

[From our Special Correspondent.]

The Centennial Exposition.

If the Main Building does not in wealth of contents and beauty surpass even the fabled riches of the ancients it at least comes close to it. There is no building in this country, nor in any other that we know of, that ever contained so many beautiful articles of art and nature, nor that had anything like the wealth stored in it that this building has. Amidst such an abundance of material and variety of subjects one is puzzled to know where to commence a description. Among the many great nations it would be difficult to say which excels. As we have already stated, to see the Main Building properly, requires many day's time. A superficial view may be taken in a day, but it is better to go into one department and study it thoroughly before going into its neighbors' territory, as there are many beautiful objects that would otherwise be passed by the casual observer. We will enter the building from the lower or East end and find ourselves in the United States Department and go into the Publishing Department with its innumerable books of all ages, styles of binding, and decoration. Parallel with it is to be seen a fine display of china and pottery. We next come to a collection of sculptured granite, from Vermont; crossing over to the right we find ourselves among the carpets and oilcloths of home manufacture. Our display in this line has astonished the foreigners at the wonderful progress we have made in this industry. Near by will be found calicos, silks, knit goods, dresses and ready made clothing, that will compete with any foreign nation. Fire arms, from the tiny pistol to the Gatlin gun, are to be seen beside the artisans tools. Then safes in every shape. To the left the workmanship of artificers in tin, brass, copper and iron. Then we have displays of soaps and perfumery, marble and slate mantels, paints and glass. Turning to the right we come to the pianos, organs, and furniture departments. As we near the centre transept, we start back in amazement at the untold wealth displayed before us. Jewelry of every design, precious stones of every kind are exposed to view. Sets ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000 are as numerous as "Lake George Diamonds" at some of the summer resorts of our Northern folks. Leaving this mine of wealth we turn to look at the display of Mexico and nearly fall over a chunk of silver worth \$72,000. All around are displayed the resources of that country, silks, carpets, linens, minerals, cereals, tobacco and cotton.

Another turn and we come to the only exhibit we have seen in the entire exhibition from North Carolina. An honor of no ordinary magnitude belongs to Wallace Bros., of Statesville, N. C., for one of the largest exhibitions of the Medicinal Plants of the State, that has ever been seen at any of the expositions; first is 650 pressed plants, giving their locality and time of flowering, the parts used medicinally, and their medical properties, besides some 300 varieties of the fruits of the above plants; 150 varieties of medical timber, showing each section of wood, bark, etc., besides 400 varieties of the crude materials taken from their general stock; also, Mosses, Ferns, and Botanic curiosities, the whole forming a beautiful display of the Materia Medica of the Old North State. From their courteous exhibitor, Mr. M. E. Hyams, I learned that new articles are constantly discovered in that State, and made available by the Pharmacists of the world. Such a novel display is creditable to this firm, and will give them a world wide fame, which they truly deserve. North Carolina can be proud of these enterprising gentlemen, who have spent a great deal of means and of time to get up this Medical exhibition, to their interest, and the interest and welfare of the State. Their sales last year exceeded one million eight hundred thousand pounds of Roots, Herbs, Barks, Seeds and Flowers, which has proved a large source of revenue to the State.

The Netherlands adjoin Mexico and make an excellent display of educational works, scientific instruments, laces, linens and some fine mother of pearl work which in our opinion excels the Japanese and Chinese handiwork. The show of carpets, oil cloths and fire arms is also good.

Next comes Brazil—and by the way, we have it on the authority of the President of the Brazilian Commission

that the Emperor Dom Pedro is not a Free Mason as claimed by some Masonic journals—and here we find innumerable articles to attract the eyes of our lady friends. The most beautiful birds and fans, made of feathers of every shade and color. Thousands of beautiful bugs made into sets of earrings, sleeve buttons and brooches for ladies. On all sides is displayed the wonderful resources of this far off land.

In Belgium we see magnificent carvings in wood, lace curtains at \$800, and fine linens. Belgium also shows a model school house with gymnasium attached. Turning to the West we find Switzerland and we see how her children are educated and her people employed. We are shown some very fine clocks, musical boxes, and watches so small as to be set in rings to be worn by fair hands, but all recommended as perfect time keepers.

Here we are in gay and showy France. As is to be expected France takes the palm of the show in the gay and frivolous, as well as the useful and ornamental. We find in her department silks of every shade and of every quality and price, velvets of the most costly grades. The latest styles of silk stockings embroidered in every conceivable pattern, shoes that are to be seen nowhere out of France, chemicals, clocks, jewelry, bronzes, china ware, and some of the handsomest specimens of Tapestry for floor and furniture coverings. One covering has over 3000 different shades in it.

We now approach the centre of the vast palace and turning to the right we are in the midst of Great Britain and her colonies and here we find the best exhibition of pottery, majolica and china ware in the Exposition. The exhibit of Sheffield steel, glass, furniture, cloths, linens and monumental iron work is deserving of notice. Her colonies send magnificent shawls and antique carvings from India, the products of her soil from Jamaica, woods, minerals and furs from Canada, while New South Wales and Victoria send their minerals, skins of animals, wool and *jac similes* of their fruits and birds.

We now come to Sweden and Norway and find a large number of effigies in wax, showing us how their people live and how they work. These two countries make a fine display of iron and steel and fair wood carving.

We now come to Italy. No such Mosaic work as we see here has ever been imported before into this country. The jewelry exhibit is unequalled. We see Cameos of the most exquisite workmanship, diamonds in every style of setting, a set of rubies valued at \$20,000. We also see some elegant specimens of terra cotta ware, wood carving and bronze work.

We are now near the North western entrance and will retrace our steps to the centre of the building and turning to the left we find ourselves in Germany. The first thing to attract our attention is the display from the Royal porcelain works of Berlin. Here are to be seen vases valued at from \$900 to \$5000 each. In the rear of these are the exhibits of silks, velvets, toys, mathematical instruments, chemicals, and a model school house. We also see how Germany conducted her army field hospitals and the wonderful progress made in ameliorating the condition of the wounded on the field of battle and in the hospital.

Next comes Austria and Hungary, who show pictures, wooden and willow ware, musical and scientific instruments, meerschau cut and carved into pipes and cigar holders, and amber in its crude and cut state—of the latter article we saw a chandelier valued at \$6,500 gold, with the duty added to the price.

We arrive at Spain and see how little she has progressed. We were shown some very fine articles in lace and fans, but everything seems to speak of age gone by.

Portugal has not finished her display. Denmark shows the handiwork of her people and many articles from the "icy shores" of Greenland.

In the Tuerian and Egyptian departments are shown their peculiar trappings for horse and camel and implements of war. Russias display of Malachite, furs, gold and bronzes astonish all visitors. The most curious departments in the exhibition are China and Japan, with their curious carvings antique bronzes and grotesque figures, silks and furniture. China shows a bedstead inlaid with ivory valued at \$9000 gold, duty added. D. J. K.

PEN AND SCISSORS.

.... Queen Victoria was 57 the 24th ult.
.... There are 96 English and 20 Scotch Lodges now a work in British India.

.... The acreage of cotton in the South this season is 9,508,000.

.... The New York Mercantile Library contains 163,458 volumes.

.... Grace Greenwood says an Indian is uglier than a red-headed man.

.... A heavy frost visited the locality of Milford, Pennsylvania, on the night of the 6th.

.... There are 70,000 children living on boats in England who receive no education.

.... Germany has requested Turkey to pay \$60,000 to the family of Consul Abbott.

.... Daniel Webster's estate, known as "Marsfield," was sold, last week, for \$5,500.

.... Spain has lost her Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Calatrara at the advanced age of ninety-three years.

.... The police of London aver that no crowds are so difficult to manage as those composed of fashionable ladies.

.... The Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company has carried over 300,000 people to and from the Centennial in its local trains.

.... A Texas man returned a napkin to a hotel waiter with thanks, saying his cold was not very bad.

.... Mrs Maxwell, of Colorado, has killed 200 bears. She's a queer woman; she doesn't like to be hugged.

.... Augusta claims that in her vicinity she can show the largest cotton mills in the South.

.... A disease resembling the epizootic has appeared among the cattle in many places in Maine.

.... In December of the present year, the Grand Lodge of South Carolina will hold its One Hundredth Annual Grand Communication.

.... As long ago as 1599, Butler, in *Dry's Dry Dinner*, wrote: "It is unseasonable and unwholesome, in all months, that have not an R in their name to eat an oyster."

.... The daughter of a wealthy Watertown (Conn) farmer has distinguished herself by raising eight little pigs on a bottle.

.... The grave diggers of Liverpool are on a strike, and the people of that city are determined to live as long as they can.

.... It is not every man that can be made a Mason. Last year 6,340 applicants were rejected in the Lodges under the jurisdiction of twenty-eight of the Grand Lodges in North America.

.... It is averred that Tupfield, Mass., has a goose 101 years old. She remembers when the Declaration of Independence was signed, and hissed the British when they evacuated Boston.

.... Lady Smith, widow of the late Sir James Edward Smith, President of the Linnaean Society, entered her one hundred and fourth year on the 11th of May, in perfect health.

.... At the last annual banquet of the Old Guard, in Paris, recently, there were only thirty-eight present. At the first banquet, twenty years ago, the soldiers numbered six hundred.

.... In the window of a shop in an obscure part of London is this announcement: "Goods removed, messages taken, carpets beaten, and poetry composed on any subject."

Mr. Nicholson, of Timmouh, Vt., went to a minister to get married, recently, only four days after his wife died, but the dominie wouldnt accomodate him.

.... In a violent thunder storm in Hemlock Hollow, Wayne county, Pa., Wm. Huff, while peeling bark, was struck by lightning and instantly killed. Several others were prostrated.

.... An exchange wants ladies to take off their hats in church. No, it wouldn't do without a new spring bonnet to look at a woman would have nothing to do but listen to the sermon.

.... The other day in Henderson county, Ill. a man named Herman Kickets kicked his five-year old son to death. The boys offence was firing a straw stack.

.... Pr f. Huxly says the horse is an evolved firm of the orolibus. But why didn't he tell us how to cure a balky horse, or quiet one when the traces break and he tries to climb into the buggy hind legs first.

.... A whirlwind at Salt Lake, the other day, lifted a hothouse, with its floral and vegetable contents, from its foundations, and carried it up into the air 500 feet above the city. When released it came down with a crash on an open lot.

.... The District Grand Lodge of China recently held its Annual Grand Communication and Festival. Following the ancient custom, the Brethren in a body attended Divine service at St. John's Cathedral, the Grand Chaplain preached the sermon.

.... The Boggett family in Bell county, Texas appears to have struck a streak of bad luck. One day last week Mr. Silas Boggett, Jr., was hunting and in climbing over a fence he accidentally discharged his gun, the load of shot entering his arm and shoulder. On the same day his grandmother, Mrs. Warren, was taking a walk, when a vicious cow attacked her throwing her down and breaking one of her legs, and the week before a daughter-in-law was burned to death.

Directory.

GRAND COUNCIL OF N. C.—John Nichols, of Raleigh, M. I. G. M.; D. W. Bain, Raleigh, G. Recorder.

GRAND CHAPTER OF N. C.—Thos. S. Keenan, Wilson, G. H. P.; D. W. Bain, Raleigh, G. Sect'y.

GRAND LODGE OF N. C.—Geo. W. Blount, Wilson, G. M.; D. W. Bain, Raleigh, G. Sect'y.

GREENSBORO COUNCIL No. 3, R. & S. M., Greensboro N. C.—Thos. J. Sloan, T. I. M.; S. E. Allen, Recorder.

Time of meeting: 4th Wednesday night of each month.

CHOHIZIN CHAPTER, No. 13, Greensboro, N. C.—Thos. J. Sloan, High Priest, J. N. Nelson, Secretary.

Time of meeting: 3rd Friday night of each month.

GREENSBORO, LODGE, 76, Greensboro, N. C.—S. C. Dodson, H. M. J. W. Dick, Secretary. Time of Regular Communication, First Saturday night of each month.

ELMWOOD LODGE, No. 246, Greensboro, N. C.—H. N. Snow, H. M.; S. E. Allen, Secretary.

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