TENNESSEE CENTENNIAL

The Great Exposition Will Open Its Gates May 1.

A Scene of Splendor Whose Completeness Has Never Been Rivaled —General Reduction in Railroad Rates.

[Special Nashville (Tenn.) Letter.]

The Tennessee centennial at Nashville, considered as a spectacular effect, has one marked superiority to the late Columbian exposition at Chicago. In the white city there was no sense of depth. It was all foreground. In whatever direction one looked there was nothing whatever but lath and plaster, gilt and tinsel. Nowhere could one look out beyond the temporary splendor of the passing hour and rest one's imagination with a glimpse of the permanent and the historic. Now at Nashville things are different. Standing on the "Rialto" here and facing eastward one beholds a great white statue of Athenae, beyond her the replica of the Parthenon, and beyond that and round about white arches, glittering domes, reaches of pale green waters, deep green stretches of lawn that have golden tones in the sunshine, brightness, lightness, long perspectives of white wall, shadowy darkness in arch after arch, a world of gleam and glitter, a fascinating, insubstantiality that has sprung suddenly out of the earth, and shall return whence it was digged. But this is not all. While standing on the Rialto wheel about and face eastward. The direction of the bridge is continued in a broad avenue that falls away straight in front of you among shelving lawns and scattered trees. It curves to the left and disappears. The eye, however, still ranges on. Bright sunshine and blue sky overhang a wide valley, and beyond the valley there are many houses. Among them low-lying clouds of smoke blend hazily with the blue of distance and billow upward along a ridge crowded with buildings. Here and there a tower shoots high above the haze. A spire top catches the sunlight and glitters like a jewel. Straight in front of you, at the very center of the view, crowning and dominating the whole vista, veiled a little by gray smoke, softened by the blue of the horizon and backgrounded by blue of heaven, there is uplifted against the clouds the historic state house of Tennessee.

The scenic value of this imaginative undertone, so to speak, which is possessed by the Nashville exposition, cannot be overestimated. So speaks Nathaniel Stephenson, of the Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, who visited the exposition grounds last week. In the course of a most brilliant piece of word painting he said:

"And here in the midst of the battlefields, where Tennessee made such a valiant attempt to break from the strong bond of the national union, she is now celebrating her original entry into that estate. A new day is dawning, not only literally as the visions of the night fade away, while the shadows begin to lift, but figuratively, in the choice of the event to which this southern state asks all the world to do honor. If the darkness in the shadow of the Parthenon has its ghosts of war and ruin, the brightness that is succeeding it brings forth the white statue of Athens, and thus

"'The old order changes, giving place to new,
And God fulfills Himself in many ways.'

"But now the darkness of the night has changed imperceptibly to an altogether different one, the darkness of the dawn. You have not yet become aware of any increase of light. What you have realized is a vague, uncanny feeling, as if things fixed and immovable were slowly drawing near you. Large, dark shapes of buildings are stealing gradually into the range of vision. Great bulks of blackness take on form and distinctness and resolve themselves into towers, domes, porticoes. Bit by bit the very air itself is playing the same strange trick. The starshine is falling steadily nearer to the earth. A blue, never seen at any other hour of the 24 glimmers downward from the descending stars and makes the whole atmosphere one endless starry shimmer. This is neither night nor morning, but the most mysterious of all the hours, the hour before the dawn, when the ordinary conditions of life do not exist. You feel that you are no longer upon earth, but wandering about the streets of some dream city, tenanted by you known not what and located in some far place unexplored by man.

"The buildings loom vaster and vaster as the blue shimmer grows steadily deeper. The dome of the Agricultural building is crowned by the stars themselves. The tower of the auditorium springs away into the very heart of heaven. The pillars of the Parthenon have the height of mountains. The statue of Athens is some immeasurably vast creature which is not to be approached.

"And all these monsters of the dawn have the strange effect of being asleep. They are buildings no longer, they are living creatures wrapped in dead slumber, gazing eastward with sightless eyes, that will be awakened by the dawn. Perhaps it is the continuous though imperceptible changing of the degree of distinctness in their details, due to the steadily growing light in the heavens, that produces this uncanny effect of being alive. But however produced, it is there. So real is it that one catches one's self treading lightly for fear of waking these enormous creatures that are all about one."

In concluding his letter Mr. Stephenson says: "The men who conceived this building must have had qualities which it perpetuates, sweetness, nobility, loftiness, calmness, strength. There was Tennyson's ideal of

"'That gentleness
That when it weds with Manhood makes a man.'

"And looking at all this, at what the Parthenon signifies as well as what it embodies, captivated by the matchless serenity of its charm, realizing its contrast to the Nineteenth century, one asks again: 'To what result is all this pageant of American material progress going forward?'

"And one turns hastily away lest one look too long upon the unattainable and lose heart and despair of his generation."

The great Remenyi apparently thinks in the same lines as Mr. Stephenson. They are both painters, artists of high renown, only one paints in music and the other in words. Both are poets, one with concord of sweet sounds, and the other with the rhythm of words. Remenyi says, as he stands tremblingly before the replica of the Parthenon: "Whose idea was this?" and when told that the idea originated with Maj. E. C. Lewis, the director-general, he said: "Where is he?"

The women who have made the woman's department an accomplished fact deserve more than passing mention. They have labored like heroes for nearly two years, and have spared neither time, money or exertion, to make their work a success of international character. The president of the woman's board is Mrs. Van Leer Kirkman, a lady especially gifted for the office. Mrs. J. N. Brooks is chairman of the sales department, Mrs. James P. Drouillard is vice president of the board, Miss Ada Scott Rice is secretary, and Mrs. M. B. Pilcher is chairman of space and classification. The architect of the Woman's building is Mrs. Sara Ward Conley, artist, architect and art critic, who is a native of Nashville. Mrs. G. H. Ratterman, chairman of the patents' committee; Mrs. J. Hunter Orr, chairman decorative and applied art; Mrs. Ann Snyder, member of the general committee; Mrs. Paul McGuire, chairman of the ways and means committee. The women's congresses will be a feature of the centennial. The congresses, while general, are already classified, so that those interested in a particular subject can attend a course without consuming much time. In the departments there are education, music, art, home and literature. The lectures will be free and are intended to be philanthropic in character. They are also intended to serve another purpose. They will afford a fitting theater in which a thinking public can see and listen to the eminent women of the state. Of those there are scores who through patience, industry and ability have attained distinction and who are entitled to be known and loved by the nation as well as by the commonwealth in whose interest they have served so long and well.

The meeting of the railway passenger men at Nashville, the other day, was watched with great interest, for it was known that the object of the meeting was to decide upon the rates to the Tennessee Centennial exposition.

It was one of the most harmonious meetings ever held by that body, for they each knew that the motives that had prompted the enterprise were directed for the general good, and not for the benefit or aggrandizement of any individual or corporation.

The members of the passenger association, with the liberality that has always characterized their movements when the interests of the general public are concerned, determined to aid the Exposition association in their great work, and the consequence is that the rates are more advantageous, from every standpoint, than any that have ever been offered before. In fact, the fares have been placed at such a low figure that the Tennessee Centennial exposition, the national event of the current year, can be visited by everyone, for all obstacles have been removed.

It was agreed that the railway fares to the exposition should be placed on a sliding scale, and regulated by zones of from 25 to 50 miles each.

In the first zone of 50 miles the rate for the round trip will be 3 cents a mile.

From 51 to 100 miles, 2¾ cents per mile.

From 101 to 150 miles, 2½ cents per mile.

From 151 to 200 miles, 2¼ cents per mile.

From 201 to 275 miles, 2 cents per mile, with 50 cents added.

From 276 to 300 miles, 2 cents per mile, with 75 cents added.

From 301 to 350 miles, 2 cents per mile, with $1.50 added.

The fare, however, is in no instance to exceed 80 per cent. of the rate one way, on the zones from 201 to 350 miles.

For military companies and bands in uniform, of 25 or more, the rate will be two cents a mile, plus arbitrary, for the round trip. The same rate applies to schools, when accompanied by teachers. These rates limit the use of tickets to seven days after the date of issue.

A rate of one cent per mile, each way, short line mileage, plus arbitrary, for the Association of Confederate Veterans, whose annual reunion will be held in Nashville, June 22, 23 and 24, has been agreed upon.

The rates at hotels, restaurants and boarding houses are the lowest ever offered; and for meals, in numbers of instances, the price has been reduced from 20 to 25 per cent., and good living was never cheaper anywhere. The good people of Nashville have profited by the grave mistakes made at Atlanta and Chicago, and the prevailing sentiment is to keep the people here and induce them to come again, and not to permit them to go home dissatisfied and disgusted. There is no danger of anything running short; the supply whence resources are drawn is unlimited, and the adjoining territory is so rich in all the good things of earth that there will be no appreciable diminution in the stock on hand.

SHE BET A KISS.

But Took a Mean Advantage When She Lost the Wager.

"Why do you seem to try to avoid Miss Sweet?" asked the man with the cigar. "Only a week ago you were devoted to her."

The man with the cigarette scowled.

"Don't speak of her," he said. "She is the most aggravating, underhanded and designing girl that ever walked the earth."

"What has she done?"

"Oh, she hasn't done a thing but play a regular confidence game on me," returned the man with the cigarette. "You see, we made a bet."

"Yes."

"I bet a box of candy against a kiss on what was practically a certainty in my favor, and she knew that there wasn't one chance in a thousand of my losing."

"I see. The inference being—"

"The inference being," said the man with the cigarette, with emphasis, "that she would a little rather lose the bet than win it. Naturally I was considerably elated, but to avoid any possible mistake I made her promise that she would surely pay if she lost and not try to get out of it on any technicality."

"And she agreed?"

"Promised faithfully—in fact, seemed offended to think that I had deemed it necessary to exact such a promise; said she was a girl of her word and whatever she promised she would do. And then I won the bet."

"Yes—and she?"

"Well, she kept out of my way for a while, so that I had no chance to collect, but finally I caught her and asked her if she intended to pay the bet."

"'Pay it!' she cried. 'Why, I've already paid it.'

"'I've never received that kiss,' I asserted.

"'Then you've no one but your sister to blame,' she answered. 'I gave it to her to give you.'"

The man with the cigar gave a low whistle.

"That was a mean trick," he admitted.

"But that wasn't the worst of it," continued the man with the cigarette. "It knocked me out so that I hadn't a word to say, and the next day she told my sister that she didn't think much of a man who hadn't gumption to collect a kiss that he had fairly won. I tell you, a woman is the most aggavating and contradictory thing that was ever sent to torture man."—Chicago Post.

Had Seen Worse.

A story that has never been in print and is worth handing down to posterity relates to a reception some years ago at the dwelling of a social magnate in an eastern city. It was attended by several persons of distinction.

During the evening one of the guests, a gentleman with a poor memory for faces and a little near-sighted, took the host aside and spoke to him in a confidential whisper.

"You see that tall man over there near that vase of flowers?" he said.

"Yes," replied the host.

"I was talking to him a few minutes ago about the terribly cold weather I had experienced out in Iowa in the winter of 1863, and he yawned in my face."

"Don't you know who he is?"

"No."

"That's Dr. Nansen, the Arctic explorer."—Youth's Companion.

No Poetry About Him.

They paused at the ruined wall of the old hacienda. The sun was declining. The night wind drearily whistled in the valley below.

Suddenly a mournful hee-haw smote upon the shuddering air.

The young girl shivered and drew her scarf about her.

"How eerie that sounds," she murmured.

"Eary?" he repeated, wonderingly. Then he quickly added: "Yes, it's a donkey, all right!"

And the romantic young girl turned away with a stifled sob.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

—Argentina's population, according to the census recently taken, is 4,090,000; nearly double its population in 1869, the date of the first census. The city of Buenos Ayres has 663,850 inhabitants.

—It is not uncommon in Switzerland to feed horses on bread; while some people in England frequently regale their steeds with a beefsteak.

MEASUREMENTS OF MEN.

Work Done in This Line by Dr. Sargent, of Harvard.

He Has Made Anthropometry an Exact Science—A Complete Tabular Review of Man from Head to Foot.

[Special Boston Letter.]

Anthropometry is man-measurement. It is a modern science. It began some 50 or 60 years ago with the measurement of recruits for the European armies, and within the last two decades, when our American colleges took up the study, an exact and complete scientific system has developed. Detailed measurements of the human body, limb for limb, organ for organ, are taken, and the results of these data, gathered from thousands and thousands of human beings, are compiled into elaborate statistics. From these we get a

ANTHROPOMETRIC MEASUREMENT.

mass of interesting information, physical characteristics of the average man, normal and abnormal variations and differences of strength, girth or length of limb, comparative tables by sex, race or occupation, the total strength tests of modern Sandows—all these and many other data of interest and value are collected.

Aside from thus satisfying the mere curiosity of athletic enthusiasts, anthropometry is of great practical value, both as a branch of anthropology, or the study of the human species, and also as a guide to scientific systems of physical training.

It was with the latter end in view that Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, now director of the Hemenway gymnasium at Harvard university, undertook some 25 years ago to elaborate a detailed scheme of anthropometric measurements. In place of the few crude and thoroughly unreliable records of army officers, Dr. Sargent constructed a complete tabular view of the genus homo from head to foot, and he proceeded to take his measurements with such fastidious care and upon such a multitude of subjects that the practical deductions derived therefrom would be accepted as conclusive.

Dr. Sargent began his work at Bowdoin in '69; from '72-'78 he was at Yale, and since 1880 he has been at Harvard university. In the course of these years he has gathered and placed on record the measurements of thousands and tens of thousands of students, some thick, some thin, lean, fat, short and tall, athletic and puny. The sum total of such a mass of statistics gives the investigator almost the exact figures for the average physical characteristics of American manhood at a certain age. Each individual also by reference to the statistics is enabled to see just on what side of the fence he stands; whether his arms are shorter than the average, and to what degree; whether his lung capacity exceeds the normal, etc., etc.

The system devised by Dr. Sargent spread to other colleges. Students are now measured, I understand, in every eastern institution, while in the west many schools are beginning to introduce work along that line. There is also quite a demand among Y. M. C. A. associations, athletic clubs and turning societies for anthropometric apparatus. A series of measurements was recently taken in New York state penal institutions and insane asylums, where a surprising correspondence of mental and moral with physical characteristics was shown. In England the great labor agitation back in '73 stimulated a coterie of learned investigators, who called themselves the "Anthropometric Committee of the British Society for the Advancement of Science," to undertake a large number of comparative measurements upon people in all walks of life. It was shown that the better classes averaged 3½ inches taller than the poorer, and, again, various mental and moral defects were traced to physical failings.

As a result a great impetus was given to the modern movement of organized charity; and it may be confidently asserted that factory inspection and compulsory shortening of the number of hours of labor resulted in many cases directly from the disclosures made by the anthropometric committee.

Medical science has derived much information of value from anthropometry. As the great mass of carefully collected evidence accumulated, physicians became enabled to rely with confidence upon facts which previously they had scarcely accepted. For one the growth of the human being from childhood has been watched, and the needs at different stages of development, the defects most liable to appear at each period, etc., are now better known than ever before. The particular dangers also of every kind of employment have been ascertained, so that the physician is enabled to guard against these. No little has been accomplished in the way of showing with double emphasis the great danger that lies in certain habits of living, if not directly to the public at least to the medical world. For example, it was shown that by a contraction of woman's waist of one inch the heart beat was raised to 168 beats per minute, which is eight beats beyond the danger limits set in athletic training. In fact it is claimed that as a result of anthropometric study many college girls have so realized the viciousness of tight lacing that the custom is rapidly losing many of its devotees.

The comparative development of the sexes has also been accurately traced. The first five years of both boys and girls are found to be those of the most rapid growth. During the following five years boys grow more rapidly, but girls gain later and are actually taller from the 11th to the 14th year. Women stop growing at 20 while men do not reach their full height till 23 or sometimes 30. The records of anthropometry have furnished much more information of interest. For example the curious fact that light complexioned people are more easily subject to disease than others is said to have been verified. Inherent weaknesses of the body and the tendencies to disease, geographically, ethnologically and otherwise considered, have been studied with inductive accuracy and completeness as was never dreamt of 15 and 20 years ago. In fact every branch of medical science has been furnished with newly discovered facts to prove or disprove the mere speculations with which practitioners had been forced to content themselves. "On this very subject of measurements," Dr. Sargent remarked to me about a month ago, "there were all sorts of theories. Some one suggested a scheme of measuring the whole body by the thumb; there were long and learned arguments as to whether any exact proportions between the length of the thumb and of other parts of the body would hold, but it never seemed to occur to people to undertake the actual measurements. To-day when we want to make sure of some medical theory we get at the bare facts, we undertake the actual measurements and aim to make them so accurate that scientists may be perfectly safe in basing any deductions upon the results."

As a means to the fostering of athletics, especially of college athletics, anthropometry has been of inestimable value. In the first place physical instructors have learned to judge with accuracy every pupil's condition. They no longer rely upon mere opinion or guess work, but by actual measurement and strength tests, with apparatus and by comparison with the statistics before them, they learn precisely in what respects the boy or man in their care is equal to, in what respects a superior to the average or normal. Furthermore anthropometry has shown that the tendency among athletes to develop exclusively those functions in which they already excel while failing to cultivate the rest of the body is positively dangerous. It is in fact often the real cause of that uncanny reputation for being subject to heart troubles and other ills which attaches to many of the greatest athletes. By a modern scientific system of athletic training all this is obviated when a man's measurements have been taken and his de-

A WELL-PROPORTIONED ATHLETE.

ficiencies ascertained, certain athletic exercise is first prescribed for his weaker organs, as one might prescribe quinine or diet. Then, and not till then, comes the time to develop the record-breaker's particular powers. The measurements are of further value to athletes, inasmuch as they give each individual a chance to trace his development in the course of a season's training and to compare his progress with the work of others. Incidentally an interesting feature is the so-called total strength record. This is an honor held by the college man who can make the highest record for strength measurements. At the present time Lovering, of Harvard, holds the record, with Arthur Hawks second.

In making the measurements the most delicate apparatus is required. Special instruments are made to test the lifting and pulling strength; huge calipers are used, and for measurement of length and breadths there is a wooden rod lined with metal and holding two other rods perpendicular to it.

E. T. GUNDLACH.

Boas of blossoms are being worn with the flower-decked hats.