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Burlington Free Press.
GEORGE W. BENEDICT,
Editor and Proprietor.

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(From the N. Y. Tribune.)

WORLD'S FAIR FITCH—1853.

The next step taken, after the sale of Reservoir square had been granted by the City, was an application to the Legislature of the State of New York for a Charter of Incorporation to the "*Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations.*" This was granted, and the following Board of Directors named:

Directors—Mortimer Livingston, Alfred E. Beckwith, Auguste Belmont, Alexander Hamilton, Jr., George L. Schuyler, Robert J. Auchmuty, Philip Barrows, John Jacob Astor, Charles W. Foster, Theodore Sedgwick, William W. Stone.

The charter provided for a capital of $100,000, with the privilege of $500,000 additional. The Directors were empowered to award prizes and to do everything necessary to carry out the general objects of the Association. On the 17th of March, 1853, the Board of Directors met and organized by the choice of THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esqr. President, and WILLIAM WHITTEN, Esqr. Secretary. Books for the subscription of stock were opened April 1, 1852, at the office of Daniel S. Dickinson, Esqr. The shares were placed at $100 each, and no dividend subscriptions were received for less. Fortunately it turns out that the stock was immediately seized upon, which enabled the Directors to divide and distribute it among the hands of over one hundred and fifty thousand persons; thereby so widely disseminating the influence in favor of the Fair, that it was felt in its success that the work of its promotion of a private association has received the countenance of the General Government, has also been adopted, which was required in order to secure foreign support from the manufacturers of Europe, by exhibiting their goods to that Republic free of duty. The Crystal Palace was then decided upon for the reception of goods.

The Foreign Department of the management was organized at early day. Prof. Charles Bacheck, of London, was appointed Foreign Agent in June, 1852, to secure the co-operation of the manufacturers of Europe. He was Commissioner of the Austrian Department in the London Exhibition of 1851, where he acquired valuable knowledge and experience for such an enterprise; which, with his position in society and good judgment, it is believed renders him eminently qualified for the office.

At about the same time the Board of Directors made the following appointments. C. E. Detmold, Superintending Engineer; Prof. J. Allen, Consulting Engineer; Edward Lange, Consulting Architect.

The next place day in order was to procure plans for the building. Sir Joseph Paxton, the Architect of the Crystal Palace, furnished one of singular beauty, but the shape of the ground upon which it was to be placed rendered its adoption impossible. Many other plans were offered, some of great merit and all ability, and well adapted to the purpose, from which the one thirty wide, designed by George J. B. Carstensen and Charles G. Gildemeister, Architects, was selected. This plan was chosen on the 4th of August last. On the 4th of September the masonry contracts were signed, and on the 2d of the following month the principal part of the iron work had been contracted for. The contracts for the masonry work stipulated that the foundations were to be ready for the erection of the iron work on the 21st of October; so that from the delivery of the iron work was to commence.

The space of ground being nearly square, upon which the Crystal Palace is to be erected, its shape is only to be considered for ornamental purposes. In other respects, no better one could be found in the City. The main feature of the building are as follows: It is with exception of the floor, entirely constructed of iron and glass. The general idea of the smaller part is a Greek cross, surmounted by a dome at the intersection. Long diameter of the cross will be 356 feet 5 inches long. There will be two similar entrances; one on the Sixth-av., and on Fourth-st., and one on Forty second st. Each entrance will be 37 feet wide, and 27 feet on the Sixth-av., will be approached by a flight of eight steps; over each front is a Gothic circular fan-light 41 feet wide, and 24 feet high, answering to the arches of the nave. The arms of the cross is on the ground plan 216 feet broad. This is divided into central nave and two aisles, one on each side; the nave 49 feet wide, each aisle 34 feet wide. The central portion or nave is carried up to the height of 67 feet, and the semi-circular arch by which it is spanned is 41 feet broad. There are then to effect two arches at right angles 41 feet broad, 67 feet high to the crown of the arch, and 265 feet long; and on each side of these naves is an aisle 34 feet broad, and 45 feet high. The exterior of the ridge-way of the nave is 74 feet. Each aisle is covered by a gallery of its own width, and 25 feet from the floor. The central dome is 100 feet in diameter, 68 feet inside from the floor to the spring of the arch, and 118 feet to the crown; and on the outside with the lantern, 149 feet. The exterior angles of the building are ingeniously filled up with a triangular form to 24 feet high, which gives the ground plan an octagonal shape, each side or face being 110 feet wide. At each angle is an octagonal tower 8 feet in diameter, and 65 feet high. Four large and richly winding staircases connect the principal floor with the gallery, which opens on the three balconies that are situated over the entrance-halls, and afford ample space for flower decorations, statues, vases, &c. The four principal staircases consist of two flights of steps with two landing places to each; the eight winding staircases are placed in the octagonal towers, which lead also to small balconies on the tops of the towers and to the roof of the building. The building contains on the ground floor 111,600 square feet of space, and in its galleries, which are 34 feet wide, 62,000 square feet more, making a total area of 173,600 square feet for the purposes of exhibition. There are then on the ground floor two acres and a half, or exactly 2 52-100; in the galleries one acre and 43-100; total within an inconsiderable fraction, four acres. There are on the ground floor 190 aequamal columns 21 feet above the floor, and 8 inches diameter, cast hollow, of different thicknesses, from half an inch to one inch. These columns receive the cast iron girders. These are 26 1-2 feet long and three feet high, and serve to sustain the galleries and the wrought-iron construction of the roof, as well as to bind the whole structure in every direction. The girders, as well as the second story columns are fastened to the columns in the first story, by connecting pieces of the same description and shape as the columns, 3 feet 4 inches high, having proper flanges and bolts to fasten all pieces together by bolts. The number of Lower floor girders is 252, besides 12 wrought iron girders of the same height, and 14 feet span over a part of the nave. The second story contains 144 columns, of the same shape as those below, and 17 feet 7 inches high. There remain another tier of girders, resembling those for the lower story, except that they are 14 feet long, and