



“LET EVERY STEP BE AN ADVANCE.”

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CHICAGO'S WELCOME.

It was supposed when our excursionists started upon their grand jaunt from the Atlantic to the Pacific that no stops except for wood and water would be made before reaching Omaha. As the train approached the State of Illinois, however, the Chicago Board of Trade of Chicago, which numbers many warm friends of Boston among its members, were, with that spirit of generous hospitality which characterizes them, on the alert to devise some means to greet their friends in a fitting manner on arrival. Telegrams flew back and forth between old friends who had met at the different commercial conventions, and the officers of the Board of Trade and the executive committee of the excursionists; the despatches to the latter urged a stop of a day or two in Chicago, and the Board were anxious to meet their eastern contemporaries, and also that they should have an opportunity of witnessing the march of progress that has been made of late years in the Queen of the West, in which eastern capital has played an important part. It was found, however, that the longest stop that could possibly be made was to pass Tuesday night at Chicago, leaving at noon the next day, which course was accordingly determined upon, although urgent solicitations were made by our Chicago friends to prolong the visit.

When the train reached Michigan City, about two hours' ride from Chicago, it was met by a special train, bearing

S. H. McCrea, Pres.; Charles Bardolph, Secy.; and about thirty members of the Chicago Board of Trade.

Hearty greetings of old acquaintances took place, and the party were straightway marshalled into the first car, where all were formally presented to Hon. Alex. H. Rice, President of our Excursion party, H. A. Hill, Esq., Secretary of the Board of Trade, Mr. Kinsley, Col. Denny, Capt. J. W. Bliss, Hon. J. B. Brown, and others. Mr. McCrea, in an eloquent and spirited speech, welcomed our party, and extended, on behalf of the Chicago Board of Trade, an invitation to pass the night and breakfast, and the following morning to take a ride over the city in carriages, which would be provided for the party, taking occasion, in his remarks, to pay many handsome compliments to the “Hub and its representatives.” Mr. Randolph, Sec. of the Board, followed, giving the details of arrangements that had been made, &c. Hon. A. H. Rice, in response, expressed the gratification experienced by the party at the courtesy extended, accepting them in a few well-chosen remarks gracefully expressed. On reaching Chicago our Excursionists found carriages in waiting, and were quickly whirled up to the Sherman and Tremont Houses, and after a good night's rest and breakfast, found their attentive friends at the door of their hotels with carriages, in which they were driven over the city and through many of its attractive and beautiful avenues, parting with many regrets, at noon, for the continuance of their journey to the far West.

The arrangements, although necessarily very hasty, were completely carried out, and this pause to our flight has been a most pleasant episode in a thus far more agreeable and delightful excursion. The attentive courtesies of the Chicago Board will certainly strengthen

those bonds of friendship which already closely united the “Queen City of the West” and the “City of Notions.”

CURIOUS FREAK.

When near the crossing of the Grand Trunk Railway, west of Detroit, a crazy man jumped upon the platform of the car St. Cloud, while the train was in rapid motion, a thing a sane person could hardly have done, and pulled the bell, which signalizes the engineer to stop the train. He then jumped upon a brake, and thence bounded upon the top of the cars. He then commenced to throw off his coat and vest, and to declaim in the wildest manner, imagining himself in command of a Fenian army. By this time the train had stopped, a ladder was procured, and after some effort, he was taken down and secured by several men, who put a straight jacket upon him. He was being taken to a mad house, and seeing our train going past, by a desperate effort he escaped and jumped upon it.

At Detroit, George F. Bagley, Esq., Ex-President of the Detroit Board of Trade, met our party and accompanied us to Chicago, as a delegate from that body to escort us through the State of Michigan. While presenting their salutations and welcome, he expressed a strong desire to have us visit their city on our return, when we shall have more time and opportunity to inspect its wonderful growth.

—Those of our party who keep their watches running on Boston time will find them three hours and twenty-eight minutes too fast on reaching San Francisco, as in going west we change our apparent time one minute for every fifteen miles of longitude traversed.