

disposing of them to every applicant; a Temple in which Flora was the presiding deity; a Bullfinch that sung sweetly every hour; a Museum of relics and curiosities; a gallery of pictures, and a skating pond—a philosophical toy by which fourteen little figures when moved on a revolving disc, were made, by mirrors, to represent thousands of skaters gliding over a surface miles in extent. More attractive and profitable than any other, was a Duches county room one hundred years ago, in which society at that period was illustrated by living persons in real costumes and among domestic articles a century old. I will describe it:

The exterior of one side of a spacious house was seen. The double-door was adorned with a knocker which had done service one hundred and twenty years at a mansion near Poughkeepsie. The ticket-holder would use it, when the upper door would open and a pretty waiting maid would appear, dressed in ancient petticoat and short gown. She received the visitor and his ticket, and opened the way into the mansion. What a change! Overhead was a low ceiling with huge projecting beams, on one of which hung a fowling-piece and powder-horn at least a century old. Before him was a huge fire-place, ornamented with old Dutch tiles, on which, in blue color, were illustrations of Scripture history. Over the mantle-shelf were hung silhouette likenesses, a "bull's eye" watch, etc. Upon it were ancient plain flower-vases and other now obsolete ornaments, antique candlesticks, a tobacco-pouch, and a few other things; and below it were two immense Holland tobacco-pipes. On the wainscoating of the jamb was a "Poor Richard's Almanack," of 1754. On one side of the fire-place was an ancient "corner-cupboard," filled with antique china of all kinds, from the small teacup to the spacious punch-bowl. On the other side was an old English clock in tall mahogany case, and a delicate ebony candle-stand.

There was also the spinnet, the musical instrument of two centuries ago, out of which grew the harpsichord and the piano-forte. There was a sofa brought into Duches county from Holland in 1690; and more than a dozen old chairs of as many patterns. Two old mirrors, one of them with candelabra attached, reflected the scenes. The walls were hung with ancient pictures and "samplers," some of them brought from Holland, and upon a high shelf were about a dozen books, most of them printed in Holland, and bound in vellum, and none less than a century old. Upon a small antique table lay a fine old Dutch bible with silver clasps; and upon a peg hung a scarlet cloak and a turkey-down tippet, both made in the middle of the last century. A sword, with pistol attached, used in the French and Indian war, hung on a hook; and in one part of the room was a large round dining-table of solid mahogany, brought from Holland

at the beginning of the last century, at which Washington and many distinguished men of the Revolution had sat. The windows were shaded with curtains which did service in the country before the Revolution. The entire woodwork of the apartment was of the sombre red-brown peculiar to old dwellings. Scarcely an article in the room was less than one hundred years old. Such was its "still life."

Most attractive of all was the family who inhabited the room during the Fair. It was composed of ladies, some of them members of some of the oldest families on the Hudson. They were all dressed in the costumes of their grandmothers or great-grandmothers—the genuine dresses, full a hundred years old. One was seen merrily spinning on the great wool-wheel; another making thread with an ancient flax-wheel; and another, as the mistress of the house, presided at the tea-table—the ancient one just mentioned—whereon might be seen an abundance of the silver, pewter and china vessels and plates of the olden time, with the substantial and dainties that lay on a thrifty housewife's table in those days, and the lump of sugar suspended by a string, that the tea-drinker might choose to "stir or bite." Moving about with dignity was seen an apparent guest of the family, in the costume of Mrs. Washington when she was Martha Custis, in 1755. Others of the family were engaged in proper duties. A bright and stirring Dutch housekeeper preserved order in domestic affairs. Serenity was personified in the quiet demeanor of a sweet Quakeress in her grandmother's drab silk dress; while the aborigines were represented by an Indian girl in full costume, wearing on her arm an embossed silver band, which was taken from an Indian grave on one of the Thousand Islands of the St. Lawrence. To make the group complete, in the chimney-corner sat gray-haired Pompey in patriarchal dignity, in small-clothes and scarlet waist-coat. Thus every ingredient of society in our county a hundred years ago was represented.

Our little Fair was a success, because the net profits equalled the sum of one dollar for each of the population; and because it gave a new impulse to our patriotism, enlarged the action of our benevolent propensities, and expanded the orbit of our sympathies. Individuals and communities are enriched by such moral culture.

Who can estimate the benefit we have received as a nation, from the act of the loyal people in making a free gift of more than two HUNDRED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS for the comfort of the soldiers and their families? L.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., June 1864.

THE Eternal Providence is now writing, in characters of blood, a new and magnificent chapter of Human History, and these great Fairs are the arabesques that illuminate its pages.

A "TIPPEE" WOMAN.

The term of the three months' volunteers, under the first call of the President, expired in the fall of 1861. Most of those from Pennsylvania having been enlisted at Harrisburg, were discharged from service at that place. At that time the arrangements for paying and transporting large bodies of men were quite inadequate, and the discharged soldiers were necessarily thrown upon the hospitality of the town until they could be paid and sent to their respective homes. The houses of the citizens were thrown open and every resident family daily fed a certain number of soldiers. Of course, at a time like this, the Governor's house was considered very much in the light of a hotel, and the run of custom was tremendous. It need hardly be said in Pennsylvania that the family of the worthy Governor were quite equal to the emergency, and that their energy in procuring and their liberality in supplying food for all who required it seemed to be without limit. One day, after about one hundred and fifty people had dined there, and the household were completely exhausted by the labors of the day, the indefatigable mistress of the house was observed by a soldier to be still at her post, supplying with her own hand everything that was required.

He seemed unable to restrain the expression of his feelings, and finally said to her: "I am very much disappointed in you marm." "Ah, how so?" "Why I always heard you was a proud woman." "Why, who has done me such injustice?" "Well, it was talked round generally that you were proud; in fact I always thought you were a 'Tippee' woman." What this might mean exactly the lady did not know, but as it seemed to be a class of female not very high in the speaker's estimation, she expressed her gratification that she was not included in it. Said he, "after the affair at Falling Waters, where I was hurt, I came to a house near Martinsburg, where a woman was setting sewing, and I asked her for a glass of water. She told me to go to h—l. I then raised my musket and said to her: 'Your needle and thimble or your life.' She handed over this needle and thimble, and I intended to take them home to my wife, but you have been so kind to me and all of us, that I would like to present them to you." They were, of course, gracefully accepted, and are now highly cherished by the owner as a testimonial that in the opinion of at least one gallant man she is not a "Tippee" woman.

TRULY hath Don CASTELAR, Professor of History in the University of Madrid, declared that America is now breaking "the chain that girdles the world." What nation is there within the borders of the civilized world that does not show marks of the corroding influence of American Slavery, deadening the sensibilities of mankind to the sacredness of human rights?