

# THE DESERT WEEKLY

PIONEER PUBLICATION      ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

ESTABLISHED      TRUTH AND LIBERTY      JUNE, 1850.

NO 17.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1893.

VOL. XLVII.

## PRESIDENT CHAMBERS' REPORT.

R. C. Chambers, president of the World's Fair commission, furnishes the following report:

Gentlemen—I have visited Chicago in the discharge of my duties, as president of the Utah World's Fair commission. I arrived at the World's Fair city on September 5th, three days before the time set for the celebration of Utah Day. I found all the preparations well under way, our instructions to the secretary having been followed strictly.

A reception to Governor West and staff was tendered by the commission and board of lady managers on the evening of September 8th, which was attended by a great throng of distinguished people from all the states and foreign countries represented at the Fair. The members of our ladies' board distinguished themselves as entertainers on this occasion, and I am pleased to say that we have every reason to feel proud of the officers and members of the board, as well as the ladies who so graciously assisted them on this occasion.

The Utah building was handsomely decorated. Nothing occurred to mar the occasion; on the contrary, everything passed off as pleasantly as could be desired. Several of the distinguished musicians who accompanied the Tabernacle Choir rendered selections on this occasion, which added greatly to the pleasure of the evening. I am happy to say that I have been complimented by many on the success of our reception. I can only add that I believe Utah acquitted herself well on this occasion.

On September 9th we celebrated Utah Day at Festival Hall, but as a full account of this occasion has already been published, I will not add anything by way of description of the exercises. I may say, however, that Utah Day drew more people to the great Festival Hall than any other state day celebration that has taken place there. Our choir was the main attraction, and I am only too glad to say that the success of the day is in the main due to their presence. As was predicted, Utah Day was one of the great days of the Fair. Only two other days excel it in point of attendance, namely, July 4th, and Illinois Day, August 24th; and I doubt if it will be exceeded again.

I have given considerable time to the

Fair, with a view to investigating the part Utah is playing in this greatest of all expositions, and I am perfectly satisfied that we have done all and more than could be reasonably expected under the circumstances. Our showing in all of the departments is excellent. I found no reason to be ashamed of it. Our mining exhibit I consider by far the best of any exhibit in the mining department, and I am not alone in this opinion. Many leading mining men from all over the country have personally congratulated me, as the representative of Utah, on our fine mineral exhibit, the general opinion being that it is the best in the building.

Our agricultural exhibit is much better than I anticipated. It is equal to that of any other state or territory in variety and excellence of the products shown, and I find that it is doing Utah a wonderful amount of good, by advertising our resources in the most effectual and practical way possible. Utah makes the irrigation exhibit of the Fair, and no other exhibit attracts more attention than ours.

I fully concur in all that the vice president and executive commissioner have said in the reports heretofore regarding our exhibit at the Exposition, and I consider that every dollar expended will yield a rich return to the Territory. Inquiries concerning Utah are very numerous, and the foreign representatives, especially, are making very favorable reports to their governments in regard to our resources, all of which tend to induce immigration and investment of capital.

In conclusion, I will say that with our corps of lady and gentlemen assistants in attendance, as well as the amount of money expended, we have made a better and more creditable showing than any other state or territory.

R. C. CHAMBERS,  
President.

## A DISASTROUS WAVE.

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 4.—The disaster at Grand Isle and Cheniere is unparalleled in this section. The first authentic news came this morning when several survivors reached here. They tell a heartrending story. A tidal wave swept over the island, destroying lives and property on all sides. A hundred and forty-five families are said to have perished. The death list will run up into hun-

dreds. Among the dead are Dr. Frey, a prominent physician, and wife. The steamer Joe Weber was blown to pieces and several of the crew were lost.

Cheniere Caminda, opposite Grand, was less exposed than the latter. It is the home and quiet settlement of fishermen, and has a Catholic church and school house in course of construction, several stores and a number of residences. Home people here who are familiar with the topography of Grand Isle are inclined to think that the stories of destruction there are exaggerated. This is not the first time the island has been reported washed away. The island is practically cut off from communication with the mainland. The only means of obtaining information is through a passenger steamer that plies between this city and the island, and lingers in the oyster trade.

ATLANTA, La., Oct. 4.—A little town Hogan, Ga., has been demolished by a cyclone. Nine houses were blown down. George Barnett was killed.

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 4.—This morning near Burras, the bodies of three little girls, evidently sisters, were found clinging together and horribly mangled by a barbed wire fence against which they had been thrown by the force of the wind. A man, wife and two children went aboard a schooner outside of Bayou Cook. The schooner was wrecked and the husband and children were drowned. The woman lashed herself to the mast and floated in the angry sea all night. She was rescued in the morning by a passing vessel and brought here today.

John A. Sebut, a fisherman from the shore of Bayou Cook, told a representative of the Associated Press that nothing was left either on the shores of Bayou or the islands. On Bayou Simon situated in the grand bay there were fourteen fishermen and they were all drowned. He said that not a house was left on Bayou Cook and where the people are the Almighty only knows. The family of John Barbier, a fisherman in Bayou Cook, was washed away. The husband and two children were drowned but the wife and four children were rescued. In the house adjoining the man was saved but his wife and two children were drowned. The house of Geo. Frochle was washed away with the family. The wife and three children were all drowned. The next neighbor was a man named