

June 10 1875.

Rev. Henry Scadding

Dear Sir:

It has been my earnest endeavor, for years, to elevate the tone and character of public amusements, and to strip them of every objectionable feature; to make my entertainments entirely acceptable to the most refined and fastidious in the community, and always to combine wholesome instruction with healthful amusement. I am happy to know that in this endeavor I have not failed. I believe my present enterprise to be all this. I therefore enclose a ticket for yourself and lady, and shall be happy to have you visit my Great Hippodrome, and judge for yourself.

Very respectfully yours,

P. J. Barnum

## OPINIONS OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

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The whole procession was imposing, magnificent, far exceeding anything of the kind ever before witnessed in this country. We looked and wondered, looked again and wondered, looked a third time and wondered if the world would ever be blessed with another Barnum. Long live Barnum!—*Independent*.

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At this stage of proceedings the "United States" emerged from the entrance, the band played "Hail Columbia," and in an instant at least five thousand handkerchiefs were waving in the air. Men cheered and clapped their hands, and for an instant it appeared as if the representative of the "Father of his Country" was a reality. Next in order came the Roman standing race. As the three riders came up to the judges' stand the bell rang, and in an instant the horses made a spring for the lead. The race was a single mile, and was so exciting that everybody in the building was up in an instant, urging the horses onward. It must be acknowledged that the Hippodrome is well worthy of a visit, as there is nothing improper in the performance, but everything to delight and amuse.—*Catholic Review*.

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Our typical American showman, Mr. P. T. Barnum, has apparently re-entered the field in his old age, to show the world before he dies that he is fully abreast with the sensational spirit of the times. The great Roman Hippodrome and Polytechnic Institute is opened to the public. In this mammoth enterprise there is so much evidence of skill and organizing ability, that criticism is quite disarmed, and the audience is worked up to a pitch of enthusiastic excitement. The Hippodrome may be set down as a success and claimed as "the event of 1874."—*Christian Union*.

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One of the principal attractions is a great spectacular display, in which are represented, in a huge procession, the royal personages of the Old World, with chariots and horsemen, all got up in gorgeous style, and glorious to behold. The moving panorama seems to be as attractive to grown people as to children. So far it must be considered a gain to the cause of morality, as it is not surrounded by liquor saloons and worse haunts and is free from those evil associations which cluster around ordinary amusements, and make them so often ministers to vice.—*N. Y. Evangelist*.