

creditable to every one connected with the enterprise and its execution, especially to the architects, Messrs. Le Brun and Runge, after whose original plans the building was constructed, and who assisted with their advice and personal inspection the faithful execution of every branch of it.

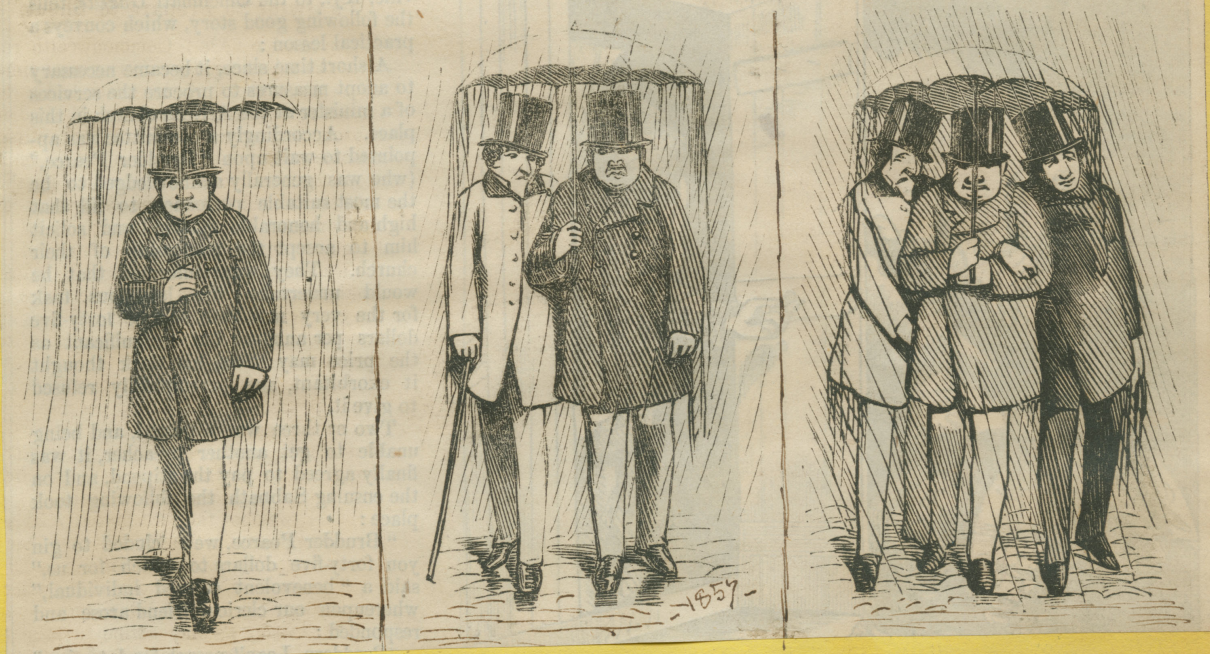
\*We learn that the night of the 20th inst. has been fixed for the grand opening ball, which will, no doubt, be one of the most brilliant ever given in Philadelphia. The parquette is to be covered with a floor that will form a portion of the "properties" of the house, to be used at pleasure. The entire length of floor on the occasion of the ball will be 156 feet, width 56 feet. Over the stage will be a canopy 45 feet high in the centre, and 35 feet at the edges. At the extreme rear of the room, as thus formed, will be an appropriate scenic representation with plants and a fountain. The ball promises to be eminently successful—a result which all who feel an interest in the great enterprise—the establishment of the Academy on a firm, enduring basis, must take pleasure in contributing to.

**Academy of Music.**—In our notice of the Academy of Music, owing to its extreme length, we were compelled to omit a reference to several departments of it, deserving of mention. Among these are the refreshment saloons, of which the house is abundantly supplied. The most of them are spacious and elegant, and will be fitted up in accordance with the prevailing beauty of the house. On the second floor and in the basement will be the principal. The latter is designed for the patrons of the establishment alone, it having no public entrance from the street. At the sides of the building towards the rear are the dressing rooms, which are quite numerous, and furnished with every convenience. The Green Room is on the Locust street front, and is a fine apartment. Beside the above, is a room for the costumers, a spacious one for the carpenters, and a large, well-lighted one for the scene painters. It is designed to build a roof over the footway on the north side of the building, in order that those who ride in coaches to the opera or a dramatic representation on a stormy night, may be able to reach the house without exposure to the weather. We have alluded to the facilities of exit which the building possesses, but we may be allowed to recur to the subject again, as it is one of such vital importance in

case of fire. There are fourteen doors of entrance and exit, which are so arranged as to keep the audience apart and prevent a crowd. A crowded house may be emptied in a few minutes. The grand stairways leading from the main floor to the dress-circle, are worthy of special notice, for their spaciousness, solidity and easiness of ascent. It is scarcely more fatiguing to ascend them than to walk on the level floor. Should a fire occur, which is scarcely possible, there is every requisite for its speedy extinguishment. Besides four fire plugs, placed in different parts of the house, there is a steam pump in the basement of sufficient power to force water to the top of the edifice.

— Jan 2. 1857 —

## THE ART OF CARRYING THE UMBRELLA.



## EVENING BULLETIN.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1857.

### Fairmount Park.

An energetic and well organized movement is now going on with the object of securing to Philadelphia a beautiful and extensive Park on the banks of the Schuylkill. A number of gentlemen of means and influence have proposed a plan for raising, by contribution from our citizens, sufficient money to purchase the Sedgley Park property, lying between Lemon Hill and the Spring Garden Water Works.—The whole ground lying on the East bank of the Schuylkill, beginning with Fairmount and ending with the Spring Garden Water Works, and containing about one hundred acres, will then be thrown into one magnificent Park, which, by a moderate expenditure of money, may be made one of the most beautiful in the world. The proprietors of the Sedgley estate have given three months from December 1st, 1856, in which the purchase for this purpose may be made, and it is all important, therefore, that the money should be raised before March 1st, 1857.

The gentlemen engaged in the undertaking propose to obtain a charter from the legislature; to purchase the Sedgley estate and hold it for twenty years, during which it shall be improved in the best style for the purposes of a Park, and then to convey it to the city, to be held forever, along with the adjoining property belonging to the city, free from buildings or obstructions of any kind. If this plan is carried out, the Fairmount Park, with its water and land views, its hills and vales, its woods and lawns, will be unequalled in beauty. But there is a still more important ob-

ject to be accomplished. The preservation of this tract from buildings will secure the purity of the Fairmount water, on which the health of the city so much depends. No other plan can be devised by which the erection on the bank of factories, drug mills, and other establishments that must injure the water we drink, can be prevented. It is proposed to establish in the Park an Experimental Garden, for the cultivation of every variety of trees, plants and flowers, and other measures will be adopted to increase the attractions of the already beautiful grounds. Thomas Ridgway, Esq., President of the Girard Life Insurance, Annuity and Trust Company, is provisional treasurer of the Association, to receive contributions, and we cannot doubt that our citizens, on learning, as they may from him, the details of the plan, will come forward and subscribe liberally for this laudable enterprise.

In another column will be found a report of an interesting meeting, in regard to the undertaking.

### Fairmount Park.

At a meeting of citizens in favor of procuring for the city of Philadelphia a Park on the banks of the Schuylkill near Fairmount, held at the Hall of the Historical Society, on Friday evening, January 2d, N. B. Browne, Esq., was called to the chair, and Charles S. Keyser appointed Secretary.

The Chair stated that as there were persons present who had not attended previous meetings, he would give a brief account of the views entertained by the gentlemen who had taken an interest in this important movement.

Every citizen admitted that a public park attached to a large city was a necessity of modern civilization, as a means of health and recreation; but in the present instance, even more pressing considerations were to be remembered. The land now sought to be reserved as an open space, for the health and enjoyment of

the people, lies on the bank of the Schuylkill, immediately along the dam at Fairmount. Improvements are now going on in that direction, which, in a few years, will extend themselves up to the water's edge. The first street, Girard Avenue, is now being opened, and, unless by a united action on the part of the citizens, the land is at once secured for a park, we shall see the ground cut up into lots, and buildings of all kinds erected on it. Whatever may be the regulations with regard to sewerage, buildings of any kind, with streets running to the water's edge, as is the case with all unprotected river fronts, must inevitably deteriorate the water we drink. Years ago the College of Physicians called the attention of the citizens to this very question, and the time has now come when every effort should be made to guard the water we drink as far as lies in our power.

Lemon Hill has been dedicated to public use, and by the addition of the Sedgley property now proposed to be added to it, we shall have a beautiful park, with nearly a mile of river front. This property is too well known to all our citizens to need a word in its praise from us. All who have visited the pleasure grounds of foreign cities will admit that there is no spot within the precincts of any city as well fitted by its natural advantages for this purpose.

Already the people have made it their pleasure-ground, and we show it to strangers as the pride of our city. Water-works are established at either end of it, and bridges span the river. With a small expenditure of money these grounds may be opened to the public at an early day, affording pleasure to the thousands who spend their whole time within "the walls of the town." Besides this gratification to our citizens, this park will be visited by thousands of strangers who will be attracted here by its beauties, and we will have the satisfaction of knowing that Philadelphia has a public park, open to all its citizens, which, though comparatively small in extent, stands in its natural beauties unrivalled in this country.

The Committee has secured the refusal of land adjoining Lemon Hill, until the 1st of March next, at a fair valuation. It has been sanctioned by the meeting of citizens recently convened for this object, two of whom have subscribed ten thousand dollars each, and sums ranging from five thousand to five hundred dollars have already been pledged to this movement. The subscription book containing the names of these generous men is now on the table before us. It required, in the opinion of the chair, but a united effort on the part of the citizens to carry it to a successful issue. If it fails, his confidence in the public spirit, intelligence and liberality of Philadelphia, would fall with it; but it must not fail. There are sufficient generous-hearted men among us who will not permit a project of so much importance to the present and future interests of our city to fail for want of their individual effort.

The plan, then, is simply to procure the means of purchasing Sedgley Park, and to improve it with due regard to its position with respect to the adjoining property now belonging to the city, and to take measures for the adoption of a general plan for the whole. The Chair laid before the meeting a pamphlet, with the form of subscription, and a map of the proposed park, numerously