THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

ESTABLISHED 1840. MEMPHIS, TENN., SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1885. VOL. XLV—NO. 46

THE THEATER.

Ristori as "Elizabeth," and as "Marie Antoinette.

MARIE ANTOINETTE—CAST OF CHARACTERS.

Marie Antoinette, Queen of France.....Mme. Adelaide Ristori
Madame Elizabeth, Sister of King Louis XVI.....Mrs. Augusta Foster
Madame Royale.....Miss Katherine Lloyard
Princess De Lamballe.....Miss Kate Clinton
Madame De Campan.....Miss Marion P. Clifton
Rosalie.....Miss Fanny Gillette
Fisherwoman.....Miss A. M. Freemont
King Louis XVI.....Edmund Tearle
Dauphin.....Miss Edna Hickey
General Lafayette.....John A. Lane
Christian Malesherbes.....R. Grisel
Santerre, General of the National Guard.....Walter C. Kelley
Monsieur, Comte De Provence, Brother of Louis XVI.....J. Herbert
Caron De Beaumarchais.....Ivan Shivley
Calonne, Comptroller General.....Chas. L. Lane
Vergnaud, President of the Legislative Assembly.....J. Robertson
Duke De Brissac, Colonel of the Bodyguard.....Walter Granville
Deshuttes, Officers of the Varennes.....T. Graham
Bodygard.....R. Waterford
L'Abbe Orth De Firmont.....Frank Lawrence
Garat, Minister of Justice.....Chas. Leveson
Clery, the King's Valet.....Frank Little
Simon.....J. Herbert Leonard
Secretary.....J. B. Kane
Sans Culotte.....T. Maitland
Lubesse.....R. Cottrington
Gendarme.....A. C. Wilson
Henri Sanson, Executioner.....A. M. Richardson
Deputies, Ladies, Gentlemen, Guards, Sans Culottes, Fishwomen, Soldiers, Messengers, Municipal Guards, Gendarmes.

Mme. Ristori made her appearance again as "Elizabeth" yesterday afternoon, to a very full house, before the most sympathetic audience she has had during her brief engagement. She was at her best, and the company sustained her with ability. She omitted nothing of the text, and played with the same fidelity as on Wednesday. At night she played "Marie Antoinette" to a good house that comprised most of the old playgoers and many of the best people. She was warmly received, and at times was greeted with something like enthusiasm. The play was superbly mounted, and two of the scenes were made thrillingly real and startlingly vivid. Everyone did well, and the performance throughout was so uncommon, so superb, as to continually challenge applause. The drama is a very close and admirable synopsis of the story of "Louis XVI" and his unfortunate Queen, "Marie Antoinette," in five acts, a prologue and epilogue, beginning with the happy days at Trianon and ending with their execution in Paris. It is a story in the main of wifely fidelity, in which nothing of the weaknesses of the victim of the French revolution escapes the observer. Her airheads and blunders, due to her education and high station, are all made apparent, but they are utterly swept out of sight as the play develops the lofty self-sacrifice made by "Marie Antoinette, the heroine of those days of blood. The career of "Marie Antoinette" is one that must always excite a general interest, no matter how often it is brought to public attention, whether in histories, in special articles or upon the stage. It was her misfortune to have been Queen of France at a time when the people of that country, smarting under the brutal wrongs of centuries, were in the pains of a new birth that was to teach monarchs and aristocrats a lesson of responsibility, the value of manhood suffrage and individual liberty. It was her misfortune to have been separated from her people by a wide gap which she could not bridge. She was not only foreign to them by birth, but in sentiment. She could not understand them; they would not understand her. She stood upon divine right, and they upon human right. She defended her privileges of rank and station, and they menaced and destroyed both, believing them to be the synonyms of cruelty, of wrong and of oppression. She could not realize their present movement for revenge, while they, pushed by the accreted power of centuries of debasing and brutalizing slavery, could not see that she did not voluntarily join with them in its accomplishment. They were the instruments and ministers of a terrible vengeance. While she, blind to the suffering about her, going to and hearing nothing of it, was quaffing the hours with frivolity, taxing the wealth and ingenuity of the best minds for a means of killing the otherwise leaden-footed time, they were feeding on grass picked by the public highway, and sorrowing for the children crouched beneath the wheels of relentless carriages. Millions of people lived as so many beasts of burden, not in what we know as abject poverty, but literally like the beasts, without hope and grovelling in the darkness of a groveling despair. Her life was all light, theirs all darkness. Hers were ways of pleasantness and peace, theirs were paths of want, of pain and misery. The honor of the rich man's daughter was secure, that of the poor man's was the gift of the lord of the soil whenever he choose to claim it—even his wife was not safe. Life, property and honor were all subject to the *seigneur*. Education there was none; the church, part of the kingdom, enforced its edicts and sustained the social questions and laws that made brute-beasts of three-fourths of the population. Despair had brooded for a century in every hamlet and village until at last the pent-up agonies of the people broke all barriers and bounds, and blind in their fury they rushed impulsively into the destruction of everything that savored of refinement, luxury and ease, and the death of every man and woman in no too least tainted with aristocratic blood, or who was blessed with good fortune. Their movement was like a rising tide in resistless current, and they swept everything before them, advancing to consume that even at the distance makes one shudder to read of. This tide was just setting in when "Marie Antoinette" was ushered into the court of France, a happy bride. She knew nothing of it, and the facts of it never reached her until it was at its work of destruction and death, and even then the pride of her order induced the nursing of a hope that her brother Joseph of Austria and Frederick of Prussia would unite to save her husband and herself and preserve their throne. Even to the last she could not understand the causes that superior even to the people impelled them forward on their bloody career. Every means that statesmanship and ingenuity could invent was suggested by "Louis's" advisers and friends to prevent the final catastrophe, but in vain. Class after class was swept into the overwhelming stream and carried to the consummation of the revolution, the destruction of privileged classes and the reign of the common people. King, queen, princes, nobles and priests, all were gulfolined in atonement for the agony and bloody sweat borne with patience by a long suffering people for many centuries. The play put upon the stage last night, with such fidelity has for its central figures, "Louis" and "Marie Antoinette." Around them all these fires of fate play until the end. But it is with the woman rather than the man that the sympathies in largest measure have to deal. To the King we look for an example of manhood, of fortitude and courage, but are surprised when the gay Queen, whom we meet in the first act, surrounded by her brilliant court, rises steadily at each new pressure of sad circumstance comes to her, until she makes for us a character sublime in its strength and endurance, in its noble self-abnegation and self-sacrifice and its wifely devotion. Ristori never appeared to better advantage than during the succeeding scenes of this play, every one of which taxed her for a special gift of art. In those especially wherein the pathetic tenderness of her love for her husband was dominant she carried her audience with her in tears. This was so in the scene where the mob from Paris assaults Versailles. Here her mother's wit served her to good purpose, and she proved herself the equal of the brave and heroic King her husband. But it was especially so in the parting with the King the night before his execution. This was a scene that thrilled one with the shrieks of the poor wife and children and the devoted sister made everyone present shudder at it in the presence of reality. It was so vivid, so intensely dramatic and gathering near of the nightmare of *sans culottes* who marched on Versailles for its destruction. Nothing could exceed this in effect. It was the most striking of all the arts resorted to to make the most perfect presentation of a play that has ever been witnessed in this city. Surrounded and supported by such scenes and accessories, Ristori stands out in relief behind her portrait forever with us a mirror of the highest art, of a devotion that is her noblest tribute to the state she adorns, one of whose most cherished legacies will be her illustrious name and fame. All her great powers were gathered for this supreme effort, and she left an ineffaceable impression of mastership in the most trying and difficult of the arts, of sincerity and integrity, of a lofty purpose and high aim, of an ardent desire to achieve success by the use of every legitimate means within her reach, to maintain the stage at its best and rearouse the public sympathy for its noblier aims and objects. Her engagement, though brief, has been one of unmixed pleasure to those who were among her audiences, and we feel sure that nothing but the sacred obligations of Lent, to many still a serious concern of life, prevented the Theater from being packed every night. Had she but come one week earlier her history of Mary Stuart would have been, perhaps, a happier one, as happy as that she left to those who saw her as "Queen Elizabeth," "Mary Stuart," "Lady Macbeth" and "Marie Antoinette."

A GREAT WORK.

The Washington Monument Dedicated with Imposing Ceremonies, and the Grandest Column

Ever Reared by the Hand of Man in Any Age of the World, Turned Over to the People

By the Builders—President Arthur's Speech Accepting the Magnificent Gift—Addresses by

Senator Sherman, W. W. Corcoran, John D. Wisthrop Daniel, of Virginia, and Others.

Brilliant Pageant on Pennsylvania Avenue—One of the Most Gorgeous Spectacles

Ever Witnessed in the Capital—Exercises at the House of Representatives—Fireworks Display.

WASHINGTON, February 21.—With the mercury down almost to zero, and with a northerly breeze which bore suggestion of its arctic origin, the sprinkling of ticket-bearers who began to fill up the seats on the grand stand at the base of the Washington monument at 10 o'clock this morning did not appear to be bent upon pleasure, but with their upturned collars, muffled chins and quick, nervous movements, seemed as if inspired by a stern sense of duty alone. A rough board shed, bedecked with bunting, opening up in a snow-covered field, a shaft of marble as simple, as unspotted, as majestic and towering as the character of the man it bears the name of Washington. With early scenes. The first distinguished arrival was an old gentleman with long white hair, whose firm, clear-cut features betrayed no trace of the years of his Father of his Country. "Ticket, sir." "I am one of the Washington kindred, but I will show you my ticket." The Rheingrave Burgess Ball, of London county, Va. "My grandmother," he said to a reporter, "was George Washington's niece; Grandfather Ball was of the family of Gen. Washington's mother, Mary Ball." The military arrived betimes. The brass bands were unusually early in their pipe, the trop come to a rest. Senator Sherman, chairman of the joint Congressional Commission, from the center of the stand, at 11 o'clock, called about 300 people to order and said something about people keeping their hats on. These remarks were greeted with lively stamps, for the opportunity was a good one to restore the circulation to chilled limbs and extremities. Senator Sherman then proceeded to speak as follows:

SENATOR SHERMAN'S ADDRESS.

"The commission authorized by the two houses of Congress to provide suitable ceremonies for the dedication of the Washington monument direct me to preside and to announce the order of ceremonies deemed proper on this occasion. I need not say anything to impress upon you the dignity of the event you have met to celebrate. The monument speaks for itself. Simple in form, admirable in proportions, composed of enduring marble and granite, resting upon foundations broad and deep, it arises into the skies higher than any work of human art. It is the most lofty, enduring, costly and appropriate monument ever erected in honor of one man. It had its origin in the profound conviction of the people, irrespective of party, creed or race, not only of this country, but all civilized countries, that the name and fame of Washington should be perpetuated by the most imposing testimonial of our grateful gratitude to its hero, statesman and father. This universal sentiment took form in a movement of private citizens assembled under the name of the Washington National Monument Association, who on the 31st of January, 1848, secured from Congress an act authorizing them to erect the proposed monument on this ground, selected as the most appropriate site by the President of the United States. Its corner-stone was laid with pomp on the 4th of July, 1848, by the Masonic fraternity in the presence of the chief officers of the government and a multitude of citizens. It was patriotically erected by the National Monument Association with means furnished by voluntary contributions of the people of the United States. On the 6th of July, 1877, 100 years after the Declaration of American Independence, Congress, in the name of the people of the United States, formally assumed and dedicated the completion of the monument. Since then the foundation has been strengthened, the shaft has been steadily advanced and now the completed structure stands before you. It is a fit memorial of the greatest character in human history. It looks down upon the scenes most loved by him on earth, and the most conspicuous object in a landscape full of objects deeply interesting to the American people, and as it rises from it and all heaven feel the inspiration of its beauty, symmetry and grandeur. Strong as it is, it will not endure so long as the memory of him to whom honor it was built; but while it stands it will be evidence to many succeeding generations of the love and reverence of this generation for the name and fame of George Washington, first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen. More even than this, the prototype of purity, manhood and Christian fortitude, he labored and suffered, Without further preface, I now proceed to the duty assigned me."

The Marine Band then played a short piece of music, which was rendered almost inaudible by the continual stamping of feet of the shivering audience. A prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Later, of Christ's church, Alexandria, Va., and W. W. Corcoran thereupon read an address.

MR. CORCORAN'S SPEECH.

W. W. Corcoran then described at length the part taken in the initiation of the project and the construction of the monument by the Washington National Monument Society, and in conclusion said: "It is gratifying enough for the Washington Monument Society that its plans have, as put to the proof of time, have issued in the majestic structure which stands before us to-day, and it is glory enough for the legislative and executive departments of this government that in 'assuming and directing the completion of the monument' on the ample foundation laid by the people, they have at once redeemed a sacred national pledge and fulfilled a sacred national duty by giving to this great obelisk the culmination and crown with which it towers above earth and cross heavenward like the force it commenorates."

The remarks of the various speakers were inaudible, but the puffs of steam from their mouths was evidence that the proceedings were being carried on according to programme, and at every little intermission the auditors stamped approvingly.

THE MASONIC CEREMONIES

by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, which then followed, were brief. The proper functionaries declared that the square, the level and the plumb had been applied to the obelisk and that its corners were found to be square, its courses level, its walls skillfully erected according to the plan. Grand Master Myron M. Parker then scattered corn over and wine and oil, emblems of nourishment, refreshment and joy, and in the course of the mystic ceremonies were inaudible, but the puffs of steam from their mouths was evidence that the proceedings were being carried on according to programme, and at every little intermission the auditors stamped approvingly.

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"Know ye, all ye people, that we be Freemasons, loyal and true citizens, obedient to law and order, and can never be concerned in plots and conspiracies against true government. The immortal Washington, himself a Freemason, devoted his hand, his heart, his sacred honor and, if need be, his life also to the cause of freedom of conscience, of speech and of action, and from his successful leading has arisen this noble edifice to him and the majesty of his deeds a grateful people has erected this memorial in the capital which he founded and which will bear his name to the remotest ages. A monument loftier above other monuments as he towered above other men."

A brief prayer by the Grand Chaplain, asking the blessing of nourishment, refreshment and joy upon all who were assembled, and the response by the brethren, "So mote it be, amen," brought this part of the proceedings to an end.

COL. CAREY'S SPEECH.

To Col. Thomas L. Casey, United States Engineers, was assigned the duty of presenting the part taken by the general government in the construction of the monument and of delivering it to the President of the United States. He gave an account of the first proceedings in Congress with a view to the completion of the monument, and described each successive step in the construction of the work until the setting of the capstone finished the great undertaking, and then said: "Although the dimensions of the foundation base were originally planned without due regard to the tremendous forces to be brought into play in building so large an obelisk, the resources of modern engineering science have supplied means for the completion of the greatest monumental column ever erected in any age of the world. In its proportions and ratios of dimensions several parts of the ancient Egyptian obelisk have been carefully followed. The entire bight has been made slightly greater than ten times the breadth of the base, producing an obelisk that for grace and delicacy of outline is not excelled by any of the larger Egyptian monoliths, while in dignity and grandeur it surpasses any that can be mentioned. Mr. President, for and in behalf of the Joint Commission for the completion of the Washington monument I deliver to you this column."

President Arthur was greeted with rounds of hearty cheers, and the audience listened more eagerly to his remarks than to the words of any other speaker. President Arthur, in accepting the monument, said:

THE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN—Before the dawn of a century whose eventful years will soon have faded into the past, when death had but lately robbed this republic of its most beloved and illustrious citizen, the Congress of the United States pledged the faith of the nation that in this city, bearing his honored name, and then, as now, the seat of general government, a monument should be erected "to commemorate the great events of his military and political life;" the stately column that this weekend rear from the plain whereon we stand bears witness to all who behold it, that the covenant which our fathers made their children has been fulfilled. In the completion of this great work of patriotic endeavor, there is abundant cause for congratulation. The work of its construction shall endure it shall be to all mankind a steadfast token of the affectionate and reverent regard in which his people continue to hold the memory of Washington. We may he ever keep the foremost place in the hearts of his countrymen. The faith that never faltered, the wisdom that was broad and deeper than any human foresight in the school's, the courage that shrank from no peril and was dismayed by no defeat, the loyalty that knew no selfish purpose, subordinate to the demand of patriotism and honor, the sagacity that displayed itself in camp and cabinet alike, and, above all, that incorruptible character and that intellectual qualities which has never found its parallel among men. These are the attributes of the man whose intelligent thought of this country ascribes to the grandest figure of the past. But other and more eloquent lips than mine will to-day recount the story of his life and his noble life and its glorious achievements. To myself has been assigned the simpler and more formal duty, in the fulfillment of which I do now, as President of the United States, and in behalf of the people, receive this monument from the hands of the honored builders and declare it dedicated from this time forth to the immortal name and memory of George Washington.

The President read his address in a firm, clear tone, and its concluding sentence broke forth, and they were hearty and prolonged.

Upon a signal from the chairman, Senator Sherman, the procession again broke into cheers, the military wheeled into line, the civic bodies and distinguished participants in the proceedings of the day sought their carriages, and the procession, under the marshaship of Gen. Sheridan, took up its line of march to the capitol.

A BRILLIANT SCENE.

Pennsylvania avenue shone brilliantly during the remainder of the afternoon. Thousands of people thronged the sidewalks and occupied the grand stands erected on all eligible points along the route, not only of this country, but all civilized countries, that the name and fame of Washington should be perpetuated by the most imposing testimonial of our grateful gratitude to its hero, statesman and father. This universal sentiment took form in a movement of private citizens assembled under the name of the Washington National Monument Association, who on the 31st of January, 1848, secured from Congress an act authorizing them to erect the proposed monument on this ground, selected as the most appropriate site by the President of the United States. Its corner-stone was laid with pomp on the 4th of July, 1848, by the Masonic fraternity in the presence of the chief officers of the government and a multitude of citizens. It was patriotically erected by the National Monument Association with means furnished by voluntary contributions of the people of the United States. On the 6th of July, 1877, 100 years after the Declaration of American Independence, Congress, in the name of the people of the United States, formally assumed and dedicated the completion of the monument. Since then the foundation has been strengthened, the shaft has been steadily advanced and now the completed structure stands before you. It is a fit memorial of the greatest character in human history. It looks down upon the scenes most loved by him on earth, and the most conspicuous object in a landscape full of objects deeply interesting to the American people, and as it rises from it and all heaven feel the inspiration of its beauty, symmetry and grandeur. Strong as it is, it will not endure so long as the memory of him to whom honor it was built; but while it stands it will be evidence to many succeeding generations of the love and reverence of this generation for the name and fame of George Washington, first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen. More even than this, the prototype of purity, manhood and Christian fortitude, he labored and suffered. Without further preface, I now proceed to the duty assigned me."

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