

Western Electrician.

EVERY SATURDAY.

Vol. VI.

CHICAGO, MAY 17, 1890.

No. 20

The Lighting of the Auditorium Theater.

The Auditorium has been opened to the public for several months, and few Chicagoans have failed to examine the many features of interest in this magnificent building. A great deal, too, has been written and published concerning this immense theater; still those who have not seen the effect can form at best but a poor idea of the actual appearance of the interior when brilliantly illuminated in the evening by electricity. A number of pen and ink sketches of the inter-

ior have been published from time to time in several of the daily newspapers, and a few poor photographs may be seen, but these, while clear enough to enable one to form a general idea of the effects worked out by the architects, yet fail necessarily to represent much of the detail of the decorations. The engraving presented herewith is an accurate representation of the distribution of lights throughout the hall. The photograph, taken by Taylor of Chicago, from which the engraving was made, was secured from the first balcony, with the camera directed toward the stage. The effect of the lights in the arches, of course, is most clearly represented, but one loses a great deal by the absence of that soft, golden tint which is the prevailing color-

ing of the walls and decorations. This color effect is most striking when the entire house is suddenly illuminated. The quick change from darkness to light, together with the harmonious blending of colors, is striking in the extreme. The hall appears as though filled in an instant with sunlight.

For the photograph from which the accompanying illustration was made, the WESTERN ELECTRICIAN is indebted to E. S. Hand, Chicago, who is preparing for the Auditorium syndicate an illustrated book descriptive of the building.

