THE METROPOLITAN FAIR.

The greatest and noblest charity ever projected in this, the Empire City of the Union, the Metropolitan Sanitary Fair, which, since its inauguration three weeks ago, has moved the generous impulses of New-Yorkers and commanded the undivided attention of our citizens in every walk of life, has at last passed away, and the immense work that it has accomplished can now be viewed with satisfaction, not only by our truly loyal and patriotic people both here and abroad, but also by those brave men whose name is Legion, who are now moving forward in serried ranks ready to sacrifice their lives for our country's welfare.

The loyal and enterprising ladies who have so generously given their services at great sacrifice to increase the receipts of the Fair, deserve the grateful thanks of this community. They are now relieved from the anxieties, duties, and responsibilities they so cheerfully assumed, and retire crowned with the benedictions of soldiers and seamen, and all patriotic men and women throughout the land. They have executed their self-imposed task with faultless fidelity, and will ever have cause to be proud of the noble work they have accomplished. Their names are written in starry syllables on the radiant roll of honor, and time, that beclouds the deeds of those who labor for personal aggrandizement, will give greater luster to their deeds of charity and patriotism. Two of their number, Mrs. Kirtland and Mrs. Field, have gone from their work to their reward, leaving the odor of sweet recollections of true loyalty and disinterested benevolence. Their profession and their practice, like the dove and its shadow, moved harmoniously, and the beautiful symmetry of their lives was crowned with a great and beneficent achievement.

It was emphatically the Ladies' Fair. They suggested the idea—they crystallized the idea into a deed, they appealed for contributions, they superintended the sales, gave grace and dignity to the exhibition, bestowed their time, their influence, and their money to promote the great charity, and entirely forgot themselves in the execution of the work which they had undertaken. For these loving labors the mothers and wives, sisters and daughters of the great Empire City, will be borne in precious remembrance, not alone in the camp, bivouac, and battle-field, but by every fireside throughout the loyal North now or hereafter to be represented in the armies of the Union.

With the performance of "Auld Long Syne" and "Home, Sweet Home," by the fine band which has been daily in attendance since the opening of the exhibition, and the "tattoo" by the drum corps of the 22d Regiment, N. Y. S. N. G., the immense throng of visitors, after many lingering looks, retired on Saturday evening at 10 o'clock, and the doors of the Great Metropolitan Sanitary Fair were soon after closed by order of the Executive Committee.

This being the last day of the Fair, the Fourteenth street and Union Buildings were uncomfortably crowded, every department being thronged with visitors. The removal of several of the stands which had been sold out afforded considerable room, though at times it was almost impossible to move from place to place. The Arms and Trophies, Curiosity Shop, Fire Department, Machinery Room, and Boat-Builders' Hall, all attracted attention. The Sewing-Machine Department, which we have heretofore inadvertently omitted to notice, has throughout the continuance of the Fair been well patronized. The machines presented by Wheeler & Wilson, Singer, Grover & Baker, Wilcox & Gibbs, Sloat, Pinkle & Lyon, and the Empire Company, have been exhibited by employes from each house, and the operations of each fully shown to the visitors. An admirable invention by Mr. D. Barnum, called the "self-sewer," has been exhibited by himself, and has elicited general notice. Several hundred of these simple little articles, which can be attached to any sewing-machine, were presented by Mr. B., and sold on the spot for the benefit of the Fair, by which $250 was realized. Its chief advantage is that it relieves both the back and eyes of operators on sewing-machines, as with it they may sit straight, and are not compelled to closely watch their work. The total contribution to the Fair from the Sewing-Machine Department will aggregate at least $10,000.

THE SWORD CONTEST.

The great sensation of the Fair—the "sword contest"—culminated on Saturday night, and resulted in Major-Gen. Grant being declared the victor. At 2 p. m., the books were closed, with a majority of 2,256 for McClellan. The ballot-box and the swords were then removed from the Arms and Trophies Department to the main hall, where the voting by ballot took place. The crowd was very great, and the excitement rapidly increased as the hour for closing the polls drew nigh. There was much loud and boisterous talking in the course of the evening by several rough-looking individuals, who proclaimed themselves the friends of "Little Mac," and said they wanted to see fair play; and only by the foresight of Inspector Leonard in stationing a force of 25 determined policemen about the stand was order preserved. The polls having been closed, the boxes and swords were taken by the police to the Armory in the building and placed in charge of the Committee, consisting of Wilson G. Hunt, Judge Daly, Wm. Kemble, J. Butler Wright, and Wm. H. Webb. Mr. Hunt was chosen Chairman. After arranging preliminaries, the ballots were taken out one by one, and duly registered. We append the names of the principal voters:

Name of Voter.	General's Name.	Amt. Con.
Justice	McClellan	$13
Peyton Brothers	Grant	50
Gabriel Kent	Grant	100
From non-commissioned officers and private 69th Regt., I. B., through F. J. Wall	McClellan	82
Henry Kingsley, aged 7 years	Grant	1
T. T. Buckley and others	Grant	25
A. H. Eaton	Grant	75
John H. Moore and others	McClellan	76
J. Buchanan	Grant	100
Matthews and others	McClellan	54
Hotchkiss Sons	Grant	500
Mrs. A. L. Hewitt	Grant	25
Gale Borden	Grant	200
Loyalist	McClellan	36
Wm. B. Mott	Grant	100
Miss C. Underwood	Grant	15
Winslow, Lanier & Co.	Grant	500
C. S. Stone	McClellan	100
F. L. Chapman, St. Louis	McClellan	25
Gospil and others	McClellan	6
Citizens of Olean, Pa., by F. L. Stowell and others	McClellan	70
Major Steinberger and others	McClellan	5
Dunne street	McClellan	5
E. H. Cuddy	Grant	25
Blank	McClellan	200
Mrs. Major Harkins	McClellan	1
R. C. Reed	Grant	10
C. A. Lockwood and others	Grant	10
Jacob Weeks	Grant	250
Denis Perkins & Co.	Grant	500
D. S. Ogden	Grant	10
Col. A. J. Johnson	McClellan	5
Godfrey and others	McClellan	25
W. C. Browning	McClellan	15
Wm. F. Story, Chicago Times	McClellan	245
S. F. Satterlee	McClellan	50
Anonymous	Grant	1
Justice	Fitz John Porter	5
Dygert	McClellan	65
Charles H. Lee	McClellan	50
John O'Hara	For his country	1
L. W. Kimball	McClellan	10
Citizens of Portland, Me.	McClellan	118
Mr. Belmont	McClellan	5
H. F. Hyatt & Brothers	Grant	17
C. P. S., Nevada City, Colorado	McClellan	100
Park Matheweon	Grant	56
John C. Keyser and others	McClellan	17
F. B. Mansell	Grant	75
Mrs. A. O. Mason	Grant	1
Citizens of Detroit	McClellan	400

The box containing the sealed votes, which had been deposited at Union Square, was next taken up and the packages examined. The principal votes were as follows:

Citizens of Detroit	McClellan	400
Loyal Men of New-York	Grant	2,007
Loyal New-Englander	Grant	3,000
Loyal Men of New-York	Grant	100
Mrs. James Gordon Bennett	McClellan	200
Loyal Men of New-York	Grant	1,000
Loyal Men of Chicago	Grant	825
E. F. Wheelwright for sundry persons	Grant	1,000
R. W. Twigg	Grant	20
Ed. Parton	McClellan	10
Loyal Men of New-York	Grant	10,000
J. Martinez, Union Bay	McClellan	1
Maria Conkling and Conkling family	Grant	5
G. C. Boniface	J. H. Hobt. Ward	1
Nelson Hough and others	McClellan	75
Miss A. L. Cheeseman	Grant	10
Blank	McClellan	100
J. C. Cheeseman	Grant	50
M. Cheeseman	Grant	25
Ada Webb	McClellan	1
Emma Webb	McClellan	1
W. Vernon, Jr.	McClellan	10
Boston Lady	Grant	50
James Lake	Grant	25
Mary Thompson of Bloomingdale	Grant	50
Blank, for the General never yet whipped—U. S. Grant		10

The votes were then counted, and announced by Mr. Hunt in the main hall, as follows:

Total vote	4,963	Gen. Grant	30,291
Gen. McClellan	14,509	Scattering	163
Grant's major ity	15,782		

Upon this announcement of the result, cheering and waving of handkerchiefs was commenced and continued without cessation for at least five or six minutes by the friends of Gen. Grant, the friends of the other candidates emulating each other in the production of that peculiar voice which emanates only from geese and snakes. A plentiful scattering of policemen throughout the crowd insured order.

THE NAVY SWORD.

The result of the vote on the navy sword was announced as follows:

Total	922	Commander Rowan	462
Commodore Farragut	328	Scattering	128
Commander Rowan's majority	139		

PRESENTATION OF A FLAG TO GEN. DIX.

At 9 o'clock the beautiful flag which has been exhibited in the Art Gallery was presented to Major-Gen. Dix, President of the Metropolitan Fair Association. The hall was densely crowded mostly with ladies.

Mr. Charles F. Tracy, chairman of the Executive Committee presented the flag, in a brief but pertinent speech, in the course of which he alluded to General Dix's order: "If any one attempts to haul down the American flag shoot him on the spot."

Gen. Dix responded as follows:

Mr. Tracy, I am very much at a loss for words to express to you my thanks for your courtesy, to the Managers at the Metropolitan Fair for the honor they have done me, to the accomplished lady to whom this presentation is primarily due for her kindness and liberality, and to the distinguished artist by whom this flag was designed. I fear, Sir, that you have attributed to me far greater merit than I deserve. When I gave the order which this flag is designed to commemorate, I only considered myself as performing a duty which I could not have left undone without infidelity to the country. It was a season of severe trial, without doubt; but I felt every day and every hour that we were dishonored by permitting the public property to be seized, the authority of the Government to be set at defiance, and the Flag of the Union—the emblem of unnumbered victories and of the definition of law and social order—to be trampled under foot, while scarcely a voice was raised to denounce the treason. The sentiment itself was in every patriotic heart. That truth is sufficiently attested by the generous response it received. I merely gave it utterance, and thus appealed to the country, from the submission to insult and wrong which was degrading and destroying us.

For this flag, so exquisite in workmanship, and conveying a compliment so graceful, so worthy to be prized and cherished, and for this autograph book, bearing on its pages so many illustrious names—coming as they do from a lady who does everything gracefully and well—I never can be sufficiently thankful. I beg you, Sir, to assure her that they will be preserved by me and my family as a possession of inestimable value, as significant memorials of the greatest crisis in our history, and as a grateful memento of those with whom I have had the happiness of being associated in this noble enterprise for the relief of the gallant soldiers who have become disabled in their country's cause.

THE RECEIPTS.

The receipts, as announced by the Treasurer, up to 3 p. m. were:

Sales	$15,078 94
Admissions Fourteenth street	2,186 10
Admissions Union square	504 50
Donations	5,225 65
Total	$23,995 79
GROSS RECEIPTS FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS.	
Union square	$87,753 76
Fire Department	$24,000 00
Restaurant	62,000 00

The receipts previously acknowledged with the above swell the aggregate to $1,062,028 59.

The receipts of the Fire Department for each day were as follows:

April 5	$583 18	April 15	$766 00
April 6	1,107 00	April 16	326 11
April 7	1,052 00	April 18	720 00
April 8	798 00	April 19	638 75
April 9	692 00	April 20	769 00
April 11	755 50	April 21	703 00
April 12	743 00	April 22	871 00
April 13	804 00	April 23	1,500 00
April 14	463 00		

THE WINDING UP.

During the present week auction sales will be held in the Fourteenth street and Union square buildings, when most of the goods remaining on hand will be disposed of. In order to prevent the place from being overrun by a rabble, 25 cents will be charged for each admission. The more valuable goods, jewelry, bronzes, &c., will probably be offered for sale at a bazaar, which we believe the Ladies' Executive Committee think of establishing on Broadway.

SALE OF MACHINERY.

The articles remaining unsold in the Machinery Department in Fifteenth street will be disposed of at public auction to-morrow. See advertisement.

AMUSEMENTS.

There is a lull in the musical world. The Fair is the absorbent now of public attention. There were two concerts during the week—one at Irving Hall, the other at Dr. Chapin's church—both deserving fine audiences, and both were miserably attended. And there is no use in dwelling on practical failures; so we let them pass. The Academy is advertised to be shut this week, and to open next Monday with the Huguenots.

We beg to call the attention of the people of Brooklyn to a benefit concert to be given to-night at the Athenæum, for the widow and children of the late George Rea of the English Opera Troupe—a basso in voice, and a most worthy man. The concert will be finely illustrated by superior voices: Madame Borchard, Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Kempton, Mr. Castle, Mr. Campbell, Master Wood, and Mr. A. Reiff, his first appearance since his return from California. Help the poor family suddenly deprived of their natural protector.

Herr Zfrom will give a concert at Dodworth's Hall on Tuesday evening, April 26 (to-morrow). A violinist, aged 6 years, Ernest Heine, will perform; likewise Mad. Von Berkel, Herr Zirom, Signor Reml, and Mr. Goldbeck (one of his own concerts).

THEATERS, ETC.

Mr. Edwin Booth's performances at Niblo's Garden closed on Friday evening. The last nights of his engagement were the most successful, and his fine personations of Raphael, in "The Marble Heart," might have been continued with profit to the theater and the public. Mr. Booth was excellently supported. The acting of Miss Rose Eytinge, especially, in the same piece, was remarkable for its simple and unaffected grace. Mr. Hackett's appearance on Saturday, for the benefit of the Shakespeare statue fund, attracted an overflowing audience. Shakespeare having had his night, the "drama of the period" resumes its place once more. Two weeks hence, "Bel Demonio," a melodrama of forty torpedo power, will be produced; and meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams will entertain the public with a round of their Irish plays. For to-night, "The Connie Soogah" is announced, with brilliant accessories of scenery, mechanism, music, and so forth.

At the Winter Garden, Miss Avonia Jones has appeared in "Camille," "The Lady of Lyons," "As You Like It," and "Romeo and Juliet." In our estimation, her Rosalind is, altogether, the most agreeable performance she has given. It is natural, easy and fluent; with none of the overstrained effects of declamation which she suffers to appear in her more tragic parts. Actors are slow to believe that the appropriate expression of passion or emotion is anything but noisy vociferation. Miss Jones's acting gains in value whenever she is sparing of her vocal resources. Her Rosalind, as we have remarked, was an exceedingly pleasant performance. Of her Juliet, as indeed of any of the parts represented on Saturday night, it is difficult to speak. The house was crowded to excess, and close observation was impossible. This evening, Miss Jones reappears as Bianca, in "Fazio," and to-morrow, a newly translated French drama, "The Sorceress," will be produced.

The programme at the Olympic Theater continues unchanged. "Our Wife," no less than "Loyalina," has been thoroughly successful. Both will be repeated every evening this week.

Miss Jane Coombs is engaged at Wallack's Theater, and will on Wednesday evening make her first appearance as Lady Teazle in "The School for Scandal." To-night "The Road to Ruin" will be repeated, and to-morrow "Rosedale."

The performances at the French Theater (Niblo's Saloon) will be discontinued after this week. No compliments can be misapplied to the energy, direction, and excellent taste which have been shown in the direction of this charming place of entertainment. Mr. Juignet's management has been liberal and enterprising in every way. Notwithstanding the narrowness of his theatrical means, he has produced plays with a completeness, a breadth of effect, and an elegance that very few American theaters could rival. We rejoice to learn that his scheme for the erection of a new French Theater is progressing favorably. The establishment of such an institution would be of infinite artistic benefit to this community. This evening Dumas's "Demi Monde" will be represented at Niblo's Saloon; and on Friday, for Mr. Juignet's special reward, Octave Feuillet's last and most successful play, "Montjoye."

Barnum's Museum is thronged day and evening by multitudes impatient for a sight at "Cudjo's Cave." The success of this piece is unlimited, and it is announced for constant repetition.

At the Old Bowery Theater, Mr. De Walden's version of "Cudjo's Cave" is the attraction. It is excellently cast, and effectively represented.

Mr. George Wood, proprietor of theaters in Cincinnati and Louisville, has leased Wallack's old theater, and will presently open it with a carefully selected company. The house will be handsomely redecorated, and so altered as to secure the greatest possible comfort to the audience.

We are requested to state that the announcement made by the Count Joannes that Mr. Edwin Booth and Miss Avonia Jones will play for his benefit next Saturday evening at the Academy of Music is entirely without foundation, and a gross attempt at imposition.

THE SHAKESPEARE MONUMENT.

The interesting event of laying the corner-stone of a monument to the memory of Shakespeare in the Central Park took place on Saturday at noon. We are not disposed to be hypercritical on such an occasion, but it must be admitted that a ceremony which would otherwise have drawn together all that was intellectual, refined and brilliant in New-York, was rendered through the mismanagement of the gentleman who took the matter exclusively and despotically into his own keeping, a rather tame and spiritless affair. The matter was originally taken up by a committee of the Century Club, and it would have been well if it had remained in their hands, but they subsequently yielded it to Mr. Hackett, who claimed it as the peculiar right of the profession to which he belonged. No invitations were issued to the leading artists or literary men, and no authoritative notice given even of the hour when the ceremony was to take place. The attendance in consequence was thin, and many of the distinguished names naturally to be looked for, on such an occasion, were not to be found. Only two of the theaters, Niblo's and Winter Garden, were represented by their Managers on the ground, and the theatrical profession found few representatives. Mr. Wallack's absence was much regretted. Not one of his company even were on the ground, and Mr. Edwin Booth, who has been the most liberal and active encourager of the project, was, owing to the inappropriateness of the hour selected, unable to reach the ground until the ceremony had been completed. Indeed, were it not for Mr. Hackett's well-known reputation for modesty and unselfishness, one would have been inclined to suppose there had been a studied design to arrogate all the honors of the day to himself.

The weather, at all events, lent its pleasantest countenance to the scene. The Park wore its brightened and gayest look, and was made still more beautiful by the presence of charming women. We noticed, among others, Mrs. Fremont, Mrs. Judge Daly, Mrs. John Wood, Vining, Davenport, Miss Rose Eytinge. The male portion were represented by the Rev. Dr. Osgood, Father Hecker, Judge Daly, Bierstadt the artist, Launt Thompson the sculptor, to whom rumor points as likely to be selected to execute the statue, the Hon. Henry J. Raymond, C. B. Seymour and Nicholson of the Press, Stoddard the poet, Augustus Sala the author, Managers Wheatley of Niblo's, Stuart of Winter Garden, and Grover of Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Messrs. W. H. Davidge, &c. In the evening benefits were given at Niblo's and the Winter Garden for this object, Mr. Wheatley and Mr. Hackett playing Falstaff and Prince Hal in Henry IV. at the former, and Mr. Edwin Booth, Miss Jones, and Mr. Edwin James playing Romeo and Juliet, and Friar Laurence at the latter. The receipts at Niblo's were $1,230, and at the Winter Garden $1,536, the largest amount ever received on one night at that house.

It is intended to organize similar benefits in every town throughout the country, and doubtless when the Committee becomes more enlarged, and widens a little more the sphere of its exertions, large private subscriptions will be obtained. No design for the statue has been yet conceived, but the sum to be raised is estimated at $70,000—the cost of the statue to Washington on Union Square. About $4,000 is already raised.

The site of the proposed statue is at the south end of the Park, one of the most attractive and delightful within the limits of the grounds. A space staked off and surrounded with ropes protects the excavation, in which rests an oblong block of granite, bearing the following inscription:

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE,
April 23, 1864.

At 12 o'clock the ceremony commenced with a performance by the band, after which Mr. A. H. Green read the act of authorization, as follows:

CITY OF NEW-YORK—CENTRAL PARK.
AUTHORIZATION
Of the Laying of the Foundation of the Monument to WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE,
April 23, 1864.

"James H. Hackett, esq., William Wheatley, esq., Edwin Booth, esq., and the Hon. Charles P. Daly of the City of New-York, having made application to the Commissioners of the Central Park, on behalf of the professional actors in the City of New-York, for leave to place within the said park the foundation of a monumental statue to William Shakespeare, and the said Commissioners having, on due consideration, determined that such monument would be eminently appropriate to the public grounds of the city, have therefore consented to accept the same, and place it within the said park for the adornment thereof, there to remain for public gratification and enjoyment. To this end the said Commission have consented that the foundation of said monument be laid in the said park on the 23d day of April, 1864, subject to the ordinances of rules provided and to be provided for the control and preservation of statuary and monumental structures of the said park.

"By authority of the Commissioners of the said park.

ANDREW H. GREEN, Controller Central Park."

Judge Daly was then introduced by Mr. Green as the orator of the day, and spoke as follows:

JUDGE DALY'S ADDRESS.

We assemble at this place to-day, the three-hundredth anniversary of the birthday of Shakespeare, to lay the corner-stone of a memorial work of art to be erected here in attestation of the respect and veneration with which the memory of Shakespeare is cherished by the American people. We who speak the English tongue, and inherit with our language all the treasures of its literature, have presented to us in the occasion which gives to this day its special significance an opportunity to do what will be done in England and Germany, to manifest by some public act our sympathy with, appreciation of, and common property in the works which Shakespeare has left for the delight and instruction of mankind, and which, if we omitted to do, would be a reflection upon us as an intellectual and cultivated people. The time, it is true, is not propitious. We are involved in war, but Germany is in the same situation, and it is a mark of the superior cultivation of both nations that with the heavy responsibilities and great exactions which such an event creates, we can, notwithstanding, pay our tribute when it is appropriate that we should do so, to the greatest name in all literature. That title, by common consent, has been accorded to Shakespeare.

No writer of any age or nation has sounded so deeply the depths of human nature, or portrayed with equal power the passions that deform and the virtues that dignify and adorn it. The productions of no other mind have satisfied so completely the varied tastes of men, and received to the same extent the applause of the multitude, with the admiration of the profound. While other great writers are marked by characteristics which distinguish them from each other, he appears to have possessed every merit of which they were separately capable, and to have had attributes of his own wherein none have approached him. In him the greatest contrasts unite and the most opposite qualities. The power of portraying with equal truth the ingenuousness of innocence, and the subtlety of craft; of exhibiting all that is high and noble with all that is mean in human character. The most luxuriant and powerful imagination allied to the most delicate and playful fancy. An exuberant and overflowing humor combined with a subtle and penetrating wit. The highest soarings of human thought, and the profoundest maxims of human wisdom, in connection with the most minute delineations of the weaknesses, the vices, and the follies of men. He has, in a word, represented the infinite diversity of human nature as no other man has ever painted it, and as probably no other man ever will. To his fame we can add nothing. He has built his own monument in his works, and was himself aware how perpetual that monument would be. To the unknown person who now addressed his fifty-fifth sonnet he has, with prophetic consciousness of his future immortality, expressed himself in these words:

"Not marble, nor the gilded monuments
Of princes, shall outlive this powerful rhyme,
But you shall shine more bright in these contents
Than unswept stone, besmeared by sluttish time.
When wasteful war shall statues overturn,
And broils root out the work of masonry,
Nor Mars's sword, nor war's quick fires shall burn
The living record of your memory."

And again, in the eighty-first sonnet:

"Your monument shall be my gentle verse,
Which eyes not yet created shall o'er read,
You still shall live (such virtue hath my pen)
Where breath most breathes, even in the mouths of men."

But feeling as we do, to quote again from his own works, that

"Wherever the bright sun of Heaven shall shine,
His honor and the greatness of his name shall be,"

We can and shall do honor to ourselves by adorning the Central and principal park of our city with a work, to be executed by an American sculptor, which shall be alike commemorative of the event celebrated to-day, and of the state of the arts in this country, which shall present to all who visit this place in their hours of recreation, among the many objects of nature and art which embellish it, the figure and expressive features of a man who was too universal to be the property of any one age or nation. While much that is connected with the celebration of this day will pass away with the event and be forgotten, we propose at least to do something that will be permanent.

To the gentlemen of the dramatic profession we owe the inauguration of this monument, and to their exertions in the future we shall be largely indebted for its completion. From them this reverential duty comes most appropriately, for Shakespeare was himself a player, and I accordingly call upon Mr. Hackett, a distinguished member of the profession, a native of this city, and the oldest American actor present, to perform the ceremony of laying the corner-stone.

THE LAYING OF THE STONE.

At the close of Judge Daly's address, Mr. Hackett advanced and said:

Having the honor thus committed to me, I will proceed at once, in the presence of this assemblage, to lay the corner-stone of the first monument proposed to be raised in America to William Shakespeare, and afterward will rely upon one of my associates—Mr. William Wheatley—to close this ceremony, by adding some of his own to the sentiments which have just been so eloquently and impressively uttered by his Honor Judge Daly—my own voice being hushed in the performance of this reverential act.

He then stepped into the place prepared for the stone, and taking a few trowels full of mortar, spread it on the ground. The stone was then lowered by pulleys, and Mr. Hackett finished his part of the performance by tapping it three times with the handle of the trowel.

MR. WILLIAM WHEATLEY'S POEM.

The band then played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," at the close of which Mr. Wheatley said:

Standing as I do in the midst of the wisdom and the reverence of our great city, I may well feel some diffidence in attempting to address you. Here we find grave judges, reverend divines, statesmen, poets, authors, actors, all united on this, the three hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's birth, to do honor to his memory—the myriad-minded Shakespeare, the sweet Swan of Avon, the deer-stealer—of hearts!

"Each scene of varied life he drew,
Exhausted worlds, and then imagined new."

It is plainly observable in our theaters that spectators of all classes and ages are never wearied of representations of Shakespeare; with every year of lengthening life the lovers of poetry and the observers of mankind feel the links which bind their affection to him grow stronger; in youth the spirit and action of his scenes excite the attention and the imagination; in mature years the wonderful variety and truthful excellence of the characters, and the exquisite parts of the images that enrich every page, are more rapidly appreciated; many ordinary delights of life are diminished by still advancing time—the reader recurs to Shakespeare, and finds the charm unbroken.

Thus through all the stages of life, delighted and instructed, we are disposed to yield a full assent to the warmly-expressed judgment of Hallam, that "the name of Shakespeare is the greatest in our literature—is the greatest in all literature." I will detain you but a few moments longer, while I read these lines, prepared for the occasion:

Three hundred years have passed away,
Since by the Avon—gentle river,
A boon to cheer the hearts of men
Was sent us by the great All giver.

Who has not read his honeyed page?
Wept with the maid wife of Verona?
With Beatrice and Rosalind joyed?
Or sighed with gentle Desdemona?

Who has not mourned with injured Lear?
Or wished success to mad Petruchio?
Who has not felt a moistened eye
At death of gallant, brave Mercutio?

Who has not revelled with Prince Hal?
Ah! me, what fancies rise up thickly!
We've robbed with Falstaff at Gad's Hill,
And quaffed sack, brewed by Hostess Quickly.

Wherever our English language pours
Its wealth of song—wherever it spoken
There "Avon's Swan" finds worshipers,
And there his charms can never be broken.

Kings, purpled puppets of a day—
Dwell for a space in history's story;
The dust of ages yet to come
Cannot efface our Shakespeare's glory.

And long as bobbing Avon pours
Its rippling tribute to the ocean,
Long as the planets in her sky
Keep on unchanged their heavenly motion,

So long shall Shakespeare's name be sung,
And homage to him be awarded,
His memory in all hearts kept green
Till the last syllable of time is recorded.

These happy and appropriate lines were delivered with fine effect by their author, who has a rich musical voice, and is an accomplished elocutionist. He was frequently and heartily cheered.

THE CLOSING CEREMONIES.

Mayor Gunther accepted the monument for the city, and the ceremonies ended.

Entertainments This Day and Evening.

For location of theaters and time of commencement, see advertisements in other columns of this paper.

WALLACK'S THEATER—The Road to Ruin.
NIBLO'S GARDEN—The Connie Soogah.
WINTER GARDEN—Fazio.
OLYMPIC THEATER—Our Wife—Loyalina.
FOX'S OLD BOWERY—Pomp of Cudjo's Cave.
BARNUM'S—Pomp of Cudjo's Cave, &c.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Works of Art.
HIPPOTHEATON—Equestrian Performances.

[Advertisement.]

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Business Notices.

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ARMLESS SOLDIERS!—The BOARD of SURGEONS and the SURGEON-GENERAL, U. S. A., have given special honorary commendation to the "PALMER" Arm, and authorized its manufacture. The INVENTOR will give full information. "PALMER" Legs also. OFFICES PHILADELPHIA, NEW-YORK, BOSTON. Address B. FRANK PALMER, Surgeon-Artist.

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OVINGTON BROTHERS, CHINA AND GLASS IMPORTERS, would call attention to their elegant and extensive stock of goods. OUR SPRING STOCK was sold in before the recent advance in gold, and will be sold accordingly. Glass engraving on the premises, sets of glass richly cut and engraved with initials to order. BRONZES, CLOCKS, PLATED GOODS, &c., &c. Please call and examine assortment and prices. Nos. 238 and 240 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

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MARRIED.

HARRIS—COLES—On Wednesday, April 20, at the Church of the Annunciation, by the Rev. Dr. Seabury, Sidney S. Harris and Miriam D., daughter of the late Butler Coles of Deserts, Long Island.

McLAUGHLIN—MEREDITH—On Friday evening, April 22, by the Rev. Dr. Thomas Lodge, Maj. Robert W. McLaughlin of the Marine Artillery, to Miss Emily Louise Meredith of this city. No cards.

ROBINSON—MILLER—In Minneapolis, Minn., on Wednesday, April 13, at the residence of Col. John H. Stevens, by the Rev. C. C. Salter, Mr. Marshall Robinson and Miss Mary E. Miller, all of Minneapolis.

DIED.

ALDEN—On Sabbath, April 24, Eliza, widow of Jonathan Alden of Philadelphia, and only sister of the late Rev. James Arbuckle.

Her friends are invited to attend the funeral this (Monday) afternoon at 4 o'clock, from the residence of Mrs. Arbuckle, No. 260 West Thirty-sixth street. Her remains will be taken to Orange County, N. Y., for interment.

BENTLY—In Brooklyn, on Sunday, April 24, 1864, Emilie Norma, youngest daughter of Norman S. and Emilie M. Bently, aged 1 year, 1 month and 8 days.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Tuesday, 26th inst., at 3 o'clock p. m., from St. John's Church, corner Washington and Johnson streets, near City Hall, Brooklyn, without further notice.

BUTTRE—On Sunday morning, April 24, Chester Earl, only son of John C. and E. B. Buttre, aged 4 months and 3 days.

The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from No. 46 Franklin street, on Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

EVERNGHIM—In Brooklyn, on First day (Sunday), 24th inst., at his late residence, No. 19 Harrison street, in the 81st year of his age, Joseph D. Evernghim, late merchant of the City of New-York.

The funeral will take place from Friends' Meeting-House, in Schermerhorn street, Brooklyn, at 3 p. m. on Third day (Tuesday), 26th inst. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

JOHNSON—On Sunday morning, April 24, Leah Johnson, widow of the late Rev. Thomas Johnson, aged 61 years.

The relatives and friends of Mr. Thomas Downing, and of the late Rev. Thomas Johnson, are invited to attend her funeral on Tuesday, the 26th, at 10 o'clock a. m., from Zion Church, corner of Allecker and West Tenth streets.

KEESE—At her residence, in Keeseville, N. Y., on Sunday, April 17, Mrs. Lydia (Hurlbut) Keese, wife of the Hon. Richard Keese, aged 67 years.

LEONARD—On Saturday, April 23, William John, infant son of James and Mary Jane Leonard, aged 7 months and 27 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral on Monday, 25th inst., at 1 o'clock, from his parents' residence, No. 455 West Twenty-second street, without further invitation.

NICHOLS—On Sunday, April 24, of disease of the heart, William H., youngest son of Stiles Nichols, aged 36 years.

The friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral on Tuesday, 26th, at 2 p. m., from the residence of his father, No. 57 East Thirty-fifth street.

REQUA—On Friday, April 22, 1864, Capt. Jacob Requa, aged 79 years.

The funeral services will take place on Monday next, 25th inst., at 2 o'clock p. m., at the Methodist Episcopal Church, Tarrytown. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend without further notice. The trains per Hudson River Railroad leave Chambers-street Depot at 8, 10 and 11 a. m.

SCOTT—At her residence, in St. Louis, Mo., on Friday, April 22, Fannie Louise, wife of James Scott, and daughter of the late John Valentine, esq.

Due notice of the funeral hereafter.

Special Notices.

Union General Committee.

An adjourned meeting of the Union General Committee of the City and County of New-York will be held on TUESDAY EVENING, 26th inst., at 8 o'clock.

RUFUS F. ANDREWS, President.
HARVEY H. WOODS, } Secretaries.
WILLIAM H. LAND, }

S. U. L., Nineteenth Ward.—A LECTURE will be delivered by W. GODARD, esq., at Headquarters, THIS (Monday) EVENING, April 25, at 8 o'clock. A full attendance is requested.

Economy in Silks, Gloves, Ribbons, &c.—HEGEMAN & Co.'s BENZINE removes Paint, Grease Spots, &c., instantly, and cleans Silks, Gloves, &c., equal to new. Only 25 cents per bottle. Sold by Druggists and Fancy Goods Stores. HEGEMAN & Co., Nos. 205, 511, and 756 Broadway, and corner of 4th-av. and 17th-st.

The Treasurer of the Fund for the Relief of East Tennessee acknowledges the receipt of the following donations:

Acknowledged