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THE DALLES OREGON

A TEXAS POOH-BAH.

He Came from Kentucky and Ran the Business of the Town.

"Some time ago," remarked a lawyer to a Louisville Courier-Journal writer, "I had occasion to visit Texas. I stopped at a little town one Saturday, about noon, intending to remain there until Monday morning.

"The proprietor of the hotel was a gray-haired fellow, well preserved, and apparently full of energy. I was consequently not very greatly surprised when he informed me that he was also a lawyer. He had a big, stout wife, and it struck me that he could very well have practiced the law to her while he practiced law. He disappeared shortly after noon.

"I started out to see something of the little town, and, needing a collar, stopped in one or two dry goods stores to buy one. I must confess that I was somewhat staggered when I found that the hotelkeeper, besides being a lawyer, was a clerk in a dry-goods store—for it was he who smiled blandly at me over the counter. I extended my walk until night was falling, and as I approached the hotel who did I see lighting the oil lamps in the main street but the hotel proprietor! The next morning, which was Sunday, I inquired of him the way to church. 'Come on,' said he, 'I'll show you.' He took me into the church and showed me a seat, after which he disappeared, saying he must go and ring the bell. In a few minutes it was pealing forth its pleading: 'Come, O, come,' and soon the congregation had gathered.

"I was prepared for anything almost, after what I had seen of mine host's versatility, and was not much surprised when he ascended the stairs of the pulpit and opened services. Then he came down again and manipulated the keys of the wheezy little organ while the congregation sang. He then took up the collection, after which he again resumed the pulpit and preached as fine a gospel sermon as I ever heard. When services were over and the flock had been dismissed with a fervent prayer, the pastor closed up the church.

"What sort of a man is Mr. So-and-so, anyhow?" I asked a lawyer.

"Oh," he answered, "he runs the town generally. He's killed a dozen men, more or less, and he is the best shot with the revolver in this part of the country. He's the best poker player, too, I ever saw. He is from Kentucky, too."

HOPE FOR MANITOBA.

A Winnipeg Man Thinks It Will Yet Be the Granary of the World.

"If the horse could stand it," said a well-known resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba, to a reporter for the Washington Star, "a man could leave Winnipeg and ride one thousand miles west and north-west over a level prairie before he would be obstructed by the mountains. This gives an idea of the great territory lying west of Winnipeg, which, to the eastern man, seems way out of the world. The soil of this prairie produces the finest spring wheat grown anywhere, and the enormous plain I've just mentioned will in a few years be the great granary of the world. Eastern people have a misty idea of our expansive territory. We are just commencing to grow wheat compared to a decade hence, though our crop two years ago was thirty million bushels. We have but little snow, and in the many years I resided in Manitoba I never saw the tops of the bright prairie grass covered. Cattle fairly roll in fat, and we are becoming a great cattle country. While most of our settlers are from across the water, yet the number from the western states is yearly increasing. We have no wild west frontier scenes. There are no settlers killed over disputed claims, as has been an everyday story in the west for years. Our homestead laws require a three years' residence of six months each. Land may be preempted, too. Gold has been discovered in wonderfully rich quartz deposits a few miles east of Winnipeg, and paying mills have just been erected by Minneapolis capitalists. I predict a 'rush' to the Lake of the Woods district next year. Winnipeg has thirty-five thousand inhabitants and is a thriving city. Our winters are cold, but we do not mind them. The atmosphere is dry and the days are clear, murky weather being almost unknown."

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MIDWINTER FAIR.

CALIFORNIA MIDWINTER INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION.—DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION.

(Weekly Circular Letter—No. 7.)

The work of preparation for the Exposition has now reached a point where the aesthetic ideas of the management are beginning to bear fruit. All the main buildings are practically finished, so far as the details of construction are concerned, and now comes the matter of decoration. Charles Graham, the well-known artist—better known, perhaps, in the East than in California on account of his extensive experience with the Harpers, and more recently with the Columbian Exposition—has been appointed as director of color for the Midwinter Exposition, and to him falls the duty of superintending the decoration of the Exposition buildings. There has been made no effort in this connection to pattern after the Columbian Exposition. The term "White City" will never be appropriately applied to this Exposition. Mr. Graham's idea has been to let delicate tints predominate, and to so distribute and arrange these that the peculiar atmospheric effects of the California climate shall be utilized to enhance their harmony and increase their beauty. Warm tones are not particularly necessary in the decoration of any group of buildings in this glorious climate of California, and the darkness of background afforded by the almost black foliage is a magnificent setting for the delicate tints which are to prevail.

Some excellent effects have already been partially produced on the main buildings, although none of them are yet to be seen in the fullness of perfection. There will be a great deal of gold in the scheme of color, although not enough of it to give the architectural group the name of the "Golden City. The domes of the Administration building will be heavily gilded, and the western sun, striking full upon them, will undoubtedly play a very important part in the picturesqueness of the panorama. Mr. Graham says that several of the buildings of this Exposition surpass in perfection of detail and architectural development the buildings of the Columbian Exposition, and that in the line of opportunity offered for picturesque and landscape effects, the like has never been seen in any exposition.

The ornamentation of the grand central court is also receiving a great deal of attention just now. The electrical fountain is being installed in one end, the basin for the allegorical fountain is in place at the other, and the sculpture will soon be ready to be put in position. The electric tower has reached a third of its height, and two more weeks will see it completed. Eight or ten inches of rich loam has been spread over the entire surface of the grand plaza, and on it will be sown the seed of the flowers and foliage which are to make this the most beautiful spot in all the beautiful Golden Gate Park. There has already been transplanted to this grand parallelogram a large number of bamboo plants and date palms that have been artistically distributed, and have made a favorable impression on the public, which warrants the assertion that the picture to be presented within the lines of the court, around which the main buildings are situated, will be one of surpassing loveliness. The Venetian masts, several hundred in number, which are to stand like a line of soldiery around this court, are already in position. These are to bear the flags of all nations by day, and electric arc lights at night; and between them the sun will shine upon long lines of parti-colored streamers, while the darkness of each succeeding night will be relieved by long lines of incandescent lights and fancy lanterns in the development of the carnival effects which have been contemplated in this connection.

The work on the concessional buildings is proceeding satisfactorily. The exposition will be nearer ready on opening day than has been the case of any large exposition in the history of the world. The management of the Exposition are to be particularly congratulated on the fact that in the erection of the 70 odd structures within the Exposition grounds, on which there has been an aggregate expenditure of nearly \$1,000,000, there has, thus far, occurred no labor trouble, no accidents, and not even an alarm of fire.

The programme for opening day has not yet been completed, but the ceremonies will be of a character to warrant the unbottling of all the enthusiasm which San Francisco and the adjoining cities and towns have been getting up for this occasion. It took the business men of San Francisco a long while to wake up to the importance of this Exposition, but there is no longer any room for criticism on this score, and it is safe to say that when opening day shall arrive the city will be more gaily decorated and its inhabitants will turn out more universally than on any other occasion that has marked the history of California.

A feature of the Exposition which has now been fully developed is that which is to include the display of citrus fruit from different parts of the state. There are in the state two citrus fair associations—that of Southern California and that of the Northern citrus counties. Both these fairs will be held this year in connection with the Midwinter Exposition, and it will be interesting to Eastern people to know that these grand displays of oranges and lemons are made in the months of January and February. The management of the state citrus fair northern district has just announced its dates to be from Jan. 15 to Feb. 15, and that of Southern California will be on at the same time. In addition to these citrus displays Fresno county has completed arrangements to erect a model of her courthouse to be constructed of oranges and raisins, so that Eastern visitors will see more wonderful displays of the golden fruit than has ever been made elsewhere.

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