

THE WORLD'S EXPOSITION

AT NEW ORLEANS.

The happy conception of memorializing the beginning of the cotton industry of this continent was received with such evidences of favor and recognition of its propriety that the projectors of the Exposition were led to convert it into a general display of the world's industry. The wide-spread interest developed and enthusiasm created convinced them that the occasion, the time, and the locality harmonized; that the opportunity of placing the resources, products, and attractions, the commercial, industrial and manufacturing capacities and possibilities of the Southern and Southwestern States before the world had arrived. The Congress of the nation, recognizing the national importance of the Exposition, its influence in promoting general prosperity, in restoring harmony and feelings of comity between the people of different sections, in developing and enlarging trade relations with rich and populous countries contiguous to this section, not only gave its official sanction, but by virtue of the Act of Congress (February 10, 1883) it was given a national and international character. Commissioners for all of the States and Territories of the Union were appointed. The duties of these commissioners have been to distribute information of the Exposition and to prepare a collective exhibit of the natural resources of their respective States and Territories. By this means a wide knowledge of the Exposition has been diffused and a wide-spread interest developed. The result is that applications have been more numerous, the space required much greater, and the character of representation more varied than has been recorded of any other exposition at a similar stage of development.

Fortunately for the World's Exposition its resources, though not lavish, are abundant for all the purposes of providing ample space, securing necessary attractions and promoting complete success. The appropriation by the general government of \$1,300,000, the contribution by the citizens of New Orleans of \$500,000, and the appropriation by the City of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana, each of \$100,000, affords an ample fund for the purposes mentioned. The management of the exposition has been benefited by the experience of former Expositions. It has not considered it politic or necessary to give to temporary structures the same degree of elaboration and detail that should be given to those that are intended for permanence. The Main Building of the World's Exposition, while affording fifty per cent more space than the main building of the Philadelphia Centennial, being fully as pleasing in architectural design and appearance, has not cost one-fourth as much to erect. The same can be said of the other structures. In all the material points of appearance, con-

venience and adaptation for use, the structures of the World's Exposition will compare with those of any other exposition ever held, and in many respects will be decidedly superior.

At New Orleans, the period is but a spring-time—vernal foliage clothes the earth, fragrant flowers give forth their perfume, choice fruits ripen, balmy winds prevail.

The special features of the World's Exposition are so numerous and so striking that it virtually necessitates classing them as general. What are termed "tropical display" will be special to this Exposition and so extensive as almost to be a leading feature. In fruits, flowers, plants, and forestry, in cultivated products, in export woods, in mineralogical samples, in native manufactured products, in rich archeological stores, the exhibits of Mexico, the countries of Central and South America, and the West Indies will be complete and comprehensive, unitedly composing an extraordinary exposition. The general government exhibits will in magnitude and variety far exceed the magnificent display made at the Philadelphia Centennial. The cotton exhibit, from the weed to the fabric, through numerous and wondrous processes, will be an unusual attraction. The same can be said of the sugar-cane and the rice plant, the processes of cultivation, harvesting, and manufacturing being practically demonstrated. The live-stock display will be a very interesting feature. A very liberal premium list offered in this department will insure a large representation. The electrical display will be complete, demonstrating the wonderful progress in this line in all descriptions of invention and use. The machinery exhibit will be enormous, it will present in detail the culmination of this, the greatest of all inventive eras. The developments of the past few years will afford material that will be a source of continual wonderment to the visitor. The exposition of women's work is a feature exciting earnest consideration. The exhibit will display her work in all the phases of her taste, skill, and industry; an attempt at enumeration would be futile. In all that her hand may do or her taste may influence, evidences will be abundantly present. Another and an equally interesting feature is the department devoted to an exposition of the work and progress of the colored race. The identification of the colored race with the material progress and the development of the great natural resources of the South, and the influence of so large a portion of her population upon her prosperity, renders this demonstration of their educational and industrial progress and advancement eminently appropriate. The Board of Management, appreciating the fitness and propriety of such a feature, and to afford every incentive for the fullest and most thorough exposition, has assigned the sum \$50,000 to assist those engaged in the work of preparation. The colored people have entered into the work with great enthusiasm and the promises are bright for a most interesting and magnificent display.

Outside of the Exposition proper, the interest in it and its magnitude will attract many important enterprises and features. An International Drill, in which, beside the volunteer soldiery, companies of the regular army will be invited to participate, and the companies of the Mexican army and the Spanish army in Cuba, together with the soldiery of any other nation present, will be invited to take part, will be a feature of international interest. During the station of the United States Fleet in the river bordering the Exposition Grounds (already promised by the Secretary of the Navy), a sham naval and land battle is contemplated.

A large number of organizations of national reputation and extent have already arranged for their annual convocations at New Orleans during the period of the Exposition.

The Carnival Pageants, occurring about the middle of the Exposition period, will be the most elaborate and brilliant of this world-wide famed festival.

Three regular first-class theatres, two grand opera houses and one grand French and Italian opera house, will be open during the Exposition.

Grand concert, vocal and instrumental, will be given regularly in Music Hall in the Main Building. The largest organ ever built for an exposition has been built expressly for the World's Exposition.

The opportunities for these pleasurable and instructive pastimes are almost innumerable in the Crescent City. By water, fresh or salt, to nearly every point of the compass, elegant steamboats ply from New Orleans, covering the Mississippi, to its famed delta and its numerous lower tributaries, penetrating the enchanting waters of interminable bayous, bordered with rich canefields and shaded with the live oak. Steamers sail regularly between the city shores of Lake Pontchartrain and its north shores and the sound watering places, and down the Mississippi into the gulf to the shores and Keys of Florida, to the coast places of Texas, Mexico, Central America, the Carribean Isles, and the West Indies. By rail, the "Land of Flowers" is reached in a few hours, and every prominent southern point—even to the City of Mexico becomes conveniently accessible. Excursion rates will be so low that it will simply be a question of desire.

THE MAIN BUILDING.



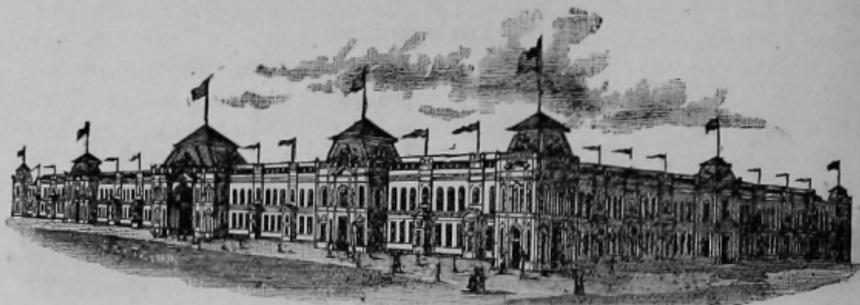
The Main Building is the largest ever erected. It is 1,378 feet long by 905 feet wide, without courts, and has a continuous roof composed largely of glass so arranged as to afford an abundance of light without subjecting the interior to the direct rays of the sun. Within, the view is unobstructed. From one side or corner of the building to its opposite, the interior showing all the phases of industrial activity is seen. There are no partitions, and the lofty pillars, wide apart, supporting the roof structure, present no impediment to one's vision, but only serve to assist the eye in measuring the vast expanse. The interior is surrounded by wide and spacious galleries, twenty-three feet high, which are reached by twenty elevators having the most approved safety appliances, and by convenient stairways.

The machinery department occupies a space of 1,378 feet long by 300 feet wide, within the main building, and has an extension added in iron 350 feet long and 150 feet wide for heavy machinery, described under the heading of Factories and Mills. From the galleries overlooking more than two miles of shafting can be seen driving every known character of machinery.

Music Hall, with a seating capacity, in commodious chairs, for 11,000 people, a platform capacity for 600 musicians and a mammoth organ built to order for the Exposition occupies the centre of the interior.

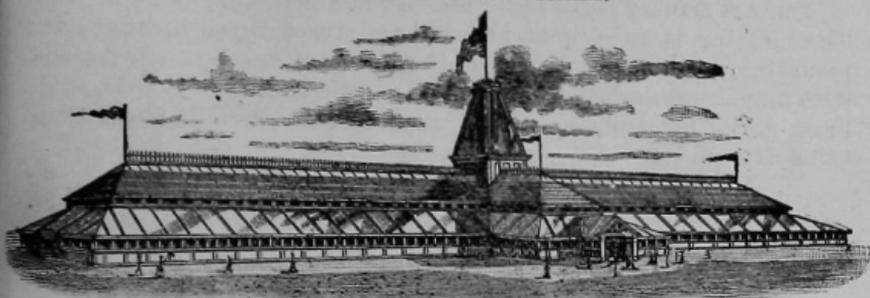
The main building will contain general exhibits. It is situated (as will be seen by the park plan published herewith) about in the centre of the grounds.

UNITED STATES AND STATE EXHIBITS.



This Building is 885 feet long by 565 feet wide. It is one of the largest exposition buildings ever erected. At the time of the adoption of the plans it was supposed, that the Main Building, having the largest capacity of any building heretofore erected, in conjunction with the Horticultural Hall and such minor outside buildings as were necessary, would afford ample space and accomodation for all exhibits; but the interest in the World's Exposition had become so wide-spread and the inquiries and applications for space became so numerous, that the necessity for additional accomodation became imperative, and the management determined upon the erection of this magnificent structure specially for the United States and State Exhibits. The government exhibition will be complete—of itself, almost a mammoth exhibition. Each department will have its distinctive exhibit. The Department of State showing samples of cotton, wool, and cosmos fibres, and of the fabrics made from them, from all parts of the world. This exhibit will be arranged in continental groups representing the geographical divisions of the world's commerce, etc. The Postoffice Department will exhibit all the improvement in mail facilities, and establish a branch office in the building for the accomodation of visitors and to show the practical working of the Postal System. The Treasury Department will exhibit coast survey, light housing, life-saving service, customs, internal revenue, engraving, printing, etc. The War Department will show arms, ordinance, engineering, medical, surgical, and hospital services, progress in same, etc. The Navy Department will show naval arms, ordinance, projectiles, torpedoes, dynamo electro machines for firing, models of war vessels—ancient and modern, etc. The Interior Department—everything pertaining to the inventions and improvements in American industries and to the history, customs, and habits of the aboriginal races, etc. The United States Fishery Commission, the Department of Justice, Bureau of Agriculture, the Bureau of Education, and especially the Smithsonian Institute, will be exhaustively represented. The government exhibit will vastly exceed that made at Philadelphia. In addition to the government exhibits, the collective State exhibits and the general educational display will be located in this building. The structure presents a very attractive appearance.

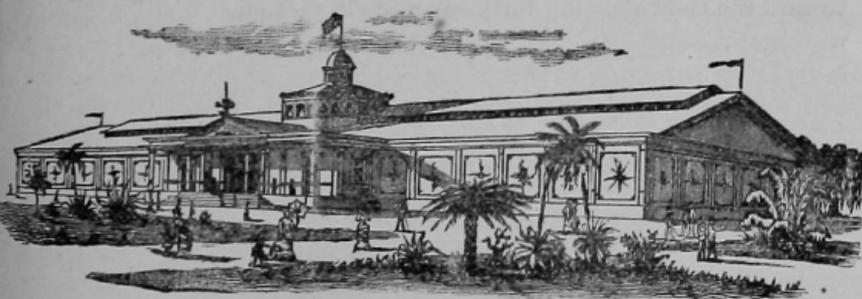
THE HORTICULTURAL HALL.



The Horticultural Hall is 600 feet in length and 194 feet wide through its centre. It is the largest conservatory in the world. It is substantially built as a durable structure, becoming, by arrangement with the city, a permanent feature of the Park. It is located on high ground in the midst of live-oak groves. Surmounting the centre is a magnificent tower, 90 feet high, roofed with glass. Beneath this tower, in constant play, is a grand fountain. 20,000 plates of fruit, double the amount ever before displayed at any exposition, will be shown on tables extending through the hall. Around the hall will be arranged an infinite variety of rare tropical and semi-tropical plants, flowers, and shrubbery. There is a tropical hothouse, 250 long by 25 feet wide, in which the most delicate flowers from the far South will be nurtured and made to bloom in their most brilliant perfection. Tropical fruits in the various stages of growth will be exhibited. Fruits of every section and the productions of all seasons will, by arrangements for stated supplies and thorough processes of cold storage, be available for exhibit.

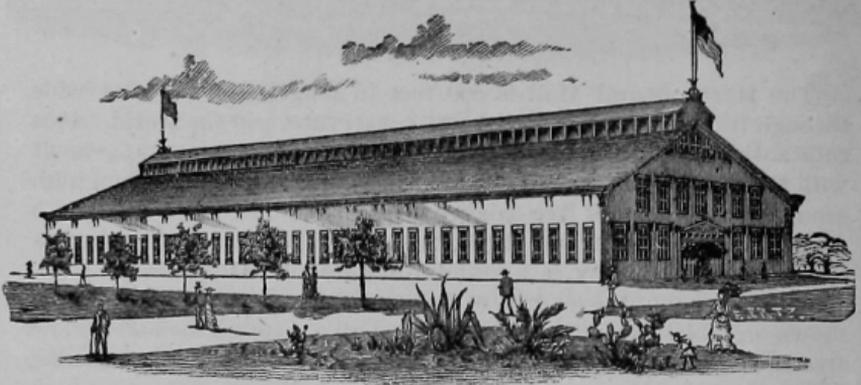
The most eminent horticulturists of the United States are engaged in arranging and perfecting the display. Cash premiums to the amount of \$32,000 are offered in this department, and contributions to its exhibits from Mexico, Central America, the West Indies and the different States of the Union will be unprecedentedly large and varied.

THE ART GALLERY.



The Art Gallery is 250 feet wide. It is a structure built of iron. The building is an elegant and artistic structure, so arranged for mounting, accessibility and light as to present the best effects, and with ample accomodation for as large a collection as was ever exhibited on this hemisphere. It will be fireproof—even the partitions being of iron.

FACTORIES AND MILLS.

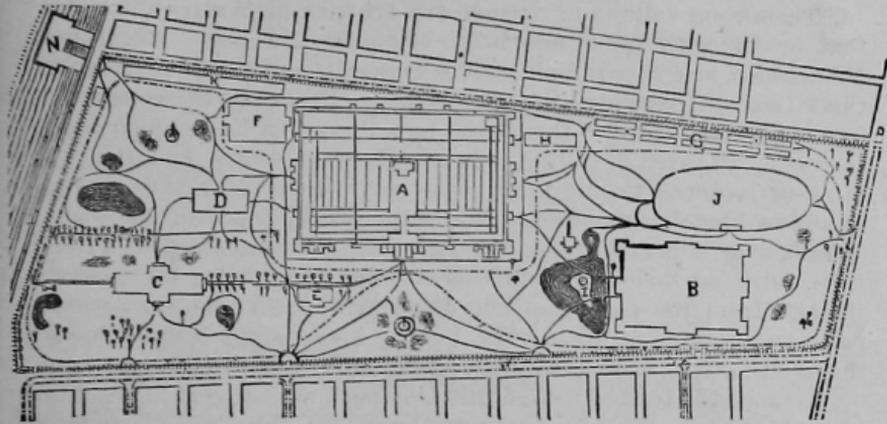


This is a large iron building 350 feet long by 120 feet wide. In it will be exhibited cotton in all stages of manipulation from the ball to the bale. The newly invented "Cotton Pickers, Openers and Lappers," as well as the various and complex machinery for ginning, cleaning, baling and compressing, will be in constant operation. The supply of field cotton for this purpose will be abundant.

In addition to cotton machinery this extension of Machinery Hall will contain the various kinds of machinery used in the rolling of cane and manufacture of sugar, and in the harvesting and milling of rice.

Various kinds of factory and mill machinery for wood working, brick and tile making, etc., will be located in this structure. Adjacent to this buiding there will be a line of sawmills, extending toward the river showing forty sawmills in motion.

THE GROUND PLAN.



Scale 1,430 feet to the inch.

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| A—Main Building. | G—Live Stock Stables, etc. |
| B—United States and State Exhibits. | H—Restaurants and Refreshments. |
| C—Horticultural Hall. | I—Grand Fountain, eighty feet high. |
| D—Mexican Buildings. | J—Live Stock Arena. |
| E—Art Gallery. | K—Saw Mills and Woodworking Machinery. |
| F—Factories and Mills. | L—Wharf, Mississippi River. |

The grounds embrace the space of 247 acres, bounded on the north side by St. Charles Avenue, on the south by the Mississippi river. The buildings front east towards the main portion of the city.

An electric railway encircles the grounds.

The Exposition opens in December, 1884, and closes May 31, 1885.