

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Special correspondence of THE HOME JOURNAL.

CHICAGO, Sept. 24, 1892.

Interest in connection with the Fair is now chiefly centered in the dedication ceremonies, to occur on October 20, 21 and 22. The chief event will be at the grounds on the afternoon of the 21st, when the formal transfers of the buildings and grounds by the local Directory to the National Commission, and by them to the President of the United States, will take place. The President will then proclaim the Fair open to the world. The special orators for the occasion will be Senator Breckinridge, of Kentucky, and Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, of New York. The exercises will take place in the largest building on the grounds—the "Manufactures"—which has a floor area of 35 acres, exclusive of the galleries. Accommodations for an audience of 90,000 people will be provided. The President and accompanying dignitaries will be met at the entrance to the park by an escort of 10,000 troops—regulars and militia—and proceed thence to the "Manufactures" building, where a stage will be erected large enough to hold 2,000 persons. This will be occupied by the President and cabinet, officials of the Exposition State officers, invited guests from foreign countries, etc. Accommodations for 700 or 800 press representatives will also be provided.

The reading of the Dedicatory Ode, composed by Harriet Prescott Monroe, will be curtailed to selections, on account of the great length of the programme, which is expected to last four hours at least. The reader will probably be Madame Anna Cowell-Le Moynes. A portion of the Ode has been set to music by Chadwick. This will be rendered by a chorus of 5,500 voices and a large orchestra. One noteworthy feature of the rendition of this music will be a passage written for a soprano solo, which will be sung by a choir of 1,200 children to an accompaniment which will include six harps, brought from New York for the purpose. Several other choruses are to be sung, such as the "Hallelujah Chorus" from the Messiah, "The Heavens are Telling" from the Creation, etc. Besides these are an orchestral work

by an American composer, written for the occasion, and several patriotic songs, in which the audience will have opportunity to join. The singing will terminate with the chorus "The Heavens Resound," by Beethoven.

On the 20th, a monster civic parade takes place in the business district, in which it is expected over 100,000 will participate. The men will march company front, twenty-four abreast, double ranks and in close order. In any less compact formation, it would take all day for the procession to pass a given point. The Trade and Labor Assembly was invited to participate in the parade, but, at its regular semi-monthly meeting last Sunday, that body peremptorily declined the invitation. This was on account of the cold shoulder organized labor had received at the hands of the Fair management, and also as a protest against the closing of the Fair on Sunday.

This latter question has become one of the issues of the day, and the Chicago Herald has taken up the cudgel in behalf of the opening of the Fair, and is circulating petitions for signatures to that effect, asking Congress to revoke the action taken at last session. There is not much doubt but that it will carry. It is not asked to open any but the art, floricultural, horticultural and similar exhibits.

The cholera scare has aroused the authorities here to vigorous action in cleaning the alleys and garbage dumps, and in taking preventative measures generally. It is also proposed to flush all the paved streets with water daily. Although cholera appears to have been stamped out in New York and danger from it in Chicago is very remote, yet this house cleaning will make the city all the more presentable to its visitors, and a good thing in any event.

S. K. PARKER.

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