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Scientific American.

OPENING OF THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION AT CHICAGO.

On the first day of the present month the Columbian In this sense the Exposition will not be confined to the World's Fair, at Chicago, was formally opened. The area, large as it is, of Jackson Park. The preliminary programme for its inauguration was simple and effec-' sight of New York City and the thousand mile ride tive. It included music, prayer, poetry, and oratory, through the Empire and Lake States, or over the Allefollowed by an official reception by the President of gheny Mountains and across Pennsylvania and Ohio, the United States and the officials of the Fair and teeming with industry of all kinds, will be the most imforeign commissioners. The music was rendered by a pressive part for many. Over this ground the work of band of six hundred musicians; the prayer was de- the past century is depicted. After lying almost inlivered by the blind chaplain of the United States animate for three hundred years' the discovery of Senate, who, as he was led to his place upon the plat- Columbus took effect and awakened to life. It is only form by his adopted daughter and faced the great the last hundred years which have made the Columaudience, which he could not see, gave the requisite bian Exposition possible. touch of pathos to the occasion. The principal oration was delivered by Director-General Davis, president trations of notable objects pertaining to the Exposiof the Exposition. President Cleveland followed him tion, publication of which will soon be commenced. It in a very short address, warmly appreciative of the will of course be impossible for us to illustrate all of wonderful work which has been done at Jackson Park. the wonders gathered at Chicago; but we hope to On a table near his left hand was a gold telegraph key. place before our readers the pictorial forms of many As he finished his address, he pressed the key. The of the most interesting things, and to present a genclosing of the circuit marked the beginning of the eral idea of the greatness and nature of this, the most Fair. The electric current started the machinery, recent and most remarkable assemblage of modern The electric fountain began to play, some seven hun-productions of science and the industrial arts. dred flags were unfurled, and the White City, as it has been appropriately called, started into life. Its brief existence began with the pressing of the key by the President of the United States.

The Fair is designed to commemorate the discovery of America by Columbus. As it was to take place in the temperate zone, the summer was the proper season for it. The definitive site was determined at so late a day that the time afforded for preparation was unavoidably very short. Such considerations as these justified the postponement of its opening from Octo- carry it to consummation on a much broader scale ber, 1892, the true quadri-centennial, to May, 1893. Six months more were afforded for the construction complished this, but she has paid out of her own cofwork, and the only possible time for it, the summer fers the chief cost of this vast undertaking. She has season, became available.

character of a World's Fair was held in England in 1851, under the auspices of the Prince Consort of after had its own Crystal Palace in what is now known as Bryant Park.

World's Fairs have been frequent since the early every respect the Chicago exposition surpasses anything which the world has seen.

The readers of our columns have learned of the new and the beautiful canals of old Venice are reproduced 'crowning achievement of the century. by the side of the pre-eminently modern Chicago. The entire conception and production are unique.

A World's Fair has never been held in a country of so large a population as that of the United States. A quarter of a million of people were present at its open-

up at the foot of Lake Michigan, nearly a thousand miles from the nearest sea port.

We have in preparation an extensive series of illus-

THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

The World's Columbian Exposition is now a reality. It has been formally opened to the public, and although there had been more or less fear that the great claims made for it would not be realized, the results are even greater and finer than could have been anticipated. Chicago has fully demonstrated that she is competent to conceive, in all its details, the scheme of by far the greatest exposition ever undertaken; that she can than was first conceived. Not only has Chicago accompleted her part of the work in twenty-one months, Seventeen years have elapsed since the United and she has handled over 250,000 people on the open-States, by a World's Fair, celebrated the centennial ing day without difficulty. Such an achievement is of their independence. The original exhibition of the stupendous; it is even beyond the conception of those who have witnessed the progress of the work.

A dreary sandy waste and swamp of 700 acres has Great Britain. After exhausting its superfluous ener- been converted into a veritable city, the "White City," gies during centuries in international war, the as it is called. The land has been transformed into a world made an effort to establish an international most artistic and beautiful park. It has been procontest in the arts of peace, and succeeded. The Crys- | vided with a system of drainage designed on the latest tal Palace, of London, a building unique in construc- improved scientific principles. Water, gas and election, and in many processes used in its erection, fitting- tricity are supplied in almost unlimited quantities in ly marked an epoch in itself, irrespective of its con- all parts of the grounds, while compressed air is furtents. New York followed the example, and soon | nished in nearly all the larger buildings. The electric lighting plant, both arc and incandescent, has nearly twice the capacity of all the central lighting stations combined in the city of Boston. Practically 400 builddays referred to. London, Paris, Vienna, Philadelphia, 'ings have been planned and constructed, the aggrehave successively surpassed previous efforts. But the gate floor area of these buildings reaching about 200 crowning achievement in every sense is that establish- acres. These are some of the things that have been ed on the shores of the inland sea-Lake Michigan. In conceived and carried out in this remarkably short space of time.

There are things in connection with the Exposition that can be criticised. It is the fruit of human ability methods of construction employed. The very walls and effort. But there is so much that challenges adare covered and decorated in a peculiar way. The miration that the visitor, with any knowledge of what architectural features, striking and chaste, have their the Exposition is, how much has been accomplished, impressiveness increased by their gigantic size. The and under what difficulties work has been carried on, same element affects the superb groups of statuary cannot fail to appreciate the great undertaking for employed upon the buildings. But not content with what it really is. President Cleveland well said in his this much, the highest skill of the landscape artist has address at the opening exercises that we ask for no been invoked. The water front has been utilized to allowances on account of our youth. Neither the the fullest possible extent in introducing the beauties. United States nor the Exposition need ask for such of lake scenery. A new city built upon the low shores allowances. Every citizen should feel proud of the unof the lake made the Venetian character appropriate, dertaking, and he who misses seeing it misses the

THE ELECTRIC SYSTEMS AT THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

One of the first exhibits ever made of an incandes cent electric lighting plant in which the power to ing. Even this number at first sight might seem dis- generate the electricity was furnished by steam was appointing, a fact which alone indicates the immensity the one made at the Paris Exposition of 1878 by Mr. of the enterprise. But Chicago after all is a center of Edison. The engine and dynamo were practically one population not greatly exceeding a million of souls. machine, the engine being probably the first one of

JOHN W. LANGLEY, Ph.DA valuable contribution to this branch of metallurgy involving a consideration of fusibility	Philadelphia, but two hours distant from New York,	high speed used for purposes of generating electric-
pardness, toughness, tendency to water cracking, and other pe-	represented in 1876 an available area inhabited by	ity. It was about this time that the incandescent
MIGHTLE AND MIGHTLE Confetti and Compatings The supplies	several times this number. As the season advances the	lamp became a commercial success, and coincident
for Carnival time in the city of Paris.—The harmless weapons of	great trunk lines will pour thousands of visitors from	with the accomplishment of this came the practical
The Bigraph.—A species of pantograph for producing two copies	all parts of the world into the metropolis of the lakes,	development and use of electricity. With the prece-
a lene. at once.—1 illustration	and the White City will be adequately tenanted day	dent of this plant it would be supposed that direct-
on	by day.	connected plants would have become popular, espe-
VAL ENGINEERING.—H. M. S. Australia.—The beltedcruiser ustralia, of the British navy.—1 illustration	Every world's fair has surpassed its predecessor. Such	cially as this particular plant was put into daily use
The Effects of a Collision.—Illustration of the effects of a recent llision in Boston Harbor.—1 illustration	is the rule of existence of these institutions. Yet so	in a light station at Milan and did excellent service.
HOTOGRAPHYA Photographer's Electric PencilSeveral	immense is the Chicago Exposition, so utterly unpre-	Such high rates of speed were demanded that the
tion	cedented in every respect, that it is hard to believe that	matter of regulating the engine was a serious ques-
hotographing Interiors.—By ELLERSLIE WALLACE.—Practical 38 on this interesting branch of the photographic art	it will be excelled in magnitude or beauty for many	tion to engine builders, and because of the greater
IYSICSThe Specific Heat of Liquid AmmoniaBy C.	years to come.	success that attended the regulating of speed by belt-
EKING and J. E. STARR. – Direct determination of this fac- A new physical constant determined	The benefits direct and indirect to Chicago and to	ing down or up, the matter of direct connection was
CHNOLOGYImprovements in the Manufacture of Borax.	the West connot well be overestimated. Even to-day	practically dropped in this country for many years.
It and boracic acid 14481	the most carious misinformation as to the United States	It has been carried to a point of much perfection in
of deterioration of soda water fountains.—Its cause and	obtains in Europe. 'The present occasion will be a true	Europe, and is now fast coming into use in this coun-
ion	revelation of an unknown civilization to many visitors	try. Much larger units of power and of electrical
-A valuable paper on paint from the point of view of the ing engineer	to our shores, who do not realize that a city almost as	energy are demanded each year, and while builders
papers from the artistic standpoint	large is Berlin has within the span of a lifetime grown	have been adding refinements to the wonderfully per-
•		

fect mechanism of the steam engine, dynamo builders have been building machines which do not require such high rates of speed as were formerly demanded, both because of improved design and construction as well as because of the increase in size.

The electric generating plants at the World's Columbian Exposition fully demonstrate the latest practice in this country in direct connecting. Six of the Westinghouse alternating current dynamos, each with a normal capacity of ten thousand incandescent lamps, will be direct-connected to Westinghouse compound engines of one thousand horse power each. Near by, in the power plant in the Palace of Mechanic Arts, the General Electric Company exhibits a vertical triple expansion engine direct-connected to two Edison multipolar power generators of five hundred horse power each. These two plants, each of which is of unusual capacity, demonstrate the adaptability of direct connection with vertical types of engines, while in the power house of the Intramural Railway is a directconnected plant in which the engine is of the horizontal type. The engine in this case is a two thousand horse power cross compound Allis engine of the Corliss type, and the armature of a fifteen hundred kilowatt Thomson-Houston multipolar railway generator is built up on its shaft. With the claims for economy that are made for direct-connected plants, it day of April, in which to finish their work, or, if not would be instructive if these three installations were so arranged that they could be tested under different of completion. Meantime, while exhibitors were putsteam pressures, so as to ascertain the point of their highest economic working efficiency.

There are other direct-connected sets at the Exposition besides these mentioned. They are exhibits and not part of any plants in actual operation, but they all go to show that the plant designed and exhibited by Mr. Edison fifteen years ago was on the correct principle.

THE POST OFFICE OF THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION. The model post office established in the World's Columbian Exposition grounds by the United States Post Office Department is now in full working order, and has been used since the middle of April. This office is a branch of the Chicago post office, but is Liberty bell, which received such ovations all along known as the World's Fair Station, and all visitors at the Exposition who have no definite knowledge in advance as to what their address will be in Chicago may have their mail sent to this station by addressing it "World's Fair Station, Chicago." This office is situated in the southwestern corner of the United States Government building, and its general arrangement is in all respects highly convenient. At the extreme left is the private office of the superintendent of the station, then in consecutive order are windows as follows: Two "Carriers' Delivery" windows, two "General Delivery" windows, one "Registered Letters" window, one "Money Orders" window, one "Stamps Wholesale" window, one "Stamps Retail" window, and at the right hand corner an "Inquiry' window. Between the carriers' windows and the general delivery windows are about one hundred lock ances. The preceding week had been one of almost boxes which will be rented, but there are no call boxes. Near the right hand end are four slips for mailing letters, one each marked "North," "South," "East" and condition. Many of the walks and promenades in the "West." Besides these there are slips marked "Pack ages," "Papers," "City" and "Foreign."

This office has about twenty-five postmen in the delivery service, and there are four deliveries of mail a day, mail being delivered at all the State buildings and foreign buildings as well as at the Exposition buildings. By this arrangement visitors from any particular State can, if they so choose, have their mail delivered at their State building, provided their State has a building. The service of this office, including the mail delivery, belongs equally to Midway Plaisance as to the Exposition grounds proper.

At the right of this post office is a model postal car with all its equipment complete. A full working gates, and the stream increased in volume up to the model of this car, one-sixth in size, is also exhibited. In this connection the Post Office Department makes a consisted of a platoon of mounted park policemen, a complete exhibit of the various ways of carrying mails detachment of city policemen, mounted, Company B in addition to this postal car. There is a mail carrier Seventh United States Cavalry, the Chicago Hussars, on horseback with his equipment, a sled to which mounted, Troop A Illinois National Guard, and a large three dogs are harnessed, showing the manner in which \mid number of carriages containing the officials of the Exmail is carried in the winter in extreme cold regions. position, with the presidential and ducal parties, There is also the Indian mail carrier on snow shoes, a foreign representatives, city and State officials, ladies "special delivery" boy on a bicycle, a fine model of of the several parties, etc. This procession proceeded the steamship City of Paris, also a model of the side up Michigan Avenue, out the Boulevard, and entered wheel steamer Southern, of New York, the first the Exposition grounds by passing through Midway steamer that ever carried the United States mails. Plaisance. People crowded the streets along the en-There are also two wax figures of postmen in full uni- tire route of the procession. In the Midway Plaisance form, together with a full and complete display of the people in the several foreign villages turned out mail bags and pouches of all kinds, etc.



THE OPENING ON MAY 1.

The World's Columbian Exposition was formally opened at noon on Monday. May 1.

From the day work was begun on the Exposition, the amount of energy expended has been almost limitless, and as the opening day drew near month by month, this amount of energy increased proportionately. The greatest amount of work was accomplished during the month of April, and especially during the last week or ten days, when from 15,000 to 17,000 men were employed, and work went on unceasingly. Exhibitors were given up to late Sunday night, the 30th finished, to have it reach as near as possible the point ting the finishing touches on their exhibits, from 4,000 to 5,000 men were cleaning up the grounds and buildings. These men worked through the night and up almost to the hour that the procession escorting the guests of the day entered the Exposition grounds, and they accomplished their work so that when the Exposition was formally opened to the world, it was ready for the inspection of visitors.

The ceremonies attending the opening began on Saturday, April 29, when the Duke of Veragua reached Chigago and was escorted to his hotel. An hour later President Cleveland with his cabinet and other government officials arrived and was escorted to the hotel by State and national troops, and a little later the the route from Philadelphia, was escorted through the streets of Chicago to the Exposition grounds, received almost as great an ovation as was accorded the President and the descendant of Columbus. Thousands of strangers were in the city, and the streets were crowded from the station to the Exposition grounds, eight miles away. Public and private buildings were freely decorated, and, in spite of the gloomy weather, the ovation was a royal one.

Sunday, the 30th of April, was one of the most uncomfortable days that has been experienced in Chicago this spring. The atmosphere was chilly and a driving rain continued from early in the morning until after noon. Monday morning of the opening day, May 1, was somewhat brighter, and, although it was by no means pleasant, the sun made several brief appearcontinuous heavy rains, and, as a consequence, the Exposition grounds and some of the streets were in bad northern half of the Exposition grounds had had the finishing touches put upon them and had been rolled and swept until they were as hard and clean as an asphalt pavement. The highways of the southern end of the grounds-and it is here that the crowds largely center-had not been fully completed. Most of them had reached the point where only the top dressing and a little more rolling was required to complete them when the rains came and, lasting so many days, prevented the completion of the work.

The hour for opening the gates of the Exposition to the visitor is eight o'clock, but long before that hour on the opening day visitors poured in at all of the time of the arrival of the procession. This procession en masse to extend their welcome to the President. Turks, Moors, Egyptians, Singalese, Algerians, Japan-FOR BROWNING BLUE PRINTS.-Dissolve piece of ese, Javanese, and the other foreigners extended their

The ceremonies attending the formal opening of the Exposition began promptly at half past eleven. The special platform constructed for the occasion on the east front of the Administration building provided sufficient seating capacity for the two thousand or more invited guests, the orchestra, the large chorus, and others. Exposition officials estimated that at least 150,000 people could be comfortably crowded into the Grand Plaza in front of the platform. Long before President Cleveland made his appearance on the stand all available space, not only in front but on each side of the Administration building and the great open areas in front of the Manufactures and Liberal Arts building and the Agricultural building, was crowded to the utmost, and thousands of people filled the grounds even as far east as in front of the Peristyle. The sight from the platform was magnificent. A large sounding board had been constructed directly back of the orchestra and chorus, and its efficiency was complete, thus adding much to the perfectness of the ceremonies.

After the President and other guests were seated, the ceremonies opened by the orchestra rendering the "Columbian March and Hymn." Dr. Milburn, chaplain of Congress, offered prayer, Miss Jessie Couthoui recited the "Prophecy," a poem written for the occasion by W. D. Croffut. Following the rendering of the overture, "Rienzi," by the orchestra, Director-General Davis of the Exposition delivered a short address, reviewing concisely the work and purpose of the Exposition. Concluding this address, the Director-General turned to President Cleveland, who returned the salute of the Director-General. As the President rose to his feet he was greeted by an outburst of cheering from the immense crowds in front of him, aggregating perhaps 300,000 people. Cheer after cheer arose, echoing from the Administration building across the basin to the Peristyle and back again. The President presented the purposes of the Exposition, asking for no allowance on the score of the youth of the nation, then declared the Exposition opened, and, touching the electric key, turned on the steam to the great 2,000 horse power engine of the power plant in the Palace of Mechanic Arts.

As President Cleveland touched the key and declared the Exposition opened, the sight and the sound following was most memorable. On every building throughout the grounds, and especially on those adjoining the basin and canals, the hundreds of flagstaffs had been arranged with their flags tightly furled but ready to be flung to the breeze at an instant's notice. Immediately in front of the grand stand were three poles, each eighty feet high, and on top of each was a golden model of the Santa Maria. At the signal, flags were unfurled from these poles and the halliards controlling the flags on every one of the other flag poles were loosened as if by one movement, and the flags of every country exhibiting at the Exposition, the Exposition colors, and an immense amount of bunting of bright and harmonious colors were flung to the breeze. At the same instant two electric fountains situated on either side of the McMonnies fountain, and immediately in front of the grand stand, sent great streams of water fifty to seventy-five feet in the air, and the great golden Statue of the Republic mounted immediately in front of the Columbus entrance to the Peristyle was unveiled. The man-of-war Michigan which lay immediately off the Exposition pier fired twenty-one guns as a Presidential salute. The steam launches in the basin blew their whistles, and at the same time whistles from steamers lying at the pier and the great steam whistles and gongs on the power plant of the Exposition joined in the din. The orchestra and the chorus closed the formal exercises with the tune "America," and at the second verse the whole concourse of people, guests and visitors joined in the singing.

President Cleveland and the other invited guests retired to the Administration building, where a lunch was served. While they were preparing for the lunch a band of several American Indians that had been stoically watching the exercises was led into the rotunda under the vast dome of the building, and at a given signal they sounded the Indian war whoop which startled the foreign guests. After a short rest following the lunch, the President, the Duke and a few more of the more prominent guests were escorted about the grounds and through the several buildings, riding part of the way in carriages and the rest of the way in electric launches on the waterways. Quite a little reception was held in the Manufactures and Liberal Arts building, where the President and the official representatives of all the exhibiting nations and colonies who were present were formally introduced. President Cleveland and party left the grounds at half past five for Washington. It is hardly to be expected that such an enormous undertaking as this Exposition has been could be wholly complete in every respect on the opening day. Nevertheless visitors have no reason to be disappointed or critical, for on the opening day there were more (Continued on page 294.)

caustic potash as big as a soup bean in 5 ounces of greetings to the President each in their own peculiar water. Place print in this solution, and it will fade to manner. Passing through the Plaisance into the Expo orange yellow. When all blueprints have disappeared, sition grounds proper, the procession wended its way wash print thoroughly in clear water. Then dissolve a through through through complete to the Administration partly heaped teaspoonful of tannic acid in 8 ounces of building. Here the military companies formed an water. Put the yellow prints in this bath, when they open passageway, through which the carriages passed will turn to a brown that can be allowed to assume a as they drove up to the building, and the invited exhibits to be seen and studied than any human being tone of any required depth. Then wash well and dry. guests alighted.

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