



EXPOSITION LETTER

An Instructive Description of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha, Midway in All Its Glory.

Exposition Grounds, Omaha, Neb., July 20, 1898.—No visitor to the exposition should, under any consideration, miss a view of the south portion of the Bluff Tract. The state buildings, tastefully grouped around the immense Horticultural building; the grass and shade trees, and gravel walks make a beauty spot that is becoming famous. On a hot afternoon this is a very popular place. The dazzling whiteness of the buildings of the Main Court is absent, and the peculiar noises of the midway are only an echo. With the fresh breezes from the river, and the view of the Iowa bluffs in the distance, this is a delightful spot for a rest. The Nebraska building with its many comfortable settees and chairs scattered throughout the rooms is the most popular haven of rest. The employees (fifteen in number) spare no pains to make the guests think that they are welcome. The Nebraska sod house, an annex to the Nebraska building, with Mrs. Bowser in charge as hostess, serves as an inn where refreshments are served in typical western style. It was, indeed, a happy thought when Mrs. Bowser suggested the "sod house" to the Nebraska commission. Nothing could demonstrate the development of the west better than a comparison of the sod house on the exposition grounds with the magnificent buildings on every hand.

Phinney's United States band commenced a five week's engagement at the exposition on Wednesday of last week. This is a reorganization of the Iowa state band that made such a hit at the world's fair in 1893. The band is made up of forty-five members, every one of whom was compelled to undergo a severe examination to establish his merit. There is no doubt that it is a superior organization in every way and that its daily musical programs will be much enjoyed by visitors to the exposition.

Two well known young people identified with the midway were married in the east car of the Giant See-Saw, 235 feet above the surface of the earth one day last week.

Starting from the south viaduct over Sherman avenue, the first of the attractions on the East Midway as the visitor turns his face to the north to see the sights, is the "Dancing Girl Illusion." The Dancing Girl and Rider Haggard's "She" on the East Midway are two illusions that appear to be inexplicable. No mirrors are used but the effect is astonishing. They are well worth seeing, and those who have seen them will bear witness to their worth.

The Moorish Palace comes next and will be well remembered by visitors at the world's fair. The tableaux are perfect, and some of the pictures are calculated to cause horrible dreams. Some touching stories are told by the pictures presented, and an hour in the palace is an education. One of the best temperance sermons ever delivered may be found in two scenes presented here. The chamber of horrors is really horrible, but it is wonderfully fascinating.

On the other side of the street is the Onyx Sods Fountain, the largest soda fountain ever built.

Next in line is the German village. The buildings are true representations of some of the most famous and historical structures in the German empire. This applies especially to the "Bratwurst Floecklein," the famous inn of Nuremberg, which was built hundreds of years ago.

Mr. Stephen von Szinuyey, a gentleman of wide reputation as a journalist, author and traveler, favorably known in this country as well as in many parts of Europe, is manager of the "Deutsches Dorf."

Across the way are two displays, the "Flying Girl" and the Mystic Maze. The Flying Lady is one of the most mysterious as well as one of the prettiest exhibitions ever offered in the west. A beautiful young lady appears to be flying through space, and while floating through the air converses with

the spectators. The illusion is so perfect that it is difficult to realize that it is an illusion. This attraction is rapidly securing the patronage its merits deserve, and from now on should be one of the best patronized on the Midway.

The Mystic Maze continues to attract crowds. The sensation of seeing one's self approach from a dozen different directions is not to be described. The man deficit in the sense of location has a hard experience in the maze, but after all it is a pleasant one.

The big rock on the east side of the roadway is the "Devil's Dance," consisting of the dance, singing and a grand spectacular of pleasing ladies. The effects of the water turning into fire, electrical storm, and apparently natural water fall is certainly beautiful and realistic and a pleasant remembrance to the visitor. It is a strictly legitimate and artistic performance and is particularly interesting to the ladies who visit the exposition. Theodore A. Welsh is the manager and Ross Gelfellan musical director. Dr. O. M. Crosby the best "speiler" on the Midway is engaged on the concession.

Following up on the west come the Bohemian Inn, the Temple of Palmistry and the Log Cabin Bean-house, which sufficiently explain themselves, and the Streets of Cairo, perhaps the most famous of all Midway attractions at the world's fair.

The Streets of Cairo continue to attract great crowds. The camels and donkeys and dancing girls and the Turkish marriage ceremony never grow tiresome. Everybody entering the exposition grounds sooner or later visits the Streets of Cairo.

Crossing the great north viaduct to the West Midway, the Giant See-Saw looms into view. This monstrous mechanical structure takes the place occupied by the famous Ferris Wheel at Chicago. Passing this the visitor comes to the "Idols of Art." This is a display of "living pictures" which all will want to see. The building in which the display is given is in the form of a hideous dragon with eyes of rolling balls of fire, the entrance being through the mouth of the monster. The spectacular features of this structure are of no mean order.

Continuing up the North Midway the "Shooting the Chutes" contrivance is very prominent on the left. When you arrive on West Midway don't do a thing until you have shot the chutes. It's great sport. Shooting down the incline, with water splashing on all sides and then bouncing over the surface of the miniature lake—well if you shoot the chutes once you will shoot them every day.

Next comes the "Fall of Babylon" which was opened up to the public first last week. It is the wonder of the Midway and sets sightseers wild with admiration. When this picture was first exhibited in Paris it created the most intense excitement, and great throngs collected before it day after day. It won for the artist the ribbon of the Legion of Honor. It was at once declared to be the most ambitious and successful work of a modern painter. It represents the great sculptured hall of the royal palace of Belshazzar, on the morning after a night given up to the wildest and most extravagant bacchanalian feasting and debauchery.

Across the way is the Wild West performances, which are growing better every day, though they have been exceptionally good from the start. Visitors from the east find in it a source of historical information, and we of the west find in it reminders of days gone by. The Wild West is a clever exhibition.

Next is the cyclorama of the great naval fight between the Monitor and the Merrimac produced at a cost of \$80,000.

On the left the visitor comes to the living doll, a wonderful little lady only twenty-six inches high. Chiquita continues to entertain her hosts of friends, for all who see the dainty little bit of humanity become her friends. Her charming personality, her vivacity and her womanly ways endear her to the hearts of all.

Following is Edison's Vitascope showing moving pictures, reproducing the bombardment of Matanzas. It is a

splendid show and deserves liberal patronage. It gives in detail the full story of one of the triumphs of the American navy, and will never be forgotten by a spectator.

Across the way is Pabst on the Midway, which is growing in popularity. The clever vaudeville performances and the delightful entertainment provided, have combined to make this resort a success.

On the south side following will be found the Hagenback wild animal show, which continues to delight large audiences, and the menagerie, which is better than that carried by the average circus, is a never failing source of amusement. An unusual feature of the menagerie is a number of Omaha born lions and other animals. Several litters have been born since the show opened here, and with the exception of the leopard's babies, all the little ones are fat and saucy and hearty. In the ring some wonderful exhibitions of animal intelligence and human daring are presented.

Opposite Hagenbacks will be found an Ostrich farm containing sixty-two full grown birds weighing 275 pounds each and twenty-three chicks. These birds are from South Pasadena, Cal., ostrich farm which is owned by Messrs. Cavston & Cockburn. This is a great feature for all to visit.

Next on the left the Chinese theatre continues to afford amusement to large throngs and each performance is greeted by crowded houses. The very oddity of some of the numbers makes them attractive. To one used to the management of American stages the sight of actors and actresses peeping through curtains, sauntering across the stage and bearing off stage accessories while the play is in progress is delightfully funny. The jugglers are wonderfully proficient and the athletes are the best in their class. The little Chinese youngsters are never failing sources of delight for the ladies and children.

Across from the celestial town is the Old Plantation, where pickaninnies and other southern darkies may be seen as if on their native hearth. The old plantation attracts the crowds. The darkies are all from the sunny south and a number of them took their first railroad ride when they boarded the train for Omaha. They enter into the performance with old time abandon, and the result is a clever exhibition.

Tom Hoctor's Dog Show, the only dogs allowed on the grounds, the Haunted Swing, and a representation of the sinking of the Maine, are the last of the line on the south side of the street, and across the way are the Streets of All Nations, a veritable glimpse into the Orient. Both proprietor and manager of the Streets of All Nations, Messrs. Gaston Akoun and Khalil E. Neimy have exhibited to the public a realistic representation of the life and manners of several nations surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. The scenes and performances together with the costumes and customs of the people living and participating in the show, are so original that a visitor would soon, after walking through the entrance to the Streets of All Nations, imagine being carried away several thousands of miles to the regions of biblical history and old glory. In fact the Streets of All Nations is a city by itself, with its beautiful buildings, rich bazaars, camels and donkeys ridden by visitors all around the place adding considerably to the jollification peculiar to the Streets of All Nations. The theatre of this place is the best vaudeville theatre in the country in every respect especially as a novelty. In one word a visitor to the Trans-Mississippi Exposition must visit the Streets of All Nations or else his story about the exposition is of no interest whatever.

On the south, opposite the Streets of All Nations is the Mining Tunnel, a typical western exhibit.

Also opposite the Streets of All Nations is the Magic Garden, the very place for the young married man to take his mother-in-law, that is, should he desire to lose her. This garden is simply beautiful. It is laid out in walks, upon each side of which is immense banks of handsome flowers. A person who wanders through these walks without a guide will soon discover

er that he is lost and it will be an impossibility to return to the entrance or find your way out until a guide is called who will direct you to the outside.

Another new feature which has been added to the places of amusement is the Whaleback, or what the little folks call "a life on the ocean wave." It is constructed somewhat on the same principle as a merry-go-round, only the motion gives one the sensation of rising and falling over large waves.

There are new attractions in the way of amusements being added to the Midway every day, one of the greatest of which will be in full sway in the course of ten days is the Indian Congress, which will consist of about six hundred Indians. Every tribe in the United States will be represented, in numbers from six to thirty.

Across the Boulevard connecting the Main Court with the North tract is the Miniature railway, where the smallest locomotive in the world draws tiny cars; the covered cars being so small that only children can sit in them. Other attractions on this part of the ground are the Oregon Wonder Horses with long manes and tails; the New England Colony; the State of Maine log cabin bean house; hot roast beef sandwiches, the beef being roasted before a fire of redhot coals in full view of all passersby.

The camera obscura on the west side is one of the most powerful of all the Midway features. It consists of an arrangement of lenses by which a picture of the varied forms of life on the two Midways is thrown on a focus table, thus enabling the visitor to take in the whole Midway at one glance.

The prices of admission to the places of amusement are from ten cents to twenty-five cents with the exception of one, and that is the Moorish Palace where the admission is fifty cents, and the sights seen there are well worth the price asked.

This completes the tour of the Midway and leaves the visitor in front of the Administration Arch at the center of the Main court, with the general offices of the exposition on the right and the international hall on the left.

Will later give you a description of some of the large department exhibits.

A. J. T.

STATE LINE.

A good rain would be welcome.

Mr. Arrants is harvesting this week. Quite a number of the young people spent Sunday at T. W. Cline's.

Mrs. Wanamaker has returned from being away to have a cancer removed.

Mr. Davis is hauling rock and lumber. He had the old house moved back from the building place and is living in it.

Quite a number of the Woman's Foreign Missionary society women gathered at the church Friday in a body for a carpet rag sewing. Fifty yards are being made for the Alaska mission.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Osborn returned to their home in Osborne county last Monday. They were here to attend the infair supper given to Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Dillon. Mrs. Osborn is a sister of Mrs. Dillon.

Minnie Pickett, the lady that went from here five years ago as a missionary to Japan, is now sailing homeward. She will be at North Branch quarterly meeting in August. Everyone can only wish her a safe journey.

Alva Stanton started Friday for Washington academy. He is to canvas for the school until it commences when he will take his place as one of the faculty. He was a member of the graduating class of '98 at the North Branch academy.

Liver Complaints and Nervousness Cured.

A torpid liver always produces dullness, irritability, etc. You are all clogged up and feel despondent. Perhaps you have treated with physicians or tried some other recommended medicine without benefit. All that is no argument against "Dr. Fenner's Blood and Liver Remedy and Nerve Tonic," which we insist will cure nervousness and liver complaints. If not satisfied after using one bottle your money will be refunded by C. L. Cotting.

PRESENT DAY THOUGHTS.

BY G. GROSVENOR DAWE.

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It is well for us who feel that we are right in favoring international arbitration, to remember that it is bound to encounter stubborn opposition. Yet this is only part of the conflict that has always been waged and whose issues are progress. On the one side the children of dawning light have ever favored moving out of the old ways into the new, on the other side has been the cry of the conservative "Our fathers did not do so; we will follow in their steps." And so between the play of progressiveness and reaction there has been gradual and lasting movement forward. Opposition should be welcomed as serving to clarify thought in regard to our belief and therefore as holding down the desire for change to those advances that are feasible and wise.

In order to be properly patient with opposition we must remember that the world has passed through a number of stages of development; and that there always lay over into the later some who belong to the earlier ones. Thus, though the men who rejoice in slaughter live under the peaceful benefits of our modern civilization, yet they have hearts dwelling back in the time when life was lightly esteemed, when the glory of strength was not to restrain oneself but to crush the weak, when the weak had no rights save, as it were to gnaw discarded bones beneath the tables of the muscular.

In relation to war these dwellers in past ages use all sorts of specious arguments to conceal their lack of progress. They say that war brings out fine qualities, which at once confirms our belief regarding the backwardness of these men, for the world has grown towards the fineness of vision that sees heroism in the undramatic, unpraised doing of duty; in the patient love of burdened mothers; in the silent battlefields of the heart where fights with bad impulses are waged. Compared with these things the heroism of war is purely occasional and casual. No praise is too high for such an incident as the Hobson one at Santiago, but such incidents multiplied a hundred fold would not equal the heroism of daily life that any country-side or city could show.

These opponents of ours also say that war has always been and therefore always will be. This is an inconclusive argument. The eternal hills were here before us, but it is the glory of man to change the face of nature to suit his needs. The hills he can rend, the valleys he can fill, the rivers he can turn. Infantile ignorance always has been equally dense, but it is the crown of our race that a child mind starting now as feebly as that of any ante-diluvian infant, in a few years can stand on the apex of human thought. Darkness always has been, but by fat, by candles, by lamps, by gas, by electricity have we successfully conquered it and turned its hours into use and stimulus. The thing that always has been has no promise of always being of lasting and essential value; else would these legs of ours still remain our only method of progression. So may we hope to dare that war will be purely transitory in its benefit. On the other hand I would not insist that arbitration would be sure to usher in a new heaven and a new earth. It would simply prove another one of the slow but permanent steps by which the race has climbed away from the bone-splitting savagery of the cave-dweller towards the standard of a creature that is upright, thoughtful, regardful of others.

Another most common and shallow argument in favor of war is that it clears off surplus population and thus eases up some of the competition of life. There are several strong replies to this uncompassionate view of the matter. First let us say that no civilized nation selects the tramp or aged element to fight its battles. In our own case, particularly, instead of the army

being made up even of off-scourings of the population, it is in its entirety a carefully selected body from wanks of life that are lucrative. If therefore in any nation the proof of eased competition should be forthcoming surely it should be in ours. Yet granting that a series of disasters, quite beyond all imagining, should remove 50,000 men a year it would be solely one fourteen-hundredth of the whole and therefore purely infinitesimal in its influence upon the crowded and strained conditions of life. Let it be understood, however, that instead of conditions being rendered easier for those who remain, the real fact would be that upon the toiler is placed a new class of non-producer to sustain. Our war budget will amount almost to \$1,000,000 a day. The total of this huge sum will be cheerfully met by our enlightened teaching, because we are by force teaching humanity to a nation that is unapproachable by modern thought; but our cheerfulness does not conjure away the burden of meeting such an expenditure. It is a very rare one that effects even the smallest of us. And to the extent to which we each feel it, to that extent does an army make it harder for us to live. Last but not least, these men who talk so flippantly of surplus population ever wriggle or attempt to wriggle when asked to explain what they mean by the term. One thing about the argument is reasonably clear; that the surplusage is always in the family of another man. So long as mother-hearts can love; so long as father-love is strong there will never be a conscious willingness to have the family group reduced; and thus are we led to understand the selfish supremacy of these friends of fighting who calmly welcome the reduction of a neighbor's household.

In brief, arbitration and civilization are alike in meaning, "the greatest good for the greatest number." Arbitration has involved in it the deepest regard for the mass of a nation. In the Dark Ages the whims of choleric rulers were the arbiters of national fate. We, the people with new hopes and new ideals, have changed all that; and we protest against any backward steps.

ECKLEY.

W. S. Orr was in Blue Hill Monday. Thos. Finney is visiting a sister in Iowa.

L. D. Wells of Red Cloud is here this week helping to care for his small grain.

George Warner and family visited with Mrs. D. H. Robinson one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Buster of North Branch, Kansas, visited relatives here last week.

Mrs. Carrie Vance and children of Hastings were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Ogilvie last week.

Mrs. Minnie Stoner of Juniata, who was called here by the death of her brother, returned to her home Monday. John Howard and sister and Miss Ora Thompson spent Saturday and Sunday with friends in Nuckolls county.

Earl, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Motter, died Saturday morning July 16, of membranous croup. Funeral services were held at the church Sunday morning.

Mrs. John Ogilvie and Mrs. Ossie Britton were thrown from a buggy on Monday morning, caused by the team becoming frightened at some rubbish by the roadside. Neither of them were injured.

Champion Shot of the World.

Miss Annie Oakley writes: "Myself and many of the Buffalo Bill Wild West Co. have given Allen's Foot Ease the powder to shake into the shoes, a most thorough trial, and it does all it is not more than you claim." It instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. Allen's foot ease is a certain cure for hot, aching, nervous or sweating feet. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores, 25c. Sample sent free. Address Allen S. Olmstead, LeRoy, New York.