

## GREEK SLAVE RE-PURCHASED.



READERS who perused the June number of this Journal are, perhaps, prepared for this announcement; though, at the time of our last issue, the prospect of again securing the exquisite Statue for the Galleries of the Association, seemed somewhat remote, owing to the contingencies of a public sale, the competition for the possessorship, and the various other haps and mishaps incident to all changes of ownership. But, as the poet says:

"There is a divinity which shapes our ends,  
Rough-hew them as we will,"

and we are permitted to confirm the announcement made in all the leading papers of the Union, that *the Cosmopolitan Association is again the possessor of the world-renowned statue of the GREEK SLAVE, by HIRAM POWERS.*

From the correspondence, given in the June No. of this journal, which passed between Mrs. KATE GILLESPIE—the lady to whom the statue was awarded at the Annual Assignment of prizes, by the Cosmopolitan Association, in 1855—and H. H. Leeds & Co., Auctioneers, of New-York City, the reader was informed of the proposed sale of "The Slave," at public sale, in the Merchants' Exchange, New-York, on Tuesday, June 23d, at 12 o'clock. According to that announcement, and to various advertisements in the city papers, of the sale, "The Greek" was exposed and brought to the hammer, in the midst of a great concourse of people, as will be learned from the reports of the sale made by the press. The N. Y. *Herald* thus chronicled the event:

## SALE OF POWERS' GREEK SLAVE.

The celebrated statue of the Greek Slave, by Hiram Powers, was sold by auction yesterday, at the Merchants' Exchange, for the sum of \$6,000. The sale of this far-famed piece of sculpture attracted a large concourse of ladies and gentlemen to the spot, and long before the auctioneer (Mr. H. H. Leeds) reached the stand, the spacious rotunda was crowded to excess. Among those assembled for the purpose of bidding for the statue, were Mr. A. T. Stewart; Mr. R. B. Bowlen, of Cincinnati, one of the owners in the Havre Steamship Company; and several well-known merchants having a love for the fine arts, and the encouragement of native talent. The Greek Slave, it will be remembered, was won by Mrs. Kate Gillespie, of Penn., at the last distribution of the Cosmopolitan Art Association, and was put up at auction for her benefit yesterday. As the sequel will show,

Mrs. G. realized a handsome sum by her lucky hit, while the statue was once more placed in possession of its former owners.

At noon precisely, Mr. Leeds ascended the stand, and introduced himself to the assemblage in the following style:—

Gentlemen, allow me to call your attention to the Greek Slave, now about to be sold at public auction. The celebrated statue of the Greek Slave, by Powers, the great American sculptor, is now presented to your competition, without reserve. The Greek Slave, executed many years ago, was purchased by the Cosmopolitan Art Association, and was by that Association distributed as a prize. It was drawn by a lady in Pennsylvania, and will now be sold for her benefit, in good faith, to the highest bidder. What shall I have for it, gentlemen?

One thousand dollars.

AUCTIONEER—One thousand dollars; who bids next? Two thousand, two thousand five hundred dollars; three thousand dollars.

A VOICE—Three thousand five hundred dollars.

AUCTIONEER—Three thousand five hundred dollars; four thousand dollars; four thousand five hundred.

A VOICE—Five thousand dollars.

AUCTIONEER—Five thousand dollars I am offered. Five thousand five hundred dollars I am offered. The Statue will be sold without reserve, gentlemen.

A VOICE—Five thousand six hundred dollars.

AUCTIONEER—Five thousand six hundred dollars. If Mr. Powers should be removed to-day, this figure would be worth \$20,000 at least. Shall I have any more? \$5,700, \$5,750, \$5,800, \$5,850, \$5,900, \$5,950, \$6,000. Shall I have no more bids? Only six thousand dollars. Going, going—will no one give me another bid? Going, going, gone. Sold for \$6,000. (Applause, and loud cries of "name," "name.")

AUCTIONEER—The Statue has been purchased by the Cosmopolitan Art Association, and will be put up by them for distribution as a prize.

This announcement caused a great deal of excitement, and was received with warm applause by the bystanders, and those who had taken an active part in bidding for the celebrated statue. Mr. Cooper, the agent of the Cosmopolitan Art Association, then took possession of the piece of sculpture, preparatory to transmitting it to its owners.

Similar reports appeared in the "Express," "Post," &c. The *Tribune* also added: "Subsequently, Mr. Ridgeway expressed much regret at his failure to secure the prize, saying that he would have given \$7,000 rather than have lost it. It is understood that this statue will be awarded, together with much of the Dusseldorf Gallery, to subscribers in January next, the Association having purchased that collection of Mr. Boker recently for \$180,000. The statue was purchased originally of Powers by this Association for \$5,000, and distributed with other prizes. It fell to the lot of Mrs. Kate Gillespie, of Pennsylvania, for whom it was sold yesterday."

This tells the whole story; though we may further add, that our determination to have the statue, at any price, was only made from the full conviction that it was the wish of the patrons and friends of the

Association the purchase should be effected. It is one of the settled rules of conduct, adopted by the Directory, to make no re-purchases of premiums awarded to subscribers; but, in this instance, an exception had to be made in deference to the known wishes of our subscribers and of the community. The sale has many gratifying features, not the least of which is the evidence it affords of the estimation in which this beautiful statue is held. The price, \$6,000, is \$1,000 advance upon its original cost to the Association—showing an evident appreciation in the value of the marble. We can believe the declaration of the auctioneer, Mr. Leeds, that, "if Hiram Powers was removed from the earth this master-piece would be worth \$20,000;" for it is only after the cunning hand is cold and powerless in death that we properly realize the worth of its labors. Fortunate, indeed, will be the subscriber to whom the Statue shall next be awarded!

We say, in conclusion: Notwithstanding the previous purchase of the great Dusseldorf Gallery of Paintings, at a cost of \$180,000; and many commissions for works from leading American artists; and the purchase of several foreign works of great merit, both in marble and on canvas, *the GREEK SLAVE will be among the premiums to be awarded to subscribers to the Cosmopolitan*, in January next. This announcement is made with a feeling of mingled pleasure and pride, knowing it will prove gratifying to the community, acceptable to subscribers, and highly honorable to the cause of Art in America. The Association confidently anticipates that hearty co-operation among its friends and agents which is so necessary to extend the circle of its influence, and to add to its stability and power for good.



A Boston letter to the New-York *Post* says: "There is a rumor that PROF. LONGFELLOW is preparing a new volume of poems, which is probably true. LOWELL is much engaged in his duties as professor; he lectures on the literature of modern languages, and is busy in preparing his first course of lectures. Personally he is very popular with the students; he holds a levee for his classes every Thursday evening, and once in a while, of a Saturday, he collects a few students, and rambles off into the country for a walk and a quiet pic-nic.