

form of worship from the intelligent and devout follower in the footsteps of the Master down to and including the worshiper of graven images or the sun, every occupation in life and well nigh every product of every land—the greatest and grandest exposition of which history gives us any account was opened, the gates of the White City were thrown ajar, the ponderous mechanism was set in motion, the countless objects of interest and curiosity and mechanism and art were brought into view.

It was in every way fitting that the chief magistrate of the United States should be assisted in the work of opening the Fair by a lineal descendant of the man through whose mission not only the show but the nation itself were made possible. As nearly as could be the Discovery and the fruits thereof were brought face to face. The intervening incidents by which the two are connected are matters of record and familiar to most civilized people in both hemispheres; but nothing could give such vividness and virility to the epochs of the immediate past as the spectacle of the discoverer's descendant mingling freely with the newer race brought into being through the discovery. And how appropriate, how poetic it is that one of the grandest objects confronting him and them at the Fair is a commodious and elegantly appointed structure by and for women! But for the work and influence of a woman his ancestor could not have sailed, and had he not sailed there would be no assembled thousands admiring the wonderful and the beautiful in Chicago today.

The sincere hope that should find lodgment in the breast of every citizen is that no unfavorable elements may prevail and nothing unpropitious occur to curtail in the slightest degree the general effect of the scene or the enjoyment of those who visit it; but that all may be favorable and each particular feature be at its best. It is no less a patriotic than a comic and scientific exhibition and as such we take pride and pleasure in it whether present or absent. Let the acclaim go forth from far and wide—All hail and every success to the World's Columbian Exposition!

THE LAST WEEK.

Unless Governor Flower of New York takes some favorable action this week, the chances are that Carlyle W. Harris will immediately thereafter be sent to confront his victims in the great beyond. The terms of the sentence are that he be put to death by means of electricity any time during the week following, excluding Sunday of course, but the prison officials have so far shown a disposition to get such work out of the way as soon as possible and have not permitted very much of the allotted time to expire before carrying out their orders.

There seems at this time but one faint chance for Harris, and it is not amounting apparently to a great deal. When the two men who overcame the jailer and made their escape from the death house in Sing Sing prison several days ago gave Harris a chance to escape also, he would not avail himself of it, but preferred to remain where he was. This, on the face

of it, would be a rather strong plea for mercy, but how little it should count for when the man and his methods are taken into account! Harris is more of a student of human nature, more observant in his methods and more philosophical in his instincts than the ordinary criminal; he understood that a chance for a final escape was about one in a hundred and that recapture meant the utter destruction of every hope; while refusing to go when he could would of itself create a favorable impression which might result in something beneficial. However much of a villain he may be he is a long way from being a fool, and no one but a fool in his circumstances would have escaped, guilty or not guilty.

It is to be hoped the governor will pass upon the case in accordance with its merits as the same are made apparent to him, not in consonance with clamor one way or another; and that if he decides to let the example of a reward for not fleeing from impending justice be made, while still holding the prisoner guilty, he will not let it fall below such measure of punishment as will secure the people against the culprit during his natural life.

NOW LET SOMETHING BE DONE.

The two or three officials to whom the City Council has delegated full authority in the matter of guarding against and controlling the high water, are men who ought to be qualified by observation and experience for the responsible duties imposed. We are informed, however, that one of them is so absurdly deficient in both these qualifications as to express the sneering opinion: "All this here talk about high water and damage to property is rot; there haint no danger."

Of course this man, if he has been correctly quoted, will do nothing toward meeting the danger save in an unwilling and perfunctory sort of way. One of his associates is reported as being of much the same temper. This would leave the whole active part of the responsibility upon the shoulders of one man, which is exactly the best thing under the circumstances, provided that one man be the right one. The News has great hopes of Engineer Doremus; it believes he is neither indifferent to nor ignorant of the danger that threatens; it is prepared to hold up his hands in the exercise of the powers conferred by the recent action of the Council; and it hopes he will yield his judgment to no friendship nor be deterred from the line of his duty by no fear, in ordering the useful canals opened, the silly dams torn out, the weak places made firm, and a system of sense and effectiveness restored in place of the colossal collection of chimeras of which there has recently been so impressive a display.

PERSISTING IN ERROR.

The NEWS is advised by its Liberal antagonist that its (the NEWS) language criticising the other because of its position on certain work of the Ogden congress is the language of a "fish-wife," that it is "rot," and so on. The

style of diction usually accredited to the woman spoken of is what is commonly known as billingsgate—that is, vulgar, profane and rapid vehemence. The writers on this paper lay no claims to superiority in the matter of word-choosing, nor does any of them consider himself a literary genius; but each and every one does lay claim—and can establish the claim whenever it is questioned—to being somewhat above and beyond the kind of thing spoken of.

As to anything we have printed being "rot," that, of course, is a matter of opinion. If it is "rot" to present reasons why certain gentlemen, highly educated in most cases and altogether respectable in every case, should be informed regarding the Utah situation, what must it be to persist in a statement, made without the slightest showing other than assertion, that they not only do not know thereof, but insinuate that they are corrupt and assert that they are working in the interest of the Church? Is there any term more expressive of decay than the elegant one so freely resorted to by our cotemporary by which that kind of thing can be fitly described?

A quotation from the NEWS of last October is brought into requisition presumably to show how we have changed our tactics—that the sails have been trimmed to catch another breeze. This is laughable, or would be if it were not so grotesque as to suggest mental aberration and thereby seem pitiable. There is not a word in that extract that we do not stand by today, nor has there been anything in the intervening time appearing in these columns at all at variance with it. Certainly we would welcome statehood, and certainly again we are not going to beg for it nor break our hearts if it never comes. That is about the burden of anything that has been said on that subject.

The NEWS repeats that the Church as such has not of late taken any part in influencing or causing to be influenced any man or combination of men for or against the admission of Utah. Whoever gives birth to more or less than this brings forth a literary monstrosity—a something that is a good deal worse than "rot."

IMPATIENCE REGARDING HAWAII.

Some of the papers are impatient because the state secrets regarding Hawaii are not divulged. "Mr. Cleveland should take the people into his confidence," calls out one of them, while others manifest their restlessness variously. It is worthy of record that the President in this matter has added to his achievements one previously understood to be impossible—heading off the newspaper man. Perhaps it is this circumstance more than any patriotic consideration that is so galling to some of the fraternity.

One of the papers that is loudest and most persistent in its demands upon and criticism of headquarters—the San Francisco Chronicle—had this to say in a recent number:

Inasmuch as Grover Cleveland in his official capacity as President of the United States has sent James H. Blount to Hawaii as an executive commissioner, the people of the United States have an absolute and unqualified right to know