THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

THE PITTSBURG

DISPATCH. SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13.

WE LEAD THE WORLD,

Magnificence of the New Library Now Building at Washington.

NO LIKE STRUCTURE EQUALS IT.

he Cost Will Be Six Millions and It Will Stand a Thousand Years.

BOOKS COME ON AN ENDLESS CHAIN

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.] WASHINGTON, Nov. 12 .- In the new Library of Congress, which is now rapidly coming up and attaining form and substance here in Washington, the United States will have the noblest and most magnificent library structure on the globe, and a collection within it-already ranking fifth in point of size with the greatest collections of the Old World-which is bound soon to become the pride and ornament of America, and a treasury of science, learning, culture and intellectual wealth inestimable in value

and intellectual wealth inestimable in value to the whole English-speaking race.

The new library building, when completed, will be the largest edifice in Washington, except the Capitol. It will cost \$6,000,000, and will last, it is expected, a thousand years. It will cover 111,000 square feet of ground. The State war and navy building covers an area of 90,032 square feet, the British Museum Library 97,200, the Royal Library of Bayaria at 97,200, the Royal Library of Bavaria a Munich 99,312, and the new German Parliament building at Berlin 110,000 square feet. The construction was begun four and a half years ago, and will probably not be concluded until three and a half years

It Will Not Burn Easily. It will be built almost wholly of granite,

It will be built almost wholly of granite, bricks and iron, and in architectural design will partake of the Italian Renaissance style, adapted in all its parts to the purposes of an ideal public library. The front granite walls are now raised around the building to the second story of the main entablature, most of the court walls are up, the "book stacks" inside are nearly completed, and the central dome of the rotunda is really for the skylicht roof. rotunds is ready for the skylight roof. The building is 470 feet it length, running north and south, parallel with the Capitol, and 340 feet in width, and when finished will be 140 feet in height from the ground to the top of the down. to the top of the dome.

The granite used was all contracted for in advance. It comes from Concord, N. H., and Granite, Md. It is all cut and dressed to scale at the quarries, and arrives here in a finished condition, costing \$3 per foot. The structural iron that has gone into the ting, lace, crochet work, embroideries, homespuns and other goods made by them and disposed of at the several shops established by her in Dublin, London and elsewhere. Literally she practices what she preaches in the way of fostering Irish industries. The day she received me she in our place. MARY TEMPLE BAYARD.

those nearest her.

If we have any notion of emulating the example of the admirable Countess of Aberdeen I would suggest that we do not do as much as she does, but as much as we believe such a good and sensible woman would do in our place. MARY TEMPLE BAYARD.

is finished, and they are all to be made within the limits of Washington. The square tiles that are to be used for flooring will come from Western Massachusetts and

Bricks Imported From England. The white enamelled bricks that live the courts were brought from Leeds, England, and cost \$75 per thousand. No enamelled bricks of this kind were made in America at the time the contracts were entered into. All the work on the building is done on the

All the work on the building is done on the eight-hour system, in accordance with the laws lately enacted by Congress. Over 500 men are employed at times.

The site unites the requisites of close vicinity to the Capitol, salubrity, desirable surroundings and elevation, the latter insuring dryness, which is a cardinal point in providing for a great national library that is to last for centuries.

providing for a great national library that is to last for centuries.

The building will have capacity for 3,000,000 volumes. The intention is not to fit up the whole interior at once with iron shelving, but to introduce it gradually, finishing off only the central portions, rotunds and connecting rooms at the outset. The building consists of a high subbasement or cellar, a rusticated high basement, and a main story, which is balustered like the Capitol at the roof. The center and corner pavilions have an attic to give them height. A magnificent enamelied skylight is to be thrown over the great central pavilion to light its double stairways, which leave a vast open space between them, proleave a vast open space between them, pro-ceeding up to the main rotunds of the library. The portal of this front consists of several great arches, and outside of these is a grand stairway of gentle ascent, to which carriage-ways and winding paths will be

From the boiler rooms, under ground and east of the building, the steam pipes are laid into the cellar, where they will heat the water which in its turn is to warm the interior atmosphere. Several different kinds of temperature will be needed. The heat which will be agreeable to occupants of the reading room would be decidedly too much for the book stacks or for the museum. There will be no fire in the building, al-

though there might be with perfect safety. There will be both stairways and elevators, and an admirable system of communi-cation with the reading room that will avoid all delay and contusion. The super-intendent of the reading room will occupy a raised circular desk or dais in the middle of the octagonal room. From there to every part of the book stacks close communication will be had by telephone or some system of electric signals, and there will be an "endless chain" system of book elevators or dumb-waiters to every story of the

The visitor selecting the book he wants. after looking over the catalogue at the cen-tral desk, will write the title or number of the volume on a slip. His desire will at once be sent to that part of the repository where the book is located, and the book, being placed by an attendant in one of the before him in the twinkling of an eye. Not a Gloomy Spot in It.

Unlike other big buildings, the new

library will have no dark places in it. On the lowest shelf in the remotest corner of any of the book stacks it will be possible to read readily on the dullest or cloudlest days. This will be due to the use of the enamelled bricks in the courtyard construction. The reading room will be abundantly lighted by the large half-moon windows in

the dome.

The reading room and the main entrance will receive the most elaborate interior decwill receive the most elaborate interior decoration. The main entrance or vestibule will open up from the main floor to the skylight. It will be a large, white marble room, with heavy groined arches and columns, in which there will be niches tor busts and statuary. The columns, staircase, panels and balustrades will be of white marble, and the carvings will be rich, but not sufficiently so to mar the solid appearance of the design. Entering from this vestibule of glaring whiteness will be the readtibule of glaring whiteness will be the read-ing room, which is to be trimmed with panels and columns of colored marble, and these will give it a warm, soft effect, restful to the eye of the reader and suggestive of quiet and comfort. The keystones of the 33window arches on the exterior will be adorned with carved heads representing the various types and races of mankind. Each keystone is a head, designed by an ethnoogical artist

Universal in Its Range

The present or "old" library of Congress now contains 675,000 books, 220,000 pam-phlets, 15,000 bound volumes of newspaphlets, 15,000 bound volumes of newspapers, 10,000 maps and an immense array of valuable manuscripts, engravings, photographs, photographs, photographs, photographs, photographs, musical compositions and periodicals of all descriptions. It is universal in its range, and is especially rich in scientific works, history, jurisprudence, biography and publications of every sort relating to America and Americans. The collection occupies the western projection of the central Capitol building and was commenced in 1800. In 1814 the little neuclaus of a library then assembled was burned by the British, but it was replenished shortly afterward by the purchase of ished shortly afterward by the purchase of Thomas Jefferson's private library of 7,000 volumes. In 1851 the collection embraced 55,000 volumes, but by an accidental fire in that year 35,000 of them were destroyed. The loss was made good by Congress, how-ever, and since then the library has steadily and rapidly increased to its present propor-

Congress annually donates about \$11,000 to the purchase of new books, and under the operation of the old and new copyright laws a bound copy of every copyrighted publication issued in this country must be deposited in the library. Further additions are received by exchanges, donations and bequests, the total average increase being about 16,000 volumes annually. Regular donations of newspaper files are made from the Secretary's office of the United States Senate, from the State Department, Interior Department, Patent Office, Bureau of Statistics and other departments and bureaus of the Government.

Some Priceless Literary Works. In this great aggregated collection are thousands of rare old volumes and manuscripts of priceless worth. Among

at Venice, in 1491; a copy of Cranmer's English Bible, printed at London in 1540; English Biole, princed at London in 1540; Sallust's "Conspiracy of Cataline," in English, printed in Loudon in 1541, with autograph of Oliver Cromwell; a manuscript Latin Bible on vellum, dating from the middle of the thirteenth century, of Italian origin, embellished with countless miniature positions and illuminated interest in the contract of th paintings and illuminated initial letters-purchased for \$2,000 at the sale of the purchased for \$2,000 at the sale of the Perkins Library in 1873; a first edition of King James' English Bible, published in 1611; several rare first editions of Shakespeare, folio, printed in 1623; a first edition of Milton's "Para-dise Lost," folio; a first edition of Burton's "Anatomy of Melancholy," 1620; a first edition of Izsak Walton's "Compleat Angler;" a copy of John Eliot's Indian Bible, printed at Cambridge, Mass., in 1663; a first American edition of Burns' poems, with autograph of Alexander Wilson, the ornithologist; several notable black-letter editions of the early English writers; a val-America and narratives of travelers to various parts of America, printed in all the languages of Europe; a complete file of the London Gasette from its beginning in 1865—the only complete set in America; a complete file of the Daily London Times from 1796; a complete file of the French Monitour from its beginning in 1789; a complete file of the Garman Monitour Times from 1798. oi the German Aligemeine Zeitung from 1798; and rare files of Confederate newspapers published during the Civil War - some

the gems are a copy of the first printed edition of Plato's works, published in "atin

printed on wall paper, straw paper, etc.

Library of Historian Bancroft.

New collections of books are purchased by the Government at frequent intervals. A proposition is now pending to buy the magnificent historical library of the late George Bancroft for \$75,000. It contains 20,000 volumes, and is the material collected 20,000 volumes, and is the material collected by the distinguished historian in the pre-paration of his history of the United States. Among the rarities of this collec-tion are volumes of the original papers of the "Committee on Correspondence" in the American colonies prior to the Revolution—the engine which drew the colonists together in the scheme of opposition to Great Britain; volumes of documents and papers of the Revolutionary patriots, including Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, the

Adamses, Hancock and Lee.

Another proposition is pending before Congress to purchase for \$500,000 the library collected by the California historian, Hubert H. Bancreft, consisting of 60,000 books, manuscripts, maps and pamphlets, principally concerning the discovery, settle-ment and development of the Pacific Coast.

Through the influence and instrumentality of this great library the City of Washington will become the Mecca of the student, the author, historian and scientist, as well as the resort of politicians and statesme since it is the seat of Government, and the library in conjunction with the Smith-sonian Institution, the National Museum, the Patent Office, the Naval Observatory, and the Army Medical Museum will confer on the national capital the proud distinction activity and research.

JOHN D. CREMER.

Unique Exhibit the Countess of Aberdeen Is Preparing for the Fair.

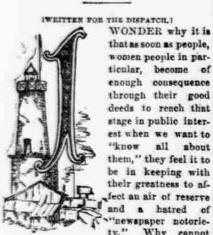
A BIT OF THE GREEN ISLE

To Be Transported and Set Down in Chicago's Big Show.

WORK OF A WONDERFUL WOMAN.

Her Efforts to Give the Down-Trodden a Living and a Future.

A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE GRAND OLD MAN



ty." Why cannot hev be a little bit condescending, affable, thoughtful, kind? In brief, why cannot all good and great

folk be like the gracious Countess of Aberdeen, who, while she is one of the busiest women imaginable, yet can take time not only to receive with cultured sympathy and in a friendly, unaffected manner, engendered by her own sweet nature, all those whose work in life brings them in contact with her, but in addition, and as an earnest of her share of pleasure in the visit, will make her guest a cup of the best English tea ever drank.

For just one brief afternoon during this summer abroad I had the honor to be the guest of her ladyship. This honor was accorded out of compliment to our common cause, the World's Fair, and in no other presence do I remember to have passed the hours so pleasantly and profitably.

She Does Not Court Homage. The Countess of Aberdeen, wife, mother, Christian philauthropist, social queen and politician, is a woman at whose feet the rest of us could sit indefinitely and learn lessons relating to the good, the true and the beautiful in womanhood. But she does not court homage, she would not have us at her feet, rather by her side assisting in her many schemes of benevolence. She is a

and plans for home rule, in which last he finds the young peeress an enthusiastic assistant. The experiences of her life during her husband's reign as Vicercy of Ireland knit her irrevocably to the Irish cause, and there is now no prouder moment of her public life than when she sits as President of the Ladies' Liberal League. When her husband was the Queen's representative as Lord High Commissioner in the Edinburg Assembly she presided over Holyrood Palace, and being with her "ain tolk," was more naturally popular than when mistress of Dublin Castle, though even here she endeared herself to the Irish people by her quick sympathy and ready helpfulness, and this feeling has not ceased with her reign in the viceregal court, but continues through political change and

social amelioration. All through Ireland I heard the praises of this good woman sung by the grateful Irish people. They understand well that it is due to her unturing efforts that the Irish industries of lace making and the manufacture of homespuns and tweeds have been revived and the peasantry rescaed from

Her Many Phllauthropic Works, It is particularly of her interest in the Irish cottagers and her work through them for the World's Fair that I want to tell you. But I could exhaust all reasonable space with accounts of her zeal on be-half of the London Ragged School Union, her excellent work in establishing branches of the Working Girls' Home, an institution intended to reduce to a minimum the temptations held out to London shop girls, and of her leadership of the Associated Workers' Guild, which good work is the direct outcome of Prof. Henry Drummond's lectures, which inspired the "smart" members of London society to beg that some distinctive work of charity and usefulness might be found for them befit-ting their talents and their means. And I could tell of the success of the Haddo House Association, one of her first efforts in philanthropy, which began when the Earl carried her a bride to his ancestral home, Haddo House, Aberdeenshire, Scot-land. Believing that loneliness is the most painful element in the life of the breadwinning woman, she formed a social club of her big household, by whose united contributions of work or eutertainment each member would become interesting to all and any latent ability on the part of the club members be brought to the surface. This association had for its aim the clevation and cheer of working women, whether as servants of the house or farmers' wives, and at this day the organization has so far outgrawn local limits that it now numbers 6,000 members and is in Scotland analogous to our Young Women's Christian Associa-tion. In connection with this work the Countess now edits a penny monthly brought out as a means of instruction to

Religious Phase of Her Character. In all these good works the Earl goes with her hand in hand, as she does with him in politics. They are both practical Christians. Ali her life, since a girl at her

father's house in Guisachen, Invernesshire, Scotland, the Countess has presided over a Sunday afternoon class for the study of the Scriptures, and this she continues. And it is the custom of the royal pair to have the entire household, down to its youngest and humblest servitor, gather each evening for iamily worship, which is conducted by the Earl himself—the "priest-like father-hood," described by Burns in "The Cotter's Saturday Night," sitting as well on the Scottish peer as on the Scottish peasant. But to get down to the latest public work undertaken by the Countess, and in which we are most interested. As a mem-ber of the Royal Commission, she is just

many schemes of benevolence. She is a great organizer and understands well how to provide work for willing hands.

The Countess is many sided. Though a leader in society as her rank implies, and fond of the pleasure such position brings her, a thorough woman in her delicate sus-ceptibilities, wifely and motherly instincts,

FROM A GROUP PHOTOGRAPH OF MR. AND MRS. GLADSTONE, LORD AND LADY

ABERDEEN AND PROFESSOR DRUMMOND.

pillows, etc., so that visitors may see exactly under what circumstances the goods are produced and how excellent a cause

are produced and how excellent a cause they are assisting if they encourage the work, for on it depends the success and future happiness of Ireland to a great ex-tent. Mrs. Hart, of the Donegal Industrial Fund; Mr. Peter White and myself are ap-pointed a special committee to undertake the erection and management of the village.

It will not be the model of any Irish village.

It will not be the model of any Irish village in particular, though it will receive a good deal of local color, from the fact that it will nestle under the shadow of Donegal Castle,

which we also intend to reproduce at

A Realistic Irish Village.

visitors may pass, seeing the goods we ex-hibit in the actual course of manufacture.

There will be shops in the village in which all goods sent by order of the committee will be sold. At the end of the exhibition the goods exhibited in the women's and

yet she is an ardent politician, thoroughly

comprehending the questions of the day,

and able to discuss them from the platform

wisely and well. This taste for politics is

inspired by her husband, the Earl, and en-

couraged by their mutual friend, the Hon.

William E. Gladstone, who probably gave

her when she was little Ishbel Majoribanks

been friends from her infancy, he having been a frequent guest at Dallis Hill, then her

father's (Lord Tweedmouth's) English place,

but now the home of the Earl and Countess, It is told that in those days, mounted upon

her little pony, she was the favorite companion o Mr. Gladstone during his rides,

and he has said of her that even so early she seemed best entertained when he talked

A Firm Friend of Ireland.

there is a room known as Mr. Gladstone's

room, where as often as the press of things

political will allow him a snatched vaca-

tion he goes for a visit with his young

friends, the Earl and Countess, and there in

the little orange-colored study he rests,

The friendship lasted, and at Dallis Hill

to her concerning principles and people.

The Countess and Mr. Gladstone have

her first lessons in affairs of state.



sides this. In the woman's section we are to have a room in which we will exhibit a

wedding party. Everything in that room-the furniture, the bridal dress and veil, the

dresses of the guests and even the presents

-are to be products of the Irish home in-—are to be products of the Irish home industries. And again in the general section
we will exhibit the work of small Irish
manufacturers for which it is most difficult
to find a market, and we hope that when
you generous Americans see what Ireland
can do you will, with your ready sympathy
for Ireland, not be slow to support the
movement to help the most needy of Irishmen and women to help themselves by
honest work."

Practices What She Preaches. The cottagers of Ireland could not have found a better or more practical friend than the Countess of Aberdeen. Some thousands of pounds have gone into the cabins of the poor Irish peasants in return for the knitting, lace, crochet work, embroideries, homespuns and other goods made by them and disposed of at the several shops estab-lished by her in Dublin, London and else-

British section will be sold. The village is to be called the Irish Industrial Village. We of the Irish Industrial Association have pledged ourselves to provide £2,000, or \$10,000 of your money, for the erection of this village, and also to furnish all moneys required for carrying out the several plans. "We are to have two other exhibits besides this. In the woman," section we are served tea from Irish ware, the dainty and rare Irish Bleek, and she wore a china silk that was almost covered with lace which she told me had been made by a very old woman living in a most seeluded part of Ireland who had never been off the part of Ireland who had never been off the mountain upon which she then lived. Her Ladyship urged me to visit this very old woman as a curiosity, since I was going in that part of Ireland, and it was arranged that after I left the railroad the Secretary of the association, Mr. Hatfield, should take me as far as possible in a carriage, but that there would remain several miles up the mountain to the cottage that must be walked, but she thought I "would not mind that." How little she knew of American laziness! I had never, to my knowledge, walked as many miles on level ground, so needless to say, neither my zeal nor my curiosity led me to undertake that climb. Instead, I contented myself with visiting cottages more accessible and convents where cottages more accessible and convents where special work for the Exposition was being

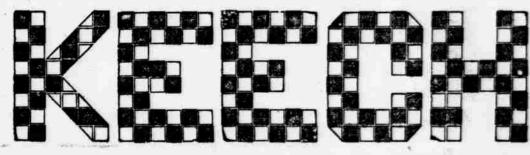
done after unique patterns selected and sent in by order of the Countess.

In the Industrial School at Mercy Convent in Newry, County Down, where a sister of Sir Charles Russell is Mother Superior, I was shown laces being made for the Fair collection that were as fine as gossamer and from patterns as beautiful as those formed by the foam of the waves as hey break on the shore, and against the attraction of which no woman's heart at the World's Fair is expected to hold out. In cottages I saw being woven the stout tweeds and homespuns whose only fault seems to be that they never can be wore out, and learned that the revival of this in-dustry in Ireland was due more to the Countess of Aberdeen than to any other one erson, and that a market for this handiwork and that of the lace being made in cottages meant the whole difference beween a life on the brink of starvation or

one of comparative case.

In reviewing the good work for down-trodden humanity that has been accomplished by this energetic, large-hearted, noble woman we at first wonder how it has been possible for one woman to do so much. But let us remember that political gatherings, committee meetings and the various labors of philanthropic organizations mean one thing to the lady of rank who drives to them in her carriage, is re-enforced by her secretary and is companion only and not nurse or upper servant to ber husband or nurse to her children, and quite another thing to the middle-class woman with the cares of a house and household on heart and hands, and who in going forth to take part in public affairs can only do so by leaving incompetent servants in charge. Ten to one this woman returns to find everything gone wrong in her absence and so falls into a state too peevish to furnish the little atentions that make home a happy place to those nearest her.

T*A*K*E*N I*N ...You Cannot Be By...



Every newspaper announcement is more than met in the grand stock of Furniture and Housefurnishings on exhibition in our mammoth establishment. No one comes here to be disappointed either in prices, values or the terms upon which they can obtain what they need. Hundreds each week leave our store more than satisfied that they took the time to look at what we have to show.

.Our Advertisements..

Are almost here and the time has come to look around the house and see the lesser articles that may be needed to make home comfortable and attractive. Perhaps you need one of these:

A Center Table, A Rocker.

A Library Chair.

We've scores of new and pretty styles to show you, an assortment in which you are bound to find something to suit.

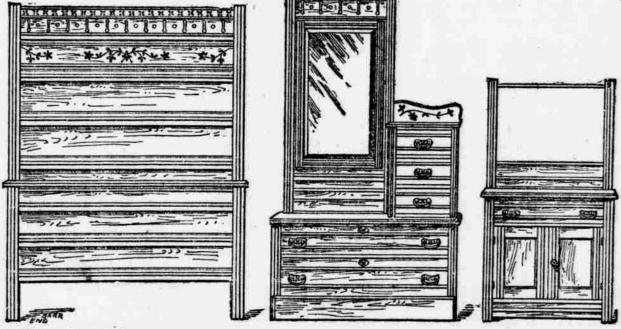
Our stock will make many a happy suggestion in this line if you'll come in and look around,

SIDEBOARDS:

We keep the year around a most extensive line of them. Every new style that's in the market is here, and all the latest ideas in

\$12 TO \$100.

BEDROOM FURNITURE.



There is a deal more attention paid to the furniture of our sleeping rooms than there used to be. Most housewives nowadays take pride in having tastefully furnished bedrooms. This is most sensible, considering the fact that about one-third of our lives is spent in bed.

OUR IMMENSE ASSORTMENT

Of furniture for the sleeping apartment contains the latest ideas in style and taste, combined with good workmanship, at low prices.

There's variety enough here to suit all tastes. We can show you scores of styles in all the new and popular finishes and in every grade of furniture down to the lowest that's worth your buying.

COME AND SEE THE LARGEST STOCK IN TOWN.

We are making a big display, among which you'll find some very handsome effects in medium-priced goods. Many of the styles are entirely new.

Only standard makes of all the different kinds of CARPETINGS, so that our customers may rely on getting something that will wear

as well as look pretty.

Full line of Imported and Domestic LINOLEUMS AND OIL-CLOTHS, any width, at prices that cannot fail to please.

BARGAINS IN FURNITURE.



They abound on every floor and in every department.

Come in and look about a bit; judge for yourself; get out of the beaten track. It will pay you to look at our offerings this week.

"The castle ruins will form one end of the village, and from it will extend the tereet with cottages on either side of it. The castle, like the cottages, is to be a realistic reproduction. It will be of brick and mortar, instead of being painted like stage decorations, and in order not to waste valuable space our offices will be under the ruins. Through all the cottages there will be passages railed off so that the workers may not be interfered with, and along these visitors may pass, seeing the goods we ex-Are meeting together at Keech's increases each season.

An immense increase in our fall business discloses a corresponding increase of sense on the part of those who buy.

923, 925, 927 PENN AVENUE.



923, 925, 927 PENN AVENUE.

IF YOU'VE THE SENSE,

But lack the necessary dollars, don't let that keep you away. That's what our Credit System is for, to enable you to buy at once all the goods you need and pay for them while using them.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

daily, and the quantity of each