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THE CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

The progress of this country during the first century of its national life has been fully and elaborately described in our leading editorial of this week's issue; and it seems thoroughly in accordance with the spirit of our laws and institutions that we celebrate this anniversary by inviting all the world to come and see us, and to bring with them the best that they can produce, that we may compare results in friendly rivalry which may promote international commerce, and stimulate our exertions on the onward march of civilization. The first proposition of such a celebration emanated from the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia in August, 1869; but the idea was too large, and the object too national, for that excellent society to carry out. But Philadelphia, the birthplace of the nation, and the first metropolis of the country, was selected as the *locus in quo*; and the subject was at once brought before the councils of the city and before the Pennsylvania legislature at Harrisburg; and a committee of each house of the last-named body was appointed to bring the undertaking before the notice of Congress.

It is not necessary that we should in this place rehearse the history of the movement, all the events of which have been chronicled from time to time in our pages. We have now to congratulate the managers on the magnificent results of their zeal and energy, which, in times of great commercial depression, raised the large sum of \$8,500,000 for the purposes of the enterprise, conducted the vast work of organizing the exhibition, and prepared and arranged the series of buildings, unprecedented in their extent and convenience. It is especially to give the reading public a correct idea of the magnitude of this undertaking that we illustrate herewith the Centennial buildings, and also some of the more important structures erected by the different States of

the Union, and several of those devoted to the use of distinct trades and manufactures.

Our first engraving gives a birdseye view of the grounds in Fairmount Park, looking in an easterly direction; and it shows in the foreground the five large structures and the United States Government Building.

constructed of wood filled in with plaster, a method which has, in skillful hands, produced some of the best and most durable edifices in Europe, which are, moreover, nearly fireproof. It is 152 feet long and 113 feet broad; and in the center is a large hall, 59 x 78 feet, containing a platform and a speaker's desk. A corridor ten feet wide runs around this hall,

and divides it from another large apartment, 28 x 59 feet, all the partitions being movable. Ten smaller rooms, for the use of committees, etc., are provided. The building is a very ornamental one, and will be much admired by our European visitors.

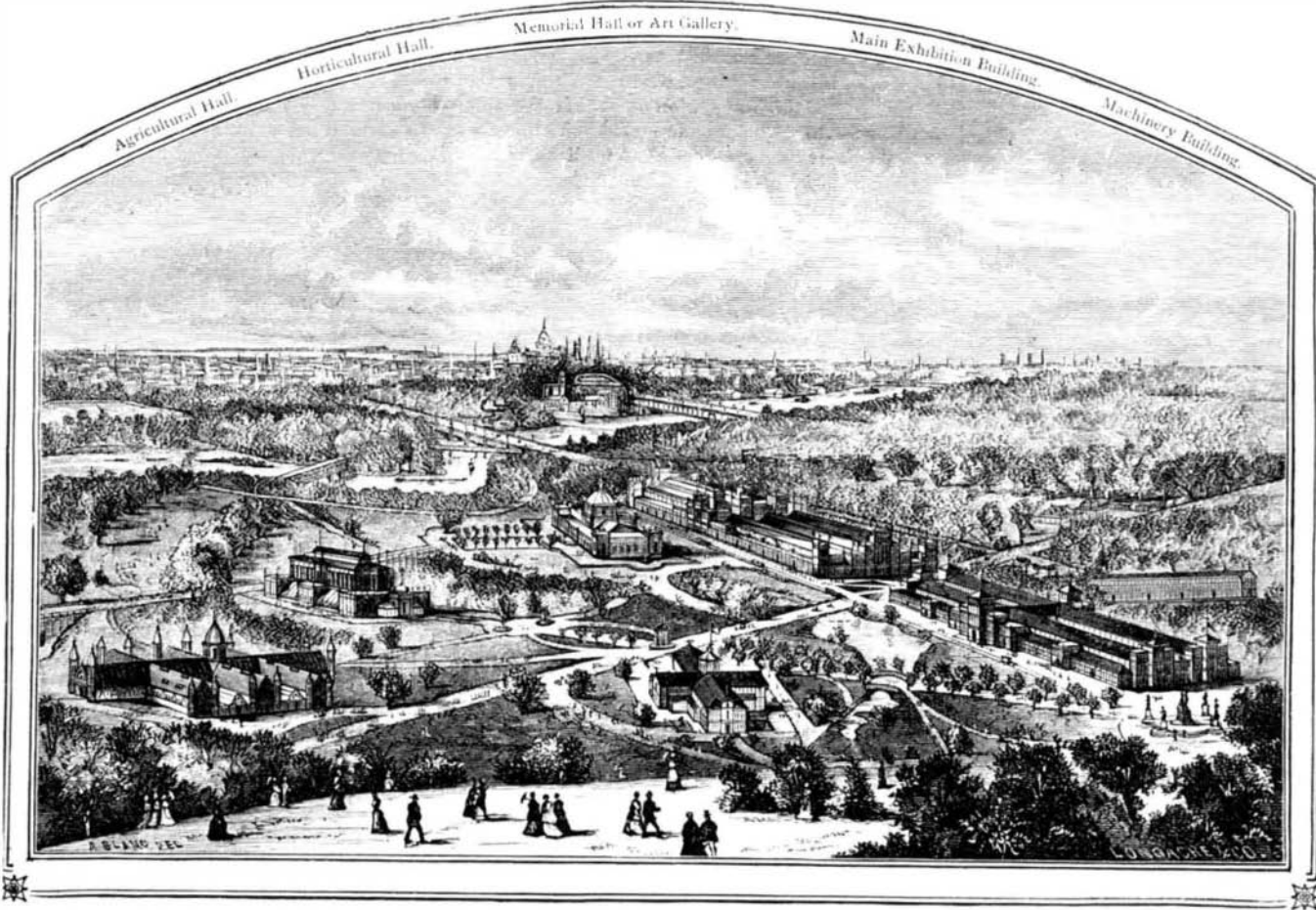
We resume our descriptions and illustrations on page 322 of this issue.

English vs. American Plows.

The London *Agricultural Gazette* says that the following remarks on the working of English and American plows in India were embodied in a letter recently communicated to the Agricultural Society at Calcutta: "I am very glad to reply to your inquiry," says the writer, "as to our experience of the two plows which have been on trial.

Both of them, the English and the American, were easily worked by a pair of ordinary bullocks; each turned up the soil to a depth of 6 inches, and there was no perceptible difference in the quality of the work turned out. But I imagine that no native farmer would care to own the English (iron) plow, when he could do the same work with the wooden American plow of simpler construction, and with a renewable point to the share. The points rapidly wear down in India; and the plowshare being made in one large piece, the alteration required is expensive. In the American self-sharpener, the movable top not only lasts longer but costs little to replace."

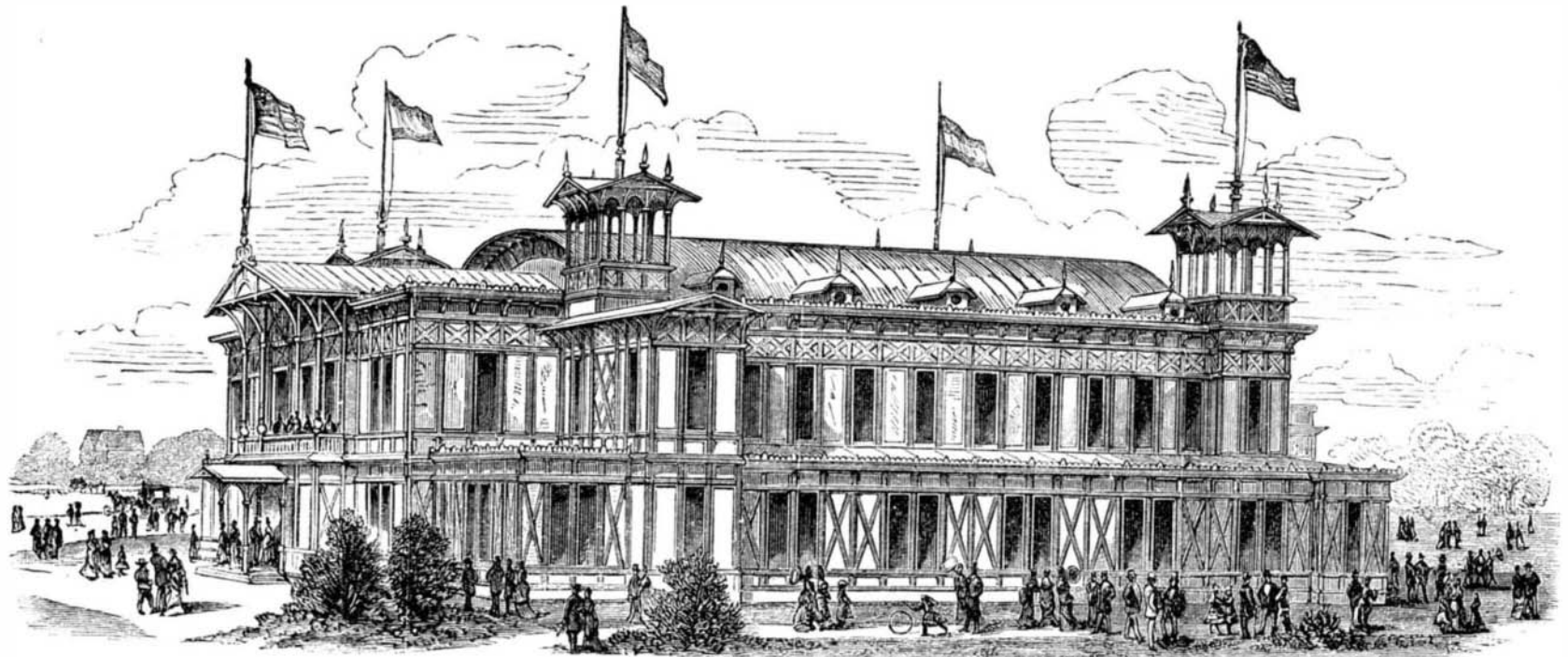
A FINE bell metal consists of 71 parts copper, 2 zinc, and 1 iron.



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF THE CENTENNIAL GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS.

On the extreme left of the picture is the Agricultural Hall, 820 x 125 feet; near it is the Horticultural Hall, 383 x 193 feet; to the southeast of this is Memorial Hall, a permanent structure, to be used for exhibiting the art collections, 365 x 210 feet; the Main Building, 1876 x 464 feet; and the Machinery Building, 1402 x 360 feet, with an annexe 208 feet x 210 feet. These buildings form almost a semicircle, the center of which is occupied by the Government Building, covering 2 acres. The five principal structures afford 50 acres of space; but some large additions are already needed to accommodate the exhibits tendered to the managers from all parts of the world.

Our second engraving represents the pavilion erected for the use of the judges and committees who are to award the prizes. It is, of course, a temporary building, and is con-



THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION—THE JUDGES' PAVILION.