

delineated all the physical features of the earth as upon a sliding school globe; but how immense the scale! Upon the equatorial line is to be a balcony, reached by special railways in the interior of the globe. The structure will be surmounted by a colossal model of the Pinta, and on the pedestal upon which the whole will stand will be a heroic statue of the daring discoverer Columbus.

Returning again to the subject of Chicago high buildings, here is an interesting fact to show the skill and pluck of the builders of that place. The Chamber of Commerce was originally the board of trade, and was then but six stories in height. When it was determined to make the building larger the following course was pursued: The old six story structure was raised on jacks and a new and massive foundation placed under it; the roof was then taken off and eight more stories added, so that it is now fourteen stories high. Openings were cut for ten elevators, and the interior of the entire structure, old parts and new, was elegantly furnished in polished marbles. The building is now a model of beauty and convenience. It stands on the northeast corner of La Salle and Washington streets.

One of the difficulties in erecting these tall piles is the preparing of the foundations to hold the immense weights which they are called upon to bear. New York stands upon the solid rock, blasting being constantly necessary in taking out the basement; but Chicago stands upon soft, sandy, treacherous soil. It is frequently necessary to lay solid foundations of railway iron, crossed and recrossed, and cement. The immense cost of this may be readily imagined. The foundation of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union building, now under way, cost over \$500,000 and now, owing to a lawsuit, part of it will have to be removed.

The following items regarding the Auditorium building are copied from the official pamphlet: Weight of entire building, 110,000 tons; cost of building, \$3,200,000; exterior material: First and second stories, granite; balance of building, Bedford stone; interior material: Iron, brick, terra cotta, marble, hard wood; number of bricks in building, 17,000,000; square feet of marble and mosaic floors, 50,000, and containing about 50,000,000 pieces of marble, each put in by hand; square feet of terra cotta, 800,000; wire lath, 175,000; plate glass, 60,000; miles of gas and water pipes, 25; electric wire and cable, 230; electric lights, 10,000; dynamos, 11; elevators, 13.

The Auditorium hall seats 4000 persons, and by using the stage, 8000; the recital hall 500; the hotel portion has 400 guest rooms. The dining hall is 175 feet long, and the business portion contains about twelve stores and 136 offices. What shall be said of this for a modern place of work?

The old Hasbrouck House, once Washington's headquarters, at Newbury, on the Hudson, is a place for those who take an interest in

relics and reminiscences of the Revolutionary War at which to pass a delightful hour or two. I and my companion "did the place" thoroughly. The quaint building is brimful of souvenirs, bringing back pages of history during and previous to the struggle for American independence—trinkets for which Indian chiefs had bartered away thousands of acres of land which had belonged to their forefathers from time immemorial; muskets, sabres, from the French and English wars; tomahawks, which had brained notables of both these countries; peace-pipes, which had been smoked in solemn circle; coats and hats of officers; the dresses worn by ladies at court balls; letters, lockets, rings, the watch presented by Washington to his bride; yea, a thousand things bringing back to mind and eye this first great period in the annals of our country.

The house itself is a curiosity. It contains the rather noted room, with the one window and seven doors, in which many an important council was held, and where Washington, LaFayette, and the most distinguished characters, civil and military, of the Revolution, often assembled, and seated at the long oaken table, and the huge fireplace read in each other's eyes their hopes and fears.

Fish Hill Bay is at the foot of the knoll in which the house stands, and opposite is the little town and hills of the same name. Up the river are the Highlands, and down the stream the famous Storm King.

It would be superfluous to say anything about the scenery of the Hudson; it is too well known. We made the trip down the river from Newburg on the steamer *Newark*, the companion of the *Mary Powell*. It was the last day trip of the season, and the boat was saluted by every passing craft, and by the locomotives on the shore, and from each village and town. The cadets at West Point came out in a body waving their handkerchiefs, and to all the salutes the boat returned an answer in a blast from its sonorous whistle.

I thought how much better are the days of peace than those of the warfare of which the river had once been the scene; and how much better to see floating from the great steamer the flags of America, England and France, than it would have been to have witnessed them in the past days flying at the heads of columns of fighting men.

Passing quickly from Chicago to New York, or *vice versa*, one cannot help comparing the rival cities. To my mind New York is by far the nobler city and always will be. Chicago lacks character; outside of being big, having high buildings, and being the home of business men of remarkable energy, it has nothing. New York is beautiful, poetic, cosmopolitan. It has everything which one can find elsewhere in the United States. Its park is lovely beyond compare; its art museum—the Metropolitan—a revelation and education to the people; its literary—the Lenox—an antiquarian's dream; its bay, grand; its

statue of liberty, an inspiration; its bridge, majestic; its river front, of never-ending interest; and then, best of all, the sea is its gateway. Yes, one feels in love with New York.

The Prospect Park, in Brooklyn, is a charming spot. Nowhere in it does one see the sign "Keep off the grass." A half day passed in Greenwood Cemetery will long be remembered by us. Surely, if anywhere, the dead can rest there peacefully; so the living think. The place is so quiet, so green, so soothing. Every where grass, trees, flowers, monuments, both humble and costly. We lost ourselves among its winding paths, and in some sequestered nook would suddenly come upon the last resting-place of some one whose triumphs we had read, or of whose works or deeds we had heard—the teachers, the benefactors of rulers of their kind. ALFRED LAMBOURNE.

NEW YORK, Oct. 20, 1890.

### ALLEGED LAND FRAUDS.

It is commonly understood that vast tracts of land lying between the Jordan river and the lake have been filed upon under the desert land law, but, in a large number of such cases, the physical possibilities of complying with the requirements of the statute are not apparent. In fact, a casual observer would at once say, without reserve, that the provisions of the desert land act cannot possibly be carried out according to either their letter or spirit, on the greater part of the land in question.

The law requires that the major part of each legal subdivision of the tract embraced in the filing shall be irrigated prior to the making of final proof. But where the water is to come from with which to irrigate more than a small percentage of the vast expanse of desert which lies between the river and the lake is a problem not yet solved.

Experiments have demonstrated that flowing wells can be sunk there and sufficient water be thereby secured for domestic uses, watering stock and irrigating a few trees. But to talk of irrigating more than an acre or two from any flowing well yet sunk in the region referred to would be nonsense. Hence, while titles to the land might be honestly obtained under the homestead and pre-emption laws, perjury would have to be committed in order to get title to more than a small portion of it under the desert act.

The attention of the land office in this city has been turned to this subject by the proceedings had in a very important case lately heard before Registrar Hobbs, in which a decision has not yet been rendered, it being still held under advisement.

The case referred to is that of Lewis S. Dicklason, contestant, vs. F. H. Auerbach, contestee, and the leading facts are given as follows: The contestee depended wholly upon what are known as the surplus, North Point and West Point canals, consolidated, for water with