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Feb 28 1859.

THE GRAND BALL OF THE SONS OF MALTA—
A SPLENDID AFFAIR.—The grand charity ball of the Sons of Malta took place, last night, at the Academy of Music, and it was as complete a success as the most enthusiastic "Son" could have desired. The parquet was floored over, and a splendid dancing floor was thus formed. The stage was enclosed with the beautiful drapery used on the occasion of the opening Ball of the Academy two years since. The rear of the stage was arranged with scenery to represent a rich colonnade, with a vista of columns running back to an apparently almost interminable distance. Immediately over the front of the stage was a colossal Maltese cross, with the word "CHARITY" in sparkling letters. Banners were hung around the stage and the front was graced with the American flag handsomely festooned. In addition to the magnificent crystal chandelier so well known to all who frequent the opera house, there were seven very large chandeliers arranged over the stage in such a way as to completely flood the house with light. The "Foyer" was fitted up as a refreshment room, and this apartment was specially decorated for the occasion. The windows were hung with handsome curtains, which were tastefully arranged so as to be in keeping with the other embellishments of the house and with the grand occasion. The Maltese cross figured conspicuously here, and garlands of flowers were appropriately placed. The decorations of the building were entrusted to Messrs. W. H. Carryl & Bro., and they were gotten up in tasteful style.

There were two bands of music engaged for the Ball. They were placed upon opposite sides of the grand apartment. One, a brass band, played marches for the promenades. The performers in this band were dressed in military uniforms. The members of the string band were clad in citizens' attire. At 10 o'clock the fête was in full blast, and there were at that time some fifteen hundred people present. A large portion occupied seats in the boxes, leaving ample room upon the spacious floor for dancing and promenading. The members of the Order wore neat gold Maltese crosses on the lapels of their coats; with this exception, they wore nothing to distinguish them from the other gentlemen present.

The great feature of the Ball was the fact that many of the ladies wore calico dresses over their ordinary ball-room attire, until at a given signal the calico was doffed and the fair wearers shone out in all the splendor of silks and satins. These calico robes gave a whimsical appearance to their wearers, and the gazer from the upper tiers of boxes was at a loss what to compare the motley crowd to. One group would suggest the idea of a party of penitents going about in sack cloth; another would bring to mind the beach scenes at Atlantic or Cape May at the bathing hour; another would resemble a crew of adventurers on the Maid of the Mist when bound for a trip to the foot of the Falls of Niagara; while yet others wore their gay calico over garments so archly as to remind the looker-on of gay dominoes at a carnival. At eleven o'clock the gong was struck, and presto! change! the ladies doffed their calicoes, bunchy looking forms became sylph-like, the grubs were transformed into butterflies, and the poor were made richer to the extent of sundry bales of calico dresses.

The following was the programme, the dancing alternating with promenades and marches:

- PROGRAMME DES DANSES.
2. Quadrille..... La Traviata.
 4. Polka..... Marie.
 6. Schottische..... Glasgow.
 8. Les Lanciers (original)..... Sons of Malta.
 10. Galop..... Robert.
 12. Polka Redowa..... Dora.
 14. Quadrille..... Volksgarten.
 16. Waltz..... The Swimmer.
 18. Polka..... King Pippin.
 20. Les Lanciers..... Renauss.

22. Schottische..... Marien.
24. Polka Redowa..... Sunset.
26. Quadrille..... Ferdinand.
28. Polka Mazourka..... Des Traineaux.
30. Galop..... Estelle.
32. Les Lanciers..... Newport.
34. Polka..... Hamburg.
36. Waltz..... The Fairest.
38. Quadrille..... Palermo.
40. Galop..... Express.

L'ORDRE DES PROMENADES.

1. Marche du Sacre, from the Prophete..... Meyerbeer.
3. "Image of the Rose," arranged by C. W. Reinhart.
5. "Brindisi," "La Traviata."..... Verdi.
7. Quartette from "Don Pasquale."..... Donizetti.
9. Wedding March, "Midsummer Night's Dream."..... Mendelssohn.
11. Air, Variations for E Cornet..... Grafulla.
13. Selections from "Il Trovatore."..... Verdi.
15. "Sleigh Polka."..... Jullien.
17. "La Sicillienne."..... Verdi.
19. Regimental Quick Step, dedicated to Col. Lewis..... Aledo.
21. "Serenade"..... Schubert.
23. Overture "Stradella," arranged by C. W. Reinhart..... Flotow.
25. "Hambacher Polka."..... Hertzog.
27. "Anvil Chorus and Gipsy Song," "Il Trovatore."..... Verdi.
29. Arbor Waltz..... Eaton.
31. Aria, Lucia di Lammermoor..... Donizetti.
33. Selections from "La Fille du Regiment"..... Donizetti.
35. Last Rose of Summer..... Moore.
37. A Song from Home.
39. Home, Sweet Home.

Professor Hlasko was Master of Ceremonies, and under his competent supervision the business of the dancing floor went off with perfect smoothness. As we have already said, the affair was a complete success, and a handsome amount in cash, as well as calico, will be realized.

L March 5-59-

Report of the Board of Health for the Fiscal Year 1858.—We have received from W. L. Bladen, Esq., Clerk of the Board, their Annual Report, from which we glean the following for the information of our readers:

The number of vessels visited at the Lazaretto station during the quarantine season was Three hundred and eighty-one, 381

Of which there were	Ships,	-	38
"	Barques,	-	85
"	Brigs,	-	98
"	Schooners,	-	162

and one barge from the New York Quarantine via the Delaware and Raritan Canal. 227 of the same were from foreign ports, and 154 were from domestic ports. 87 were detained for purification and ventilation, prior to being permitted to come up to the City; and of this number 22 were obliged to discharge their cargoes at the station, which were subsequently transported in lighters to the City.

961 foreign passengers arrived in vessels, and were treated according to law during quarantine season, and 2222 during the whole year. The number of vessels thus visited and treated was much larger than have ever been detained at the Lazaretto.

44 patients were treated at the Lazaretto hospital, of whom 39, under the successful attention of Dr. Filbert, the Lazaretto Physician, entirely recovered, and 5 died.

The Board regret that the proper registry of births for 1855, '56, and '57, as required by an Act of Assembly of March 27th, 1819, has also, for the

same reason, been neglected. This is partially occasioned by the neglect of those practising midwifery in not reporting to the officers of the Department. The present Board have taken up the subject, and expect in a few weeks to furnish to Councils and the public the requisite statement of births during the year 1858.

The Board would call the attention of Councils to the filthy condition of the public docks, and sewers emptying therein. From the report of our Sanitary Committee, and the experience of past years, they feel satisfied that nearly all of the sporadic cases of yellow fever reported during the Summer months originate from these sources, and they would earnestly urge their cleansing at an early period, at a time when the commerce of the port could not be interfered with, and no sickness arise therefrom.

The financial condition of the Board is shown in the following tabular statement, by which it will be seen a large proportion of the entire appropriation went to meet the expenditures of the old Board:

Amounts appropriated during the year,	\$35,788 20
Amounts expended by and on account of old Board,	11,958 33
Amounts expended by present Board,	15,480 42
Amounts of balance unexpended,	7,778 30
Amounts transferred,	576 75

\$35,788 20

The following table shows the number of deaths that have occurred in each month, during the year 1858. By it, it will be seen the number of males, for the entire year, exceed those of the females 738.

Months.	Males.	Females.	Total.
January,	392	330	722
February,	387	359	746
March,	526	467	993
April,	437	371	808
May,	390	342	722
June,	580	464	1,044
July,	708	602	1,310
August,	632	567	1,199
September,	566	459	1,025
October,	303	299	602
November,	327	297	624
December,	468	421	889

5,716 4,978 10,694

With a population of 600,000, the above shows about one death to every 56.

Compared with 1857, there has been a falling off of 201, or nearly two per cent. in the aggregate.

The report winds up by returning thanks to the Almighty Dispenser of all good and perfect gifts, for his kindness and care in preserving our beautiful City from the pestilence and disease which have ravaged some of our sister cities during the past Summer. They close this report by stating that the utmost care and economy has been observed in all their expenditures, and a rigid scrutiny given in reference to all the finances and revenues of the Board.

L March 12-59-

March 15-59]

THE KATER MARKET, South street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth, is now doing a large business in all kinds of market produce, and has been well attended by the public, who turned out *en masse* on Saturday and Monday to secure their supplies. The market will be continued open daily, and also on Saturday nights.