

Our Chicago Letter.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24, 1889.

Since the time of the Ark no building has created such a furore as the Auditorium,—in fact it is safe to prophesy that such rhetorical expressions as "down the vista of ages," etc., will soon be supplanted by one more agreeable to western states,—"all the way from the Ark to the Auditorium,"—western architecture has made its debut,—and is of course hardly expected to be ideal in its youth. It is not even graceful so far as its outward appearance goes,—has not even the gay adornments which youth so naturally prizes. The Auditorium is massive and gray and imposing; it stands for money and pluck and bold enterprises and strong purpose, and more than all else, a happy compromise between capital and labor. The history of its being conceived by capitalists, designed by artists and executed by artisans, has not been darkened by a single halt or strike. It has gone right on and up, and popular enthusiasm helped to lubricate the machinery. Co-operation is a wonderful lotion, and repeated applications of the same would in time become a healing potion to the great wound which has been so much aggravated of late by labor dissensions.

The 9th of December was a soft, warm spring day and a gray mist hung caressingly over our busy city Monday is often called a blue day, but on this occasion it was a gala day. There was no mad joy about the occasion, but a glad and quiet jubilation. The president and his party arrived and received military and civic demonstrations, but there was a dignity pervading it all that affected even the drum major. There was a sufficiency of bunting about the vicinity of the Auditorium, and the shop-windows were all dressed in their best business style. Especially were the millinery windows ornamented with an infinite number of opera dainties. Ladies hurried in and out with gaudy bonnets and corsage bouquets, full dress gloves and other varieties of illusions, while their stern escorts cut short their business hours to flit about among the furnishings suitable for the various needs. We only mention this detail because it is one of the essentials of every public demonstration and is the realistic part of the performance.

Patti appeared as was expected and the anticipation of her coming was testified to by the lines and lines of patient purchasers who bided many weary hours for an opportunity to lay down their burdensome wealth and secure standing or sitting room, as the case might be. The concert was not classical, but appropriate to the popular event, and divided the attention of the audience with the beauties of the interior furnishings of the hall. The stage was beautiful with the flowers of Chicago—the musical cream of the West—a fitting ornamentation to set off the Queen of Song. Patti sang little and well—yes, in spite of public expectations, she sang without showing her age very much. Her Paris costumes in no wise affected her bird-like "Home Sweet Home." Everyone was full of good will and the enthusiasm of success, and would have eulogized anyone—but Patti they summoned to the foot-lights a round dozen of times. Of course she could not sing so many times, even to please so pleased an audience—not that her vocal powers were limited, but her manager objected. Patti does not sing for charity or her country or her fellow men,—who knows whether she sings from her heart or throat,—she is even said to take money for her music, yet her tones are as clear and soft and pure as those of a deep wood bird. So many good people are discussing the ethics of music and morals. How would they account for the touching tones of the world-famed diva, whose family history is grown on the public memory. "There is nothing like home," as she emphasized it, brought the tears to the eyes of millions and those who know no homes other than a palatial residence. What is the secret of Patti's tender tones? She is fond of dogs and of ovals, but she has never been known to sing on a ship board where no engagement pressed for the benefit of a sailor's Bertie. Chicago loves Patti because its heart is big enough to take in all the orphans and strangers.

The new mayor of Birmingham, at a meeting of the Diocesan Church of England Temperance Society, said that from inquiries he had made at Somerset House he found that out of 988 shareholders in local breweries 115 (or more than one-sixth) were clergymen and women.

It has just got out why Santa Claus didn't complete his round last year. He happened to look down into the stocking Miss Breezy of Chicago had hung up, and grew dizzy and fell in.—Time.

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NEW GOODS!!

NEW PRICES!!!

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HOLIDAY GOODS AND

5 AND 10 CENT GOODS.

We have an endless variety of Fancy Housekeeping Goods and Novelties. Some great bargains are offered in these goods.

Everybody is invited to call and see how much you can buy for a nickel or a dollar.

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From Portland	STATIONS.	To Portland
7:00 a.m.	PORTLAND PAW & V. 7:45 p.m.	
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7:40 a.m.	Hay's Landing, Ar. 2:38	
	St. Paul's, Ar. 2:38	
7:55 a.m.	10:06	
	Woodburn, " 1:40	
	Townsend, " 1:15	
	McKee, " 1:10	
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	Johnston's Mill, " 1:15	
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