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NO. 1008.

ARCHITECTURE

ENGINEERING

DECORATION

211 TREMONT ST.

CONSTRUCTION

BOSTON MASS.

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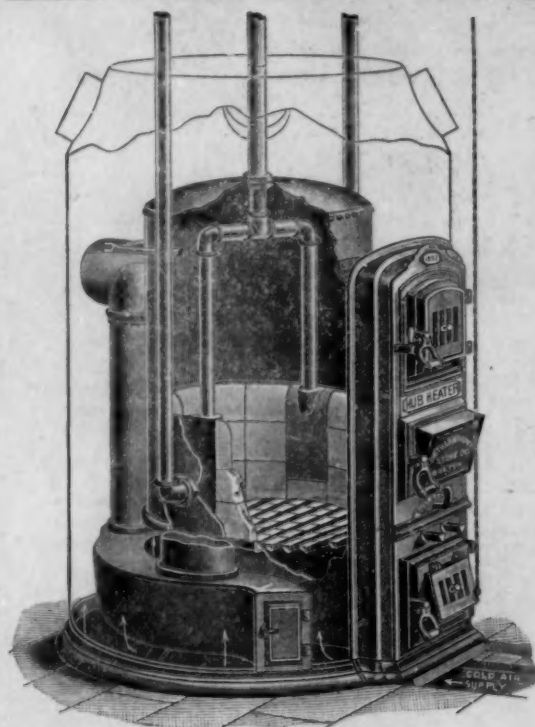
EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR OF THE Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, SAN
FRANCISCO, CAL.
[Gelatine Print issued with the International and Imperial Editions only.]

DESIGN FOR HOUSE AT WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.
PORTRAIT OF JAMES GIBBS, ARCHITECT.
THE COMMONWEALTH, BOSTON, MASS.
ENTRANCE-HALL, DINING-ROOM AND BALL-ROOM OF SAME.

Additional Illustrations in the International Edition
MONUMENT TO M. HIPPOLYTE MAZE, VIROFLAY, FRANCE.

[Copper-plate Etching.]

VILLA RESIDENCE, STOURWOOD, ENG.
THE DRAWING-ROOM, TWO VIEWS: SELBORNE HOUSE, HAR-
ROGATE, ENG.
HOLT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, RAINHILL, ENG.
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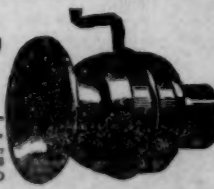
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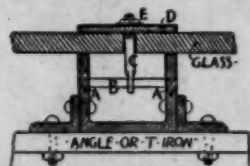
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THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS.

VOL. XLVIII.

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No. 1008.

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APRIL 20, 1895.



SUMMARY:—

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A CORRESPONDENT raises the question whether the architect, or his client, holds the artistic property in the designs furnished by the former for use in building a house for the latter; and says that it seems to him that the two have in a certain way a joint ownership, so that, while the architect would not expect his client to build another house from his plans without his consent, the client might fairly expect that the architect would not use the same plans for a house for another client; and the suggestion is made that the client, as the person paying to have the plans made for him, might have a certain legal interest in the design which they embodied; so far, at least, that the architect might not be entitled to copyright such design as his own exclusive property.

ALTHOUGH the question is a rather difficult one, we are decidedly of opinion that the client has no such interest in the designs made for him as to entitle him to claim any share in a copyright on them, or to prevent the architect from copyrighting them. Artistic property is a very different thing from ownership by possession. The purchase of a picture from an artist does not usually carry with it any interest whatever in any copyright that the painter may have, or may subsequently secure, upon his work, unless such copyright is expressly and separately transferred; and still less should the mere use of an architect's drawings, which, by the universal rule of the profession, are simply his instruments of service, convey legal rights to the designs which they, or parts of them, represented. In fact, the general understanding of civilized people is that no such rights are conveyed. The ownership, even of a fraction of a copyright interest in a design, would certainly entitle its proprietor to reproduce, or use that design again, for his own profit, and, as between architect and client, it is agreed on all sides that the latter cannot honorably duplicate an architect's design without the architect's consent. That the architect, on his part, should refrain from building a second house from the drawings already used for one client is very well, as a piece of courtesy, but it is not, and should not be considered, anything but courtesy, and least of all should it be considered a waiver of his artistic rights. In practice, no architect ever thinks of building two houses alike. Even if an architect found two clients who would be satisfied with the same solution of their problems, his own artistic instinct, if he were capable of producing a design that any one would wish to lay claim to, would prevent him from repeating himself, so that the client has all the protection that he needs; and the architect who had given reason to suppose that he had abandoned any part of his artistic rights might be very unpleasantly surprised, some day, to have his bank-account attached in be-

half of a client who traced some resemblance between the mantels introduced in a subsequent house and those set up in his own; or to be called upon to appear before a jury and show cause why he should not pay heavy damages for putting Corinthian columns in front of a new court-house, similar in design to those with which he had previously adorned the side-board of one of his neighbors. So far as we are aware, no layman has ever claimed that any part of an architect's artistic property in his designs passed to his clients, and it would be, as it seems to us, extremely unwise to suggest the abandonment of any part of the few rights which the profession is, as yet, allowed to enjoy.

A SINGULAR elevator accident took place in Springfield a few days ago. Most of our professional readers probably know that a very peculiar hydraulic elevator is manufactured in Springfield, in which the piston carries a cross-head, which is tapped, and runs along a huge screw. The winding-drum is attached directly to the screw, so that when the cross-head, which runs between guides, is pushed out, the screw is forced to revolve, carrying the drum with it. As the ropes wind off at the side of the machine, instead of at the end, and there are no travelling sheaves to bend and strain the wires, this elevator is deservedly popular in Springfield. In the case in question, one of the sort had been put up about eight years ago, with a cast-iron cross-head, instead of the steel one used by the present manufacturers. From some unexplained cause, the cross-head seems to have met with an obstruction at or near the screw; and, as the piston was still pushing its ends, the brittle cast-iron snapped across, through the tapped centre, releasing the great screw, which, having nothing to check it, revolved freely, allowing the cage to drop about seventy feet to the bottom of the shaft. There were six or seven people in the cage, and the shock of striking the bottom of the shaft threw most of them down, but, apparently, none of them would have been seriously hurt, had it not been that the counterweights, which reached the top of the shaft at the same time that the cage reached the bottom, were jerked out of their frame by the shock, and fell together the whole length of the shaft, crashing through the top of the cage, and severely injuring two men, besides sending showers of splinters and broken glass flying among the other occupants of the cage.

BROWN (an architect of ability and good intentions), after reading the programme of the New York Athletic Club-house competition, soliloquizes: "Well! That's a thing that no decent architect ought to touch. But times are still hard and my family must be fed and clothed. I suppose that X, Y and Z may be in the same sort of a fix I'm in and so have a try at the thing. After all, the committeemen as individuals are all right, and I don't believe there is anything underhand in their intentions. Really, it might be a good thing to get the job even at cost-price: it would bring me into connection with a lot of good people and might lead to other jobs I could make something out of. It would be a good advertisement, at any rate, to build a good club-house of this sort. Let's see what it would cost, anyway. H'm! If I go in at all, I must go in to win, no matter what it costs. Here are about forty days allowed. I'm pretty busy this spring and can't count on more than a week of my own time, which is worth just now, say, twenty-five dollars a day, so my assistant will have to do most of the designing: call it three weeks at ten dollars a day. They want plans of seven stories and from the nature of the building, each story must be carefully individualized: that means a week for each plan, at, say, four dollars per day. Now, if this thing doesn't work only with a 'pull' the prettiest drawings with such a committee as this will take the pot, and the perspective is the little joker. What do they say about that? 'Quarter-inch scale!' Mother of Moses! 'Rendered in monotint.' That means anything—red, green or yellow, but it means in cash two hundred dollars for anything decent, and twice as much to win. Now, the specifications and the running round to find out about all this athletic gear will use up another hundred, and I shall have to pay Rods & Screws another C. for advice about all this machinery in the basement and for computing these big trusses over the gymnasium. I guess that covers the case fairly. Now let's see what it looks like.

Self, 5 days at \$25.....	Designing. {	\$125
Assistant, 18 days at \$10 }		180
Perspective.....		250
Elevations (3) at \$75, \$50 and \$25.....		150
Sections (2) at \$25.....		50
Plans (7) 42 days at \$4.....		108
Specifications.....		100
Engineering advice.....		100
Materials.....		15
		\$1,138

Figures lie, of course, but it looks as if even the prize-winners would lose from one hundred and thirty-eight dollars to eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars. But I go in to win the job, so I'm all — Hullo! What's this at the end? 'The committee reserves the right to reject any and all designs.' By Jove! I did come near making an ass of myself, to the tune of eleven hundred and thirty-eight dollars."

A GOOD illustration is given in the *British Architect* of the necessity for what it calls "that business wariness so essential to the conduct of all preliminary proceedings between architect and client." It seems that there was, some time ago, a rather indefinite scheme for a "grand central Conservative Club," to be situated at Wolverhampton. A Conservative Club already existed there, and owned a modest building, in which it proposed to make some alterations, and a committee was appointed to take charge of this work. The committee employed certain architects, to whom they gave definite instructions to prepare a specification for the alterations. Apparently, there was loose talk between the committee and the architects about the larger scheme, and the architects made some sketch-plans, and, as usual in such cases, apparently did a good deal of work, which they thought they were going to be paid for, and which the committee thought they were doing for nothing. After a time, the architects became tired of uncertainty, and sent the committee a bill for their sketches. The committee repudiated all liability, and the architects carried the case to court. They claimed that they acted under instructions from the committee, but the club showed that the committee had no authority to consider any such scheme as that shown in the sketches, and claimed that what the architects did was done simply on speculation, in the hope of being employed later. The judge thought that the architects had not proved either definite employment, or the authority of the committee to employ them to make the sketches in question, and gave judgment against them, with costs.

A JAPANESE architect, Mr. Tatsuzo Sone, writes from Tokio to the *Deutsche Bauzeitung*, complaining that the letter of Herr Seel, the representative in Tokio of Ende and Böckmann, the German architects of two of the great Government buildings in Japan, conveyed the idea that these two buildings were the only ones which resisted the great earthquake of last June satisfactorily, and that other heavy buildings, designed by local architects, were badly damaged. Mr. Tatsuzo Sone says that, far from this, the buildings erected by architects in and about Tokio during recent years, some of which are as important as the two designed by Ende and Böckmann, without exception resisted the earthquake with no more serious damage than the shaking-down of a few chimneys. He adds that, for twenty years, the members of the profession in Japan have given special attention to the subject of guarding against the effects of earthquakes, with a success which is shown by the manner in which these buildings resisted the very serious one of last summer; and he adds that, while Herr Seel's letter conveys the impression that the Ende and Böckmann buildings came safely through the trial on account of some special excellence of their design and construction, due to the skill of their German authors, the fact is that from the first appearance of Ende and Böckmann in Japan, local Japanese architects were employed by them as assistants; while, for a year previous to the earthquake, the execution of the two buildings for which they had furnished the designs had been exclusively in the hands of Japanese architects. The letter of Mr. Tatsuzo Sone, while showing a certain animus against his German brethren, which is not difficult to understand, is very interesting, and the *Deutsche Bauzeitung*, with the thoughtful courtesy which always distinguishes its editorial comments, while pointing out the misapprehension under which portions of it were written, welcomes sincerely the entrance into professional discussion of experts from the wonderful islands of the far East.

FRANZ-PASHA, the Chief Architect of the Egyptian Ministry at Cairo, has published, in the *Monatschrift* of the Austrian Handelsmuseum, a curious study of the origin of Arabian art. Like most other historians of art, Franz-Pasha does not believe in the spontaneous generation of a new style, and thinks that the characteristic forms of Arabian, or Mohammedan, architecture can all be traced to an antique origin. No doubt, the Arabs exercised a rigid choice among the models from which they copied, and the Mohammedan canon which forbids the graphic representation of living creatures would naturally influence the character of painted and sculptured ornament; but the prototypes, according to Franz-Pasha, may be readily recognized, even in the most characteristic Arabian work. Speaking of the inherent probability of the invention by the Arabs of a new style, he points out that they came out of a desert, where neither art nor architecture, nor anything furnishing a suggestion of such things, were known. Their career of conquest brought them in contact, almost at once, with the monuments of three great races, — the Greeks, the Romans and the Persians. They certainly had choice enough among these, and they brought together elements from each. In Persia, where wood for roof timber was almost unknown, they found the domed roofs which are built to this day by the peasant masons, and which the Greeks of Byzantium had copied before them; in the Roman cities of Asia Minor, Egypt and Spain, they found the Corinthian capitals, the suggestion of which is still apparent, even in work so late as that of the Alhambra, and the porticos and colonnades which they seized upon so eagerly for the decoration of the court-yards of their mosques and caravansaries; and in the Theatre of Taormina, as Franz-Pasha says, and probably in other Greek and Byzantine work, they found the originals of the stilted and horse-shoe arches which proved so well adapted to their light and slender manner of construction. As to the minarets, Franz-Pasha is in doubt, whether they are to be traced to the square towers which, during the Byzantine period, were erected to the memory of the dead, and some of which are still to be seen at Ravenna; or to the Persian fire-altars, which still take the form of lofty towers. A tower is, however, such an obvious way of producing architectural effect that the Mohammedans might have received the suggestions from almost any source, the manner of carrying it out being the only thing of importance. In this, as in the details of their work generally, it is impossible to deny their feeling and delicacy of taste. Franz-Pasha is inclined to think that they borrowed even their ornament from the Byzantines, but the Arabs were such renowned geometers that they may well be allowed the credit of having originated the combinations of geometrical figures which form the most striking part of their system of decoration.

TO illustrate the way in which a great physician can bring the mind to the aid of the suffering body, Dr. Monin in the new French monthly magazine, *Le Monde Moderne*, relates several curious anecdotes. A prince of Saxo-Weimar was once afflicted with an intermittent fever, which came on regularly at noon every day, and resisted quinine and all other medicines. The famous Hufeland, who was attending him, devised a little trick, in pursuance of which he surreptitiously set the Prince's clock two hours ahead. As twelve o'clock approached, the Prince waited anxiously for his usual chill, but it came not. The hands passed the hour, but there were no shivers, and the Prince began to have a gleam of hope. After another hour, he was quite convinced that it was possible for him to be cured, and the result of this change in his mental condition was that the fever never afterwards appeared. In another way, the great surgeon, Dupuytren, availed himself of what he knew to be an effect of a mental shock upon the muscles. He had once a patient, a young and pretty lady, with a dislocated shoulder. It was before the days of anæsthetics, and he was obliged to set the shoulder without putting to sleep the consciousness of his subject. All the members of the patient's family were standing around, watching the surgeon, who had reached a critical stage in the operation, when the young woman, probably from pain or nervousness, stiffened up, contracting the muscles of the shoulder so that the bone could not be moved. "You try to seem very prim," said Dupuytren, severely, "but I know very well that you are nothing but an old drunkard!" The poor lady was so horrified that she nearly fainted; her muscles relaxed, and the shoulder slipped easily into place.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE BUILDING SITUATION.

BETHINKING ourselves that the advertisers in this journal had such close personal connection with building matters that their well or ill doing would serve admirably as a barometer to indicate the status, present and prospective, of building interests in this country, we have asked them to inform us how the prospects for the season just opening appear from their individual outlook. The replies we have received are given below, and we feel that they will furnish as interesting reading for our subscribers as any matter we could provide. We must thank our correspondents for giving us precisely what we asked them to give, not reasons, or theories, or political vapors, but simple facts simply stated.

The facts that these advertisers of ours are in many ways the *élite* of their several callings and that they have many millions of dollars invested in their plants and their output, entitle them to a respectful hearing, and we trust that our readers will read and weigh every word that they write. That the whole story may be read, we have thought it best to print this matter without classifying it either by trades, or by localities and markets. Neither has it seemed advisable to tabulate the results or draw inferences. We will only point out that to get at the true bearing of a given statement, the reader must consider both what are the normal connections of the writer—whether his interests lie mainly with large work or with small work—and what is the natural sequence of building operations. It would be unreasonable for a manufacturer whose goods are required at the close of the season to hope to feel the stimulus of the new movement quite as early as those whose materials are required at an earlier stage.

Naturally, business must still be done on small margins and at low prices, but it will be all the healthier and more long-lived because of this. The all-important factor is that hoarded capital seems at length willing to come out of hiding and play its part in building up a new era of prosperity.

[WATER HEATERS, Etc.]

28 West Randolph St., CHICAGO, ILL., April 8, 1895.

It has given us great pleasure to note the gradual increase of business throughout the country, notwithstanding the many unfavorable circumstances that have surrounded us. The increase has been slow, but it is constant and healthy and shows no tendency to overdo.

The writer has had his hand on the pulse of the general machine business for the last two years. At first, after the panic, the only call was for repairs and small tools to keep the shop in running order, but now this is changed, and the calls are for a larger and better class of machines. In our own line (water-heaters and steam specialties) we are having much encouragement, and in this connection, allow us to say, we have attributed a large share of this success to your valued paper.

Respectfully yours,

R. J. DILLON Co.,

W. C. WARNER, Sec. and Treas.

[HOT-WATER HEATERS.]

113 to 123 S. Clinton St. (cor. Monroe), CHICAGO, ILL., April 8, 1895.

We are very glad to report that business with us is very good, and improving. Our sales for the month of March were nearly double those of last year. We are reaching new sections of country, having recently made large shipments to Texas, Georgia, several to Florida, and as far east as New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

The gravity system of heating by hot water is rapidly coming to the front as the most economical, as well as the most healthful, way of heating residences, etc., and in this line, our business is rapidly increasing.

Yours truly,

S. WILKS MFG. CO.

[INTERIOR FINISH.]

149 and 151 Michigan Ave., CHICAGO, ILL., April 8, 1895.

We have been very much encouraged by the indications of trade for the last four or five weeks. All winter we have had many inquiries in our special line, but only a small proportion of these resulted in business. The last few weeks have been quite the reverse and people come in to buy, and *do* buy, or call again after finding out some further details and then place their order.

Yours respectfully,

CHICAGO INTERIOR DECORATING CO.,

GEORGE MARTIN, Treasurer.

[MASONS' SUPPLIES.]

88 Water St., BOSTON, MASS., April 6, 1895.

We would say that last December there was decided encouragement for good business in Boston for the spring, but as yet this indication has hardly been realized. At the present time there are a

few large office-buildings under way, but very few alteration jobs and very little of the first-class dwelling-house work going on. We also notice that architects have very little work ahead and very little work is being contemplated. From present indications, we do not anticipate much more business this year than last in building work in Boston. The smaller towns through New England, however, are doing rather better than usual, and there is also a large amount of public sewer and dam work going on and in contemplation. While we find our sales this year are slightly ahead of last year, we do not find much encouragement in work ahead.

Yours respectfully,

WALDO BROS.

[CEMENTS.]

7 Bowling Green, NEW YORK, N. Y., April 8, 1895.

THE winter has been so long and severe that the opening for the demand for cement has been very much delayed all over the country. We think, however, that the prospect for the year is a good one, by comparison with last season, and we have up to this time invoiced a greater number of barrels than in the corresponding period of 1894.

Yours truly,

BROOKS, SHOOBRIDGE & CO.

[FIREPROOFING.]

Clark and 16th Sts., CHICAGO, ILL., April 8, 1895.

WE are not yet feeling the effects of the revival said to have taken place in general business and our prospects for the season are anything but flattering. We don't wish to convey the idea that no building of any kind is being done here, but rather that there are no large buildings requiring fireproofing under way, or contemplated, for our immediate territory.

Yours truly,

PIONEER FIREPROOF CONSTRUCTION CO.,

CHARLES F. EIKER, Treas. and Gen. Man.

[ELEVATORS.]

757 The Rookery, CHICAGO, ILL., April 8, 1895.

WE are confident that the opening building season will develop a fairly satisfactory amount of business. From the nature of our specialty, we are interested only in the more important projects, but of these a number are assured.

One of the most encouraging signs of the times seems to us to be a marked disposition to break away from what has been a too common habit, during the period of depression just closed—to purchase building equipment from the lowest bidder, without regard to quality of work offered. In Chicago, it is evident that the best buildings pay the most satisfactory dividends to investors, and with this in view, the projects now under consideration will probably be executed in a superior manner.

Yours truly,

WINSLOW BROS. ELEVATOR CO.

[STAINED GLASS.]

61 Washington Sq., South, New York, N. Y.

WE can only report slightly more favorable conditions of trade.

MAITLAND ARMSTRONG & CO.

[STRUCTURAL STEEL, Etc.]

45 Broadway, PATERSON, N. J., April 8, 1895.

WE think the requirements for building material for 1895 will be very large, especially in the great cities, and, consequently, we are and expect to continue very busy in our structural steel department. Our railroad business is, however, very dull, and the prospects not encouraging. We do not believe good times, with remunerative prices, will come back until our currency matters are settled. The country must know whether silver or gold is the basis, and regulate itself accordingly. It is a great mistake to expect good times when the employed are barely earning a living. They are the ones that spend money in this country, and unless they have it, they cannot, of course, spend. Prosperity and high wages belong together.

Respectfully yours,

THE PASSAIC ROLLING MILL CO.,

W. O. FAYERWEATHER, Vice-President.

[DOOR KNOBS, Etc.]

149 and 151 Baxter St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 9, 1895.

I WOULD say that an unusually busy season is promised in the building trade in this city. The architects, I am told, have more work in hand than they have had for several years. I have information to the same effect from Pittsburgh and some other localities, so that we can confidently look forward to better times in the near future.

Respectfully,

J. BARDSLEY.

[FIREPROOF FLOORS.]

1740 and 1741 Monadnock Block, CHICAGO, ILL., April 8, 1895.

So far as Chicago and surrounding territory is concerned, it would depend somewhat on the point of view. A large proportion of the business now in sight is due to fires. In Chicago itself, there is decidedly less building, on hand and proposed, than was executed last year. As to my own business, it is a new one and the outlook

is very good. I find little difficulty in persuading solid investors to drop combustible construction and adopt fireproof. To the lumbermen, the question has no attractive side, inasmuch as the advent of fireproof construction in ordinary buildings means the destruction of a portion of the already limited market.

Very truly yours,

H. B. SEELY.

[TERRA-COTTA.]

BRIGHTWOOD, IND., April 8, 1895.

We would say that our business has materially increased since the beginning of the year. We are working a full force, over time, and prospects are encouraging. We are now executing orders for work in Cleveland, Buffalo, Detroit, Cincinnati, Memphis, Savannah and other places besides Indianapolis. Plans recently received for figuring indicate that a large amount of terra-cotta will be used, sufficient, we think, to keep all the factories busy. With regards, we remain

Very truly yours,

INDIANAPOLIS TERRA-COTTA CO.,
BENJAMIN D. WALCOTT, Pres.

[REFLECTORS.]

551 Pearl St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 9, 1895.

THE general indications are that we shall have a good summer and fall trade. Building operations that had been temporarily suspended on account of the recent "hard times" are now starting up again, and we are beginning to hear from them, in addition to the numerous fresh inquiries we receive daily in regard to prospective work, and we have every reason to look forward to a brisk summer and fall trade.

Yours truly,

I. P. FRINK,
GEO. FRINK SPENCER, Manager.

[ROOFING TIN.]

PITTSBURGH, PA., April 8, 1895.

OUR observation shows that, in raw iron and steel and in fuel, there have been material advances in prices and in tonnage of transactions in the last two weeks, which have given quite a strong undertone to the metal market. The advance has been considerable when we compare it with the dragging prices of the last year and a half. Many mills in this section, that a few months ago were running only in part, are now running heavily. Buyers of finished material are also giving more contracts for their wants for the future than they have been for some time. The weather we have had for several weeks back has also been encouraging, as there has been no damage, to speak of, done to the crops in this section. People generally seem more hopeful for the future and are prepared to do an enlarged business. There is also an increase in real estate and building transactions.

Yours truly,

FOLLANSBEE BROTHERS CO.,
B. G. FOLLANSBEE, Pres.

[MAGNESIA COVERING.]

AMBLER, PA., April 6, 1895.

WE beg to say that our business is so peculiar, that is, so dependent upon seasons, that we are hardly in position to give you any information that will be of value. We are engaged in the manufacture of magnesia sectional coverings for steam-pipes, and also of pharmaceutical preparations. The former, naturally, have their most active sale during the fall and winter, the demand slackening off very largely as warm weather approaches. The latter have their most active sale during the summer months, the demand for effervescing salts in particular being most active when the soda-fountains are in full bloom. We have just closed a period of decided activity, and yet we can hardly say that the great decrease in our orders is due to any stagnation of general business. The demand for effervescing salts and other similar materials is already assuming greater proportions, but it is not necessarily due to revival of business confidence.

You see our position, and we trust that you will kindly excuse us from further comment.

Yours respectfully,

KEASBEY & MATTISON CO.,
GEORGE R. WALLACE, Sec. and Treas.

[ANNUNCIATORS.]

204 Fulton St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 8, 1895.

WOULD say that we have not noticed any increase in business yet, as it is rather early for us, as we come a little later in the building season. We think there are more inquiries than there were some little time ago, and we are in hopes of seeing quite an increase during the next thirty to sixty days.

Yours truly,

W. R. OSTRANDER & Co.

[MORTAR COLORS.]

York Ave., Fourth and Callowhill Sts., PHILADELPHIA, PA., April 8, 1895.

It affords us pleasure to state that the feeling in business circles has greatly improved within the past two months, and we look forward to a prosperous business year. Merchants, as a rule, are making larger purchases and payments are fairly prompt.

Respectfully yours,

SAMUEL H. FRENCH & Co.

[MINERAL WOOL.]

2 Cortlandt St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 8, 1895.

WE are unable to satisfactorily answer the question, as we are not sufficiently in touch with the mercantile public at large to express any opinion.

Very truly yours,

U. S. MINERAL WOOL CO.,
H. Y. FRANZ, Sec.

[ELECTRIC PUMPS, Etc.]

SENECA FALLS, N. Y., April 8, 1895.

WE beg leave to say that we are busy in the manufacture of our line of goods applicable to the building trade.

We think that there is a general disposition on the part of the trade to place orders, but not in large quantities.

Yours truly,

THE GOULDS MFG. CO.

[SHEET METAL.]

1225 to 1229 Callowhill St., PHILADELPHIA, PA., April 8, 1895.

THE present outlook is more encouraging than it has been for some time past, and in our particular line of business there are more operations in process. If it continues at the present rate, the season will be quite an active one.

Yours very truly,

J. S. THORN CO.

[WOOD-FILLER.]

NEW MILFORD, CONN., April 9, 1895.

WE find in our experience that there has been considerable improvement in business since last July; at the same time it is not up to what we would like to see it, nor do we think there will be any rapid improvement. We think nothing better can be expected than a slow and gradual increase.

Yours very truly,

THE BRIDGEPORT WOOD FINISHING CO.,
G. M. BREINIG, Pres.

[SASH-CORD.]

115 Congress St., BOSTON, MASS., April 8, 1895.

WHILE architects are, we suppose, the best index for the building trade, we can say that trade has been better this spring than we had expected, and, moreover, the increase in the sale of first-quality goods, compared with the second quality, makes a very favorable showing, indicating that the hard times have not induced people, as a rule, to look only at the first cost without regard to permanent value. We have the feeling which many others express, that there will be a gradual improvement in business from now on, with only temporary set-backs, if any at all.

We remain,

Yours very truly,

SAMSON CORDAGE WORKS,
H. G. PRATT, Treas.

[METALLIC SHINGLES.]

1227 Callowhill St., PHILADELPHIA, PA., April 8, 1895.

THERE have been indications of better business in our line, but, as yet, it has not taken definite shape. This may be accounted for by the lateness of the season and the fact that our wares are not wanted until near the completion of the building.

We look forward to a better season than the one that has just closed.

Yours very truly,

THORN SHINGLE AND ORNAMENT CO.,
W. H. DOERING, Sec. and Treas.

[GRAPHITE.]

JERSEY CITY, N. J., April 8, 1895.

WE have only to say that business is most excellent. We have all that we can do, and the only criticism we can possibly make is the volume of our mail. Buyers seem more cautious than at any previous time. No matter how small a quantity they desire to buy, they must first have a quotation and then they want to know if that quotation is rock-bottom, sub-cellar.

Yours respectfully,

JOSEPH DIXON CRUCIBLE CO.,
GEORGE E. LONG, Sec.

[FOLDING-GATES, Etc.]

202 Fifth Ave., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 8, 1895.

TRADE during the winter was very dull, but spring opens with the best possible promise.

We have secured a number of contracts at profitable prices and will be kept busy for some months to come.

Most of our advertisements have been discontinued, but we hold on to the one in the *American Architect* because we consider it the best we have and cannot afford to do without it.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM R. PITT, Pres.

[BASIN COCKS, Etc.]

BRIGHTWOOD, MASS., April 8, 1895.

WE find increasing evidence of amount of business, and hope to see it continue, but prices are so low, owing to sharp competition, that there is not much profit in business, but still we believe there is

increasing demand for good goods which can be guaranteed. We believe the year 1895 will be much better than the two previous years.

Yours very truly,
E. STEBBINS MFG. CO.,
H. M. BREWSTER, *Agt.*

[SASH PULLEY.]

NEWTON CENTRE, MASS., April 8, 1895.

So far as my limited knowledge will allow me to judge in the line of building, the outlook, I think, is very much better than it was a year ago.

I don't anticipate a boom in the building trade, but a steady increase. In my vicinity there is a good deal of valuable building land being opened-up and put into proper shape for buildings.

Although every thing in building houses is now done on the smallest possible margin, I do think the outlook is much better than it was, and that prices will range higher in the near future.

Yours very truly,
F. W. STEVENS.

[ASPHALT.]

35 Broadway, NEW YORK, N. Y., April 6, 1895.

I would state that in this city the prospects for a good year for the building interests are excellent. I have figured extensively on work to be done this year and find that it is for a class of work that does not remain "on the boards." The buildings are to be erected for legitimate business purposes, and there is a total lack of the "wild-cat" speculation noticeable in former years. A great amount of real estate is to be improved, with tenants secured before the erection of the buildings is commenced, and I consider the "boom" in building operations to be decidedly healthy. The applications for building-permits during the first three months of the year were far in advance of those for several years previous. From our sub-agencies, throughout the country, we also receive encouraging reports.

Yours very truly,
NEW YORK MASTIC WORKS,
T. HUGH BOORMAN, *Manager.*

[SHINGLE STAINS.]

55 and 57 Broad St., BOSTON, MASS., April 8, 1895.

In regard to our business in comparison with last year and year before, we are pleased to say that it shows remarkable improvement and the sales on our shingle stains are more than doubled. We look forward to a most prosperous season, as we are having many more inquiries for our shingle stains and other articles than any previous year.

Very truly yours,
DEXTER BROS.

[HEATING AND PLUMBING.]

48-54 Union St., BOSTON, MASS., April 8, 1895.

We would say that the building interests seem to be fully employed and the prospective business in this line is also large.

Each kind of business, however, is in such sympathetic relations with other kinds, that there must be a general improvement in order to ensure special prosperity in any one line. We think we see signs of a general improvement in business and that the indications are far more encouraging than they have been.

Yours truly,
SMITH & ANTHONY CO.,
J. R. PRESCOTT, *Sec.*

[HEATERS.]

113 Randolph St., DETROIT, MICH., April 8, 1895.

FROM the reports of our salesmen all over the country and from what our local dealers in different towns write us, we have no doubt that the building of residences this season will be considerably in excess of anything we have seen since 1892.

Yours very truly,
UNITED STATES HEATER CO.

[FLEXIBLE PARTITIONS.]

WORCESTER, MASS., April 8, 1895.

INQUIRIES for the various adaptations of our flexible doors are more numerous than ever, and would seem to indicate a prosperous season in churches and other public buildings.

Yours truly,
FLEXIBLE DOOR AND SHUTTER CO.,
F. ELLERY POLLARD, *Treas.*

[STABLE FITTINGS.]

53 Elm St., BOSTON, MASS., April 6, 1895.

To show the way the wind blows, our customers are once more purchasing gilded vanes. We trust this may also be an indication of the state of business generally.

Yours truly,
BROAD GAUGE IRON STALL WORKS,
FRANK O. WORTHLEY, *Propr.*

[STAINS AND SHEATHING.]

70 Kilby St., BOSTON, MASS., April 6, 1895.

We would say that our sales of "stain" appear to have increased somewhat over 10% as compared with the corresponding time last

year. Our "sheathing quilt," being a new article, has been finding its way into the position of a staple during this time, and has, therefore, increased in a much larger proportion, but we do not consider under the circumstances that this increase is to be attributed wholly to improvement in business, but that the knowledge of the material is increasing among the architects. We have personally great faith that this spring will see a vigorous revival of business.

We remain
Yours truly,
SAMUEL CABOT.

[RED GRANITE.]

CALAIS, ME., April 9, 1895.

At present we find business in our line very quiet, but there is quite a lot of work that is about being closed, and is only waiting the decision of committees. They seem to feel some lack of confidence in something or other disturbing business, and want to be sure that business is settled before they go ahead. It looks to us that in a few weeks matters will assume a more cheerful aspect, but at present we cannot give you anything definite that is encouraging.

Yours very truly,
THE NEW BRUNSWICK RED GRANITE CO.

[FURNACES, Etc.]

CANTON, OHIO, April 9, 1895.

We are pleased to say that the outlook for our business this year is better than it ever has been. Of course, we must remember that we are young in the heating business and that our business is rapidly growing so that we are not in as much of a position to give an opinion on the trade in general as established heating companies are. Our sales so far this year are just about 100% over last year and from their number at this time of the year, when our goods are so out of season, we can look forward to a prosperous year. We believe that the advance in pig-iron, which took place last week, will have a tendency to strengthen the general market.

Yours very truly,
THE J. H. McLAIN CO.

[PLUMBERS' SUPPLIES.]

225-231 Spring Grove Ave., CINCINNATI, OHIO, April 9, 1895.

We have no cause whatever to complain about the volume of trade. We are very busy, especially so in our plumbing brass-work. We are running full time and have been putting on additional men right straight along, until we have almost all our old force at work again.

In spite of orders coming in so freely, yet we are obliged to meet ruinous competition due in a great measure to the anxiety on part of a great many manufacturers to sell, and the efforts on the part of jobbers to buy goods still cheaper.

Respectfully yours,
THE WM. POWELL CO.,
THEO. ALBERT, *Sec.*

[SANITARY APPLIANCES.]

DETROIT, MICH., April 8, 1895.

I CAN truthfully say the indications are most encouraging, more new work being in progress this spring than in the past five years. In large business structures the city is having a boom, there being one just about finished, the Chamber of Commerce, and two, the Union Trust Building and the Mabley & Co. Building being under way, the last just started, the old structures now being torn down.

In flats there is also a boom, this style of structure being new in Detroit, while fine private residences are going up very freely, not to speak of the less pretentious buildings.

On the whole, Detroit is having a very encouraging improvement in all branches of industry.

Very truly yours,
C. H. MUCKENHIRN.

[STRUCTURAL METAL.]

PITTSBURGH, PA., April 8, 1895.

THE indications with us, of a prosperous year of business, are very encouraging. We are extremely busy, running a night turn as well as a day turn. Nearly all our contracts are for early delivery and we are receiving inquiries by almost every mail for estimates on prospective work, nearly all of which stipulate short-time delivery.

Yours truly,
SHIFFLER BRIDGE CO.,
J. W. WALKER, *Pres. and Gen. Man.*

[ART PRINTING.]

211 Tremont St., BOSTON, MASS., April 10, 1895.

AN increased activity in general business seems to us to be indicated in our line of business by the increasing number of small and moderate sized orders for work which are coming to us constantly from workers in almost all the trades and business fields.

This increase is not confined to any one line of work or of process reproduction, but is general all along the line, so far as our experience shows.

Very truly yours,
THE HELIOTYPE PRINTING CO.,
W. I. SCANDLIN, *Manager.*

[WIRE WORK, Etc.]

116 S. Fourth St., ST. LOUIS, MO., April 10, 1895.

WE are glad to say that the manufacturing portion of our business shows a gratifying increase over 1894, and up to date is the largest in our history. The outlook is good. The improvement is gradual, but all the more healthy on this account.

Yours truly, LUDLOW-SAYLOR WIRE CO.

[HORTICULTURAL BUILDINGS, Etc.]

233 Mercer St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 6, 1895.

OUR business, up to the present time in 1895, is very much in excess over that for the corresponding period in 1894, and the prospects for a continuous increase are good.

Yours respectfully, HITCHINGS & Co.

[ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK.]

22d St. and Washington Ave., PHILADELPHIA, PA., April 9, 1895.

IN our opinion, we are on the eve of a very considerable revival in business, and are very hopeful of obtaining a large increase in our orders in the next sixty days.

We are bidding on a very large amount of building work, both in this city and through our agents in New York and elsewhere, and are receiving a large number of inquiries from different parts of the country. In one instance lately, we obtained a contract which was bid on nearly two years ago.

This would seem to indicate that a large number of enterprises and operations which were then temporarily put aside will be taken up now.

If only the usual percentage of operations go through, it will provide a busy season for the building trade.

Yours very truly, BELMONT IRON WORKS, Ltd.
H. B. HIRSH, Gen. Man.

[WIRE CLOTH.]

CLINTON, MASS.

THERE is plenty of trade. Prices are low—very low in some lines.

We are running two departments of our works until 10 o'clock P. M., and two others all night.

The constantly increasing demand for stiffened lath makes it necessary for us to enlarge our plant. We are now building some improved machinery for this special work. The new plant will be in operation in about thirty days.

If a lively demand for goods is regarded as a promising feature, we must register our vote on the optimistic side of the question.

Truly, CLINTON WIRE CLOTH CO.

[MAIL-CHUTES.]

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 8, 1895.

IT gives us great pleasure to say that our system of collecting information with regard to new buildings, especially of the office-building, hotel and apartment-house class, shows, up to date, about twice the number of these buildings projected for construction this season, as compared with this time last year. We should say, therefore, and we have a very satisfactory basis for saying, that the tide, with respect to building operations, has most decidedly and satisfactorily turned.

Yours very truly,

THE CUTLER MFG. CO.

[SNOW-GUARDS.]

33 Lincoln St., BOSTON, MASS., April 9, 1895.

WE have to say that our sales are ahead of last year at this time, and many buildings have been planned that call for our guards. We look for a prosperous year.

Sincerely yours,

FOLSOM SNOW GUARD CO.,
WM. ESKELEN, Manager.

[ROOFING-TIN]

301-305 Branch St., PHILADELPHIA, PA., April 9, 1895.

THE demand for the genuine Taylor "Old Style" brand of roofing tin has been such that we have been compelled to erect two additional stacks at our tinplate works. This makes a total of twenty-two tinning stacks in the works, and will give an output of over 7,000 boxes of 14 x 20 weekly, by day work.

We expect to erect an addition to our works during this season for the production of "Continuous Roofing Tin," which we originally introduced in 1869.

We also contemplate the production of large tinned sheets.

Very truly yours, N. & G. TAYLOR CO.

[HEATING AND VENTILATING.]

DETROIT, MICH., April 9, 1895.

WE take pleasure in adding our opinion to the numerous similar impressions as to the probability of an actual return of business prosperity. It certainly looks that way from our standpoint, and

from our observation should say that the feeling is very general that there is going to be a more decided improvement from now on, than at any time during the past two years.

Yours respectfully,

HUYETT & SMITH MFG. CO.,
JAMES INGLIS, Sec. and Treas.

[BRICKS.]

Odd Fellows' Building, ST. LOUIS, MO., April 9, 1895.

WE have had a remarkably good trade so far this spring with fair prices.

Indications are for continuance up to midsummer when we expect a slight falling-off, with renewed activity as cooler weather approaches.

Yours truly,

THE HYDRAULIC-PRESS BRICK CO.,
T. P. PLUMBRIDGE, Asst.-Sec.

[ELECTRIC ELEVATORS, Etc.]

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., 1895.

THE first three months of the year 1895 have brought us a much larger and better business than any similar period for several years.

We now have a good inquiry and everything seems to indicate a steady improvement.

Yours truly,

THE ELEKTRON MFG. CO.,
E. H. CUTLER, Manager.

[METALLIC LATH.]

PIQUA, OHIO, April 8, 1895.

AS to the immediate future of building interests, we will say that while the present volume of business in our line is not as full as in an average year, still inquiries are very free and all indications point to a large amount of building.

The president of a prominent architectural iron company remarked to us a few weeks ago that he had orders entered to take up the entire capacity of his works for the next eight months, and the general report from the trade and from architects is that there is considerable building in prospect.

The advance in price of Bessemer pig and of steel billets and the increased demand, owing to the season, will doubtless cause a strengthening in prices in all iron articles, which, taken in connection with the general business improvement and the fact that there seems to be no indication of any general strike or trouble among the building trades, certainly gives us every reason to feel encouraged in the building line, and we anticipate a fairly prosperous season.

Yours truly,

THE CINCINNATI CORRUGATING CO.,
J. G. BATTELLE, Sec. and Treas.

[ENGINES, Etc.]

MILWAUKEE, WIS., April 8, 1895.

IN the engine department, we recently have taken a large number of orders. For the month of March, we received orders for engines requiring a total of forty-three cylinders. We regret, however, that prices are not at all what they should be.

Yours truly,

THE EDWARD P. ALLIS CO.

[FIREPROOFING.]

874 Broadway (cor. 18th St.), NEW YORK, N. Y., April 12, 1895.

WE would say that from present indications there will be a very large building business done in this city and vicinity during the coming season. We have lately been called upon to make an unusually large number of estimates and many new operations have already been started.

Yours truly,

RARITAN HOLLOW AND POROUS BRICK CO.,
HENRY M. KEASBEY, Sec. and Treas.

[ENAMELLED BRICK, Etc.]

403 Chamber of Commerce Building, CHICAGO, ILL., April 11, 1895.

AN increasing inquiry, both for our high grade of pressed-brick and our new enamelled brick, with other signs of improved tone in general business, convinces us that the outlook is favorable for a good building season.

Yours truly,

TIFFANY PRESSED BRICK CO.,
J. VAN INWAGEN, Pres.

[PLUMBERS' SUPPLIES.]

90 Beekman St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 12, 1895.

WE would say that we think the indications, so far as we are able to judge, point to a decided improvement in business, but in our particular branch of trade we think it will be felt later on. We, however, feel greatly encouraged because we believe the latter half of the year will find us under full headway.

Yours truly,

FRED ADEK & Co.

[WIRE LATHING, Etc.]

TRENTON, N. J., April 12, 1895.

IT will take us a very little while to enumerate the encouraging indications which we see, as far as our own business is concerned.

Business in our general trade is about the same as usual at this time of the year. We are having, however, a great many inquiries for our special fireproof construction, and if the buildings projected bear any relation to the inquiries which we receive, and we presume they do, it would seem to us that the outlook for the building trade is exceptionally good.

Yours truly, THE NEW JERSEY WIRE CLOTH CO.

[METAL CEILINGS.]

30 Rose St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 13, 1895.

BUSINESS is very good in my line, and I have as many men employed now as ever. Since March 1st I have been especially busy, and the indications point to a season of large trade at low or moderate prices.

Yours truly, HENRY S. NORTHROP.

[RED SANDSTONE.]

POTSDAM, N. Y., April 12, 1895.

We are of opinion that no very general revival in building has begun. We have about our usual line of orders for the time of the year, and fair inquiry for prices and estimates, but we are informed that architects have few draughtsmen at work, and that much of the building under way is of the cheaper kind. This seems particularly true in the West.

Respectfully yours,
THE POTSDAM RED SANDSTONE CO.

[SANITARY SPECIALTIES, Etc.]

81 Beekman St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 13, 1895.

THE indications of a revival of trade in the building line are very promising. We notice, especially, a movement among capitalists and institutions to invest in real estate, which is shown by numerous large operations already begun or to be started soon, and this business is of the healthiest character. We have all confidence in a good, prosperous season.

Yours very truly,
THE HENRY HUBER CO.
A. C. TIEDEMANN, Pres.

[ENAMELLED BRICK AND TILE.]

100 Fifth Avenue, cor. 21st St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 12, 1895.

THE season in this section of the country is very good, and we are working over-time every day in filling our orders.

As we have sent samples all over the country, and the most prominent architects of the United States recommend our high-grade enamelled bricks, we therefore are overloaded with orders. There is every appearance that this will be a very busy season.

Yours very truly,
AMERICAN ENAMELLED BRICK & TILE CO.,
BERNARD JACQUART, Supt.

[ARCHITECTURAL IRONWORK.]

315 E. 28th St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 13, 1895.

As far as our observation goes, we would say that we have not seen in recent years as large a volume of building work in prospect for the coming season as at the present time, principally all of the better class of buildings, namely, offices and storehouses. At the same time, competition has been so keen that prices for work never have been as low as they are at the present moment, and there does not seem to be any immediate prospect for much, if any, advance.

Yours respectfully,
JACKSON ARCHITECTURAL IRON WORKS,
JOHN COOPER, Sec.

[STEEL WALL-TIE.]

WEBSTER, MASS., April 13, 1895.

As far as our line of goods is concerned there is strong evidence of a much larger demand than ever before.

We do not attribute this wholly to an increased popularity of the goods, but because of a larger number of building operations throughout the country.

Inquiries have a strong and healthy tone, and indicate early and positive requirements.

We note, also, that many foundations that were put in two years ago will now be built upon.

We are confident in the belief that 1895 will witness a marked improvement in the building trades over the two previous seasons.

Yours truly, J. B. PRESCOTT & SON.

[VARNISH.]

NEWARK, N. J., April 15, 1895.

ANSWERING your circular letter of the 6th I beg to say that as a matter of fact, business is not in our opinion at all what it was expected to be, and we are not very hopeful that it will improve very much for some months.

Yours very truly,
MURPHY VARNISH COMPANY,
FRANKLIN MURPHY, Pres.

[BUILDERS' HARDWARE.]

NEW BRITAIN, CONN., April 15, 1895.

THE indications are encouraging and we are looking for a much better demand for builders' hardware this year than last. We give you this as our impression from what we hear and from the inference that we can draw from our orders and correspondence.

Yours truly,
THE STANLEY WORKS,
GEO. P. HART, Asst.-Man.

[STRUCTURAL METAL WORK.]

17 Burling Slip, NEW YORK, N. Y., April 15, 1895.

THERE is undoubtedly an increased demand for our products, but it is not yet sufficient to make any change in the prices, which are so low as not to admit of any profit whatever. The feeling, however, is more hopeful, and we think that the recovery from depression has set in. The progress towards activity will necessarily be slow, and great patience and economy will be required before we shall reach a satisfactory and profitable business. The best indication is that the pressure for employment on the part of the workingmen is not so great as it was. Surplus labor appears to have been largely absorbed, a result due probably to the suspension of immigration, by which the labor market has been relieved of foreign competition.

Yours respectfully, COOPER, HEWITT & CO.

[SHUTTERS, FLOORS, Etc.]

74 W. 23d St., NEW YORK, N. Y., April 15, 1895.

I WOULD say that in this city, building is more active than it has been for the past two years, and the reports coming in daily from my travellers and agents indicate increased activity in all directions. I am

Yours respectfully, JAMES G. WILSON.

[PAINTS, Etc.]

2 Liberty Street, NEW YORK, N. Y., April 15, 1895.

WHILE we do not look for a large immediate increase of trade, we certainly think that the outlook for good business this spring is very favorable, particularly in the building-material line. Our largely increased mails with inquiries and orders from all parts of the country are evidences of a reviving trade. As business improves, money will become easier, and new building projects will be undertaken. We deal not only with builders, but with railroad and steamboat companies, etc. We have noticed a strong revival in these as well as the general building lines. We look for a large fall trade, and a very good trade this spring and summer.

Yours truly,
THE STANDARD PAINT CO.,
FRANK S. DECURDY, Gen. Sales Agt.

[GRANITE.]

RED BEACH, ME., April 15, 1895.

WE are having more inquiries this spring than we have had for two years, but in order to secure the work, we have to figure lower than ever, and we cannot make a dollar at present prices.

Yours truly,
MAINE RED GRANITE CO.,
O. S. TARBOX, Supt.

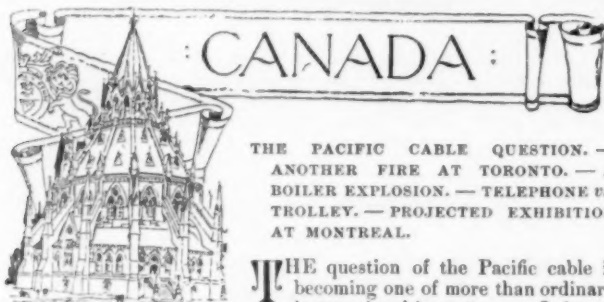
[VENTILATORS.]

203 River St., TROY, N. Y., April 15, 1895.

OUR business is showing a very nice improvement over last year. We are looking for a steady increase but no boom and hope not to be disappointed. Hoping every line of trade is in the same condition and the country has gotten over the hard time, we are

Yours respectfully, GLOBE VENTILATOR CO.,
WALDRON, Manager.

DANGEROUS TREES.—A word of warning is necessary as to the proximity of trees to houses. Many old-fashioned rural houses, as distinguished from *maisons de campagne*, are embowered in trees and buried in lilac and laburnum. They look delightful in pictures and sound enchanting in poetry; but there are drawbacks in every mundane sphere, and there are one or two little penalties to pay, even in laburnum-land. The nearest tree should be several yards away from the house, and, if possible, from every part of the house. We have observed lately, in more than one London suburb, where an attempt is being made to build dwellings which are at once healthy and picturesque, that houses have been placed within half a yard of old trees, mainly elms. Some of these houses are most certainly built over the roots of trees, and it will require a very liberal supply of very good concrete to keep such dwellings dry. A house with trees so near to it must inevitably be both dark and damp, for the roots, which are not themselves really damp-producers, are damp-retainers, for they form an obstacle to the escape of the water which is always moving about in the soil. There is a double danger attaching to the very close proximity of elms to a house. Altogether apart from the damp, the elm is a treacherous tree, and, if it be near enough, is certain sooner or later to drop one of its boughs through the drawing-room window, or perhaps, even to break off and knock a hole in the wall. It was only last winter that we saw an old elm perform this very feat. It was a windy day, and the tree, which was a large one, broke off short at the bole, and was thrown so violently against the house, that several windows and the whole of the front portion of the roof was stove in.—Illustrated Carpenter and Builder.



THE PACIFIC CABLE QUESTION. —
ANOTHER FIRE AT TORONTO. — A
BOILER EXPLOSION. — TELEPHONE VS.
TROLLEY. — PROJECTED EXHIBITION
AT MONTREAL.

THE question of the Pacific cable is becoming one of more than ordinary international importance. It is not so much a matter for the decision of the petty authorities of the new republic of Hawaii as for the rulers of the great nations of the world. The fear of offending the United States kept back the Hawaiians from giving welcome to the British scheme and this fear has caused them to cut off their noses to spite their faces, for the United States has shown them that they do not care, at any rate at present, to go to the cost of constructing a cable, which will benefit little else than the Sandwich Islanders themselves. Happily for these islanders the attention of the nations has been called to their islands and they now live in hopes that they may yet be connected with the world — not, however, to suit themselves, but to suit the nations who see in a Pacific cable a valuable route of communication between the east and west. We have, however, nothing to do with the politics of the matter here, but since the subject is one of general interest, it may be well to place on record in the interest of engineering, some few figures that have already been determined as to cost for certain routes. The "British scheme," as we will call it for the sake of clearness, was to connect Australia and New Zealand with Vancouver via the Sandwich Islands. Various routes have been suggested and the Government of the Dominion of Canada has asked for and received tenders for construction — and maintenance for a definite period — of cables by all these routes. The cheapest route is by way of Necker Island and the Gilbert group, thence by way of Fiji to New Zealand and by way of the Solomon Islands to Queensland. The tender for this route is \$6,515,000 odd, which amount includes cost of construction and keeping in order for a term of three years. This is nearly \$3,500,000 within the estimated cost. The next route, having terminals in both Australia and New Zealand, is by way of Honolulu, for which \$80,000 more are asked. Of two other routes, one leaves out the Hawaiian group altogether, the landing being at Fanning Island and is the dearest scheme of all, besides being a line that would pay least, Hawaii being too far out of the line to make it worth while constructing a branch thereto. Besides four routes with two eastern terminals tendered on, there are four routes with one, two of them leaving out New Zealand and two leaving out Australia. Economy, conditions for maintaining British control, volume of business, shortness of spans and convenience for extending to Japan, appear to be all on the side of the Necker-Island route, splitting into two cables at the Gilbert group. It remains to be seen whether a landing can be obtained at Necker Island, but this is a question not of engineering but politics.

A wave of disasters seems to be passing over Toronto this winter. The two terrible fires of two months ago have been already noticed and now we have a third to mention. The first destroyed five buildings, the second six or seven, and the last, six totally, and five or six partially, including the spire of Knox Church erected in 1847. The value of the property destroyed at each fire, being very nearly the same, amounted in all to about two million dollars. The last fire, like the first, broke out early Sunday morning (March 3) in the packing-room of a great "departmental" store, apparently without either rhyme or reason. It was a fine building, of very light construction, five stories high, completed at Christmas. No attempt had been made to introduce fireproofing or even slow-burning methods of construction, beyond the use of adamant plaster to the ceilings. The building had a frontage of, perhaps, 80 feet and was nearly a square, with as few internal partitions as possible, so that each floor presented a fine field for display, but a grand playground for fire. An elevator-shaft ran up the centre, entirely open, and this was probably the cause of the almost instantaneous destruction of every floor. The City Council had been haggling over the purchase of engines ever since the last outbreak, weighing the merits of the various makes, but making no arrangements for hiring a few engines in the meantime, so that the fire-protection was no better here than in the former cases. The water reached up to the third-story windows only. This building was completely destroyed in one hour. The corner occupied by this block was one of the principal ones of the city. The fire leaped the main street to the north and destroyed two stores on the other side and was only arrested through the efforts of a volunteer fire-brigade of T. Eaton & Co.'s departmental store. These people had their own engine and hose and obtained, in consequence, a greater pressure than the firemen could control and so the conflagration was stopped in that direction. From these stores and the original burning building, the fire jumped across the thoroughfare running north and south and totally destroyed one building there and half-a-dozen others partially; while to the south two store buildings connected with the first, and the church to the west, were also burnt. The circumstances in connection with the

outbreak of each of these great fires have been so suspicious that the Underwriters Association is now offering a reward of \$1,000 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who set the fire.

Another disaster of a different kind must also be recorded. One evening about 6.30, the explosion of a boiler, in a mineral-water warehouse, a building of four stories, reduced the building to a shapeless heap of ruins. Happily, every one had left the place. The concussion was tremendous. The warehouse stood surrounded by residences, on one of the best streets in the city, where one would not expect to find a building of such character, and the damage done to the adjoining and opposite houses was considerable. A point worthy of notice is the probable cause of the accident. It is stated as a fact, by a citizen, that in a boiler in his works the gauge would not register more than 10-pounds pressure, no matter how much fire was on. It was discovered that the sediment in the city water had clogged to such an extent, that upon clearing it out the gauge instantly jumped to 100-pounds pressure. In the case of the explosion it is very probable that the indicator refused for a similar reason to show the real pressure.

The City Engineer has been taking advantage of the ice on Toronto Bay to begin boring operations with a view to ascertaining the nature of the strata through which it is proposed to drive the tunnel, that, in the dim future, will supply the city with decent water, uncontaminated by the sewage of the Bay. The tunnel is to take the place of the steel conduit laid three years ago at a cost of \$200,000, and which has cost nearly as much again in repairs. The present engineer, however, it is only fair to say, is not the author of the steel conduit nor had he anything to do with its construction.

It is a matter of no small satisfaction to the architectural profession at large, to learn that the architects of the Montreal Street Railway Company's Building, in that city, which collapsed a few months ago, while in course of construction, and who were, as the result of the inquest following, accused of negligence in its construction, have been relieved from their unpleasant position through the action of the Grand Jury, who have found "no bill" against either them or the contractors.

A remarkable case is before the courts in Montreal. Action is taken by the Bell Telephone Company claiming more than \$27,000 damages from the Montreal Street Railway Company on account of the introduction of the trolley system for the running of the defendant's cars through the streets of Montreal. The pretension of the plaintiffs is that, having secured the right to operate their telephone system in Montreal, they exercised that right by means of grounded-circuit lines, until the time when the Street Railway Company introduced their electric-cars and the present trolley system, which on account of the proximity of the two lines, interfered with the telephone wires, to such an extent that the grounded-circuit returns are rendered unserviceable in many cases, and the system had to be altered to the common return for many clients, at a cost amounting to the sum claimed in this action. In the plea, the Street Railway Company rely on their rights secured by their charter and their contract with the city. They hold that the electric system adopted by them is the best, and, in fact, the only one practicable here. They, moreover, deny having caused any damage to the plaintiffs and hold that the charter of the Bell Telephone Company provides that their business shall not interfere with street traffic.

It is proposed to hold a grand International Exhibition in Montreal, in 1896. A committee of representative citizens has been chosen to further the scheme. The sum of \$400,000 is to be raised by public subscription and then the city is expected to contribute \$100,000. The exhibition is to be open for five months and to be on the model of the Mid-winter Fair, at San Francisco.

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR SUB-ESTIMATING AND SUB-CONTRACTING.¹

THE Master Builders' Association of the City of Boston, recognizing the importance of defining the rights and obligations of Principal and Sub-Contractors for Building Work, in their relations to each other in estimating, contracting for, and carrying on work, hereby approves and adopts the following Code of Practice as a declaration of what it will recognize as honorable methods in the conduct of business.

Article I.—Obligation of Principal Contractor to Sub-Contractor.—A principal contractor is under obligation to treat upon an equal basis all estimates which he "receives" prior to putting in his own bid. Estimates must be considered as "received," when they come into a principal contractor's possession, either by his direct solicitation or by being accepted by him. The opening of a bid, knowing it to be such, constitutes receipt of the same.

A principal contractor is under no obligation to use a bid which he has not solicited, accepted, or received, but if he does not wish to use the estimate of a sub-bidder he should decline it, if proffered personally, or should return it unopened if sent to him by mail or otherwise. The retention of a bid should be construed as a receipt of the same.

All bids should be considered "confidential," and a principal contractor revealing any bid received by him to any person whomsoever,

¹[In adopting this Code the Association acknowledges its obligation to the National Association of Builders for valuable suggestions in relation to this important matter.] Adopted August 2, 1894.

without consent of the sub-bidder, will be liable to complaint and discipline under Article X of the By-laws of this Association.

A principal contractor, when making up his estimate, is not entitled to receive bids from sub-contractors if he is at the same time making himself their competitor by figuring their portion of the contemplated work. It is legitimate for a principal contractor to figure all portions of work, depending upon no one for what are usually known as sub-estimates, but it is not legitimate for him to receive bids from others for sub-work if he is himself figuring those portions independently.

Art. II.—Award of Sub-Contracts.—The principal contractor having been awarded a general contract should immediately award the sub-contracts to the lowest bidder in each branch.

Art. III.—Penalty for Not Awarding Contract to Lowest Sub-Bidder.—A principal contractor, failing to award a sub-contract to the lowest sub-bidder to whom he is under obligation as previously provided, should be liable to pay damages to the said lowest bidder, in amount not less than ten per cent of the amount of the estimate.

Payment of such damages will not relieve the principal contractor from liability to discipline under provisions of Article X of the By-laws of this Association.

Art. IV.—Contracts with Sub-Contractors.—The principal contractor, immediately after executing a general contract with the owner, should, for his own protection as well as the protection of the sub-bidder, execute some satisfactory form of contract or agreement with each lowest sub-bidder.

Art. V.—Payments to Sub-Contractors.—Unless the contracts made with sub-contractors otherwise provide, payments during the progress of the work should be made by the principal contractor to the sub-contractors upon the same basis of payment, in relation to amount of work performed, as is prescribed in the contract made by the principal contractor with the owner.

Final payment to a sub-contractor should be considered as *due* at the expiration of thirty days after the completion of his work and its approval by the architect or owner, unless otherwise provided by the sub-contract or agreement.

Art. VI.—Submission of Bids by Sub-Contractors.—Sub-contractors in submitting bids to principal contractors should enclose them in the envelopes prepared by this Association and kept on hand for the use of sub-bidders, or should endorse the envelopes in which they are enclosed in such manner that principal contractors may know whom the bids are from, what portion of the work they comprehend, and the particular building they apply to.

Sub-contractors who fail to so enclose and endorse their bids cannot claim protection or redress under the first article of this Code.

Art. VII.—Obligation of Sub-Contractor to Principal Contractor.—Should a sub-contractor refuse to contract at the amount of the estimate he has given to a principal contractor who has used the said estimate in good faith, he then should be liable to the said principal contractor for damages in amount not less than the difference between the amount of the estimate which was submitted by him and the amount at which the principal contractor may be obliged to contract the work.

Payment of such damages will not relieve the sub-contractor from liability to discipline under provisions of Article X of the By-laws of this Association.

Art. VIII.—Obligations of Sub-Contractors to Each Other.—Any sub-contractor suspected of unfair treatment of his fellow sub-contractors will be liable to complaint and discipline under Article X of the By-laws of this Association.

Art. IX.—Trading Sub-Bids.—Trading upon sub-bids will be considered sufficient cause for complaint and discipline as provided by Article X of the By-laws of this Association.

Art. X.—Bids to Architects or Owners.—When bids for separate departments of work on a building are solicited by the architect or the owner, they should be submitted with the understanding that they are direct estimates, for which direct contracts are to be made by the owner with the lowest bidder, and no other disposition of such bids should be permitted without consent of the bidder submitting the same.

Sub-bids should be given only to the principal contractors who are estimating the work in question, and should not be left with architects or owners for the inspection and information of principal contractors. Sub-contractors must understand that bids thus left with architects or owners are in great danger of losing their confidential character, and that if they so leave them they cannot claim protection or redress under the first article of this Code.

Suggestions.—Members of this Association having sub-contracts to let or material to buy should, as far as may be consistent with business principles, deal only with members of the Association, or at all events give their fellow-members an opportunity to compete, and then give them the preference, other things being equal.

All bidders should take cognizance of the danger they may be subjected to through the practice, so prevalent in some architects' offices, of making changes in plans or specifications, or in both, during the progress of estimating. Correction of this pernicious practice can only be obtained through refusal by contractors to estimate under such conditions.

[A true copy.]

Attest: WM. H. SAYWARD, Secretary, M. B. A.

THE DECORATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.—The decoration of the Congressional Library, which is to be when completed one of the finest and most costly buildings of its kind in the world, will be begun next summer. Those in charge of the building have commissioned a number of artists to submit designs. Blashfield, of New York, has been commissioned to paint a picture in the crown of the dome and another on the crown of the lantern. La Farge has been commissioned to make two mural paintings. Vedder will do the work on the walls in the main entrance-hall. Carl Guthrie will make seven pictures in the ceiling of one of the reading-rooms. Other artists who have received commissions are Edward Simmons, George W. Maynard, William L. Dodge and Kenyon Cox. Each artist is to select his own designs.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

JAMES GIBBS.¹

NOT long since, Mr. Blackwell, of Oxford, in one of his catalogues, offered for sale a collection of books purchased by him of the Trustees of the Radcliffe Library, Oxford. After giving a preliminary note or two—as to the foundation of the Radcliffe Library in 1737—and an explanation of the cause of the sale, Mr. Blackwell added the following paragraph: "The books noted thus (G) contain the book-plate, with portrait of Jacobus Gibbs, architect, 1736."

James Gibbs was born at Aberdeen in 1674. After receiving his education at Marischal College, he travelled much on the Continent, principally in Italy and Holland, where he found ample material for the study of his future profession. The Earl of Mar appears to have been of much service to him. In 1710 he came to England, and his reputation as an architect became established. Amongst his chief works may be mentioned the beautiful church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, that of St. Mary-in-the-Strand, the Senate House, Cambridge, and last, but not least, the Radcliffe Library, to which institution he bequeathed his books.

A portrait of Gibbs was also painted by Hogarth, but I am unable to state to whom it now belongs. An engraving, however, from it, is extant, signed "William Hogarth, delin., B. Baron, sculp." This engraving, together with a copy of Gibbs's book-plate, was sent to the Grolier Club, New York, for exhibition, by my friend, Mr. George Clulow.

James Gibbs died in 1754. His "Ex Libris" was unknown to collectors, prior to the sale of his books by the Radcliffe Trustees, although I believe a copy of it existed in the print-room of the British Museum, with other portraits of him.

The book-plate will be treasured by all who have been fortunate enough to acquire it, for it is not only beautiful in itself, but is interesting as an undoubted "Portrait" plate. It may thus be briefly described: a finely-engraved portrait forms the centre, round which is inscribed "Jacobus Gibbs, Architectus, 1736." The portrait is surrounded by shellwork and scrollage, the former having a wreath of leaves running through it, the medallion in the centre being surmounted by a mask. I may remark that this (1736) is about the time when the so-called Chippendale style came into vogue, and the general character of the ornamentation of the plate bears evident signs of its being produced in the dawn of that particular style. The total size of the plate is about 5" by 4", the whole design being enclosed within an oblong frame. The signature B. B., S., shows it is the work of Bernard Baron, a French engraver, who came to England about 1736, and who also engraved the portrait done by William Hogarth above alluded to.

All honor to James Gibbs: that he did good work in his day is fully recognized. I trust, therefore, that these few remarks on this excellent old worthy may not be unacceptable to the readers of the *Ex-Libris Journal*.

J. R. BROWN.



SKETCH-CLUB OF NEW YORK.

THE regular monthly meeting and dinner of the Society was held April 6th at the restaurant of Sylvio Tassenari, 213 East 13th Street. Sixty-two members and guests sat down to dinner. The chair was occupied by the President, Mr. Field. After the dinner, Mr. Bruce Price gave a very interesting and instructive talk on the American Surety Building. Mr. Price illustrated his remarks with a very complete set of drawings of the building and explained in detail the theory of his design and the various conditions and conclusions which led up to his most original treatment of one of the tallest buildings in the world. Mr. Price's remarks were loudly

¹ Extract from *Ex-Libris Journal*, December, 1894. Book-plate of James Gibbs, architect, 1736.

applauded and every one present felt that he had added materially to his knowledge on this subject.

Mr. Hughson Hawley was present and announced that it would give him pleasure to accompany the Club on its sketching trips this summer and help the members in any way that lay in his power.

Excellent music was furnished by a quartette from the Tuxedo Mandolin Quartette Club, of Brooklyn, who kindly volunteered for the occasion. After the entertainment, a business meeting was held which lasted until midnight.

ALFRED F. EVANS, Recording Secretary.



[Contributors of drawings are requested to send also plans and a full and adequate description of the buildings, including a statement of cost.]

EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR OF THE Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. MR. A. PAGE BROWN, ARCHITECT, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

[Gelatin Print issued with International and Imperial Editions only.]

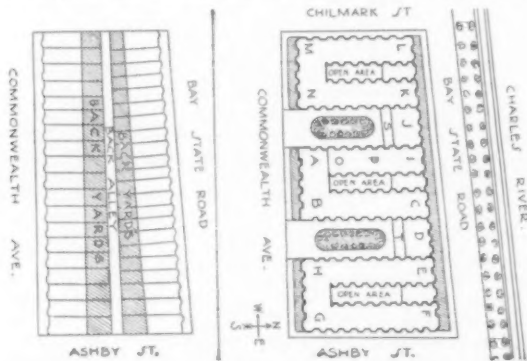
THIS building was erected by the trustees of the Young Men's Christian Association, of this city, at a cost of \$208,000. The exterior of the building is built of Roman brick and terra-cotta of light colors. The Doric columns of the entrance are built of a white, native California marble; the hallway and staircase are finished in pink Tennessee marble, with wrought-iron staircase. The building is finished in quartered oak throughout. The auditorium is finished in white and gold with deep red walls.

Attached to the building is a gymnasium. This building is equipped with a swimming-tank, lined with white enameled tile. The building is equipped with a library and all other appurtenances required in such a building. It is believed that this is the largest and most important building of its kind west of Chicago. While the building is not fireproof, every precaution has been taken to insure against fire from connecting apartments, etc. The building is equipped with its own electric-light plant and is heated by steam. There is a salt-water connection made for the swimming-tank to be used as required, direct from the Pacific Ocean.

THE "COMMONWEALTH," BOSTON, MASS. MR. J. P. PUTNAM, ARCHITECT, BOSTON, MASS.

THIS building, on the Riverbank lands between Ashby and Chilmark Streets, with a frontage on Charles River on the north and Commonwealth Avenue on the south, will consist of three pavilions extending from the river-front to Commonwealth Avenue, separated by open court-yards, 70 feet wide, each, and connected together at the river end on the first story by one-story structures containing the dining-room and at the same time serving to shelter the court-yards from the north winds. Every suite thus receives direct sunlight, and river and Commonwealth Avenue view. The court-yards give, with their porte cochères, sheltered and comfortable approaches to the suites. They, nevertheless, take up less land area than the back alley-way or street originally laid out for this block to intersect it from end to end when it was planned to be divided up for private house-lots. The east wing or pavilion is 40 feet longer than the west pavilion and the central pavilion has a length between the two. This enables the sizes of the suites to be altered without altering the relative positions of the main hall-ways.

The first year, it is proposed to build only the portion A, B, C. Then would follow successively, as needed, the parts D to R, as required by the demand, since this particular succession would permit of the use of the dining-room, C, D, (afterwards extended to I,



J, as needed, and still further under the glass lean-tos, S and T, if required) from the beginning, and would leave the rest of the lot open as long as possible for greater sunlight and view while the entire structure is being executed.

The adjoining sketch shows the lot as originally laid out. It provided for 41 house-lots, as shown. The 41 houses, built to accommo-

date 41 families, would rent for but little if any more than 41 large suites in the apartment-building; and as its 2,250 rooms would give us the equivalent of 225 suites of 10 rooms each (were the suites so divided) it follows that the gross rentals derivable from the land utilized as herein proposed would be four or five times as great as could be obtained from the land used as originally contemplated for 41 private houses, even if the whole land were improved with equal rapidity in both cases, and if the rentals in both cases were equally secure and immediate. But in both of these cases, the apartment-house investment would have a great advantage. It would give rise to the immediate improvement of a part of the land, and would maintain its occupancy with far greater certainty.

The central pavilion contains the main office and reception rooms. The office commands a view of all the guests' entrances, four in number, of the entire hotel.

Each wing has a small open court 35 feet wide in its centre, making five open courts in all. The three smaller courts are open to the river on the north, the dining-room only being carried up at these points, as shown on the second-floor plan. Thus every suite has a view both of the river and of Commonwealth Avenue and also direct sunlight, and every room has a view of either the river or Commonwealth Avenue, or both, except some of those on the first floor.

All three pavilions are 11 stories high, or 125 feet, the height limited by the Building Laws of Boston, excepting the towers which are allowed to exceed this limit under special provisions as to their construction and use. In the central pavilion, the eleventh story is treated differently from that of the two other pavilions for architectural effect and to provide retired rooms in the two end pavilions for the service, not visible from Commonwealth Avenue, except at a great distance from the building.

The open courts and entrance portico and arcades furnish the elements for producing a rich effect of light and shade, and considerable picturesqueness without loss of simplicity and dignity. The materials proposed for the façades are dark red terra-cotta enrichments on a body of buff or warm gray brick, with a darker buff for the basement and first story. The style and coloring have been suggested by the very beautiful palace of the Grand-Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, in North Germany.

The arrangement of the suites is somewhat novel, particularly as to elevator service. There are in all 21 elevators in the building, so placed that each suite shall be served by one, and in case two suites are united to form a single large suite, one of the elevators forms a front and the other a rear or service elevator. In other words, all the large suites are served by two elevators, and these large suites are so designed that they may be divided at any time in the future into two or three suites.

In virtue of this treatment of the elevators, it has been possible to avoid the usual waste of room occasioned by long passageways, the extra elevators much more than paying for themselves in this economy of space. All the large suites are arranged in tiers from second floor to top story, so that the elevators shall all be used for the same service in any tier of rooms. Each suite is provided by one or more bath-room and each bath-room by an ample and well-lighted dressing-room in the rear of the bath-room.

Particularly favorable opportunity is furnished by the conditions of the site for the convenient handling and storage of provisions and for the handling and transportation of baggage and furniture, all stores and furniture being conveyed on small cars running on tracks from the basement service-entrance on the side street directly to the elevators in the basement, and thence to their destinations, without leaving the small cars or trucks until they are deposited in their proper places in the rooms for which they are intended. The elevators and passageways are everywhere made capacious enough to take the largest pieces of furniture without crowding. A very large boiler and ventilating chimney constructed to take away entirely all odors of the kitchen and other service rooms, is shown in the perspective, and forms an ornamental feature in the design.

A one-story grand ball-room between the banquet hall and the reception rooms and parlors is shown in the central pavilion. As previously stated, it is proposed to build only a part of the structure the first year, and add to it from year to year as the demand justifies.

The portion suggested for building the first year will form a complete hotel apartment-house of itself, fully equipped and equal in capacity to one of the larger hotels already existing on the Back Bay.

The style of the design is developed as it should be, from the requirements of the plan; the first consideration has been to give every suite and every room the best possible view and light exposure consistent with an economical use of the land, and the exterior form has been designed in recognition of this requirement. Accordingly, the maximum amount of bay-window projection allowed by the land restrictions and by interior convenience has been adopted; the monotony, which this requirement involves in plan, has been broken by a corresponding play in the vertical proportions and in the sky-line.

It will readily be seen that the magnitude of the scheme makes possible a great many things which are not practicable in the ordinary hotel or apartment-house of smaller proportions.

The dining-room will be a particularly beautiful feature, with its unobstructed outlook on the Charles River, and the construction will admit of opening the dining-hall throughout its great length, or

readily closing the same in sections or sub-sections, so as to provide, as may be desired, private dining-rooms and especial accommodation for special demand.

Each suite will have its own staircase and the service of two elevators, one for passengers and the other for freight, and the provision for a certain number of transient guests will make entertainment under the same roof by tenants easily and pleasantly possible.

The café will, of course, be open at all times, and arrangements will be made by which one or more rooms of an apartment will be cared for and always ready for temporary occupation during the summer months for any members of the family having occasion to spend a night in town.

There will be all conveniences like carriages, cabs, telegraph, telephone, messenger service, laundry and the like, and a roof-garden will, probably, be the crowning feature. There will, of course, be billiard-tables and probably bowling-alleys and other similar provision for entertainment provided.

With the present prospect of the Charles-River development, and particularly with the maintenance of a full basin, it may easily be imagined what a delightful resort this hotel would be during the warm season in Boston.

ENTRANCE-HALL; DINING-ROOM AND BALL-ROOM OF THE SAME.

PORTRAIT OF JAMES GIBBS, ARCHITECT, AFTER HOGARTH.

SEE article elsewhere in this issue.

DESIGN FOR HOUSE OF DR. STODDARD, WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.
MESSRS. ROMEYN & STEVER, ARCHITECTS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

[Additional Illustrations in the International Edition.]

MONUMENT TO M. HIPPOLYTE MAZE, VIROFLAY, FRANCE. M.
HENRI GUILLAUME, ARCHITECT; M. MABILLE, SCULPTOR.

[Copper-plate Etching.]

THIS monument in honor of M. Maze, formerly Prefect de la
Defense nationale, Deputy for Seine-et-Oise and Senator, was un-
veiled October 9, 1894. The total cost did not exceed \$1,600.

VILLA RESIDENCE, STOURWOOD, ENG. MESSRS. DONCASTER &
TAYLOR, ARCHITECTS.

THE DRAWING-ROOM, SELBORNE HOUSE, HARROGATE, ENG.:
TWO VIEWS. MR. T. BUTLER WILSON, ARCHITECT.

HOLT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, RAINHILL, ENG. MR. THOMAS
W. CUBBON, ARCHITECT, BIRKENHEAD, ENG.

INTERIOR OF THE SAME.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, HAYDOCK, ENG. MR. THOMAS W.
CUBBON, ARCHITECT, BIRKENHEAD, ENG.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD, ENG. MR.
THOMAS W. CUBBON, ARCHITECT, BIRKENHEAD, ENG.

THESE buildings have been erected at the sole cost of Miss Ruth
Evans, of Briars Hey, Rainhill, in memory of her brother, the late
Joseph Evans, colliery proprietor, of Haydock. The total cost of
the combined schemes has been nearly 25,000*l.*, exclusive of land
and furnishing.

Holt Buildings.—The Holt buildings consist of the following sec-
tions: Congregational Church, providing seating accommodation on
the ground-floor for about 650, having organ-chamber, vestry and
cloak-room accommodation at the rear. The style of the design is
late Gothic in character, the plan of the church being cruciform,
having chancel and transepts. The clerestory is carried upon hand-
somely-moulded arches, supported upon massive octagon pillars,
having richly moulded caps and bases all of white Cefn stone, as are
also chancel, transept and organ-chamber arches. One main front
entrance and two side entrances are provided in addition to rear
entrances. The buildings are faced externally with local red sand-
stone, and all the internal woodwork is of pitch pine toned and
varnished. The rostrum, which is of handsome design, is constructed
of selected pitch-pine, the angle shafts being ebonized and other
features richly moulded and carved. The traceried windows are
filled-in with enriched lead-lights of beautiful design. The gas-fit-
tings, encaustic tiling, vestibule screens and decorative work have all
been designed in harmony with the main structure. A handsome
tower and spire occupies the southwest angle of main building, and
rising as it does to an altitude of over 120 feet is seen for many
miles on all sides.

Sunday-school buildings, consisting of large assembly-hall capable
of accommodating over 300 children and having in conjunction there-
with four class-rooms each for about eighteen scholars. These build-
ings, which are prominently situated at the right of church, are
designed in harmony therewith, and have an octagon bell-turret at

the right of main gable, which is corbelled out and carried upon red
granite shafts. The internal work is of similar material and char-
acter as the church, but somewhat less ornate.

Swimming and plunge bath, 50 feet in length and 23 feet wide,
having the sides lined with white enamelled bricks, and the bottom
laid with heavy white tiles on a concrete bed. Around the bath are
fitted suitable dressing-boxes, and all modern conveniences are pro-
vided. The bath is lighted by a lantern roof, having movable
louvred ventilator therein.

Gymnasium, club-house, cocoa-rooms, including large room, 51 feet
by 21 feet, having dressing-room and other conveniences attached.
Two large reading-rooms on the first floor. Cocoa-rooms, consisting
of large and beautifully fitted refreshment-room, having handsome
serving bar, specially designed seats and tables. This section also
includes commodious residence for manager, accommodation for
bicyclists, etc.

Haydock Buildings.—These buildings consist of church to accom-
modate 650, similar in arrangement to the Rainhill Church, but are
externally faced with red Ruabon brick, relieved by dressings of
Runcorn red sandstone.

The school buildings consist of assembly-hall for 300, having four
class-rooms and infants' room.

A handsome memorial drinking-fountain has been erected in con-
nection with these buildings by the residents in the neighborhood.

The cost of these buildings was about 9,000*l.*

Ashton School Buildings.—These buildings have been erected for
elementary education purposes, there being accommodation provided
for about 850 children, and are two stories in height.

On the ground-floor there are infants' general school-room, juniors'
class-room, babies' class-room, cookery class-room with scullery at-
tached, joinery class with demonstration-room adjoining, boys'
lavatory, infants' lavatory, two teachers' rooms, caretaker's store,
stationery store and marching corridor.

On the first floor are general mixed school-room, six large class-
rooms, girls' lavatory, head-master's room, stationery store and
marching corridor.

A commodious covered playground is provided in the basement.

These buildings are faced with red Ruabon bricks having red
sandstone dressings. The cost was about 5,200*l.*



[The editors cannot pay attention to demands of correspondents who
forget to give their names and addresses as guaranty of good faith;
nor do they hold themselves responsible for opinions expressed by
their correspondents.]

THE ORCHARD-STREET DISASTER: A CORRECTION.

NEW YORK, N. Y., April 15, 1895.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT:—

Dear Sirs,—In my statements concerning the "Orchard-Street
Disaster" which was published in your paper, April 13th inst., I
beg to explain that in referring to "my immediate superior ex-
aminer" Mr. Kirby was meant, not Mr. Louis A. Hornum, Second
Deputy Superintendent of Buildings.

Yours truly, GUY B. WAITE, C. E.

A QUESTION OF COMMISSION.

NORFOLK, VA., April 15, 1895.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT:—

Dear Sirs,—Will you kindly give us your opinion as to what
would be a fair charge for the following service? Preliminary
studies were made and the general drawings were completed in
pencil. The client then sold his lot and asked that the bill be
rendered.

Yours truly, "ARCHITECTS."

[APPARENTLY, our correspondents ask this question, in lieu of simply
sending in their bill for two and one-half per cent, because they have not
actually written out the specifications. But the work could hardly have
been carried so far as the completion of the general drawings unless the
architects had, more or less thoroughly, considered and determined the ex-
act stipulations and directions that were to be set down in that instrument,
so that in all probability the specifications, save for the mere drudgery of
writing them down, had been prepared for the benefit of the client. Clearly
the architects deserve compensation for that part of the work as much as
would a lawyer who had given much time to the consideration of a case
and yet had never written a line of his brief at the time his client aban-
doned his case. Perhaps, in this instance, a charge of two per cent would
be equitable.—EDS. AMERICAN ARCHITECT.]



BALTIMORE, MD.—The Walters Art Gallery will be open to the public
on all Wednesdays and Saturdays in April.

BOSTON, MASS.—*Winter Exhibition, including Pictures loaned by Quincy A. Shaw; Paintings by Puvion de Chavannes; Japanese Paintings; Line Engravings, Mezzotints, and Etchings by Rembrandt*: at the Museum of Fine Arts.

Annual Exhibition of Water-colors: at the Boston Art Club, April 8 to 27.

Du Maurier's Drawings for "Trilby": at Doll & Richards' Gallery, 3 Park St., opened April 18.

Architectural Exhibition: at 194 Clarendon St., April 15 to 21.

Seventh Annual Exhibition of Photographs: at the Boston Camera Club, 50 Bromfield St., April 3 to 20.

Water-colors of North American Woods by Mrs. Chas. S. Sargent: at the St. Botolph Club, April 8 to 27.

South End Free Art Exhibition: at 1151 Washington St., opened April 18.

Exhibition of Pictorial Posters: at Cowles Art School, 145 Dartmouth St., opened April 19.

CHICAGO, ILL.—*Annual Spring Exhibition of Water-colors and Pastels*: at the Art Institute, April 11 to May 16; *Works by J. F. Raffaelli*: April 17 to 28.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—*Loan Exhibition*: at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New North Wing, opened November 5.

Seventieth Annual Exhibition of the National Academy of Design: April 1 to May 11.

Seventeenth Annual Exhibition of the Society of American Artists: at the Fine-Arts Building, 215 West 57th St., March 25 to April 27.

Paintings by the Old Masters: at the Macbeth Gallery, 237 Fifth Ave.

Modern Italian Paintings: at the Holland Art Galleries, 329 Fifth Ave.

Paintings, Sculptures and Objects of Art: at the American Art Galleries, 6 East 23d St.

Works by Miss Mary Cassatt: at the Durand-Ruel Galleries, 389 Fifth Ave., April 16 to 30.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—*Loan Exhibition of Portraits of Women*: at the Art Club, April 18 to May 8.



THE PALAIS DE L'ELYSEE, PARIS.—The Elysée Palace, where the President of the French Republic lives, was built in 1718 by a banker. In 1748, Madam de Pompadour purchased it, and in 1768, Louis XV bought it from her heirs; later, he sold it to the financier Meaujou, the only proprietor that died in it. Louis XVI bought it for \$260,000 and gave it to the Duchess of Bourbon, who, in 1790, presented it to the French Nation. In 1803, Murat acquired it and gave it to Napoleon I, who was very fond of the garden. In 1814, Emperor Alexander I, of Russia, resided here. Then the Duke of Berry, the Dauphin, lived in it, and, after his death, the baby Duke of Bordeaux. In 1848, it was assigned to Louis Napoleon as an official residence. Since 1873, Presidents McMahon, Grévy, Carnot and Casimir-Perier have dwelt in it. Now M. Faure is the master. — *Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette*.

THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE, AT MELBOURNE.—The Government House at Melbourne, where Lord Brassey will take up his residence, is an imposing building erected on a hill overlooking the River Yarra and the botanical gardens. It is almost identical in appearance with the Queen's palace at Osborne. It seems that when the architect who had been commissioned to draw plans for the Governor's residence sent in his designs to the Secretary of State for the Colonies in London, by whom they were to be approved, that august functionary rejected them and told the architect to bring a book of designs. This the architect did, but came one day when the great man was busy, and the result was that his Excellency stopped right on the first page. "Oh! give us something like that." The "that" happened to be a painting of Osborne, and thus it is that Lord Brassey will, for the next five years, make his antipodean home in the counterpart of the Queen's favorite palace in the Isle of Wight. — *Marquise de Fontenoy in the Philadelphia Press*.

ALABASTER MINES.—Thirty-two miles to the southeast of Pisa, in the province of that name, a very remarkable and very ancient industry is carried on. We refer to the alabaster industry, of which a full description from actual observation is given by Vice-Consul Carmichael, of Leghorn, in a foreign post-office report just issued. Volterra, where the alabaster is found, enjoys special distinction among places in the world which produce that commodity. The material, which is of five main varieties, is found in nodules, embedded in huge masses of limestone. At the end of each cavern whence it is extracted, two or three men are to be seen working away with small T-shaped picks by the dim light of unprotected oil lamps of Etruscan pattern, which, by a singular tenacity of tradition, are still in use in the district. In one case, the block of alabaster will be already well projected from its bed of limestone, and the operator is carefully picking away all around it in order to extricate the complete block. The larger the specimen, the more valuable it is in proportion to its weight. In another, search is still being made for the alabaster, and the workman is vigorously beating down the wall of limestone until he lights upon the white nose of what looks like a block. He then picks away carefully, so as not to injure the prize. When there seems a likelihood of a large quantity of limestone having to be removed, blasting with gunpowder is resorted to. The alabaster industry dates back to Classic times. Great changes have taken place in it, however, within living memory. In former days

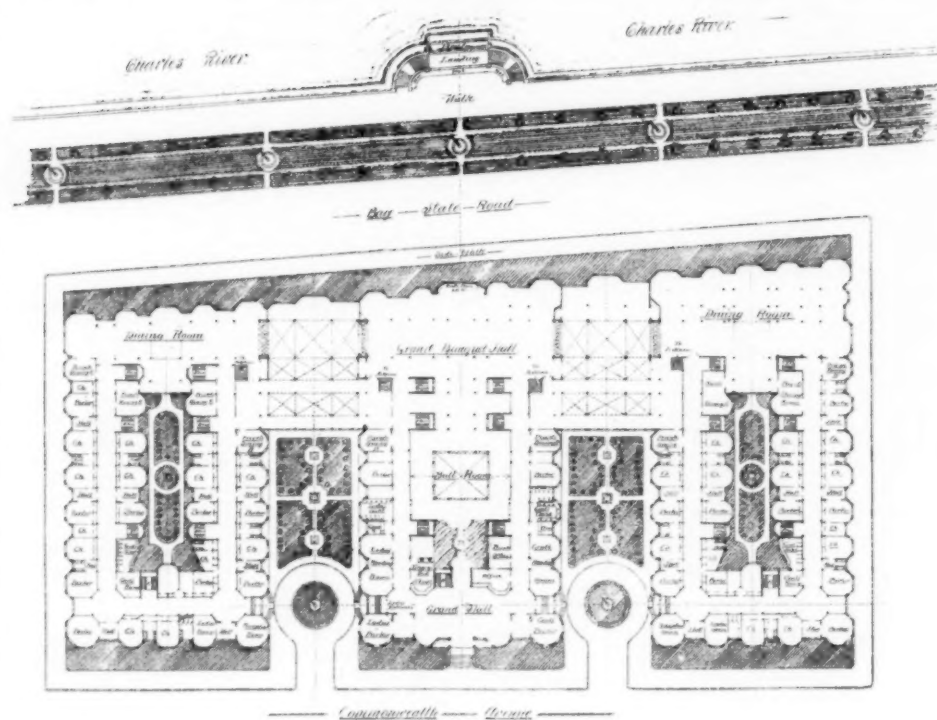
there were three distinct classes of workmen engaged in the work of fashioning the raw material—the master artist, who owned a workshop and employed numerous workers, selling his products direct to the alabaster shops or "galleries"; the journeymen and the travellers, men who took huge cases of the goods and sold them as they went along in all the countries of the world, civilized and uncivilized. Of these, two, the master-worker and the traveller, are now extinct species. Nowadays, three men, usually relatives, work together in informal partnership, one being a turner, another a modeller and the third a decorator, who carves such decorative adjuncts on the finished articles as fruit and flowers. Their gains are very small, and, indeed, travellers who put in at the port of Leghorn and have alabaster vases, statuary and the like offered at almost absurdly low prices refuse, as a rule, to believe that they can be made by hand. One kind of alabaster is made by a process of dyeing, which is still a trade secret, into an excellent imitation of coral. For a time this has had a very large sale, but the trade is now threatened with extinction. It is suggested that the people of the East, who used to buy it largely, left off doing so, as they were doubtful whether the sham article could properly be used in the religious rites wherein coral plays a part. The alabaster workers have true artistic characteristics, but in their desire to turn out what they think will sell, they neglect the fine models that are to be found in such profusion in the churches of Italy and flood the market with eternal reproductions of a limited number of classical figures and with flashy modern dancing girls, coquettish diving girls, faultlessly clad pifferari and impossibly spruce lazzaroni. — *London Daily News*.

DANGERS ATTENDING PHOTOGRAPHIC SNAP-SHOTS.—The all-absorbing topic of discussion at the moment is as to whether there is any legal obstacle to the practice of amateur photographers taking snap-shots without the consent of the persons at whom they aim their cameras. Inasmuch as photography is one of the fashionable fads, and even those who are not addicted to the fever are interested therein, either as willing subjects or as victims, it will readily be understood that the controversy attracts widespread attention. It has been raised by the outrage perpetrated on a well-known amateur photographer, a M. Lirand, a man of considerable wealth and social eminence. Happening to find himself at the railroad station of La Flèche, at a moment when the gendarmes and the magistrates were bringing back a murderer from being confronted with the corpse of the woman whom he had killed at Clermont, M. Lirand took a snap-shot of the scene. The principal magistrate caught sight of him in the act and immediately gave orders for his arrest. These commands were executed. M. Lirand was seized by the police and marched alongside of the assassin, as a prisoner, right through the streets of the town to the Palais de Justice, where he was detained until he had surrendered the exposed plate to the magistrate, who forthwith destroyed it. According to the consensus of opinion, both legal and otherwise, the magistrate exceeded his authority in acting in this high-handed fashion, and the general impression is that there is no law whatsoever against snap-shooting by amateur photographers. As this discovery is liable, however, to lead to a good deal of abuse on the part of unscrupulous and designing people, it is proposed to enact a measure similar to the one in force in Germany; as well as in several other Continental countries, which provides for the imposition of fines, imprisonment and civil damages in cases where instantaneous photographs have been taken without leave on the part of the subjects, and are calculated to present the latter in a ridiculous or injurious light. — *Paris Letter to the N. Y. Tribune*.

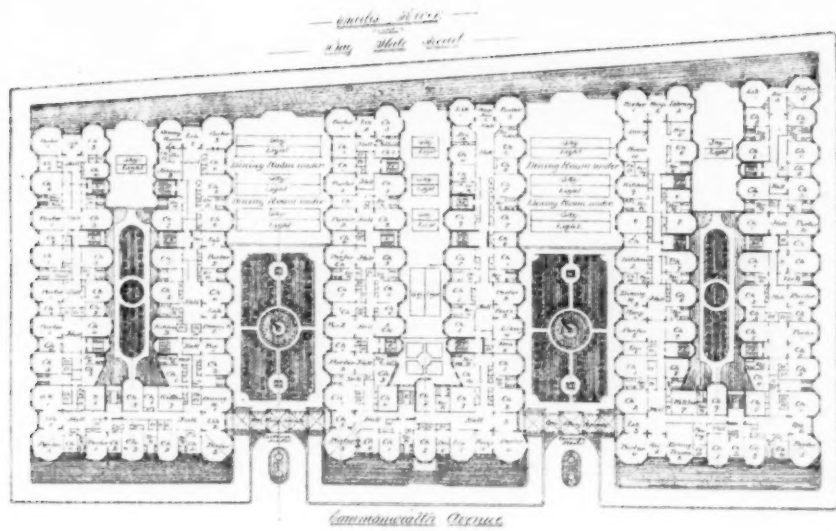
THE HUMILIATION OF A PHARAOH.—The official Egyptian has apparently no particular respect for the remains of his ancestors, even when these are of royal lineage. Brugsch Bey, who has been assisting M. de Morgan, the Egyptologist, in his explorations, recently discovered a mummy—believed to be one of the Pharaohs—and prepared to transport the prize to Cairo. On reaching the railway station, he resolutely declined to confide this precious package to the luggage-van. This the officials did not greatly mind, but they compelled the discoverer to take a first-class ticket for Pharaoh as well as one for himself. On reaching Cairo, there was fresh trouble with the "octroi" officials. "What have you got there?" Brugsch Bey was asked. "A mummy," was the reply. "Ah, you can't get that through without paying." "But," urged Pharaoh's guardian, "mummies surely don't pay 'octroi' duty?" "Don't they?" replied the official; "we will see what the register says." Here the entire staff consulted the register, but, strangely enough, the article in question had been overlooked by the administration. "Well," said the officer, "we will enter that as dried fish; duty, three piastres!" And so poor Pharaoh was compelled to make his solemn entry into Cairo under the degrading category of dried fish. — *Westminster Gazette*.

BILL-POSTING EXTRAORDINARY!—A new and objectionable form of advertising has appeared at Geneva. It is called "*l'affichage sub-lacustre*," and consists of advertisements which can be read several feet under water, the subject being painted in yellow letters on a black ground, and so placed that the words are magnified. It is at the Pont du Mont Blanc, in the crystal-clear waters of the Rhône, that this deformity is first to appear. Land and water will soon be equally disfigured everywhere. In the country, the sky remains, but the New Titan, who is the bill-poster, will manage somehow to scale the heavens. Even the quiet churchyard grants no immunity. In San Francisco, an enterprising citizen has already chosen his burial plot and set up a handsome marble monument containing just the initials of his deceased wife and the announcement that the rest of the space is to let for advertisements. — *Pall-Mall Gazette*.

EGYPTIAN STAINED-GLASS.—In the British Museum there is a beautiful piece of stained-glass, with an engraved emblazonment of the monarch Thothmes III, who lived three thousand four hundred years ago. — *Churchman*.

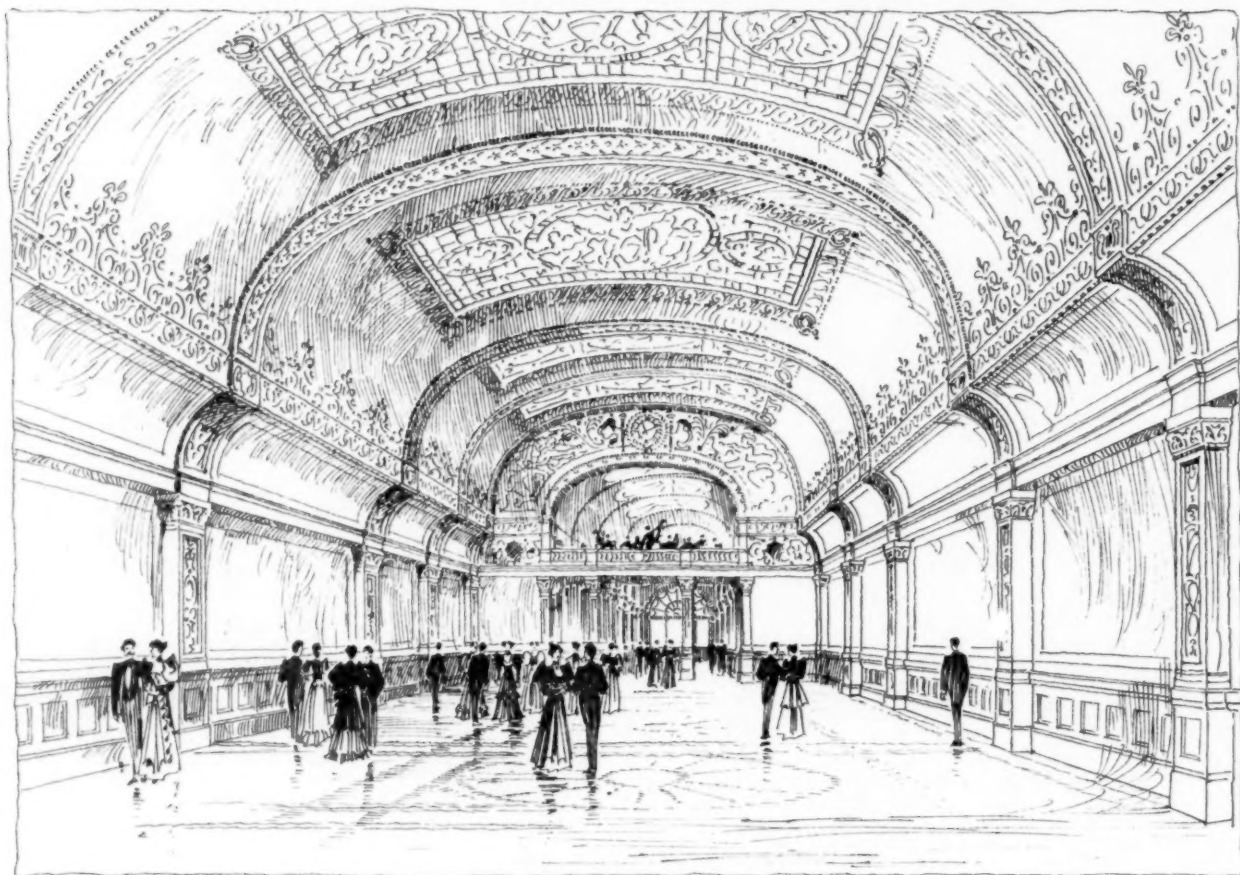


THE COMMONWEALTH
RIVERBANK LANDS, COMMONWEALTH A
JOHN PICKERING PUTNAM,

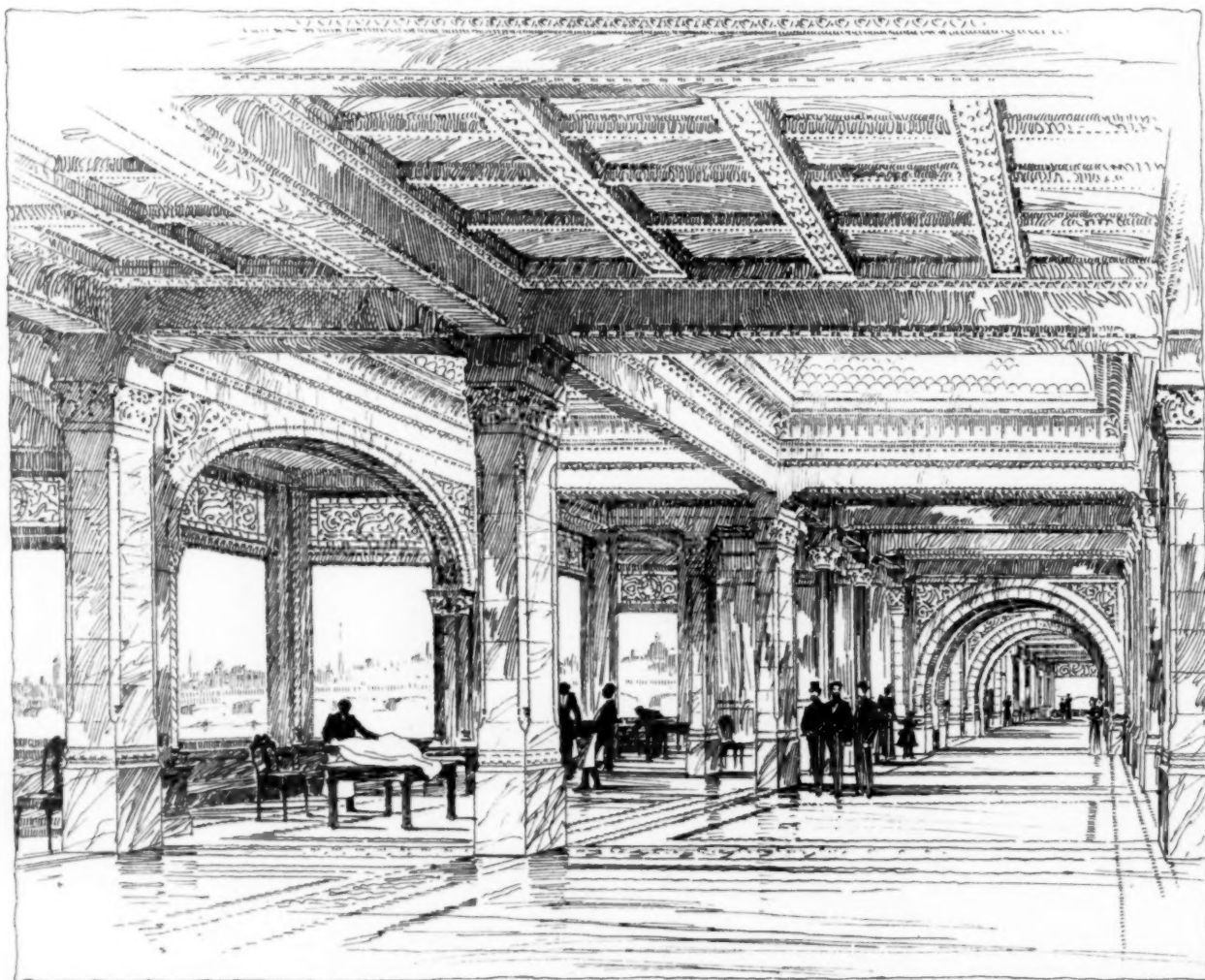


WEALTH HOTEL.
WEALTH AVENUE, BOSTON, MASS.
NG PUTNAM, Architect

HELIXTYPE, FRANKING CO. BOSTON



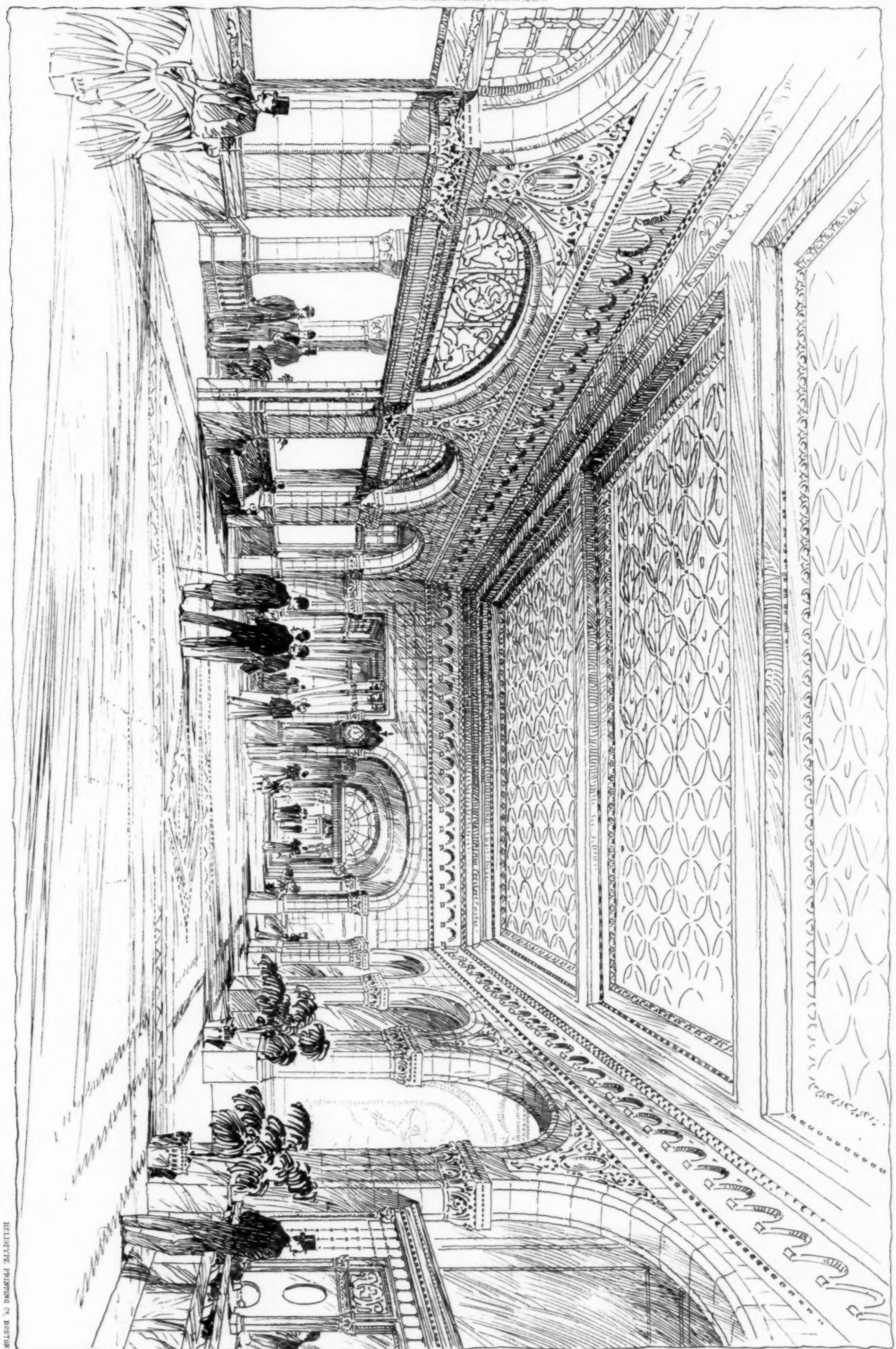
BALL-ROOM: THE COMMONWEALTH HOTEL.



DINING-ROOM: THE COMMONWEALTH HOTEL.
JOHN PICKERING PUTNAM, Architect.

HELIOTYPE PRINTING CO. BOSTON

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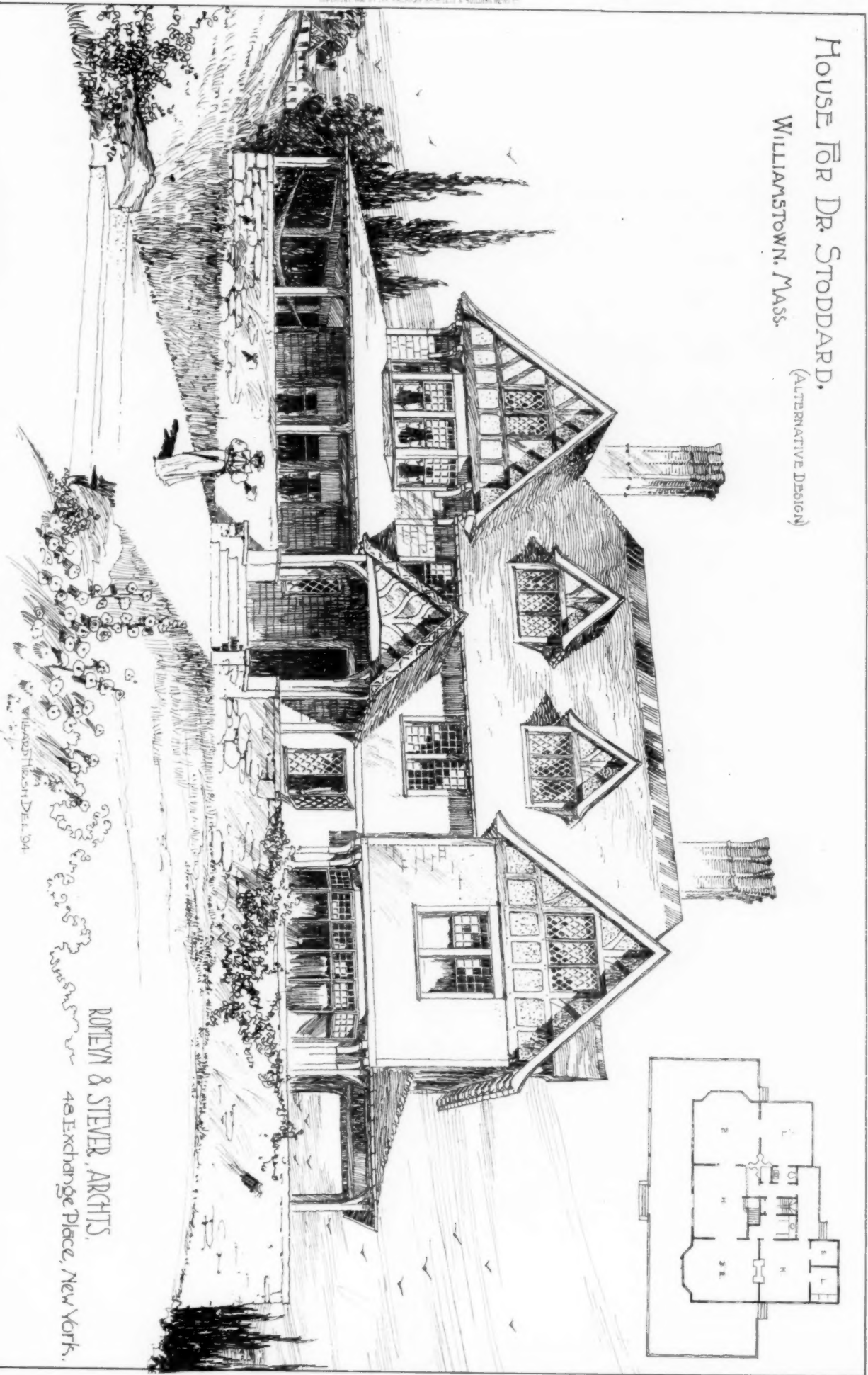


ENTRANCE HALL: THE COMMONWEALTH HOTEL.
JOHN PICKERING PUTNAM, Architect.

ILLUSTRATION BY H. H. HARRIS



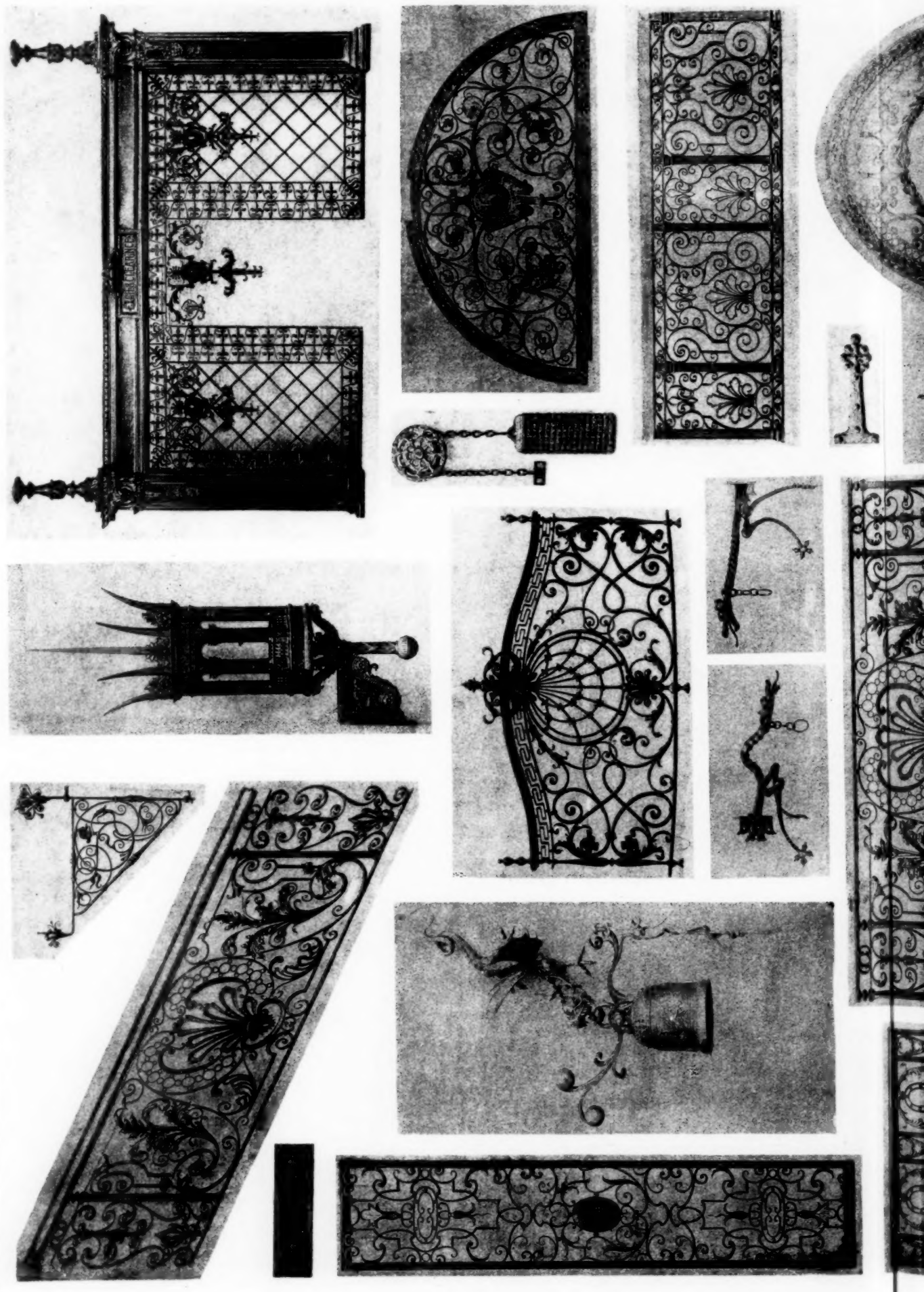
HOUSE FOR DR. STODDARD.
(ALTERNATIVE DESIGN)
WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.

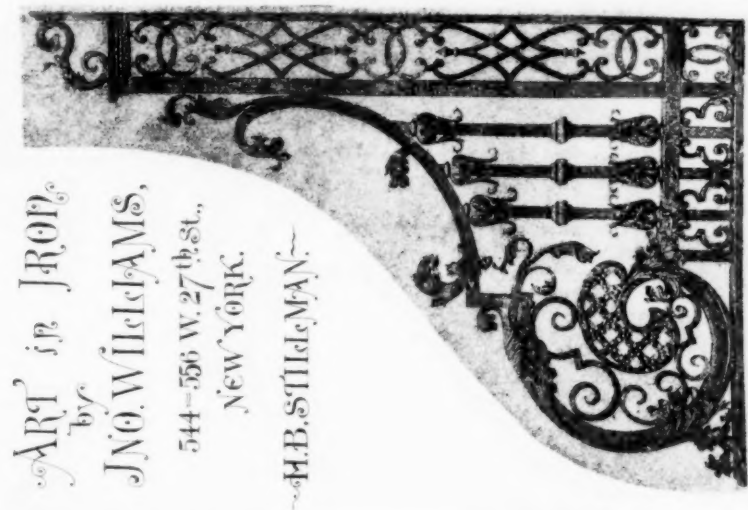
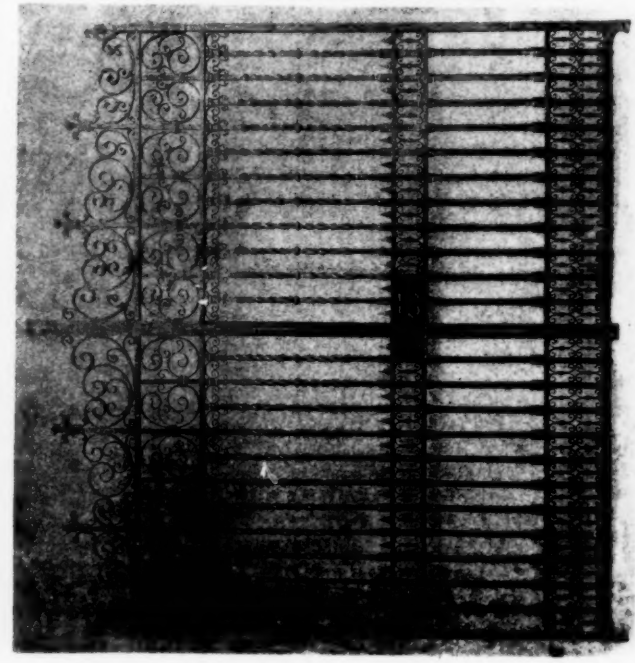
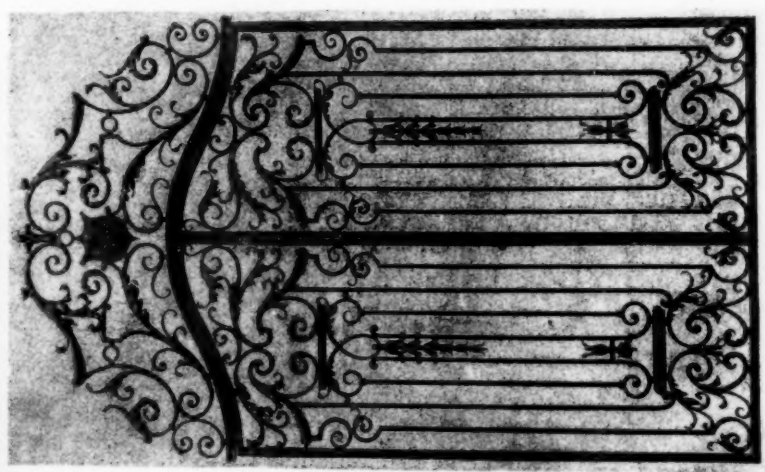
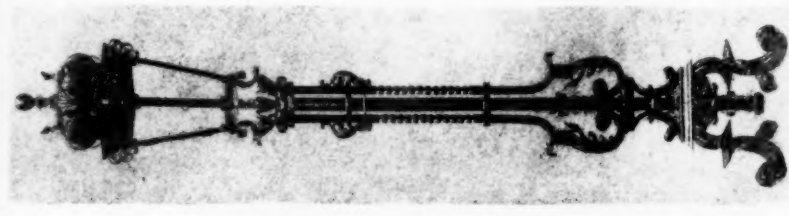
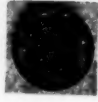
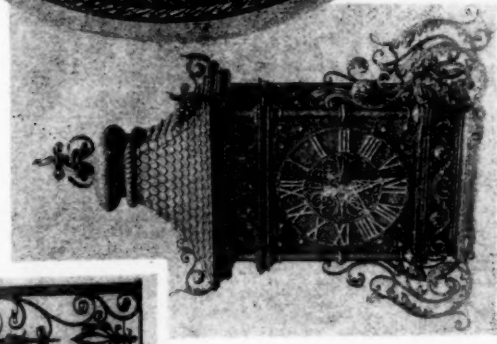
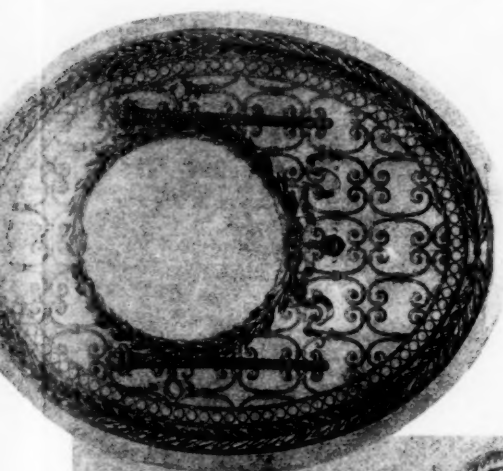


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