

TO THE WIDOW OF MAJOR BOOTH,

Who addressed, in a brave speech, the soldiers under the command of her late husband at his burial in Fort Pickering.

O, most true wife! worthy that sacred name!
 O, patriot! born for our great history!
 O, thou possessor of the sole true fame,
 Deep in all hearts, a loving memory!
 Breathing afar New England's sea-fed air,
 We sit and weep to know thy stricken lot,
 Then glow and kindle at thy noble plot,
 Nobly performed; a heavy deed, and rare;
 Thy husband's glory thou hast made more fair,
 And still wouldst follow on his sacred way;
 In night thy lamp hath spread a golden day;
 What breast so dark but feels its light is there?
 Thy blood-stained flag, hold by his shattered band
 Shall quicken life and freedom through our land.

MAY 4, 1864.

OUR OWN GREAT CENTRAL FAIR.

If there lives a Pennsylvanian, or a Jerseyman, or a Delawarian, with soul so dead that never to himself has said, this is our own Great Central Fair, and thus saying, taken his wife and his children, and his reasonable sized greenback, and gone to Logan Square, and done the Fair, from a peep at a five cent show to an inspection of Vanderlyn's Ariadne, the said Pennsylvanian, Jerseyman or Delawarian should be immediately secured at any cost, and placed in a glass case, in the department of Relics and Curiosities. Mrs. JAMES would, doubtless, find the receipts of her department largely increased by such an acquisition. We resume our notices of matters and things at the Fair:

THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

When the Great Sanitary Fair was first suggested no one entered more heartily into the scheme than did the teachers and pupils of our public and private schools. At once a series of entertainments, musical and literary, were projected and carried through with remarkable success. The young ladies of the different sections were particularly active, and our magnificent Academy of Music never held such large audiences as when the school girls presented the claims of the United States Sanitary Commission to public favor.

The controllers of the Public Schools, together with the Directors of the Sections, did all in their power to speed the great cause, and the result is seen in the contributions already made and the display now presented in the Fair. Mr. Edward Shippen has been engaged night and day in assisting in the organization of the many societies started in furtherance of the object of the Fair, and he is still devoting his time to it, to the entire exclusion of his private business.

The School Department is situated on the second avenue from Eighteenth street, running south from Union Avenue. Individual taste has been exerted to the utmost to give variety

and beauty to the decorations to the table devoted to the different sections, and those engaged in the work have the satisfaction of knowing that their avenue is second only to the Union Avenue in attractiveness. All the tables are filled with goods, some of which are of great beauty and value, and the ready sales prove that the ladies engaged have succeeded in meeting the popular taste.

We have endeavored to secure a complete record of the School movement in connection with the Fair. Such a history would prove invaluable in the future. Our success has been but moderate. Relying upon the teachers and attendants for information, we find that the contributions from them have not answered our expectations, and we trust that if any thing is omitted in the subjoined sketch, it will not be attributed to lack of industry or want of sympathy with the above on our part. To the ladies and gentlemen who assisted us so cheerfully and ably in the collection of materials, we tender our thanks, and proceed to enter upon the task set before us.

THE GIRL'S NORMAL SCHOOL.

Midway in the avenue is the table occupied by the contributions from the young ladies of the Normal or Girl's High School. In addition to the collection of fancy goods there are several fine drawings, the work of the pupils. These display great ability in this line, and give promise of future renown to the young ladies who contribute them, if they will but continue their artistic labors. The collection of goods is large and varied, and the young ladies prove decided adepts as saleswomen. The other sections will have to look to it that this section does not march off with the banner which is to be given to the section making the largest returns at the close of the Fair.

THE BOYS' CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL.

For several weeks before the opening of the Fair, a Committee of young gentlemen from the "Boy's Central High School" were busily engaged in decorating the avenue appropriated to the School Department, and the result has shown with what taste and energy their labors were conducted.

But their exertions did not stop here. Through the influence of Mr. Edward Shippen, Chairman of the Committee on "Public and Private Schools," and Prof. Maguire, of the High School, they secured large gifts of books, chiefly from the Harpers, of New York, and Messrs. Biddle, Uriah Hunt, Butler and Martin and Randall of Philadelphia.

With these they have filled the largest single table in the whole School Department, and have worked diligently to make the sales equal to those of any other table; always at their post, and courteous to all, they have earned credit for themselves and the institution to which they belong.

There are two noticeable features at their table, one of High School bravery, and the

other of High School ingenuity. The first is the battle-flag of the "Louisiana Tigers," captured by Captain William L. Stork, a High School graduate, and the second is an elegant and ponderous scrap-book, the gift of Master Charles Mortimore, a pupil of the school. It is filled with magnificent steel engravings, and valued at \$150.

Among the committee no one has been more diligent and active than Master Thomas Ayres. He has secured presents of stationery of all descriptions from several of the leading firms of the city, the sales of which have materially aided the receipts of the table.

The pupils of the High School have raised about \$1,000 in cash for the Sanitary Commission, which, added to the receipts from the table, will make a total worthy the high name of the school.

The following young gentlemen constitute the High School Committee. We can only hope they will continue as well as they have begun in the good work of aiding suffering humanity: Richard Newman, Thomas W. Ayres, Wilson Kilgore, William Witters, Hartwell Sterr, James Conner, Ralph M. Townsend, Benjamin F. Houseman, Charles Howell, William Eastwick, William Zeigler, Brandon L. Keys.

THIRD SECTION.

This section has been actively engaged in the Sanitary cause from the first. The directors authorized one session throughout the section immediately after the action of the Controllers of Public Schools granted such privileges. This gave all the teachers an opportunity to accomplish much in aid of the good cause. The teachers have been laboring with assiduity, as the tables at the Fair will bear abundant testimony. The stands contain a great number of handsome and costly articles, which reflect much to their credit and taste, as everything is of their own manufacture, excepting a few small articles presented by the pupils.

The Mount Vernon Female Grammar School gave a grand musical concert at the Academy of Music in April, and the Male Grammar School a grand literary and musical entertainment in the Musical Fund Hall in May, in behalf of the Sanitary Fund, and both realized a very handsome amount, as the result of the great liberality and patriotism of the directors and patrons of these schools.

All the Secondary and Primary Schools have aided liberally in swelling the fund in the Section, to be contributed to the "Sanitary Commission at the close of the Fair."

The table of this Section presents a very fine display of national emblems furnished and arranged by the Directors and teachers.

The shelves and counters (burdened and beautified with the many handsome articles given) are surmounted with a very fine specimen of the "American Eagle," the