

THE U. S. report
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ate News.

THE MIDWINTER EXPOSITION.

[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 parterre 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 Ex-

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.

FROM WASHINGTON CITY.

Information has reached the Treasury Department from the Appraiser of Merchandise at the port of Chicago that the transportation companies have failed to take away rapidly the portion of merchandise at the World's Fair intended for exportation; consequently there are now at least 20,000 packages lying in the buildings, which cannot be removed by December 31. The Collector has accordingly asked that the time be extended for holding the buildings as a constructive bonded warehouse, and the exposition officials have agreed to provide suitable police supervision for the customs interests during the period over which the customs control shall be maintained. In consideration of these facts the Treasury Department has instructed the Collector to continue in control of the goods referred to until further instructions are given him. It is said this condition is the result of bad faith on the part of the railroad companies, who promised to return the goods to the seaboard free if the railroad charges were paid one way. Now that the fair is over they are indifferent to the matter, and are using their own convenience and giving other freight preferences.

A subject which will receive some consideration at the hands of the Committee on Appropriations of the House at this session of Congress is embodied in a bill introduced by Sayres, its Chairman, entitled "a bill to repeal certain laws relating to permanent and indefinite appropriations." Bills having this object in view have appeared perennially during the past ten years, but for various reasons have failed of enactment. The object of recalling these permanent appropriations and having Congress pass upon matters covered by them each year is that it will conduce to a more thorough and careful examination of the items of appropriation than are obtainable under the present system by which accounts are audited and passed upon by accounting officers, and where no opportunity is left for scrutiny by the Congressional committee. At the same time objection is made against the changes proposed by the bill because of the injustice that would result to claimants entitled to the amounts paid them under the present system without recourse to specific Congressional legislation. The bill now before the committee excludes from its provisions the various laws therein specified, including the sinking fund and other appropriations under which amounts to many million dollars, roughly estimated at about one-third of the total permanent appropriations. The total annual permanent appropriations for the fiscal year 1894 were \$115,444,680, and it is estimated for 1895 at \$101,074,680. The committee has referred the bill to Secretary Carlisle for his views on the changes proposed, and accounting officers of the department will be asked to submit their opinions before any recommendation is made in the matter by the Secretary.

The air of mystery assumed by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in its Hawaiian investigation gives the impression that Morgan's resolution, under which the inquiry is held, is merely a cloak for a much more important inquiry than any as to the alleged irregularity of our diplomatic relations with those islands. There is reason for believing that while presumably the present quest is for information bearing upon the conduct of Stevens and Blount there will be an effort at the same time to obtain any information which will in the first place prove the capability of the islands for self-government, and in the second the desirability or otherwise of annexing these islands at some time in the future. It is understood perfectly by members of the committee who might have these in view that there is no hope of annexing the islands under the present administration, but those who favor this disposition of the little kingdom do not intend to be swerved from their purpose by the fact that one administration is opposed to this course. Senator Morgan, Chairman of the committee, has been scrupulously careful about expressing opinions upon the Hawaiian question, or manifesting a disposition to do or say anything which would appear extra-judicial, but he is known to be a firm believer in the wisdom of attaching the islands to this country as a part of it, just as Alaska is at present attached, and the fact that he has very recently introduced a bill in the Senate providing a form of government for any acquired territory lends plausibility to the supposition that he is looking forward to possibilities far beyond anything included in the resolution under which the committee is authorized to conduct the present hearing. As a plausible explanation of the origin of the bill, and without some end like the acquisition of Hawaii, it is difficult to find any reason for its existence. Those who know Morgan best say he is not the man to attempt to secure legislation that would fit a supposition. It would appear that when the committee reports it will, so far as Morgan and the character of the report, smooth things is in connection with which they are without sugar.—Gentlemen, Minister Thurn have been heard of the present, early many in spiritless to suit; stick them in dough.

EASTERN ITEMS.

The Carbonate camp of the Leadville district is producing \$10,500 worth of gold a day.

There is in preparation a history of the World's Fair which will retail at \$1,000 per copy.

Four Duval (Tex.) train robbers have been sentenced to thirty-five years in the penitentiary.

It is reported that John D. Rockefeller has made another gift of \$1,000,000 to the Chicago University.

It is believed the severance of the Gulf system from the Union Pacific was a mistake in the latter road.

Edward S. Stokes has been appointed receiver of the Hoffman House and other property belonging to his estate.

The creditors of the Kentucky Mailing Company will get 25 cents on the dollar. Liabilities, \$500,000; assets, \$180,000.

The Denver jury in the case of John Shevnon against the estate of his daughter, the late Countess Cassell, returned a verdict for \$28,000.

It is asserted at the Treasury Department that there will be an immediate and general shake-up of the officials of the New York custom-house.

The Boston Municipal League, a non-partisan and non-sectarian body, which will oppose bad nominations for municipal offices, has been organized.

Superintendent Andrews of the insane asylum at Buffalo has declared Edward M. Field, son of the late Cyrus W. Field, sane, and he will be taken back to New York to stand trial.

Commissioner Thomas J. Dowling of New York bureau of labor statistics has sent out 10,000 circulars to manufacturers with the intention of discovering the cause of hard times.

Dr. F. A. Cook of Brooklyn, the ethnologist who accompanied Lieutenant Peary to Greenland in 1891-2, is preparing to explore the Antarctic continent or archipelago next fall.

General Solicitor Thurston of the Union Pacific says there is no truth in the report that the Union Pacific intends to take steps to bring the Gulf road back into the overland system.

Congressman Hilborn has introduced a bill to pension Mrs. Edward Jungerman of San Francisco, who, when 10 years of age, acted as nurse in General Hooker's army at Gettysburg.

The Bourbon distillers of Kentucky believe the liquor tax will be increased, and are preparing to take advantage of it. It will advance the price by 10 cents a gallon of the entire stock on hand.

The Canadian Pacific will not agree to restore transcontinental rates unless allowed a differential. The other lines will not agree to this, and the prospect of a war is growing stronger every day.

The annual report of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern for the year ending December 31, 1893, shows net earnings of \$6,624,760, a decrease of \$5,231. The surplus is \$286,770, a decrease of \$15,232.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the University of Chicago it was decided to locate the Yorks Observatory at Lake Geneva, Wis., and the construction will commence as soon as the weather permits.

It has been decided that bond investment companies can no longer do business legally in Texas, and State officials have taken steps to prevent the transaction of business of such a character within the State.

The grand jury at Dubuque, Ia., has returned twenty-eight indictments against Van Leuven for pension frauds, and other indictments were returned against Drs. Pegg and Kissel, members of the examining board.

An importing house at New York will place California wines on the market and sell them on their merits. Heretofore it has not been an easy thing to purchase California clarets under their proper names of vintages in that market.

Secretary Herbert has restored Commodore Stanton to duty, and assigns him to the command of the North Atlantic squadron. The Secretary says the department never thought the Commodore did an intentional wrong when he saluted the flag of the insurgent De Mello at Rio de Janeiro. His offense was an error of judgment.

The reception to ex-President Harrison at the Union League Club, Philadelphia, was a success in every way. Representatives of every class and both parties attended, and United States Senators and Representatives, the Governor and his executive staff and members of the Legislature were among the 1,500 who paid their respects to the ex-President.

The Business Men's Convention at Denver adopted a resolution that Colorado had almost entirely recovered from the effect of the panic, and while the State had been grievously wounded by the demonization of silver, her other resources, such as gold, coal and agriculture, were developing wonderfully.

and the calling together of the Legislature now would do more harm than good.

Ex-Secretary of the Navy Tracy says that in two years from now France and Russia will have fifty modern battle ships of 440,000 tons displacement against thirty-one of 314,000 tons displacement for England. Gladstone in Parliament spoke slurringly of Tracy's opinion, but Tracy reiterates it and says he believes the French battle ships superior to the English both in guns and armor.

A dinner was given to Robert Bonner at New York, which furnished an opportunity for the presentation to Mr. Bonner of a beautiful statuette of his mare Sunol, which was bought with subscriptions of a large number of representative breeders of trotting horses for presentation to Mr. Bonner in token of their appreciation of his active efforts in encouragement of breeding the highest forms of trotting stock.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Fish are disappearing from the British coast.

Russia has no foreign insurance companies.

The Behring Sea arbitration tribunal cost France \$9,000.

Six anarchists have been expelled from Buenos Ayres.

The Socialist associations of Sicily count 300,000 members.

The London Times says England must rule the seas or cease to exist.

Hundreds of poor are threatened with starvation at Erzerum, Armenia.

Liverpool is disturbed over the prospects of sharp rivalry by Manchester.

Captain O'Shea, the former husband of Mrs. Parnell, is in financial straits.

Germany and France are steadily stiffening and expanding their protectional policy.

Forty thousand francs have been subscribed for the Gounod memorial fund in Paris.

Liverpool will reduce dock rates to meet the competition of the Manchester ship canal.

France is disturbed by heavy importations of American corn, and will legislate against it.

The Hungarian Prime Minister has succeeded in re-establishing a loyal court in Buda-Pesth.

Mrs. Parnell is busily engaged in writing the life of Charles Stewart Parnell, her deceased husband.

Esther Palliser, a young American cantatrice, will shortly start on a concert tour through Germany.

Captain Longbridge of Birmingham, England, has designed a deck keel as a substitute for the center-board.

During the last twenty-five years the Berlin Asylum for the Insane has taken care of 2,464,560 persons.

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