

fountain and statue of President Lincoln.

Passing through this noble vestibule, distinguished alike for amplitude, symmetry, and dignity, we enter upon the area of the park itself. Our space does not, of course, permit us to describe in detail the many features of interest that meet one at every turn throughout the intricate maze of six miles of carriage drives and eleven miles of foot-paths, but we will consider briefly a few of the more important and attractive points.

As we enter and saunter along the west side of the park, we find ourselves completely shut out by trees and shrubs from Flatbush Avenue, a few yards away. The sense of the close neighborhood of the city is still farther eliminated by the natural woodland appearance of the system employed in arranging the trees and shrubs. A short distance from the Plaza, a glimpse through an archway under the main drive, evidently placed at precisely this point for a distinct purpose, reveals a great far-reaching sweep of undulating meadow fringed by remnants of an original forest of Oak, Elm, and Chestnut. This green or Long Meadow, as it is called, consists of not over twenty-five acres of open grass space; but its natural hills and hollows have been managed so as to give, through our peep-hole of archway, the impression of an unbroken perspective of miles. This feature is the most important in the park; for, without a single carriage road, a field of ample dimensions is offered for the illustration of the pastoral idea.

"Thousands of people," says the "Report" of the landscape architects, "without any sense of crowding, stroll about the level or undulating, sunny or shady turf spaces that are to be found in this strip of pasture or woodland." Here, as elsewhere, the original features

are not only strictly adhered to, but actually intensified by raising the hills with soil and trees and deepening the hollows. Old forest trees are generally throughout the park carefully preserved.

Passing on by a deep dell where a small pool and steep hill-side are beautifully ornamented with choice specimens of rare trees and shrubs, and where the water and open ground are arranged specially for the amusement of children, we come by devious ways past a deer paddock, protected by a sunken moat and fence, to an important region of the park.

Here we find, on the borders of a lake of sixty acres, an open space finely decorated with carved stone balustrades and vases. Within this space grow some of the best trees and shrubs of the park, choice Elms and Maples from Japan, America, and Europe, and on the hill-side, remarkable specimens of Rhododendrons and Conifers from all parts of the world. It may be truly said that some of these Conifers, Silver Firs, and Arbor Vitæ, are hardly equaled by those of any other lawn in America. The spot is, moreover, so fortunately protected from cold winds, by embowering hills, that Evergreens which usually fail north of Washington and Virginia are here found in perfect health and vigor. Cannas, Colocasias, and other tall-growing foliage plants, tastefully arranged, thrive vigorously and produce a rich tropical effect. A rich display of bedding plants, Coleus, Geraniums, Salvias, Alternantheras, etc., is presented at this point year after year in connection with the refectory and shelter, which are perhaps the most ambitious architectural structures of a park where the pastoral idea of wide-spreading turf and woodland is intended to be everywhere dominant.

Passing under an archway and down by a lovely pool where stands the skate-house in winter, we come to the grove