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HOTELS.

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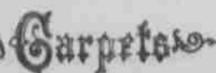
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Literary.

A BIG BALL.

OF the events which took place at Chicago during the Knights Templar Triennial Conclave last August the *Grande Reception Musicale et Dnasante* at the Exposition building, was next to the procession in the morning, probably the biggest show and certainly the most uncomfortable of all. Tickets of admission for two hundred thousand had been issued,—altogether more than could come into the hall. As early as six o'clock the crowd began to gather around the entrances and by dark the bustle and jam was furious.

By nine there were nearly thirty thousand people inside the great auditorium, eddying to and fro, drifting aimlessly around, unable to obtain seats and panting for air. The windows were open only here and there, where somebody donated a cane to hold them up. The thirty thousand gallons of lemonade *frappe* that was made for free distribution was speedily swallowed and no water could be had.

As to speech making,—nobody knew there was any,—although the orators strained their tiny voices to the utmost.

Then the dancing, to which we had looked forward with such great expectations, was not begun until very late, and it was attempted only with the greatest bravery. The music, in truth, was heavenly, and it seemed a great pity that its strains could not be more comfortably enjoyed.

Outside the building, down Michigan avenue, the crowd was quite past numbering. Twenty thousand or more were pressing against the exhausted door keepers and clamoring for admittance. The black tickets printed in gold had undoubtedly been counterfeited by thousands and retailed at high prices.

At ten o'clock the doors were shut to. The building could hold no more. Fainting ladies were carried out by side exits. Strong men were overcome. One promenade around the whole length of the room,—about twelve hundred feet in all,—was enough to make a chair appear a very desirable article. Guests had to fight and battle with the crowd to get in, and then they had to fight and battle to get out.

It was awful.

The trouble was just this. It seemed that every counter jumper in the city had, by hook or crook, come in good possession of a ticket. Of course these came to the ball very early and helped fill up the room. The really credited guests did not arrive until a more fashionable hour, and as soon as they had alighted from their carriages they found themselves tossed about in a mad sea of human waves which surged up against the walls of the

mammoth building which it could not penetrate.

The scene upon the floor was strange and amazing. From the gallery it was brilliant and wonderful. Myriads of gas jets softened by globes of rainbow colors; beautiful decorations hung from pillars, posts and wall; Knights Templar, thousands of them, in their silver and gold uniforms; handsomely dressed ladies and pretty girls; little jets of cologne water under the galleries and the great fountain in the center, banked with flowers, throwing its silvery stream to the dome, and falling back in iridescent mist upon the swans swimming lazily in the basin below.

Such was the largest ball ever given in America. An incomprehensible kaleidoscope, made up of living human parts, whose drifting changes bewildered the observer and moved him to speculative dreams upon the number of people in the world, who they are and where they all come from.

GARNET.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

PEOPLE once seized with an attack of theory, rarely recover. Some persons have a theory about students' diet. They are impressed with an idea that the less a student eats, the more he can study. Their theory is no doubt a good one, although they never practice it themselves. It is difficult for one advanced in years to assume new habits of life. Some of the more liberal allow a little *oat meal* and *mush*. Others a soft boiled egg once in twenty-four hours. One extremist has advocated a system of pneumatic tubes from students' rooms to a central office, through which should be transmitted the odor of cooking victuals. The amount paid to be regulated by the length of time and character of the odors which are enjoyed. The bill of fare would be something as follows: Soup, five minutes. Veal with dressing, seven minutes. Coffee, three min. Codfish, two seconds. Coconut Pudding, 1 hr. 59 min. 58 seconds. The time would be extended 10 per cent to parties having slight colds and 20 per cent for severe colds. Recognizing great variation in size and capacity of nasal organs, an instrument called the *noseometer* has been devised, which gave very satisfactory results, but unfortunately the instrument was entirely destroyed while experimenting on one of the class of '81, who wantonly blew his nose.

Some of these theorists visiting the Dormitory perceived that the students there were daily overloading their stomachs with too rich food. To test the matter four gallons of soup were taken to Prof. Aughey who confirmed their opinions. The result was as follows. [1] Three

small and emaciated beans, evidently used for soup before. [2] Salt, good quality, in pieces varying from the size of a quails egg, easily visible to the naked eye. [3] Pepper, frequent, but bearing close resemblance to that used in drying English currants. There were also traces of albumen. The presence of this very puzzling substance can only be accounted for on the hypothesis that some meat had been boiled in the soup. They found no fault with the potatoes which happened at the time to be served in the form known as "Boston Chips." The coffee was thought too strong, and they recommended that it be reduced from its present semi-transparent shade to one of invisible blue.

COMMUNICATED.

COLLEGE REMEMBRANCES.

The period that a young man or woman spends in passing through a college course is eventful in more than one respect. The actual amount of facts that may be gathered together should be made the last consideration in such a course of training.

The influence upon the character, the development into strong and rugged manhood, into lovely and pure womanhood, ought to be the first consideration that a college curriculum arrives at. The characters of many of America's greatest statesmen and orators contain the reflex of the men who had the guidance and care of their earlier years. To many a one, rewarded for their years of labor by national fame, there is no more pleasing, more satisfying recollection than that of their four years intercourse with the amiable and noble men they associated with in the youthful ardor of a new pursuit. The reminiscences of a student escapade, the bold tricks which escaped detection and a well merited punishment, may often be recalled in an exultant, boastful manner, but the moment the relations of teacher and taught are mentioned, the change of manner and tone shows that underneath the wild exterior lies a soul of true, noble qualities. This feeling of respect for the ones who have labored so long for them, is the most gratifying result that can be worked out, as a part of the frequently too small reward given to these noble and disinterested men, men who have in view only the diffusion of knowledge, the improvement of those committed to their care.

When such feelings of reverence are entertained for the "Alma Mater," by a young man, his future success will be his most constant care, his memory his most potent restraint and trusted guide. *