

NORTH-WESTERN FAIR

FOR THE

SANITARY COMMISSION.

THE continued need of money to obtain comforts and necessities for the sick and wounded of our army, has suggested to the loyal women of the North many and various devices for the raising of funds. Every city, town and village has had its fair, festival, party, pic-nic, excursion, concert, &c., which have netted more or less to the cause of hospital relief, according to the population of the place, and the amount of energy and patriotism employed on the occasion.

The need of money for this sacred purpose still continues. Our brave men are still wrestling with the southern rebellion, which, though oftentimes beaten back, is not yet subdued; and the hospitals made vacant by death or recovery, are speedily re-filled by new faces whom disease has rendered pallid, and new forms shattered by gun-shot or sabre stroke. We must still continue to pour down sanitary supplies for the comfort and care of our suffering soldiers, whose well-being lies near the heart of all loyal men and women. We must still continue to exercise our ingenuity for the supply of funds, since the most valuable sanitary supplies can only be obtained with money.

This continued need of money has suggested to many of the active and patriotic women of the Northwest the necessity of holding a grand North-western Fair in the fall, for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission. After a correspondence of nearly two months with some of the principal Aid Societies and Union Leagues of the Northwest, aided in many instances by personal interviews, it has been decided to hold a Northwestern Fair in Chicago, during the last week of October and the first of November, the proceeds to be devoted to the relief of our sick and suffering soldiers. Assurances have been received that the States of Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota will generally join in this project, and sub-

stantial offers of aid have been proffered by leading persons in these States. A mass meeting of ladies has already been held in Chicago at Bryan Hall, when an Executive Committee of sixteen ladies was appointed, to make such arrangements for the holding of the Fair in this city as might be necessary. It was also decided to call a convention of delegates from the Aid Societies and Union Leagues of the above mentioned States, which shall meet in Chicago, at Bryan Hall, September 1st, at 10 o'clock A. M., to make necessary arrangements for the Fair, which shall be alike agreeable to all parties. The Order of Good Templars, an extensive temperance organization, which has rendered very efficient help to the Sanitary Commission, by donations of money and supplies, generously volunteer their aid in this enterprise, and are included in this call. Every Aid Society and Union League, and every Lodge of Good Templars in the Northwest is therefore hereby requested to represent itself in that Convention, to be held September 1st, by at least one lady delegate, elected from its members. As there are over two thousand of these organizations, it will be necessary for each one to pay the expenses of its own delegate, which will be but a small tax on each single society, but in the aggregate, would be heavy for any one organization. On Wednesday, September 2d, at 3 o'clock P. M., a public meeting of the ladies of Chicago will be held at the same place, when the programme of the Fair as decided on by the Convention will be announced, and such Committees as are necessary to the successful progress of the Fair, will then be chosen. Various plans for the Fair have already been proposed and discussed, but nothing can definitely be agreed upon until the session of the approaching Convention.

Already great enthusiasm is manifested concerning the Fair. A piano, two or three first class sewing machines, a knitting machine, washing machines, wringing machines, a safe, cabinet ware, oil paintings, wax work, and a variety of lesser articles are already offered us. We foresee thus early, that no hall of the city will be able to accommodate the Fair, and the Executive Committee are taking steps to secure some unoccupied hotel, or recently finished block of buildings, which can be fitted up for its accommodation. The affair has greatly increased in magnitude since it was first discussed, until now it promises to eclipse any occasion of the kind ever before held in the Northwest. It is hoped and expected that gifts of all kinds will be donated. Anything rare, useful, curious or elegant in nature or art, is solicited, and it is greatly desired that the Fair shall be indebted to the handiwork of men as well as of women, for its enriching.

It is also proposed to gather a large collection of relics and mementos of the present war, for a cabinet, which shall be sold at the Fair to the highest bidder. Persons, therefore, who possess relics of the battle field, mementos of persons and places made historic by this war, or any of the thousand specimens or curiosities which have found their way to the North from the seat of war, during its progress, are invited to donate them for the furnishing

of this cabinet. As the cabinet case will be given in Chicago, it is requested that all such articles be sent to the Chicago Sanitary Commission, labeled with the name and residence of the donor, and with a brief history of the article donated. Its receipt will be immediately acknowledged by letter.

It is also proposed that a series of dinners be given on four or five days of each week of the Fair, for the increasing of the funds. These dinners are a feature of all Chicago Fairs. The materials for the dinners are furnished gratuitously by the ladies of the city in great abundance, exquisitely cooked, and of the best quality. So ample are our other arrangements for this inevitable accessory to all Fairs held in Chicago, that from 1000 to 1500 gentlemen who ordinarily dine down town at restaurants or eating-houses, are dined daily during the progress of a week's fair, as elegantly and comfortably as in their own homes. Our country friends can aid us in these dinners by donations of poultry, eggs, vegetables, fruit, cream, butter, cheese, &c.

During the evenings of the Fair, it is proposed to hold a series of entertainments of the most brilliant character. Concerts, tableaux, pantomime, lectures, &c., are already discussed, and in some instances are in an incipient stage of progress. Nothing that the talent and ingenuity of the Northwest can devise will be lacking to render the evening entertainments elegant and *recherché*.

It is hoped that \$25,000 will be the net receipts of this great festal occasion. Is this expecting too much? Not if the united Northwest land willing and active hands and generous hearts to the work. At a simple ice-cream and strawberry festival given recently, almost impromptu, by a few ladies of Chicago, for the benefit of the Soldiers' Home, over \$1,000 was made, where there was almost nothing to sell, and only the cause to attract. Is it indulging extravagant and unwarrantable expectations to hope that twenty-five times that amount will be realized by a Fair of the great Northwest, which will be enriched by the offerings of five States, and will have accessory to it all that art, talent, taste, skill, ingenuity and patriotism can devise in the matter of attraction? We cannot think so, and knowing that liberal things are being devised, we believe that liberal results will be realized.

Let us all then work for this grand object—which is, ultimately, the relief of our brave men—the sons of Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota—now languishing in hospitals for the comforts we can send them. To the Aid Societies and Union Leagues of the Northwest, we appeal most earnestly. From every Aid Society and Union League may we not expect a box or package of articles for the Fair? Anything will be acceptable, and nothing will come amiss.

Let each and all do something for this grand occasion. Invite your friends and neighbors to aid you in the work; do not rest satisfied until you have manufactured or secured something for this Soldiers' Fair.—

Then label the offering with your name and residence, and send it to the Committee appointed for your State, to the Aid Society of your county or town, or, if you prefer, send it directly to us, care of the Chicago Sanitary Commission, when we will acknowledge its receipt by letter. But let every one to whom this appeal comes, do SOMETHING.

MRS. A. H. HOGE,	Agents of the "Chicago Sanitary Commission."
" D. P. LIVERMORE,	
" O. E. ROSMER,	Vice-President of the Chicago "Soldiers' Home Association."
" W. E. FRANKLIN,	President Chicago "Camp Douglas Hospital Aid Society."
" GOV. YATES,	Springfield, Ill.
" S. E. HENSHAW,	Secretary "La Salle Co. Soldiers' Aid Society," Ottawa, Ill.
" W. H. HAWKINS,	Cor. Sec. "Kane Co. Soldiers' Aid Society," Aurora, Ill.
" W. M. SHEETS,	Cor. Sec. "Soldiers' Aid Society," Freeport, Ill.
" L. S. COWDERY,	Sec. of "Good Templars," Chicago.
MISS MELISSA EMBRY,	Order of "Good Templars," Portland, Ill.
MRS. BELA HUBBARD,	President "Michigan Soldiers' Aid Society," Detroit, Mich.
MISS VALENTIA CAMPBELL,	Cor. Sec. "Michigan Soldiers' Aid Society," Detroit, Mich.
MRS. SYBIL LAWRENCE,	Cor. Sec. "Soldiers' Aid Society," Ann Arbor, Mich.
" JOHN A. RICE,	Cor. Sec. "Soldiers' Aid Society," Adrian, Mich.
" J. M. BROWN,	Order of "Good Templars," Paw Paw, Mich.
" GOV. SALOMAN,	Madison, Wis.
" B. F. HOPKINS,	President "Soldiers' Aid Society," Madison, Wis.
" E. S. GARE,	Superintendent "Ladies' Union League," Madison, Wis.
" ALEXANDER MITCHELL,	President Soldiers' Aid Society," Milwaukee, Wis.
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" A. F. CLARKE,	Assistant Sec. "Soldiers' Aid Society," Milwaukee, Wis.
" HENRIETTA ALEXANDER,	Order of "Good Templars," Milwaukee, Wis.
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" O. N. DETROILER,	Order of "Good Templars," Vinton, Iowa.
" GOV. RAMSAY,	St. Paul, Minn.
" L. A. GREELEY,	Order of "Good Templars," St. Anthony, Minn.