

# THE FREE CITIZEN.

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## THE CENTENNIAL.

The Great Anniversary Exhibition in Philadelphia.

Views of the Exhibition Buildings and Full Descriptions of the Various Departments.

Arrangements for the Centennial.

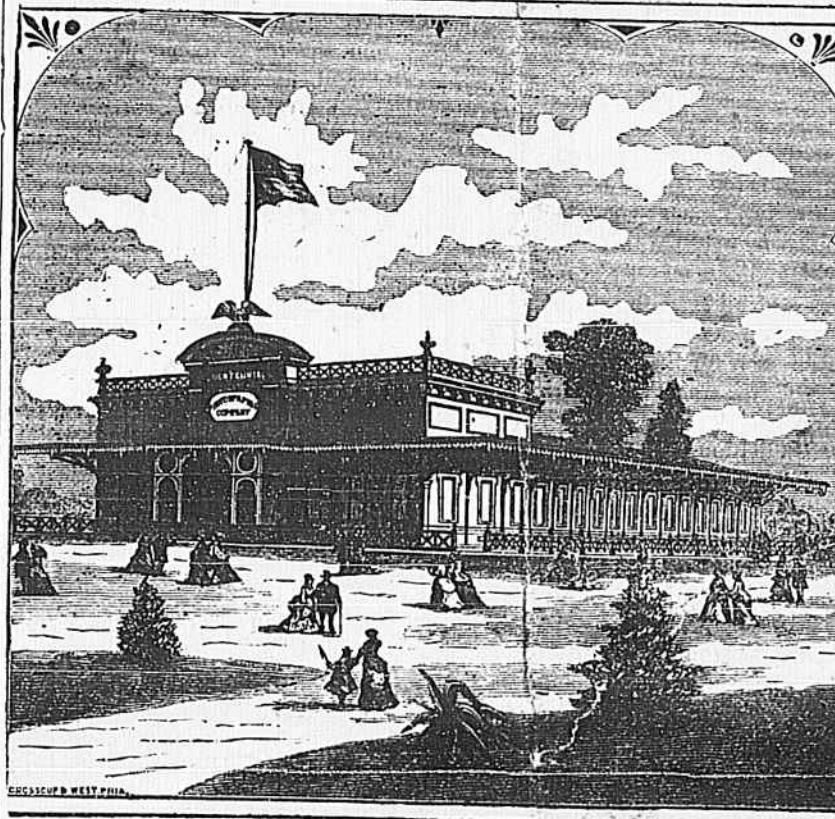
The act of congress which provides for "celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of American independence, by holding an international exhibition of arts, manufactures and products of the soil and mine," authorized the creation of the United States centennial commission, and intrusted to it the management of the exhibition. This body is composed of two commissioners from each state and territory, nominated by the respective governors, and commissioned by the president of the United States. The enterprise, therefore, is distinctly a national one, and not, as has sometimes been stated, the work of a private corporation.

The exhibition was opened on May 10th, 1876, and remain open until November 10th. There will be a fixed

A number of trade and industrial associations, which require large amounts of space, are provided for in special buildings. Among these are the photographers, the carriage builders, the glass makers, the cracker bakers, the boot and shoe manufacturers, besides quite a number of individual exhibitors. The great demand for space renders this course necessary to a considerable extent, especially for exhibitors who have been tardy in making their applications. In the main exhibition building, for example, three hundred and thirty-three thousand three hundred square feet of space had been applied for by the beginning of October by American exhibitors only; whereas, the aggregate space which it has been possible to reserve for the United States department is only one hundred and sixty thousand square feet. About one-third is consumed by passage ways.

The machinery building, like the others, is already fully covered by applications. There are about one thousand American exhibitors in this department, one hundred and fifty English, and one hundred and fifty from other European countries—which is about two hundred and fifty more than entered the Vienna machinery exhibition. Extra provision has been made for annexes to accommodate the hydraulic machinery, the steam hammers, forges, hoisting engines, boilers, plumbers, carpenters, etc.

Power in the machinery hall is chiefly supplied by a pair of monster Corliss engines. Each cylinder is forty inches in diameter, with a stroke of ten feet; the



PHOTOGRAPHIC BUILDING.

Presbyterian Synod; Caledonian Club; Portland Mechanic Blues; Welsh National Eisteddfod; Patriotic Order Sons of America; California Zouaves of San Francisco; an International Regatta; the Life Insurance Companies; National Board of Underwriters; State Agricultural Society; Second Infantry, N. G. of California; Philadelphia Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church; Cincinnati Society; California Pioneer Society; American Dental Convention; Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America; Independent Order of B'nai B'rith; National Alumni Association; Salesmen's Association; Fifth Maryland Regiment; Seventh New York Regiment; American Pomological Society; and the Association of the United States.

in the same relative positions to each other as the longitudinal avenues. These cross the building, and are four hundred and sixteen feet in length. The intersections of these various avenues make at the center of the building nine spaces free from supports, which are from one hundred to one hundred and twenty feet square, and which aggregate four hundred and sixteen feet square. The general elevation of the roofs of all these avenues varies from forty-five feet to seventy feet.

The building rests upon the ground, the land having been thoroughly graded and prepared. The foundations consist of piers of masonry, the superstructure being com-

the south from memorial hall and on the north from agricultural building. These ravines are spanned by ornamental bridges five hundred feet long and sixty feet wide, for convenience of access. Carriage roads, a railway, and foot walks, pass over them. The horticultural building is designed in the Moresque style of architecture of the twelfth century, the chief materials externally being iron and glass, supported by fine marble and brick work. The building is three hundred and eighty-three feet long, one hundred and ninety-three feet wide, and seventy-two feet high to the top of the lantern. The main floor is occupied by the central conservatory, two hundred and thirty feet by eighty feet, and fifty five feet high, surmounted by a lantern one hundred and seventy feet long, twenty feet wide, and fourteen feet high. Running entirely around this conservatory, at a height of twenty feet from the floor, is a gallery five feet wide.

On the north and south sides of this principal room are four forcing houses for the propagation of young plants, each of them one hundred feet by thirty feet, and covered by curved roofs of iron and glass, which, appearing upon the exterior of the building, present a very fine feature. A vestibule thirty feet square separates the two forcing houses on each side, and there are similar vestibules at the center of the east and west ends, on either side of which are apartments for reception rooms, offices, etc. Ornamental stairways lead from these vestibules to the internal galleries of the con-

boiler houses, and such other buildings for special kinds of machinery as may be required.

The plan of the machinery building shows two main avenues ninety feet wide, with a central aisle between and an aisle on either side, these being sixty feet in width. These avenues and aisles together have three hundred and sixty feet width, and each of them is one thousand three hundred and sixty feet long. At the center of the building there is a transept ninety feet in width, which at the south end is prolonged beyond the building. This extended transept, beginning at thirty feet from the building and extending to two hundred and eighty feet, is flanked on either side by aisles sixty feet wide, and forms an annex for hydraulic machines. The promenades are: In the avenue fifteen feet wide, in the aisles ten feet, and in the transept twenty-five feet. The walks extending across the building are all ten feet wide, and lead at either end to exit doors. The foundations of this building are piers of masonry, the superstructure consisting of solid timber columns supporting roof trusses, constructed of straight wooden principal beams and wrought iron ties and struts. The columns are placed in longitudinal lines, and in these rows stand sixteen feet apart. The columns are forty feet high, and support respectively the ninety-foot roof-spans over the avenues at a height of forty feet, and the sixty feet roof-spans over the aisles at a height of twenty feet. The outer walls are built

