The Liberal Arts.

Grandeur of the Building Bearing That Name in Jackson Park—The Splendid German Display.—Articles of Antiquity, Rarity, Handicraft and Ornamentation—"Impossible to Estimate."

CHICAGO, June 25.—There is a building in the Fair grounds whose structure might stand for a typical emblem of a world, so immense are its dimensions and so varied and numerous are the objects on display within its walls. It is the structure known as the Liberal Arts building and if there were no other exhibition on the grounds than that contained in its interior the value of this alone would make a trip to the locality a profitable and advisable enterprise. The dimensions and architecture of the building itself are perhaps the chief wonder of the Fair, the ground area being something over thirty acres and the hight of the roof over the central hall being two hundred and forty-five feet. The floor space in the building including galleries comprises forty-four acres, and every inch of this space with the exception of the narrow aisles or passage-ways is occupied by exhibits. The building is divided into a great central hall three hundred and thirty by one thousand two hundred and eighty feet, and this is surrounded by a nave one hundred and seven feet wide. It is the largest building ever erected under a roof, and it is said to be three times larger than St. Peter's at Rome and four times larger than the Coliseum which had a seating capacity of eighty thousand persons. Three hundred thousand people, it is estimated, could be seated in the Liberal Arts building and each one given six square feet of space. The Auditorium is considered the most notable building in Chicago, but twenty of these structures it is said could find room on the great floor. The skylights measure eleven acres, and forty carloads of glass were used in the construction of the roof.

Entering this great building one is almost dazed by the immensity of space and the stupendous array of exhibits ranged throughout its extent, so far almost as the eye can reach a dazzling and wonderful scene is outspread. Splendid pavilions representing every nation under the sun are grouped throughout its space, and within them are objects illustrating the industries and arts of the entire civilized globe. Each nation has vied with the others in the effort for display and the result is a magnificent vista or gorgeous arches, facades, statuary, etc., making the scene seem like a resplendent and enchanting vision.

As one looks down the dazzling array the thing which attracts the most insistant attention is the Germanic pavilion, and one in fact which takes the palm of prominence from every other in the building. The pavilion occupies the middle space of the central hall and stretches over an extent comprising at least 350 feet. The design of the pavilion is extremely beautiful, each of the outer walls and entrance being a work of art. Columns and arches, great doors and windows figure in the construction and each of these is decorated with groups of splendid statuary illustrating scenes of the Nibelungen Lied. The exhibits contained in this grand pavilion are simply peerless in splendor and value, for though all the nations have furnished marvels in the way of magnificent exhibits, yet no other country in the building can touch that of Germany's entire display. Of the thousand wonderful exhibits in the pavilion the most splendid is that of the porcelain manufacturers, the variety of articles composed in the display, together with the magnificent design of the arrangement, making it the principal feature in fact of the entire building.

The principal exhibit in this ware occupies the central space of the German pavilion and is in the form of a separate room, constructed entirely of porcelain made in the shape of a castle, with a gorgeous central front and two side apartments of balconies with steps leading up on either side and great twisted columns supporting the beautiful arches and roof. The making of the twisted columns alone cost the manufacturers $10,000 and when it is remembered that the entire structure, steps, floor, roof, walls, columns and the myriad decorations and exhibits contained within are of exquisite porcelain, one may gain some faint idea of the value of the whole collection. A pair of urns, hand-painted, which stand at the head of the steps, are valued at forty thousand dollars, and a much smaller one inches at fifteen thousand. A magnificent mantel done in tiles and a beautifully painted picture making part of the porcelain walls of the pavilion are striking features of the interior, and a hundred articles of porcelain bric-a-brac make up the wonderfully beautiful collection. There is a clock six feet high artistically designed and executed with figures done in statuary and painting and vases, tables, ottomans and almost every other article imaginable are found executed in the beautiful ceramic.

A second porcelain display, the exhibit of another firm, provides a royal treat in its rare hand-painted pictures done in porcelain; the collection comprising copies of some of the most noted pictures of the old masters. Guido Reni and the Sistine Madonna are beautifully executed and a copy of the picture, showing youth in pursuit of a beautiful figure representing pleasure with death on a black charger following close at his heels, shows some wonderfully exquisite coloring. Another impressive and artistically executed picture is that of three female figures representing law, day and night. In the foreground day behoids the sleeping gray dawn in her arms, and back of them, in purple shadows, lies the lifeless figure of night stretched out on the rocks, the different shades of color typifying the personality of each being faithfully and delicately renovated.

A number of furniture and house furnishing firms have erected enormous ones to a display, and the result is shown in a series of artistic rooms, showing designs of furniture, tapestries, curtains and other draperies, the whole arranged with artistic effect, and one of the treats of the Exposition is to view the progress that has been made in the art of house decorations and the beautiful, ingenious and luxurious appointments that figure in the fashionable and palatial residences of today. Besides the modern are also represented the old fashioned styles of furnishing apartments, one representing an old Norman hunting and dining room, the furnishing having delightfully appropriate to the subject, the tapestry, tiles, etc., showing hunting scenes, and the chairs, mantel, cuckoo clock, etc., being carved with falcons and deer heads.

Another extremely interesting department is the German clock exhibit, the collection comprising some beautiful and valuable specimens. There are a number of small cuckoo clocks whose cost is over $100, and one large timepiece provided with chimes whose value is $225. There are others whose cost is less dizzy, and there is no doubt that the sales of the beautiful collection will be sold as a souvenir before the close of the Fair.

Besides the ornamental exhibits there are bottles on bottles devoted to the German silk and cloth manufactures, the rows of immense show-cases covering silk from the single thread to the heaviest and most elegant fabrics, the latter alone being beautiful and varied enough to make in itself a sufficiently striking exhibits. Besides these are velvets, plushes, brocades, linens, etc., whose beauty and elegance both in texture and color are enough almost to dazzle one in looking at the display.

There is a whole section devoted to lace and one may see every variety of article from the yard lace, collars, ruffs, etc., to the most beautiful curtains wrought in wonderfully lovely designs of real lace. A large space is also devoted to embroidery, and some of the best specimens of work at the Fair in this line are to be found in the exhibit.

The rug department is a revelation of art, the artistic design and work exhibited excelling almost every other display upon the grounds except the East Indian.

An interesting section is that devoted to precious articles and souvenirs belonging to members of the royal family and other titled and eminent persons of the German Empire. There is a clock belonging to Kaiser Frederick which stands five feet high and is provided with a royal Angle bell which sounds at the sunset of the hour, a carved figure of a huntsman leaning from a tower at the top of the clock and blowing a mounted trumpet the design. An interesting object is an album which belonged to William I, presented by the ladies of Berlin on his 90th birthday, decorated with a beautifully carved design of his coat of arms, the edges of the cover bearing the dates of different battles and noted events of his reign. There is a shield presented to Bismarck by the members of his regiment and an album presented to Von Moltke on his 80th birthday, by the knights of all Germany.

What the cost of the whole German exhibit would amount to can in reality hardly be estimated. The German guard whom I interrogated concerning this item replied with a proud smile and shrug, "Impossible to estimate!" and from what I had viewed of the precious articles contained in the display and the thought of the cost of the structures and the transportation contained, was prepared to echo his exclamation.

PERDITA.

THE FAR NORTH.

SEYDISK.

The railroad laborers working on the railroad near Ormskoldsvik, have struck for higher wages.

The ice in the Baltic off Libau was found to be three feet thick the first days of June.

A large mechanic workshop will be built in Swibert. A stock company has been organized for the purpose.

Seven hundred and thirty-three persons emigrated to America the other day by way of Gothenburg.

The epidemic of small-pox is increasing in Gothenburg. Several cases were reported from Partilled the other day.

King Oscar has subscribed some crowns for shares in the proposed sugar factory at Roma, on the island of Gotland.

A magnificent public school house will be built in the Katrina parish of Stockholm. The cost is estimated at 317,000 crowns.

The Goteborg Handelstidning has collected and sent over 5,000 crowns to the people suffering by the late landslide in Vaerdalen, Norway.

The naval cadets of Carlskrona have donated their salary for two months to the fund which is being raised for the building of a new earring.

The property of the state telegraph company is estimated at 3,500,000 crowns, while the property of the state telephone company amounts to over 5,000,000 crowns.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Von Segebaden died at his country mansion Kaellodal at the age of 71 years. The deceased was widely known as an author on military subjects.

Sir Punnett, the English minister to Stockholm, has been appointed minister to Brussels, and Sir M. John, the minister to Mexico, will be transferred to the Swedish capital.

Mrs. Elise Hammargren, married to a prominent manufacturer of Degadal committed suicide while temporarily insane. She leaves besides her husband, eight small children.

A severe storm is reported from the vicinity of Ashtanad. Lightning struck three farms at the same time, which were burned to the ground. Many cattle were roasted to death.

Another to do work appointment is reported. J. A. Nilsson, a prominent merchant of Gothenburg, has been fitted to the self. The Salvation Army passed a lottery with the same consent in any minutes crown ($5.00).

Archbishop Sandberg celebrated his 70th birthday, and was congratulated by students of persons, the possible being overpowers. In honor of the day the archbishop donated 1,000 crowns to the cathedral of Upsala and 1,000 crowns to a charity institution.

STOCKHOLM, June 22.—(Special.)—Several cyclists of Washington, D. C., have arrived at Helsingborg. They intend to make a tour on bicycle through several provinces of Sweden, and also make a visit to the other of Sweden's cities, Upsala and Norkoping. The trip is expected to last about two months.

NORWAY.

The crown prince and crown princess have donated 1,000 crowns to the people of Vaerdalen.

A collection is being taken up in all the churches of Norway for the suffering people of Vaerdalen.

The heirs of the deceased merchant Johan Tonsen, have donated 10,000 crowns to the city of Bergen.

Two large farms were burned down the other day at Innerdal, situated a few miles from the church of Kolsen.

The Christiania Kunstmuseum has collected over 17,000 crowns for the suffering people of Vaerdalen.

At a competition in Christiania between Swedish, German and English fire engines the Swedish engine was given the first prize by the jury.

The radical papers have insulted King Oscar in the most opprobrious way, because they think that the amount of 1,000 crowns, which he donated to the suffering people of Vaerdalen, might to have been several times multiplied.

Dr. Oscar Dickson declared himself willing to contribute money to Dr. Nansen's expedition to the north pole, but the offer was refused on account of Dickson being a Swede and contributions are wanted only from the Norwegians.

DENMARK.

Herman Bang, the author, is sick.

By the latest census the city of Copenhagen has 378,000 inhabitants.

Judge Thiele, a prominent criminal lawyer of Copenhagen, was struck by apoplexy while he was walking on the street, and died in a few hours.

Erik S. Henius, Danish consul to Odessa, Russia, though a stranger at that place, has been appointed a member of the board of arbitration of the exchange. This position is important, as duty being to settle all disputes between the merchants, the decision of a select committee of three being final.

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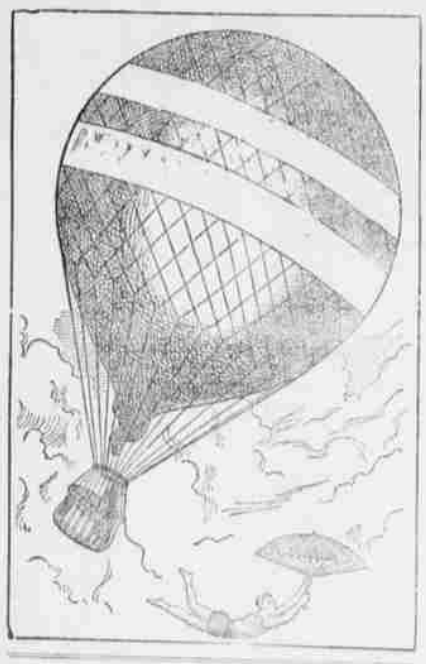
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—AT—
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