Hymn of the West

By Edmund Clarence Stedman
Music by John Knowles Paine

The Words and Music of this Official Hymn are Dedicated by the Bureau of Music of the Universal Exposition, St. Louis 1904, to the American People whose West became their East and whose domain was perpetually established by the consummation of the Louisiana Purchase A.D. 1803.

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Publishers
Thiebes-Stierlin Music Company
St. Louis, U.S.A.
THE MUSIC AT THE EXPOSITION.

In planning the music for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition the Bureau of Music made use of the experience of similar departments at Chicago and Paris. Each World’s Fair demonstrates for its successor the best lines of musical effort. As enlightenment is the only justification for the lavish expenditure of treasure and endeavor required for the creation of a World’s Fair, the music of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition must contribute to a better understanding of music on the part of the public, or else fail of approval.

The Exposition has provided an orchestra that will compare favorably with the finest orchestra in the world. Four concert masters play among the first violins, and every section of the orchestra is led by a virtuoso. One Symphony Concert is given each week with important soloists, and often with chorus and organ. Alfred Ernst is the official conductor of the orchestra, and some of the principal conductors of the United States will direct special concerts. On days when the orchestra does not play a classic concert in Festival Hall, it may be heard in popular programs.

The greatest organ in the world has been installed in Festival Hall. Seventy-two of the most distinguished American organists give daily recitals. The greatest living organist and composer for the organ, M. Alexandre Guilmant, will give thirty-six recitals.

For out-of-door popular music the most important American bands have been engaged, as well as the best French, English and German bands.

With the intention of influencing the standard of performance throughout the United States the Exposition has instituted choral and band contests, in which large cash prizes are offered. The influence of these contests will extend beyond the organizations which compete. The contest program will indicate the best class of music to be rendered, and the announcement of points to be considered in the awards will indicate the best qualities to be achieved by drill.

The contest selections are for the most part taken from standard works by the best composers, and the announcement of points to be considered in the awards will indicate the best achievements of intelligent endeavor.

GEORGE D. MARKHAM.

George D. Markham, Chief of the Bureau of Music, was born in New Haven, Conn., but has been a resident of St. Louis since his early youth. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Co., and is the advisory head of the Bureau of Music.

He is a business man, and has been connected with music only as an amateur. He received some slight musical instruction under Professor John K. Paine, the Dean of American Musicians and composer of the music of the official hymn of the World’s Fair, entitled “Hymn of the West,” for which Edmond Clarence Steedman wrote the words.

After Mr. Markham’s graduation from Harvard he became interested in Church music in St. Louis and assisted in the organization of the Association of Music Committee Chairmen and has served as its President. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Old St. Louis Choral Society until its consolidation with the Musical Union to form the St. Louis Choral-Symphony Society of to-day. For many years Mr. Markham has been Vice-President of this latter Society, and has been active in securing the funds necessary to maintain and develop the excellent orchestra of that Society, which has served as the basis of the great Official Orchestra of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

ERNEST R. KROEGER.

Ernest R. Kroeger was born at St. Louis, Mo., where he pursued his musical and literary studies and where he now resides. His activity embraces the field of pianoforte and organ playing composition, conducting, lecturing and writing upon musical topics. In an article referring to his work as a pianist the New York Musical Courier said: “In his recitals during the past five years Mr. Kroeger has played upward of three hundred standard compositions from memory. His repertory is one of the most extensive of any pianist before the public and includes all schools of piano composition.”

During his career he has been President of the Music Teachers’ National Association; President of the Missouri State Music Teachers’ Association; is Instrumental Adjudicator of the Annual Kansas Music Festival; is a founder member of the American Guild of Organists; is Director of the College of Music at the Forest Park University for Women; is Conductor of the Morning Choral (Ladies’) Club, and is Organist at the Church of the Messiah (Unitarian) at St. Louis. His compositions have been extensively published in this country and in Europe and have been considered as typical of some of the best work done by American composers.
"MUSIC," BY GEORGE E. BISSELL.
Statuary Group on Palms of Liberal Arts.
HYMN OF THE WEST
WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS
1904

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Edmund Clarence Stedman

O Thou, whose glorious orbs on high
Engird the earth with splendor round,
From out Thy secret place draw nigh
The courts and temples of this ground;
Eternal Light,
Fill with Thy might
These domes that in Thy purpose grew,
And lift a nation's heart anew!

Illumine Thou each pathway here,
To show the marvels God hath wrought
Since first Thy people's chief and seer
Looked up with that prophetic thought,
Bade Time unroll
The fateful scroll,
And empire unto Freedom gave
From cloudland height to tropic wave.

Poured through the gateways of the North
Thy mighty rivers join their tide,
And on the wings of morn sent forth
Their mists the far-off peaks divide.

By Thee unsealed,
The mountains yield
Ores that the wealth of Ophir shame,
And gems enwrought of seven-hued flame.

Lo, through what years the soil hath lain
At thine own time to give increase—
The greater and the lesser grain,
The ripening boll, the myriad fleecel
Thy creatures graze
Appointed ways;
League after league across the land
The ceaseless herds obey Thy hand.

Thou, whose high archways shine most clear
Above the plentiful western plain,
Thine ancient tribes from round the sphere
To breathe its quickening air are fain;
And smiles the sun
To see made one
Their brood throughout Earth's greenest space,
Land of the new and lordlier race!

1904.
—Edmund Clarence Stedman.

John Knowles Paine, the composer of the music for the "Hymn of the West," the official hymn of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, was born in Portland, Maine, January 9th, 1839. He made his first appearance in public as an organist and composer in 1857. In 1868 he went to Berlin, Germany, where he remained nearly three years, studying the organ, composition, singing and instrumentation with eminent masters. He gave several organ concerts in Berlin and returned to the United States in 1871. In 1886 he was appointed Instructor in Music at Harvard University and having gradually built up the Department of Music he received in 1875 the title of Professor of Music, being the first occupant of that chair in any American University. In 1889 he directed his Mass at the Singakademie in Berlin, on which occasion he was honored with the presence of the then Crown Princess Victoria, the royal mother of the present German Emperor.

His first important composition produced in his native land, was the Oratorio "St. Peter," performed under his direction in Portland, Maine, June, 1873, and repeated in the following year by the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston. The oratorio was highly praised and Mr. Paine was acknowledged as the leading American composer. He composed the Centennial Hymn, to the words of Whittier, which was sung at the opening of the Exposition in Philadelphia, 1876.

One of his most remarkable works is the music to the "Odipus Tyrannus" of Sophocles, as performed in Greek at the Sanders Theatre, Cambridge, in May, 1881.

Among his subsequent compositions especially be noticed the Columbus March and Hymn, composed by official invitation for the Opening Ceremonies of the World's Columbian Exposition (1892). The list of Prof. Paine's works also includes songs, part songs, motets, piano and organ compositions, and chamber music.

Undoubtedly Professor Paine's most important work is the opera "Astarta," in three acts, on a Provençal subject, the libretto of which was written by the composer. This has been published (1905) by Breitkopf and Haertel of Leipzig. Selections from "Astarta" have been given in the concert hall with great success, especially the ballet music, which has been performed repeatedly by the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Professor Paine was the official delegate of Harvard University at the Wagner Festival in Berlin, October, 1903. He was the first of the foreign delegates to be presented to Prince Rettel at the unveiling of the statue of Wagner. At the banquet which followed Prof. Paine made an address and was honored with a diploma and gold medal. His Prelude to "Odipus" was performed at the International Concert and was received with great enthusiasm.

By eminent critics in Germany and America Prof. Paine is ranked among the foremost living composers.
Hymn of the West.

Poem by EDMUND CLARENCE STEDMAN. Music by JOHN KNOWLES PAINE.

Allegro non troppo, \( \text{d} = 100 - 108 \)

4.0 Thou, whose glorious orbs on high Engird the
2. Il - lu - mine Thou each path - way here, To show the

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earth with splendor round, From out Thy secret place draw nigh The
marvels God hath wrought Since first Thy people's chief and seer Looked

courts and temples of the ground; Eternal Light, Fill
up with that prophetic thought, Bade Time unroll The

cresc.

with Thy might These domes that in Thy purpose
fateful scroll and empire unto Freedom

cresc.
grew, And lift a - na - tions heart a - new.
gave From cloud - land height to trop - ic wave.
Poured though the gateways of the
Lo, through what years the soil hath
Thou, whose high archways shine most

North Thou mighty rivers join their
lain At Thine own time to give in-
clear Above the plentiful western

tide, And on the wings of morn sent forth Their mists of far-off
crease, The greater and the lesser grain, The rip'ning boll, the
plain, Thine ancient tribes from round the sphere To breathe the quick'ning

1089-5.
peaks divide. By Thee unsealed, The mountains
myriad fleece! Thy creatures graze Appointed
air are fain; And smiles the sun To see made

yield Ores that the wealth of Ophir
ways League after league across the
one Their brood throughout earth's greenest

shame And gems enwrought of seven-hued flame.
land The ceaseless herds obey Thy hand.
space, Land of the new and lordlier race!