

(NEWS LETTER.)



PITTSBURG, Aug. 18.
Of course, Pittsburg is dull and dreary, but there are signs of a festive awakening in the Fall already.

During the summer, against this growing city seems to be getting ready to do business in the later part of the year.

You go to the stores and you will find bakers and painters in possession; glories of dry goods and military are eclipsed by the time. Though they are not yet there to see the scenes of the past year, some spectacle—the paint-brush is the scepter of the king, and the gorgous manager has to do his best to the decorum.

There is no place in Pittsburg where the world of preparation during August is louder than in the huge pile of red brick at the point; and this year is no exception to the rule. The halls of the schoolroom are filled for many weeks already the workmen have been busy getting the great building into shape for the season now rapidly approaching. Every day sees new alterations in the great class-room at the Exposition; for the exhibitors have their booths and show-cases to prepare, and there is a race to see who shall surpass the record of the other.

The world of preparation in the Exposition has set a good example to every one by making important improvements, including a change or two that will be a genuine surprise to all who have been paying attention to the movement.

For instance, when the picture galleries were last year a beautiful little concert or lecture hall has been erected. It is a well-constructed frame building with yellow pine and consequently has an eminently cheerful air which will be enhanced by the display of incandescent electric lights upon the walls. Here it is that Professor Cromwell will give his wonderful lectures with the aid of his staropticon.



JULIA LEVY.

Another notable improvement is the new gallery, or grand hall, by means of which the total seating capacity of the auditorium in front of the band-stand has been raised to 3000. Talking of bands, it is a fact that the band in the grand hall for the coming season is brighter than ever. There will be enough music to the superficial square ins in this city in September, for the concert, and satisfy the musical greed of the towns. This will be held and to spare in the Exposition from Wednesday evening, Sept. 7th, when it will be thrown open till it closes on October 22d, for the admission of 50 cents.

It is to be hoped that there will be there from Oct. 2d to the Exposition's close the no less renowned Hills Brooks will bring his corps of musicians to keep up the supply of concert music.

There are few things so generally enjoyed the world over as hand music. Nobody seems too exalted, nobody too lowly to appreciate it. Prof. Hartman has organized a military band to be concert in Washington; Queen Victoria, the other day, had the band of her favorite Grenadier Guards play for two hours in the garden of the Osborne palace, while she ate her tea and sat in silence. If a band, and none of the best, starts up a marching tune on a city street, everybody knows how stall merchants, and gamblers from the saloons, and the like, will be in a bustle of a brass band will bring a crowd quicker than the eloquent invocation of a Demosthenes. The directors of the Exposition seem to have had an eye to this fact, and have laid stress upon the improvements in the neighborhood of the band-stand.

Behind the stand itself mirrors have been arranged so as to display the brilliant uniforms of the various regiments. The balloon posture has been carried forward on pillars and comfortable seats for hundreds provided, supplementing the accommodations of the band-stand, for those who want to hear the concerts. It used to be a common complaint that there were not enough seats in the Exposition, but there will be no ground for it this year.



ELIAS BROOKS.

Usually the sitting posture and more or less perfect stillness are supposed to go together, but there is a point in the art of life dedicated to upholding this notion. At the western end of the main building, in the center of the trim little park a huge merrymore-ground, of the most modern pattern, run by steam, has been erected. The idea is that the sports of flying through the air will be distributed.

Taking everything into consideration, there will be more entertainment in the Exposition than there has ever been before. It is natural that the man of the world, the man of the world, will turn to anything at this late day of Levy's wonderful ability as a concertist, or to enlarge upon the excellency of the hand of God in creation. The high notes of Levy's concert have been heard throughout the world, and nobody has approached his mastery of that instrument. Besides the concertos, and Prof. Cromwell's lectures—which are so graphically and effectively illustrated with stereopticons that they have practically tour them the world for them—there are them—and all the other special features provided by an ingenious and generous management, there are the exhibits of Pittsburg's industries and products, and of her fine manufacturing merchandise; and last, but not least, the very crowds of visitors, themselves, who represent the intelligence, culture, wealth and patriotism of the entire district of which Pittsburg is the center.

Pittsburg promises to be looking its very best about September. The hill-dweller who has returned from shore and mountain districts stored his hands and spick-and-span from the renovators' hands, and all the theatres will be open, the parks, which are now a beautiful feature of the city, are in full flower. These lovely spots of green, which may be reached now by the visitor, with ease, thanks to the various rapid transit lines of cable and electric cars which grapple the hills and its suburbs. Indeed, the streets can hardly be called of Pittsburgh, in itself must prove an object of the visitor's wondering attention.

JOHN KAUFMANN.

I have been a great sufferer from dry catarrh for many years, and I tried many remedies, but none did me so much benefit as Ely's Cream Balm. It completely cured me.—M. J. Lally, T. W. Woodward Ave., Boston Highlands, Mass.

After using Ely's Cream Balm the two months I was surprised to find that the right nostril, which was closed, for over twenty years, was open and free as the other, and can see it now as I could not do for many years. I feel very thankful.

R. H. Cressingham, 255 18th Street, Brooklyn.

SENATOR QUAY'S FARM.

He Turns to the Home of His Ancestors in Chester County, Pa.—A Recent Purchase.

Senator Quay has recently bought the Matthew Stanley farm of 130 acres in West Brandwylne township, Chester county, Pa., four miles north of Conestoga.

It was, no doubt, his Chester county associations which set Senator Quay a number of years ago to thinking of buying a Chester county farm, and he had this purpose in mind last summer, when he visited Judge Pennypacker on the western slopes of the Valley Hills.

The Matthew Stanley farm, which he has now acquired by purchase, belonged to Matthew Stanley, an able Chester county lawyer, who was the guardian and a relative of Senator Quay's mother. It was in this house that the Senator's mother spent her girlhood and lived until her marriage to Rev. Anderson Quay, a Presbyterian minister.

On both sides of the house Senator Quay is associated with Chester county, and many of his relatives are still living in Chester and Montgomery counties.

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During the engagement of June 1 a Union soldier had his leg shot off by a ball from the enemy's artillery.

Captain Ramsey ordered one of his men (an Irishman from New Jersey) to assist the wounded man to the rear. Pat, while giving the necessary assistance, asked the man how and where he had been wounded.

"My leg was shattered by a cannon ball during the last attack," was the reply.

On the way to the hospital a fragment of shell took the already badly wounded man's head entirely off, unnoticed by Pat, who was carrying his comrade in his arms.

After the Revolutionary war the Quays crossed the Schuylkill into Chester county. The Senator's grandfather, Joseph, married the daughter of Major Patrick Anderson, who had also been a soldier in the French and Indian War, and who subsequently was the senior Captain of the Pennsylvania Line in the Revolution.

The Andersons were the first white settlers in Schuylkill township, and some of the family are still living on the tract of land on the Pickering creek which James Anderson bought in 1713.

When James Anderson's wife went over into the greater Chester Valley to visit her father, Thomas Jarmon, she left her babe—which was in due course of time the great grandfather of Senator Quay—at home, to be nursed and suckled by an Indian woman. The Senator's grandfather, Joseph Quay, is buried in the Anderson family burying-ground. Here also is buried Major Patrick Anderson and the Senator's great-uncle, Isaac Anderson, who, as a member of Congress in 1805, headed the list of aye in favor of the bill to prohibit the importation of slaves.

An interesting political letter, written by Hon. Isaac Anderson from Harrisburg to Major E. Howell, dated of March 6, 1802, is preserved. It is partly as follows:

"Sir," responded his honor, in a distinguished tone of voice, "I want you to tell me what those pants are worth."

"Ah, judge," said the Israelite, "take 'em for three dollars if four dollars don't suit you."

"Look here," thundered the judge, "if you don't tell me the exact value of those pants I will send you to jail for contempt of court."

"Well, then, judge," pleaded the obstinate witness in a most insinuating tone, "I will tell you the half of it. It is giving them away almost, but you can have 'em for two dollars."

By this time the people in the courtroom were convulsed with laughter, and the judge himself was obliged to forget his disgust and join heartily in the laugh. He did not buy the "pants" however.—*Green Bag*.

Afraid He Wouldn't Pass.

He was a man well along in middle age and was willing to be insured. The agent had prepared his application and turned him over to the searching scrutiny of the accomplished medical examiner.

"I might as well tell you, doctor, to begin with, that ours has been a family of fatality and sudden death," said the applicant.

The examiner looked serious as he replied:

"Why, you seem to be in excellent physical condition. What did your father die of?"

"Heart disease."

"That's bad. How old was he?"

"Ninety-two."

"C'm! And your mother?"

"She's gone too. Killed at a crossing."

"And her age?"

"Mother was a little over seventy."

"Do you know the age and cause of your grandfather's death?" continued the examiner.

"Yes, indeed. Father's father died just a week after his ninetieth birthday. They said he had too much tobacco. Mother's father was only eighty-eight. Falling down stairs finished him."

"And your grandmother?"

"One of 'em had consumption at eighty-six and died of it in time. The other was nipp'd at sixty-nine trying to help save two young fellows that couldn't swim. She's alive."

The examiner did not seem so grave as he was asked, "have you any brothers and sisters?"

"One sister and two brothers," was the answer. "John went out into the mining country when he was sixteen, got into trouble there, called a drunken man a liar and was shot. He was drawn at sixty-nine trying to help save two young fellows that couldn't swim. She's alive."

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The Story of a Pack of Cards.

A soldier was arrested and taken before the Mayor of Glasgow for displaying a pack of cards in church during divine service. In extenuation of his offense, the soldier made the following plea: "When I see a priest, I remind him that there is but one God. The deus reminds me of Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The ray reminds me of Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The four reminds me of the four Evangelists who preached, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The five reminds me of the five wise Virgins who trimmed their lamps, the six old foolish Virgins who were wise and fair, the seven wise and fair, the eight foolish and foolish, the nine who were wise and fair, the ten who were wise and fair, the eleven who were wise and fair, the twelve who were wise and fair, the thirteen who were wise and fair, the fourteen who were wise and fair, the fifteen who were wise and fair, the sixteen who were wise and fair, the seventeen who were wise and fair, the eighteen who were wise and fair, the nineteen who were wise and fair, the twenty who were wise and fair, the twenty-one who were wise and fair, the twenty-two who were wise and fair, the twenty-three who were wise and fair, the twenty-four who were wise and fair, the twenty-five who were wise and fair, the twenty-six who were wise and fair, the twenty-seven who were wise and fair, the twenty-eight who were wise and fair, the twenty-nine who were wise and fair, the thirty who were wise and fair, 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