.
 There is music in their waters
 As they play above the falls,
 Murm'ring gently to the ev'ning star
 Their sweetest madrigals;
 There is story in your eddies,
 Where the moonbeam's wav'ring glance
 Weaves among the quiet shadows
 All the beauties of romance.
 Can the painter on his canvas
 Touch with life this lovely scene?
 Can he paint yon lovely Iris
 As becomes the varied queen?
 Can he paint the roar of ocean,
 Or with colors charm the ear?
 No; for art is only human—
 Let us worship Nature here.

W. H. SMILEY.

THE NORTHWESTERN INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITION.

The Northwestern Industrial Exposition, which will be held in Spokane Falls during the month of October, will be in all respects a most interesting and important one. In its general features it will be the peer of any enterprise of a similar character ever undertaken west of Chicago. In its details it will have many novel and startling attractions such as have never been seen or attempted in the northwest. The displays of agricultural products will be enlivened with the most interesting and handsome exhibits of the arts and minerals, and their grouping will be so arranged that they will be pleasing to the eye as well as artistic and elaborate.

The exterior and the interior of the exposition building will be most admirably suited to the demands upon it. The structure will have an exhibit space of over 150,000 square feet, an area equaled by few buildings of its kind in the world. The plans were prepared by architect, C. B. Seaton, and were selected from a large number of excellent drawings submitted by local architects. The edifice covers an area of 200x300 feet, leaving 100 feet of space for driveways. The basement is six-

teen feet high and contains nearly 60,000 square feet of exhibit space. Three entrances are provided for the admission of the public—one on Sprague street, one on Riverside avenue and one on the east side of the building. Each entrance is forty-three feet wide, and surmounting each is a balcony for the orchestra.

A corridor, forty-three feet wide, is provided on the Sprague street side, in the center of which is the ticket office which can be reached from two corridors on each side. In the center of the first floor a large music stand is erected and a beautiful fountain is placed on each side. A seating capacity for 1,200 persons is provided around this space, giving the visitors an opportunity to listen to the sweet strains of music and enjoy the refreshing influences of the sparkling fountain.

The exposition space occupies an area of 60,000 feet and is divided with corridors sixteen feet wide. These corridors surround the entire space, and each corner of the floor is flanked by stairways leading to the second floor and basement. The former opens to the roof and contains the same amount of exhibit space as the first floor. It is provided with a grand promenade balcony forty feet wide, and has an art gallery and all important accessories. By removing the portable platforms and railings for exhibit spaces, a grand hall, 140x260 feet, is obtained, adapted for public gatherings. It will have a seating capacity of 8,000, with abundant light and commodious stairways and exits. The balcony extends half way around the building, and at the corners convenient toilet rooms are located.

The height from the first floor to the highest point of the roof is 120 feet. A central lantern provides the light for the auditorium and admits the light from the second floor to the center of the building. The entire structure is surmounted by an octagonal dome, thirty feet in diameter, on a circular roof arising forty feet above the main roof. The carrying capacity of the building is one of its main features. The floor of the machinery department is so constructed that it will sustain a weight of 300 pounds to the square foot, while the auditorium floor will support 200 pounds to the square foot. Thus perfect safety is insured.

The variety and extent of the products and resources of the northwest make it possible to occupy the entire space with exhibits of the most interesting and important character. Special pride and care will be taken to show to the best advantage the excellent qualities of grain and other agricultural products, of which this young and prosperous section can boast. The farmers will be strongly represented, and no efforts will be spared to convince the visitors of the fertility of the soil and the abundance of the crops, of which the adjacent country is the fortunate possessor. Instructions have been forwarded to the different county commissioners relative to the cutting and preparation of the grain and the preservation of the fruit. The exhibits will be tastefully grouped by counties, and the necessary data will accompany each display, showing the yield per acre and such other information as may be of benefit to the visitor or intending settler.

The mining industry will be accorded an important place in the exposition, and a practical illustration of the working and development of a mine will be one of the main features of the exposition. Those who have never had an opportunity to visit a mine and become acquainted with the *modus operandi* will be initiated in the secrets of the process by which the precious metal is taken from the earth and prepared for the smelter. A miniature mine will be in full operation. It will be lighted by electricity, blasting will be done by electricity, the signaling will be by electricity, and, in fact, a mine will be transposed from one of the mountain gulches to the exposition building.