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PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, JUNE 13.

1864.

THE FAIR MOVEMENT IN THE LOYAL STATES.—No. 5.

THE BOSTON FAIR.—[Another Account.]
 U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.
 N. E. WOMEN'S AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION.
 No. 18 West Street, Boston, June 7, '64.

C. J. STILLE, Esq.—*Dear Sir*: In reply to Mr. BLATCHFORD's statement to me, of your plan for a history which should embody that of all the Sanitary Fairs, I told him, that respecting ours in Boston, there is very little to be said, but that little I should be happy to say. My time is so fully occupied that I have been unable to write earlier, and I shall beg the favor of you, that my name shall not be mentioned in connection with the few items I may communicate.

The Fair originated, and was carried forward in our quiet, staid, New England way, being entirely simple in its organization, and almost noiseless in preparation. At a meeting of the Finance Committee of the New England Women's Auxiliary Association, on the 11th of May, 1863, the Fair was suggested, not as the *best*, but as an effective way of raising funds for the purpose of the Commission. It was voted, that it be announced in the daily journals, that it was proposed to hold such a Fair in Boston in the ensuing autumn. This announcement, signed by all the members of the Finance Committee, was made in the following terms in the Boston papers of the 19th May, and was the only notice, or circular of any kind, ever printed, except a repetition of

the same on June 8th, with the list of names of Managers annexed:

"The Finance Committee of the New England Women's Branch of the Sanitary Commission, desire to call the attention of the public, to a Fair for the benefit of that Association, which is to be held in Boston, early in the ensuing autumn.

"It is confidently believed that for an object so dear to the hearts of all New England women, it will be possible to secure such general and efficient effort as to render it even more attractive and successful than the Bunker Hill Fair, of days gone by.

"As the work of supplying needful articles for the use of our soldiers is now most successfully carried on, (especially by country towns in New England) the subscribers earnestly hope and desire that the regular labors of friends of the Commission may not be in any way interrupted by efforts to respond to this new call, which is addressed especially to those who may not yet have lent their aid to the cause, and in the hope, that by suggesting a variety of work, not only no needle will now be idle in New England, but that many other talents and accomplishments may thus be called into action to further the great object in view."

The Finance Committee appointed from its number four ladies and two gentlemen, who, inviting the assistance of two others, selected the gentlemen who should be invited to act as managers, and ladies who should be solicited to take charge of tables. This was the *only* Committee ever appointed, and the names of its members never appeared in print.

It was decided to hold the Fair in the Boston Music Hall, the largest building in the city, of

easy and agreeable access. It proved, however, to be much too small for our purpose; but in our doubt and distrust of the interest we could command, we never entertained the idea for a moment of erecting a building for our purpose. It was decided that twenty-four tables could be placed in the hall. One was assigned to each town in the vicinity of Boston that signified a wish to be represented at the Fair; the remainder, after assigning one as a flower table and one as a "donation table," were placed in charge of ladies of Boston, who had accepted our invitations to take them. And there ended the work of preparation for the Fair so far as any committee was concerned.

No subscriptions were ever solicited, and no expenses were ever incurred. Two rules were made and quietly mentioned to ladies when invited to take charge of tables: that no article should be received for sale upon commission, but that at the opening of the Fair, every article should belong unqualifiedly to the table upon which it was placed. 2d. That nothing should be sold by raffle, of less value than \$20, and if, after being placed in raffle a purchaser should be found, each should be withdrawn. Each lady had the entire responsibility of supplying the table over which she presided. By the kindness of Mr. Secretary CHASE, articles imported for the Fair came in free of duty, giving a large profit upon goods so provided.

It was voted to expend nothing in decora-