

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE OMAHA EXPOSITION.

It has taken some time for the people of the United States to realize that one of the most important expositions in the history of our country is now going on in Omaha, one of the most thriving cities of the Central States. If one with an imaginative eye can picture in his mind all that great expanse of country bounded on the east by the Allegheny mountains, on the south by the Gulf of Mexico, on the west by the Rockies, and on the north by Canada, he will have some conception of the great range of country shown at this exposition. Eastern states and cities can boast of their factories and buildings, of their steamships and their mills; but if one will stop in the turmoil of the day and think a minute, the question might arise in his mind, Where would these cities and mills and factories be if it were not for the wheat, corn, cotton and vegetable products, the cattle and hogs of these states which lie inland? The industries here compose the backbone of all the wealth of the world for that which feeds and clothes man is the source of all true happiness.

The government, too, has taken a great interest in the fair, and has constructed a beautiful building of classic architecture, and placed within it a collection which equals that of the World's Fair. The wax forms of soldiers dressed in the different styles of uniforms, attract special attention; and reverent does the passer-by feel as he passes a glass case, trimmed in black, protecting a model of the Maine. Many old public documents are shown, among which is a set of law books which contain the account of the great legal proceedings in England from the time of Richard II to George III. As one stands on the front steps of this building, and looks eastward, his eye stretches over a little lake—a lagoon, if you please—stretching a half mile from one end to the other. On the north are the agricultural machinery and electrical buildings, and the administration arch; on the south are the mining, fine arts, auditorium buildings, and the art gallery, and at the east end rises an arch, which every evening protects a band, which discourses sweet music. Imagine the sight, if you can. All these buildings are snow white, built in classic styles, with gorgeous monuments in marble and bronze looking down from the tops of the buildings on the passing throngs.

Grass and flower gardens bedeck the grounds here and there, and gondolas gracefully glide over the water. At midnight, twenty thousand lights, which fringe the buildings, are reflected, and the ripples on the lagoon become silver streaks among myriads of seeming stars.

Then there is the Midway, with all its freaks and amusements. There is the man who makes gold out of copper, and the woman who tells your past, present and future, especially your future. There is the "see-saw," which swings one to a dizzy height, and the Chinese theater, where you can enjoy grand opera.

Utah has done herself proud in the mines and mining building. The architectural design was made and followed out by Mr. S. W. Whitaker of Ogden, and from it many of the other states have copied. On a placard in one end we read, "Utah has produced in thirty years, gold, silver, lead and copper to the value of \$199,000,000," and at the other end are the words: "Utah,

the Jasper-walled Treasure House of the Gods." In the agricultural building, our State also has a display, consisting of silk, honey, fruits and cereals. The architectural design of this department is also very unique, and is the work of Mr. Whitaker of Ogden. Miss Annie Brown of Ogden has charge here and makes a most excellent and interesting director and entertainer.

There is now in attendance at the fair the famous national band of Mexico, consisting of forty members. It discourses beautiful music every day, and unique do the men look dressed in the Mexican regulation uniform.

Utah day will be about the 14th or 15th of October, during the Peace Jubilee to be held in Omaha, and which the President of the United States will attend.

The fair will pass into history as a great success. Every westerner should see it, for in it is a lesson of thrift, energy and integrity. It is a revelation to the beholder, for it teaches him not only of the power, but of the future possibilities of this great country.

LEVI EDGAR YOUNG.

BROWN BOYS IN BLUE.

Citizen soldiers of the Twenty-fourth, I ask the "News" to give you my welcome.

Your conduct under fire has wiped out the contumely piled centuries high upon your race. Since the days of the historical "Ham" a black skin has been an object of scorn. Here and there some towering black like Toussaint L'Ouverture or Frederick Douglass, both slaves, has shown the world that genius knows no favorite color. You, as a regiment gathered from the common people, have demonstrated that, under freedom, the nation possesses no better defenders than American citizens of African descent.

Only a generation ago your ancestors walked out of a condition of servitude that had continued for centuries on American soil. You have given us a glimpse of what your race may become. You have now the right to be commanded by men of your own color and to the same ready promotion that has met the conduct of white men no more deserving than yourselves; and it will be ungracious on the part of the commander-in-chief if you do not also find similar reward extended to some of your number.

You have covered yourselves with that glory that shines upon men who march unflinchingly to orders in the face of death. You went away as, pardon the word, "niggers." You come back as heroes. You can afford to forget and forgive. The glory of your conduct bleaches your skin.

Come, then, boys, from the front, come from San Juan; come from the fever-laden hospitals; come from the thunder and crash of battle; come to the peace you worked so well to win; come to the welcome you deserve; come and receive a greeting so loyal that you will swear anew allegiance to the nation whose defenders you are.

Permit me to say that your well won renown fills me with pride for the reason that all through my early life I was counted among those abolitionists whose watchword was that God had made of one blood all nations of the earth. Your achievement in Cuba, where the slavery of your race began in the new world, is such as to make Phillips and Garrison, and all those grand men and women, rise from their graves to hail your proud return.

Pampered people degenerate. Suffering people grow. You and your people have a future. May you make it as glorious as was that of the dark-skinned nations of the Nile in the long ago. The doing of duty is the royal road to the success that wins heaven's smile. You have done your duty under the hardest of circumstances. Continue, so and your people must rise to recognition, to place and to power. Welcome, boys, a hearty welcome. You have gloriously well come home.

CHARLES ELLIS.

HOW MANILA WAS TAKEN.

Ensign Pearson, whose interesting letters from the Philippines appear in the columns of the "News" from time to time, has written the following to his relatives here:

U. S. S. Raleigh, Manila Bay.

August 17, 1898.

Dear Family:—Since my last letter of August 7th, we have finished up our work out here in the fighting line. The monitor Monterey having arrived and all troops having landed and established their position on shore, a demand was made for the surrender of the city on August 7, giving forty-eight hours for a reply. A reply came in due time requesting twenty-four hours longer to consider.

Finally news came that Spanish honor would not permit the surrender of the city. So August 10 was thus the day set for the bombardment. The evening before, it was discovered that the position of certain of our entrenchments on shore were commanded by the Spanish guns and so a delay was necessary, to change our position of troops, that is a portion of them. This having been accomplished word was given on August 12 that tomorrow, August 13, the bombardment would take place.

All foreigners had several days before been taken away from the city on merchant steamers to remain in the bay until after the bombardment. At 9 a.m., August 13, the fleet got up anchor, being near Cavite, and steamed up to Manila in two sections; one was to bombard the fort and earthworks to the south of Manila and the other to engage the forts on the water front of the city. Our army was to the south of the city, near the fort and earthworks. The ships of the first section were the Olympia, Raleigh, Petrel, McCulloch and Callas, and engaged the southern fort and earthworks. The ships of the second section were the Baltimore, Charleston, Boston, Monterey and Concord, whose duty was to engage the forts in front of the city.

The intention from the beginning was not to fire into the city at all if it could be avoided, but to reduce the forts and earthworks where necessary. The principal opposition was to be met at the southern fort, for there the Spanish troops were concentrated to check our army, and it was there our army would have to go to enter the city.

The first section of vessels commenced firing on the southern fort at long range; our guns could easily reach the mark, but the Spanish guns could not carry to us so they did not reply. After firing awhile on the fort, with no attempt at a reply, we decided our shots had driven them away and they had gone into their trenches farther inland. So we fired over the fort right into them behind their breastworks of sand and sandbags, battering them down and killing many. After about an hour's firing, we ceased, and the army, which had been standing ready, made a charge along the Spanish lines, capturing the fort and planting our flag on it, and driving the Spaniards back. The Spanish loss from the navy and army firing was 135 killed and many wounded. The loss to our