

# **A New Resort**

## **E.C. Beecher will erect a Hotel at Belvidere Park**

**It Will Cost About \$15,000 and Will be Fitted with All Modern Improvements — The Place Will be Opened on July 15 — Description of the Spot.**

Lansing will soon have another resort which will vie with Leadley's park for the patronage of the people.

The beautiful Belvidere park at the terminus of the Washington avenue street car line is to be opened up by E.C. Beecher, formerly manager of Leadley's park, who will erect thereon a beautiful \$15,000 hotel and casino, the plans of which are now being draughted by Frank L. Hollister of Saginaw.

There is no more beautiful site in central Michigan for such a resort. The park is heavily wooded and will be laid out in beautiful drives and walks. The ground slopes gradually back from the beautiful bend in Grand river until it reaches a high ridge, on which the hotel will be built., facing the river and fronting on what is now known as Sparrow avenue. Through the middle of the woods runs a creek, which will be bridged at intervals with rustic bridges, thus adding much to the beauty of the spot.

The hotel itself will be a model of beauty and modern architecture. It will be a two story frame, surrounded on three sides by a 16 foot veranda and promenade. In dimensions it will be 132x192 feet.

On the first floor will be a dance hall. 92x60 feet in dimensions, a reception room and lunch counter. The doors opening on the

promenade will be made to swing upward so that the whole first floor will be practically converted into a fine, cool, summer house, through which the cool breezes can blow to cool the heated brow of pleasure seekers.

On the second floor will be the living apartments of Mr. Beecher, a large public dining room and a reception room. Like the first floor, this too opens on a large veranda.

The scenery surrounding the spot is exceedingly picturesque. A short distance down river rises Belle island, while above the grounds the swift flowing rapids almost verging into a waterfall will prove a continual source of pleasure to sightseers. A steam boat will without doubt be added to the accommodations, which will ply between the city and the resort, while at the grounds good boats will make the pastime of boating a rare pleasure.

Work will be commenced on the erection of the building about May 15, and it will be hurried through to completion so that it is expected that by July 15 the grounds will be opened to the public.

*State Republican 4/26/1893*

**{What follows is a series of short articles on Belvidere Park.  
Editor}**

The work on the new hotel at Belvidere resort is progressing rapidly. At the beginning of next week Mr. Beecher will put on a force of fifty-two men and will push the work through to completion.

*State Republican 5/13/1893*

Work on the pavilion "Columbia," at Belvidere park is progressing rapidly and the park will be open to the public by July 1. Manger Beecher has a force of about fifty-two men at work.

*State Republican 5/19/1893*

Yesterday witnessed the opening of a second resort for pleasure seekers who wish a few hours' relief from the humdrum of city life and a breath of pure fresh air, scented with new-mowed hay, wild roses, etc. It was practically the opening day for what is destined to be one of the best paying schemes of the capital city. Belvidere park just south of the city. Prince's band was in attendance and hundreds of people took advantage of the bright day to view the grounds. To be sure, things as yet are somewhat rustic, but time and money will remedy this. Manager Beecher has the "get there" qualities to make the scheme go, and a few weeks even will mark a decided change. It is promised that the new pavilion will be ready for use by July 4. The bath houses are already completed.

*State Republican 6/12/1893*

## **OUT AT BELVIDERE**

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### **Manager Beecher Arranges More Entertainment for His Visitors.**

Lansing people will evidently not be in lack of amusement this summer. Two excellent resorts have sprung up within as many years

and offer splendid attractions for pleasure seekers. Manager Beecher of Belvidere park is making every effort possible to bring his resort to the front, and is seeming to even outdo all his former successful attempts. He is now arranging for a series of excellent entertainments or exhibitions, to be given under an immense pavilion, with seating capacity or 1,500.

The first of this series will be given on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. A company of artists has been secured and performances will be given twice daily during their stay. Each day at 2 o'clock, a lady will make the foolhardy and marvelous drop of 175 feet from the top of the pavilion to the ground, hanging by her teeth from a wire cable. Immediately after this daring feat, the performance in the pavilion will begin. The evening entertainments will begin at 8:30 o'clock.

In connection with this company is a band of ten pieces, that will furnish music and also parade the streets at noon. New attractions will be given every week.

*State Republican 6/14/1893*

The street cars are running clear through to Belvidere park this week on account of the entertainments given by the Andrews show.

The attraction at Belvidere park last evening drew a small crowd, but everyone seemed to be pleased and were evidently highly entertained. The company will remain over Saturday and give performances this evening and tomorrow afternoon and evening.

Yesterday afternoon while adjusting a rope to the tent pole at Belvidere park, Dan Rice, who by the way, is a relative of the late great showman, fell a distant of thirty feet to the ground, luckily escaping with but slight injuries.

*State Republican 6/16/1893*