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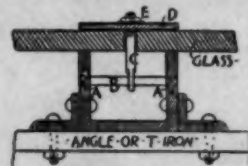


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THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS.

VOL. XLVIII.

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JUNE 1, 1895.



SUMMARY:—

The Water-supply for the Boston Metropolitan District.— Report of the Labor Commissioner for Wisconsin.—Slums and the Population of Slums in large American Cities.—The Mary Washington Monument and a related Legend.— The New York Street-cleaning Problem.—Anecdote of two Lacedæmonian Architects.	85
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THE most interesting part of the current Report of the Massachusetts State Board of Health is the discussion of the scheme for an increased water-supply for the Metropolitan District about, and including, Boston, a scheme which, in the true engineer's insight with which it has been conceived, and the skill with which its details have been studied, is well worthy of the brilliant scientific talent which has, for so many years, been at the service of the people of Massachusetts in this department of their public administration. It has long been evident that the present Boston water-supply was insufficient, and, a few years ago, an addition was made to it from the Sudbury River; but both the Sudbury and Cochituate drainage-areas are situated in the midst of an increasing population, and it has not been easy to keep the water from them as pure as it should be. In addition to this, the water-supply of the suburban towns around Boston is, in some cases, not what it should be; and the advantage and economy of creating a vast supply, which all could use in common, would strike any engineer at once. Where this supply should be sought was, however, another question. At one time, the project was seriously entertained of going to Lake Winnepesaukee, in New Hampshire, for a supply, but the water of even this mountain lake is not improved by the drainage of one or two important manufacturing towns on its banks, and there are ways, well known to the engineering profession, of getting an equally good supply nearer home. After looking carefully over the ground, the State engineers decided that the best results could be obtained by building a dam across the South Branch of the Nashua River, just above the City of Clinton. From Clinton to its source, the course of this stream lies through a sparsely-settled district, occupied mostly by wooded hills, with a few villages in the valleys. Above the proposed dam at Clinton, the river flows through a broad valley, in such a way that, with an average depth of forty-six feet, water would cover six and one-half square miles of the area of the valley, affording storage-capacity to the amount of sixty-three thousand million gallons, at an elevation of three hundred and eighty-five feet above the level of high tide in Boston harbor. The total cost of the reservoir, including the construction of dams, the clearing of the site, and removal of soil, and the cost of land and other property taken, this item including three villages, several small factories, and some four miles of railway track, is estimated at about nine million dollars; and the aqueducts and pipes necessary to lead the water to the city will cost something over two millions more. This is certainly not a large expenditure for a water-supply of such ample capacity and excellent quality; and the Board makes a novel suggestion in regard to a means for, perhaps, saving a little interest on the money, by observing that, as the aqueduct which is to convey the water to the city is many feet below the proposed level of

water in the reservoir, the water daily consumed may be made to furnish power on its way to Boston, by means of water-wheels placed near the dam. The estimates prepared for the Board indicate that the flow will furnish in this way one thousand horse-power during the day, and about five hundred horse-power at night. In the present day of electrical transmission of force, this power can be easily delivered in Clinton, or Worcester, or some other manufacturing town in the neighborhood, and will bring a good price.

WE have before called attention to the excellence of the Reports of the Commissioner of Labor Statistics for the State of Wisconsin. This Commissioner, apparently, does not owe his position to the intercession of the walking-delegates with the Governor, and, as he does not have to ask the walking-delegates what sort of statistics it would be agreeable to them to have published, he is not obliged to lumber up his Reports with statistics in regard to the moral character of factory-girls, obtained by "averaging" the testimony of two witnesses, one of whom said that it was very bad, while the other said that it was very good, and other valuable information of the same sort, padded with remarks on "concentrated wealth," the "living wage," and so on; but is enabled to collect and publish facts of real value to the workingmen and their fellow-citizens. It will be remembered that the report of a few years ago revealed, almost for the first time in an official document, the fact that, in the closely organized trades, with wages kept at a high point by forcible means, the number of days in the year during which the men could find employment had been so reduced that the actual average income of the members of these oath-bound organizations was little, if any, more than that of the ignorant laborers who worked beside them. In the current Report, this important branch of investigation is farther followed out, and a table is given, showing not only the average annual income of operatives in various industries, for the year 1893, but comparing it with the average income in the same industries for four years previously.

THIS comparison gives some interesting results, which should be well pondered by every student of social and political science. Taking first the greater industries, we find that, in 1889, the average income of a workman in a Wisconsin flour-mill was \$656.72, while in 1893 it was only \$470.22; in the clothing business, it fell from \$538.17, in 1889, to \$376.43 in 1893; and in the beef and pork-packing business, it fell from \$531.17, in 1889, to \$438.17 in 1893. These may be considered staple industries. In others, where the opening or closing of a single establishment might affect the average materially, the difference is in some cases far greater; as, for example, in the case of glass manufacturing, where the average was, in 1889, \$450.98, increasing to \$567.70 in 1891, and \$560.07 in 1892, and suddenly declining, in 1893, to \$285.40; and that of the coffee and spice mills, where the average varied from \$785.60, in 1889, to \$500. in 1891, \$597.56 in 1892, and \$922.65 in 1893. In the rolling-mills, also, there was a variation from \$552.71, in 1889, to \$475.42 in 1891, \$784.25 in 1892, and \$668.19 in 1893. The marble-workers and stone-cutters earned, on an average, \$456.99 in 1889, \$587.32 in 1891, and only \$390.10 in 1893; while the makers of agricultural implements increased their earnings quite steadily from \$427.58, in 1889, to \$649.34 in 1893. In one business, that of soap and potash-making, the average income more than doubled in three years, rising from \$322.25, in 1889, to \$678.70 in 1892; falling again to \$446.37 in 1893. Among the brick and tile makers, who form a large part of the working-people about Milwaukee, the average varied from \$200.88, in 1889, to \$510.60 in 1890, and 548.45 in 1891, falling then to \$235.25 in 1892, and \$222.77 in 1893. It would be tiresome and unnecessary to quote further statistics, but every one, unfamiliar with the conditions of the working-man's existence, must be struck, in reading these, with the uncertainty which hangs about the life of the poorer people in this country. To persons less modest and patient, this dependence upon a fortune which, without any apparent reason, may treble a man's income in a year, or reduce it in the same proportion, would be very demoralizing; and it is not surprising that the "benefit" swindles, which promised to repay investments with five hundred per cent interest, found many

victims among people to whom Fate constantly presented still more startling mutations of income. The only wonder is that these unassuming and faithful citizens keep their heads so well as they do, but the fact that they are able to maintain a steady front against the evil influences of adversity does not lessen the duty, which is incumbent on people of more influence and resource, to do what can be done to make their existence more certain.

ANOTHER "Labor" report, of a very different character, comes from Washington, under the sensational name of "The Slums of Baltimore, Chicago, New York and Philadelphia." We might as well say, to begin with, that we have always disliked and resented the practice of calling the streets in which our poorer fellow-citizens live "slums." There are just as many good people living in the narrow and dirty streets as in the wide ones paved with asphalt, and to speak of the places which they are obliged to inhabit as "slums" casts upon them an ill-bred and unmerited aspersion, which comes with a very poor grace from richer people, who could have the "slums" cleaned, and made into bright and wholesome streets, if they wished. However, it is possible that a book on "slums" may contain some suggestions for improving the condition of poor people, so we waive the question of taste for the present. We need hardly say that the statistics compiled by the distinguished author are generally very ample, and it does not surprise us to find ten pages devoted to a tabulation of the "slum-population" "by color or race, by sex, nativity, conjugal condition and age periods," while an "analysis" is devoted, later, to "bringing out" any abnormal conditions that may exist in the "slum districts" in regard to the matters included in the tables. What "abnormal conditions" the "slum population" was expected to present in regard to "age periods," "sex," or "conjugal condition," it is difficult to imagine.

SO far as the statistics themselves are concerned, they seem to be resolved into a repetition of the usual census tables, limited to the inhabitants of certain districts in the four cities mentioned, arbitrarily bounded by certain streets. We are apprised that the information has been gathered expressly for the report, by special agents, but this does not make it any more valuable. Meanwhile, the tables show that the "slum-population" of which it treats is simply the ordinary population of great cities, with, probably, a somewhat large proportion of uneducated people engaged in manual labor. Nevertheless, the "slum-population" thus held up to view for New York includes, according to the tables, fourteen clergymen, ninety professional musicians, twenty physicians, thirty-six teachers, twenty-eight real-estate and insurance agents, twenty-seven bankers, one hundred and thirty-eight clerks, fifty-two book-keepers, nearly eight thousand women keeping house at their own homes, without other occupation, and four thousand school children, out of a total enumeration of less than seventeen thousand people. To our mind, the tabulation shows very forcibly that the inhabitants of this section of New York, selected for the filthiness of its streets, are essentially the same industrious, modest people who live in the other sections. That they all take a cold bath every morning it is not necessary to believe, but this fact does not separate them from the rest of the human race; and if the people who wear cleaner clothes than they were all as clean in heart as the poor teachers and milliners and lace-makers among the "slum-population," New York would be a better place than it is.

ONE of our correspondents calls our attention to what he considers the decay of public taste in art in this country, as exemplified by a comparison of the photographs of the old, unfinished monument to Mary Washington, at Fredericksburg, Va., and the new monument which has just replaced it. To a certain extent his idea is justified, for the old monument, which had been carried up so far as to show a square mass, with sunk panels on each side, the panel on the front representing a little Doric portico, with two columns *in antis*, was extremely pretty, delicate and original; while the structure by which it has been superseded is a mere tombstone-man's stock pattern of obelisk, fifty feet high, but possessing, so far as we can see, no other claim to notice. It is, however, to be considered that American art, and American taste in art, do not flourish greatly at present south of Mason and Dixon's line. Except for the Mercie statue of General Lee, at Richmond, which would do

honor to the most cultivated community in the world, we do not know of any work of art of importance which has found a resting-place in recent years in the "Sunny South," and the present generation of Virginians cannot be blamed for not having their critical faculty developed. Moreover, judging from the inscriptions on the photographs sent us, the new monument was the fruit of a contract between the Memorial Association which paid for it, and a firm of gravestone manufacturers; and we doubt whether there has ever been a time when a gang of Scotch and Irish stone-cutters, working under contract from their own designs, would have produced a work of deep artistic feeling. It is true that the fact that such a commission should be carried out by stone-cutters, instead of trained artists, marks a certain decadence in public sentiment in regard to such matters; but here again, allowance is to be made for the desire of a prudent treasurer of a certain fund to make sure, by definite contract, of getting the monument completed for a given sum, instead of risking the uncertainties which are apt to attend the employment of artists. No doubt, the cultivated public would rather take the latter risk, and content itself, if the money would provide nothing better, with a beautiful, but unfinished fragment, like the old monument, in preference to a completed piece of ugliness, but the subscribers to such a fund are generally differently constituted.

SPEAKING of this monument, our correspondent tells a story which we never heard before, and which appears, from internal evidence, to need a little remodelling before it takes its place as authentic history. It is, however, of some interest. According to this legend, Washington's sister, a personage whom our correspondent refers to with an interrogation-mark, promised to marry the designer of the original monument. Under the inspiration of his affection for this, presumably, lovely and truthful being, it is not surprising that the artist was enabled to combine, in his work, delicacy, simplicity and effective balancing of light and shade, to a remarkable degree. Unfortunately, when the monument had reached the triglyphs of the frieze, the lady, as the legend goes, changed her mind, and threw over the artist, who thereupon discontinued his labors in behalf of the memory of his faithless one's mamma.

IF Jupiter had said to Hercules, "Stop that! You're using too much water," we wonder if the Augean stables would have been cleaned! The street-cleaning problem in New York with its politico-economic difficulties suggests the question.

M. LUCAS, in *La Construction Moderne*, quotes from Pliny the Elder, another story about architects. The Romans, who regarded everything in the shape of a mechanic or artist with contempt, as merely a sort of superior slave, would rarely allow the architect of a building to have his name inscribed anywhere about it, reserving all such honors for the consuls or other magistrates during whose term of office, or under whose auspices, it was erected. A little before the time of Augustus, two architects, of Lacedæmonian origin, named Sauras and Batrachus, were employed, or rather, permitted, to build two temples, one dedicated to Jupiter, and the other to Juno. The architects, who were very rich, volunteered, according to the story, to build the temples at their own expense, privately hoping that, in consideration of their piety and liberality, they would be permitted to transmit their names to posterity by means of an inscription in the new temples. They were, however, disappointed. The haughty Romans would not allow the houses of the gods to be desecrated by the names of foreign craftsmen, under any circumstances, and Sauras and Batrachus took refuge in a stratagem. The name of one means, in Greek, a lizard, and the other a frog, and they secretly had, as Pliny says, a lizard and a frog, which in his day were still to be seen, carved on the bases of the columns, in memory of themselves. Later, Augustus removed the temple to make way for one of his new constructions, the Portico of Octavia; but M. Lucas says that among the capitals which were removed from the ruins of ancient Rome, and used in the church of San Lorenzo fuori le Mura, is still to be seen one which shows a lizard and a frog in the interior of the volutes, and he thinks that Sauras and Batrachus may have put their signature on the capitals as well as the bases of their columns.

THE SO-CALLED COLONIAL ARCHITECTURE OF THE UNITED STATES.¹—III.

PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE: CHURCHES.



Fig. 22. Friend's Meeting-house, Burlington, N. J.

BUT there was other building activity than that of rearing dwellings. Some public edifices still remain, and many have been demolished to be replaced by later buildings. It is a pleasure to note that the general sentiment is now strong for preserving the few old-time mementos we still have. These are, however, rarely of much intrinsic value, possessing, as they do, little of originality, and being generally poor copies of transatlantic works.

In spite of much searching, I have found but scanty material. Fifteen churches and eight secular buildings constitute the entire list for New England. It is possible that there was but little use for town-houses and city-halls: the "meeting-houses," serving also other than devotional purposes, helped to supply their places.

The earliest of these "meeting-houses" were plain and bare to the point of rudeness. Puritan sentiment did not countenance display or even limited decoration, and discarded the very word "church," because associated with so much outward show.

The usual type, according to Dr. Eggleston, was square in plan. On the exterior were two stories of windows. The steep roof, sloping from the four sides, was surmounted by a belfry with a slender spire, the bell-rope dangling in the middle of the assembly-room. Such was the famous "Old Ship" at Hingham, Mass. This type was much more suited for a school-house than for a place of worship, though not *per se* devoid of artistic possibilities.

Some were of still ruder forms, often mere barns. Occasionally a small hexagonal plan was adopted. (Fig. 22.) One would be glad to find in poverty and in the date of their erection an excuse for such inappropriate forms and crude ideas—but many contemporary residences still exist to testify to much taste with great simplicity. Moreover, small and artistic churches are found farther south. Poverty is no excuse for poor design.

An old church at Narragansett, R. I., is slightly better. In it the lower, and taller, story of windows has round heads, and the doorway, too, is something more than a mere opening with a hinged flap.

It was impossible for the ultra Puritan asceticism to continue indefinitely. A reaction must set in, and man's inborn love for beauty must find some expression. The evil seed, however, had been sown, and there are those who attribute the decadence of the church in New England, partially at least, to this long refusal to satisfy aesthetic requirements.

Christ Church at Shrewsbury, N. J., an improvement upon the Narragansett church, is doubly interesting. It is unmistakably a church, and of a type which has later been copied in hundreds of our Western towns—an oblong plan with four to six round-headed windows on each side, a pediment with a bull's-eye window at each



Fig. 23. Park St. Church Spire, Boston, Mass.

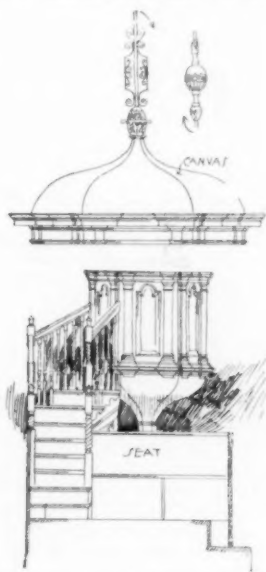


Fig. 24. Pulpit of King's Chapel, 1686, Boston, Mass.

end, and a belfry bursting through the roof in front. The two front doorways, where one would be sufficient, have their historic value, recalling, as they do, the social custom of seating the men and

¹ Post-Graduate thesis of Mr. O. Z. Corvin, School of Mines, Columbia College. Continued from No. 1013, page 77.

women on different sides of the church, with a barrier throughout the length to separate the young folks.

This church is frame and shingled; many like it are clapboarded. The details are Classic, rather freely treated. This kind of a church

is at most suited for the country or for a village. In a growing town it is soon brushed aside and replaced by another.

These superseding churches form a class by themselves. More citified and substantial, they are usually of brick or of stone. Their design is so directly based upon the Wren churches of England as to deceive any except close scrutiny. The towers are more tapering and graceful, and the churches throughout seem to be better built.

These towers—in composition Gothic, in details Renaissance—are the prominent features. The scheme is simple: a square base, several contracting, usually octagonal, stories, and a steep crowning spire. These tower-stories are treated with the orders, cornices, pediments, balustrades and large scrolls, used with much variety, though often rather awkwardly, for few elements could be less tractable in spire composition.

Market or City-hall, Newport, R. I., 1760. Peter Harrison, Architect.



Fig. 25. Town-house, now, State-house, Newport, R. I., 1743. Richard Munday, Architect.

Such towers are found all the way from New England to the Carolinas. The Park Street Church, Boston, steeple is one of the finest of this class. (Fig. 23.)

The Old South Church, too, at Boston, is a well-known structure. In this the square part of the tower rises high above the main roof-ridge. The transition to the one-story octagon is concealed by a balustrade. The slender, soaring spire is fine indeed, with its four lofty dormers at the base.

The interiors, too, follow English models. Thus St. James's



Fig. 27. Old State-house, Boston, Mass.

Church, Piccadilly, has in Christ Church, Boston, an echo of that peculiar ceiling treatment in which the barrel-vault of the main aisle is intersected by small transverse vaults over the bays of the side aisles. The heaviness of this arrangement is skilfully avoided in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, by making the cross-vaults intersect

longitudinal vaults over all three aisles. This is echoed in King's Chapel, Boston, the cradle of Unitarianism in the United States. This chapel is even an improvement, for here the coupled columns justify the block of entablature over them as single column cannot do. This interior, in almost pure white, is said to be one of the finest remaining from those days.

Church furniture, especially the pulpits and sounding-boards, show much thought and care. The fine pulpit of King's Chapel (Fig. 24), in use since 1686, is ascended over narrow steps inclosed by a balustrade of hand-carved, spiral spindles. The delicate mouldings of the pulpit and of the sounding-board are broken above and below the pilasters which are set back a little from the corner, thus giving much light and shade. Trinity Church of Newport, R. I., can also boast of a well-designed and similar pulpit. A crown, the last of royal insignia in the States, is still poised on Trinity's lofty spire.

SECULAR BUILDINGS.

The few remaining secular buildings show a great deal of taste and propriety in design.

Three out of the whole number of eight buildings above referred to belong to Newport, and their recording is due to the patriotism of an architect, George C. Mason of that city.

The illustrations include two State-houses and a library at Boston, a library and a town-house at Newport, a town-house at Weathersfield, Conn., a market at Newport, and a custom-house at Salem. If to these we add a synagogue at Newport, the entire stock is exhausted. All of these buildings date from 1740 to 1800.

It is difficult to classify so few buildings, and it would be hazardous to generalize. For to do that would be to assume that these



Fig. 28. Custom-house, Salem, Mass.

examples are typical, whereas they may be, as is the Old State-house at Boston, quite unique.

We have already seen that the best churches were based upon English models. That many of the civic buildings, also, had English elements may be inferred from the fact that Peter Harrison, the architect of the market at Newport (Fig. 25), and of other buildings there and elsewhere, had been an assistant to the famous Sir John Vanbrugh.

The name of another early Newport architect is also recorded: Richard Munday started in active life as a partner in the building business with Benjamin Wyatt. But Munday was made of ambitious stuff and ere long offered his services as an independent designer. He must have been successful, for in 1738 the Town of Newport saw fit to entrust him with the design and erection of its new town-house. This building is symmetrical, well-proportioned and quiet, but it lacks the architectural character of Harrison's somewhat later works. For suggestion, Munday depended upon the type then in vogue for larger residences, previously described. He increased the dimensions, added another window on each side of the door, placed an octagonal cupola on the roof, and gave dignity to the whole by raising it upon a rustic basement, five feet high. The dimensions are forty feet by eighty. Honestly constructed of brick and stone, it bravely promises to weather the seasons for many generations yet to come.

The old Library at Boston (Fig. 26), and the Market at Newport (Fig. 25), are both in the Palladian style, somewhat after the manner of the brothers Adam, England.

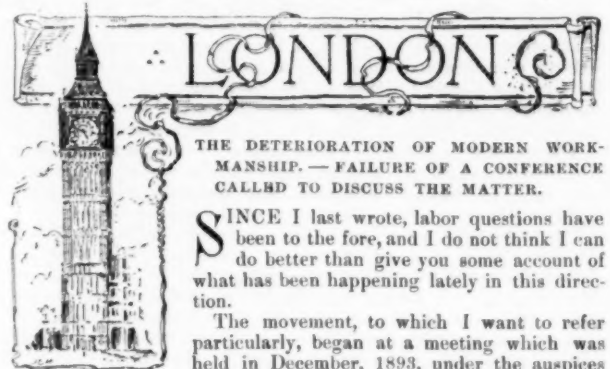
Boston is fortunate in still retaining two fine State-houses. The older, more picturesque and interesting (Fig. 27), covering a small plot of ground with streets close upon all sides, shows, strangely enough, decided Dutch influences in its singly-stepped end gables with affronté lions and unicorns, and in its S-shaped exterior wall-anchors. The new State-house, on the other hand, is a model of Classicity. Its prominent features are several flights of broad

steps up the hill, a projecting arcade of the first story, with an open colonnade of single and coupled columns above, and a high, domineering gilded dome. The building is only two stories high on a low basement.

The Custom-house at Salem is very pleasing and appropriate. (Fig. 28.) This building gains additional interest from association with Hawthorne. Here it was that he first conceived the romance of the "Scarlet Letter."

The meagreness of this part of the review is all the more deplorable, for public buildings should be, and in most countries are, the outcome of a community's best efforts. But this very poverty of structures illustrates better than anything else could that our Colonial architecture was mainly a domestic architecture.

(To be continued.)



SINCE I last wrote, labor questions have been to the fore, and I do not think I can do better than give you some account of what has been happening lately in this direction.

The movement, to which I want to refer particularly, began at a meeting which was held in December, 1893, under the auspices of the Architectural Association, to discuss the education and workmanship of London workmen engaged in the building-trade. These numbered at the 1881 census close on 140,000, and the speaker who opened the discussion at the meeting in question made some rather severe comments upon the quality of the work executed by modern operatives. He challenged the Operative Bricklayers' representative to prove that even 25 per cent of the men who present themselves on a job were capable of executing a piece of good face brickwork. Even among these comparatively capable men, he asked, how many were able or willing to do a piece of really first-class work without constant supervision? Perpenders were not truly kept. The headers were not central over the stretchers. The joints were of uneven thickness. Bricks chipped and with angles knocked off were built in without thought. Care was not taken that the best face showed outside. Even with interior work, it was most difficult to get the work done properly. The average bricklayer seemed to imagine that there was no necessity for the sides of a brick to be covered with mortar. A little scrap of mortar on the front edge, and some thrown into the joint from above when the brick is laid is supposed to be sufficient to make a good joint, and the architect who ventured to ask for this system to be altered did not meet with a cordial reception. He came across a man the other day who had built a wall so carelessly that the heading and stretching courses could not be distinguished, and yet, even this man was a member of the Operative Bricklayers' Society. He referred to a case where five men had to be employed before some salt-glazed brickwork could be executed to the architect's satisfaction. He complained equally of joiners. To obtain a joiner able to intelligently set out full-sized rods was a matter of great difficulty, and every one was familiar with ill-fitting joints, badly-mitred mouldings, badly-fitting doors and windows. If the joinery of an average suburban house of to-day were compared with that of the Queen Anne and early Georgian houses, the comparison would not be at all favorable to the former. In the other trades, evidences were to be found of want of knowledge or want of care, and the work of average brick-carvers, stone-carvers, and to a less extent, the workers in metal and plaster was held to compare most unfavorably with the work of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It was not as if work were being done more rapidly. On the contrary, the price of labor had gone up some 40 to 50 per cent in a period as short as ten years. This could be seen by comparing priced bills of quantities of to-day with those of a few years back. The comparison would be instructive. The decline of apprenticeship, the speaker thought, was greatly responsible for the evils under discussion; in the majority of trades, no system existed which could, to any extent, be said to supply the want. A considerable proportion of the London bricklayers arrived at what they styled "a condition of competence" in a curious manner: beginning as an odd boy, and continuing as a laborer, he afterwards gets on to some speculative work in the suburbs, where he picks up a slap-dash notion of bricklaying; he then returns to the metropolis and offers himself as a fully qualified bricklayer. It was noticeable that nearly 75 per cent of the best artisans working in London were country born and country educated; this would seem to imply that the opportunities of technical education which London affords were either unsuitable or inadequate to meet the demand. Trade-unions, with their wide organization and influence, might reasonably demand and obtain among their numbers a high standard of workmanship. The trade-unions did not deal with questions of workmanship, but were purely

protective bodies. He was not prepared to state to what extent they required an entrance test; but, undoubtedly, too many half-educated men were allowed to "slide in," bringing often serious discredit upon their protectors. The trade-unions were advised to give this matter great consideration, in the interest, at least, of their reputation and utility. The city Companies, too, possessed important powers and it was encouraging to note that the majority were not indifferent to their duties. The Plumbers' Company especially had done excellent work, not so much by lavish expenditure of money, as by exercising their influence over the trade as a whole, with admirable results. With regard to the question of technical classes, taken generally, he feared that their present importance to the subject under discussion was not great. The classes apparently exercised but little attraction; the precise reason was not clear, but whether it arose from prejudice, or want of funds, insufficient advertisement or impractical teaching, a great field of work undoubtedly lay in this direction. In view of such facts, the opener of the discussion proposed to ask the Architectural Association to appoint a special committee to go into the whole question.

In the debate following the paper, different reasons were advanced by the speakers to account for the deterioration of workmanship, and different remedies were advised; the meeting was entirely harmonious as to the necessity of inquiry and active movement in the matter. Professor Garnett strongly advocated technical classes, but it was necessary, he said, to start from a point more remote than did technical education; first make the man, and then the workman. He only was a free man who did his work because he delighted in it, and who did good work because any other course of action would disgrace him. With the moral standard would be raised the standard of workmanship, and pleasure in manual work would become a habit and second nature. Instead, he feared the habit of carelessness, pure indifference, was very general. Technical institutions were quite in their infancy; the fact that, as pointed out by the author of the paper, only 1 in every 150 of the London workmen availed himself of the present opportunities of technical instruction, must not be taken to indicate the failure of the institutions; the advantages which these systems of training held out were not sufficiently recognized as yet, nor were the prejudices of English workmen to be overcome without the help of time. In his opinion, patience and enthusiasm applied to the technical-education movement would prove the remedy for the present evils.

Representatives of the architects, builders, trades-unions, workmen, polytechnics and city Companies gave their experiences and opinions as to remedy. It was thought by many that the British public were, in a measure, responsible for the decay of workmanship, in demanding quantity of work, without much regard to quality; if this were so, it was an influence of ignorance and false economy, and it was to be remedied by earnest and cordial cooperation between architects, builders and artisans. Scamps there must be in every profession and trade, but, although they perhaps would at first be the gainers by any systematic refusal of the majority to produce bad work, in the end, the best man would come to the fore and the speculative public learn that "quick returns" on suburban and other villas were not more desirable than sound and permanent workmanship. Not a few speakers looked askance at the trade-unions, deploring the "levelling-up" principle which was better described as levelling-down, since individual excellence was in every degree discouraged. Too little discrimination was to be noticed between experienced artisans and comparative novices. All in a trade were registered under one head, and were allowed to accept nothing less than the minimum wage fixed by the union, however incapable or careless they individually might be. Indeed, many went so far as to hint that the unions were bringing questions, which must arise between employers and employed, into the nature of a feud. Such action was fatal to workmanship, as it tended to oppose the interests of the workmen to those of his employer, deprived manual labor of its intrinsic interest and completely extinguished natural sympathy between the architects and the men.

Representatives of the workmen, on the other hand, were ready to find fault with some of the masters and some of the architects. Far from denying that the workmanship of to-day was unworthy, they went on to say that the workmen were keenly conscious of the fact, and above everything were anxious that the state of things should be altered. But the difficulties had appeared overwhelming; roguery in the speculative branch, and keen competition in every branch of building had well-nigh strangled the efforts of the workmen to better themselves, and the greatest discouragement had been the lack of sympathy, callous indifference, except where profit and loss was concerned, displayed by the masters. Now all this was changed, and they eagerly and gratefully welcomed the opportunity of stating their case, in the full assurance that, if the matter were carried through with all its original enthusiasm and good-will, no small benefit would accrue to the public generally and especially to the workmen.

Finally, as regards this meeting, the unanimous opinion was found to prevail that the present condition of affairs was deplorable, that an energetic inquiry could not fail to benefit every one but the scamps and rogues, and that a hearty vote of thanks was due to the author of the paper for bringing the question into discussion.

This paper received a good deal of attention at the time from most of the London papers. The *Standard*, in a sympathetic article, warmly applauded the movement; and in endeavoring to fix

upon a precise cause and remedy for the evils, the thought was expressed that the trade-unions governed the situation and on them must be laid the blame. It was feared that it was too much to hope that England would ever again have public men bold enough and honest enough to tell our workmen the plain and simple truth, that far too many of them shirked their work, took no pride in it, demanded their "fair day's wage," refusing the while to give its true equivalent to their employers, wasted their money and in these and other ways tended slowly but surely to ruin the industrial credit of the country.

Generally speaking, however, the correspondence which the paper aroused produced little that was novel. The trades-unions and the British public received their share of blame and the architects and builders did not escape attack. On the whole, there was given no serious denial of facts, but an earnest desire to have the whole matter sifted out was expressed.

At length the Special Committee of the Architectural Association reported that their deliberations had led them to suggest that a conference be called. They had consulted the various bodies interested and were able to say that representatives would gladly attend from the Royal Institute of British Architects, Architectural Association, Art-Workers' Guild, Independent London Architects, the principal associations of builders, the most important organizations of artisans, including those of the bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plasterers, plumbers and stone masons, the interested city Companies and all the well-known London polytechnics and technical institutions. This report was approved and adopted without opposition.

At the first meeting of the conference, in addition to the usual preliminary items, the agenda paper contained the following interesting subjects for inquiry:

The existing opportunities for a London boy to obtain a thorough training as a skilful artisan, viz:

(a) *Apprenticeship*.—Its gradual discontinuance and its possible restoration.

(b) *Technical Instruction*.—Its proper direction, whether theoretical or practical; the character of the existing classes and their comparative utility; the local distribution of the classes with relation to the needs of the district; the question of assisting the various teaching bodies.

The influence of the trades-unions upon workmanship and the conditions under which men become eligible for election to the unions.

The system of registration adopted by the plumbers, and the advisability of extending the system to the other trades.

The over-lapping of trades and consequent disputes and strikes.

The possibility of organizing: (a) competitions amongst skilled artisans in the building-trades; (b) meetings for the discussion of questions bearing upon workmanship between architects and workmen.

At the opening of the discussion a resolution was carried, that all matters not directly bearing upon the practical and manual training of persons engaged or about to be engaged in the London building-trades be out of order. Next, a proposition was made "that this conference do become a permanent committee." This did not meet with entire approbation and suggestions were made for postponing the question. Eventually the meeting was adjourned to discuss at the next meeting what steps could be taken to further technical education.

The second meeting opened favorably, Sir Arthur Blomfield presiding, and a most interesting and pacific discussion had been begun on the subject of the decay of apprenticeship, when an unfortunate hitch took place. The representative of the Building-Trades Federation asked whether the National Free Labor Association was represented; on being answered affirmatively, he went on to say that it was impossible for him to retain his seat in the conference when representatives of such a kind were allowed to be present. The President of the Architectural Association appealed that the matter should be allowed to pass over, all question of trade-unionism being specifically absent from the agenda. The representative objected to appealed on behalf of a large body of men, who it was of importance should be represented. Every gentleman present appeared as a guest and it was impossible for the Architectural Association, the hosts, to request any member to retire. At this, the Free Labor representative would have retired on his own account, but this was not encouraged; thereupon the representatives of the trades-unions retired in a body. The original discussion was carried on to same length, but naturally, with the removal of the workmen's representatives, the principal parties of the conference, the debate lost its interest and reality; no definite issue was reached before the further adjournment of the conference.

It is in this position that matters remain at the present time, and there is as yet no indication to justify any forecast of the future action of the trades-unions. If the trades-unions maintain the attitude they have adopted, the conference will undoubtedly fail. It is, as has been pointed out, well-nigh impossible to reach the workmen otherwise than through the unions; it is in their hands that the matter lies, and with their coöperation removed, the whole conference loses its interest and *raison d'être*. There is no doubt that architects and builders by jointly insisting on good materials and workmanship would be able to obtain an improvement on the present system. But no thorough work will ever be done so long as workmen are out of touch with their employers, are thinking more of their wages than their work, and sacrifice the rights of freedom of

labor and individual excellence to the levelling and protective policy of the unions. These organizations have several prejudices growing against them in the minds of very many Englishmen, and unless a change takes place, this present action will go to swell the list. True, capitalists and employers cannot oppose directly any such deplorable step, nor can they easily obtain on demand a high standard of workmanship; their course is quieter and far more ruinous to their opponents: they remove their substance to a spot more fitted to develop it.

It is beyond my limit to enter into the interesting economic questions which are suggested by the facts I have endeavored to sketch. It is possible that the unions may change their attitude and that very useful work may yet result. If this is so, it will be a reason for hearty congratulation on all sides; if not, the architects will, at least, be exonerated from the reproach of indifference to this most pressing question, affecting as it does, not only their client's interests, but morally and commercially the nation itself.



PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION
IN MONTREAL IN 1896.—CHANGES IN
THE TORONTO BUILDING-LAWS.—
GOLD IN THE RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.
—SUNDRY LAWSUITS.

THE proposal to hold a "Grand International" Exhibition in Montreal seems to meet with general favor, and the committee of representative citizens, who have been appointed to take steps to prepare the way for it, are all moneyed men and men of influence, and their support is no small guaranty of success, to say nothing of the fact that they are themselves taking an active part in promoting the scheme. The original promoter of the intended exhibition is Mr. J. H. Stiles who was British Commissioner at the recent World's Fair at San Francisco, and he considers that if San Francisco, which possesses none of the advantages of Montreal, during a time of unusual depression was able to make a success of its Fair, Montreal with its "wonderful" position ought to be able to do, at least, as much. The proposed fair would be opened on May 24, 1896, and would remain open for five months. The model for the fair will be the Mid-winter Fair of San Francisco.

The present Exhibition grounds of Montreal are remarkably well situated and there is plenty of room for additional buildings if more are required, which will probably be the case. Should additional ground be needed, there is any amount available. The grounds are situated to the north of the eastern part of Montreal, about a mile from the city: to the west of the grounds rises the "mountain" which gives its name to the city, which greatly enhances the value of the site by its own natural beauty. As far as railway and water communication are concerned, nothing is left to be desired towards the success of the undertaking. It is intended to raise by subscription the sum of four hundred thousand dollars, and the city will probably grant another hundred thousand, while the Dominion and Provincial Governments are also expected to contribute. It is even supposed that the British Government can also be induced to lend a hand.

The committee of architects appointed at the recent Annual Convention of the Ontario Association of Architects, to interview the City Council in Toronto for the purpose of obtaining amendments to the building by-laws, have been very courteously met, and have prepared a recommendation which, at a meeting of a sub-committee of the Council was embodied in the building by-laws forthwith. The existing by-laws contained clauses which gave the City Council and certain officials of the Council power to vary the by-laws as they might be pleased; in particular cases these were found very useful—when some jerry builder or impecunious land-boomer could do the requisite wire-pulling and log-rolling to further his schemes. All such clauses were struck out by the sub-committee of the Council, and so this disgrace has been wiped away. There is nothing particularly new in the architects' suggestions: four thousand square feet is the limit of floor-area undivided by walls, and such division-walls are to be of solid material; recesses in these division-walls are to have solid backs one brick thick and the proportions of recesses, and of openings for windows and doors, to the area of the walls in which they occur are regulated; fire-stops of projecting bricks must be built at the level of every floor where the walls are strapped (or furred). These suggestions, however, do not embody the one most important suggestion that has been made, namely, the closing of the elevator shaft at night, or after work is over for the day, by iron doors laid horizontally at the level of each floor. Nothing could be more simple than such an arrangement, cheap in execution, and entirely satisfactory in the prevention of fire from rushing up from floor to floor, which has, in nine cases out of ten, been the cause of the total destruction of so many buildings. The closing-in of the shaft by solid walls, so utterly impracticable in the requirements of large departmental stores and

buildings of the kind, is often talked about and pressed by many who think they know all about it, but the horizontal door is a far better suggestion.

The Rainy River District—the northwestern portion of the Province of Ontario—appears from authoritative reports to be very rich in gold. Reports of new and extensive finds are being continually sent in and it would seem that there is sufficient ground for belief that the gold-bearing area is much larger than it has hitherto been supposed to be. The gold-bearing belt extends over an area that measures, at least, 150 miles from east to west. One mine in the vicinity of the Rat Portage turns out, at present, from \$1,500 to \$2,000 in gold per week. The gold excitement just now is on the Seine River, where some forty prospects are being worked at present, almost all of which show rich quartz. Several experts have given opinions as to the mineral resources of the district. Mr. Hille, a German professor, declares that it promises to be the richest and most extensive gold region he has yet seen in America, while Professor Winchell, State Geologist of Minnesota, states that he is equally impressed by it. A very high yield has been shown by tests made of the ore from different locations, ranging from \$100 to \$10,000 per ton. Properties have been sold at prices varying from \$5 to \$40,000. A great drawback is the want of facilities for transportation, but this will shortly be overcome and branches to the Canadian Pacific are to be provided.

Judgment has just been rendered in the great case of the Queen vs. St. Louis. Some months ago, it may be remembered, it was stated in these letters that the case was about to begin. St. Louis was charged with obtaining \$150,000 from the Government under false pretences in connection with the construction of the Curran Bridge, for which he was one of the contractors. The action of the Government in proceeding against him caused a great sensation at the time, for political reasons, and the judgment has been awaited for several months with keen interest. The judge found that the evidence was not sufficient to warrant a committal and the defendant was accordingly acquitted. Towards the end of the year 1892, St. Louis sent in his tenders offering to supply the Federal Government with different classes of laborers necessary for the construction of the Wellington Bridge, the Grand Trunk Bridge, and the removal of the old Lock No. 1, Lachine Canal, in Montreal. The tenders were accepted and the number of laborers employed reached a total of 2,000 in the daytime and 1,500 at night. The judge in delivering judgment, stated "The main causes of all the trouble, in my opinion, in the matter are, first, the exorbitant charges stipulated for labor in Mr. St. Louis's contracts; second, the almost unlimited number of men allowed on the said works, so numerous that they were in one another's way, and Mr. St. Louis cannot be held criminally responsible for these causes. . . . Evidence was given which clearly proved that wages were paid on the certificates granted, for much longer hours and for more men than were spent or employed. There was no proper surveillance by the officers of the Government on two of the jobs, at least. Time-keeping on them appears to have been left to itself, as far as the officers of the Government were concerned, so much so that two prominent public officials, high in office, lost their situations on that account. Mr. St. Louis procured all the workmen that were asked of him. He did not keep their time personally; he had several clerks to do it. More clerks made the lists and one of them stuffed the lists—it is sworn to by himself, to his own disgrace; and when those lists were so made and cooked they were certified blindly and as a mere matter of form by the officers of the Government." The judge then described how the money was put in envelopes and distributed to men who, to the number of 800 at a time, shoved and jostled each other and required twenty policemen to keep order. "The only proof," said the judge, "we have that St. Louis was aware of the stuffing of the lists is Frigon [brother-in-law of the defendant], but Frigon's testimony must be taken with a grain of salt. . . . There is no other evidence in this record that St. Louis participated in the fraud or knew that a fraud was being perpetrated, and there is no evidence that such fraud was made for his benefit. . . . I do believe that upon a trial, with the evidence I have here, the defendant would be acquitted. I really believe that no jury would ever convict him on that evidence. The accused is, therefore, discharged." The inquiry has lasted from October 22, 1894, to April 2, 1895. Ninety-one witnesses were examined and the evidence comprises 1,552 pages of typewriting.

The case of Neelon vs. the City of Toronto has passed another stage. Captain Neelon, it may be remembered, is the contractor who while engaged in building the Toronto Court-house was dismissed by the architect and who has ever since been trying to get a judgment in his favor. Appeal after appeal has been taken by Contractor Neelon since the summer of 1892, whose desire it is to be allowed to offer at his yet untried suit against the City, evidence of vice and bad faith on the part of the Architect Lennox, through whom Neelon was deposed. Such evidence the judge, at the abortive trial of the action, declined to receive until it appeared that the contractor had suffered an injustice as the result of the architect's action. The Chancery Divisional Court confirmed the judgment of the trial judge in this and his further judgment that the architect had the power to dismiss without the consent of the Court-house Committee of the City Council, which Mr. Neelon contended was absolutely necessary. Appeal was made to the Court of Appeals and the contractor again failed on both the question of the submission of evidence and as to the power vested in the architect. A

further appeal is altogether likely to be taken. The costs of the suit now amount to over \$20,000.

Another great case of appeal, of special interest, has been settled, being one on the subject of liens. A railway was projected between Brandon and Battleford, a distance of 450 miles — 50 miles were built by Contractor Charlebois. English shareholders, who advanced the money, found they were losing money, owing to a lien which they declared had been fraudulently obtained by Charlebois and which Mr. Delap, the chief capitalist, sought to set aside. The manner in which the lien was obtained was the cause of what is probably the most complex and most costly lawsuit ever before this court. The judgment of the Court below deprived Mr. Charlebois of his lien, which represented \$622,000, and the Court of Appeal confirmed this judgment.

THE NEW GALLERY, LONDON.

It is always a pleasure to visit the New Gallery, because, not only are the pictures generally of special interest, but the public, *i. e.*, the crowds, for some reason or another best known to themselves, ignore its existence, more or less. It is never crowded, nor dusty, nor stuffy — its vice is, rather, chilliness; but that, in summer, is a virtue; and one can rest in its marble hall and listen to the bubbling of the fountain when fatigue has overwhelmed the body and much picture-viewing has added to the brain.

Were there nothing to see besides Mr. Hitchcock's "Flight into Egypt" and Mr. Gotch's "Child in the World," we should not complain — both are most remarkable. Mr. Hitchcock's is in his old vein; but when is one likely to tire of his exquisite schemes of color? Here is the Virgin mother riding an unbridled ass. She envelops the child in a coarse fawn-colored cloak. Behind her we see a portion of a green-blue drapery; over her head is a transparent veil through which the light penetrates. In front of her is just a note of red — perhaps rather unpleasantly of the magenta hue. At some distance S. Joseph is seen walking down the same narrow path, which is a mere track through a mass of blue chicory and white cowparsley. The whole is bathed in the most brilliant midday light, which darkens all the other pictures near it.

Why does Mr. Hitchcock never let us have photographs of his pictures? So far as I am aware, they have never even found themselves in an illustrated catalogue; and we, who admire him beyond everybody treating similar subjects, are, consequently, disconsolate. True, no photograph would give us the refinement of color, or the glow of light; that we must leave to the fortunate possessors of the means to purchase the pictures; but even an imperfect "black and white" would be better than nothing.

Years ago, I drew attention to the wisdom of young America in going to France, the fountain-head, to study; and when we had an exhibition of Australian pictures at our Colonial show, I wondered why young Australia did not do likewise, for anything more feeble than those indigenous Australian artists' works could scarcely be seen. Since then, the new country has sat at some old country's artistic feet — probably those of France; and I believe I am correct in thinking that Mr. T. C. Gotch is of Australian birth. In any case, his "Child in the World" is a remarkable work, most original in conception and, withal, excellently painted. The child stands gathering up its gown, lest it should be soiled by contamination with the evil world, represented here by a huge dragon. The expression on the child's face is fearless, and the beast, although his forked tongue protrudes from his mouth, dare not harm this impersonation of innocence. The dragon is the personification of Evil — beautiful as color, gorgeous in blue, green and gold, and so far attractive; but his head is fearsome, with its great jaw and crocodile eyes. He is winged, and his long, twisting tail all but envelops the child; his expression is that of spite, saying to himself, as it were, "Not now, but later on, I shall triumph." The color of the blues is a little crude, but not inharmonious; and the modelling of the child's limbs is exquisite. Mr. Gotch must be congratulated upon his conception of the allegory, and the success with which he has carried out his idea.

Mr. W. J. Hennessy's effects of twilight are interesting and poetic, and amongst many fine landscapes, those of Mr. A. East, Mr. W. Padgett, Mr. A. Stokes and Mr. A. Brown ought not to be passed by. Mr. Logsdail exhibits a charming bit of Venice — the mole as seen from the water, through a veil of sunny mist.

Mr. Shannon has returned to his better style of work: "Kit" is forcible and original, and the "Jungle Book," a charming group — altogether vastly superior to the fashionable ladies we have seen from his brush of late. Sir John Millais, also, is to be congratulated upon his fine conception of "Time, the Reaper," who is thrusting open the door of a brilliantly lighted room just as the last grains of sand are dropping through the hour-glass.

It is strange that the hanging-committee, having placed so much inferior work upon the "line," should have relegated to the skies the exquisite flowers of that great master, M. Fantin-Latour. There is an old Dutch complexion about Mrs. Alma-Tadema's "Love's Curse," with its stained-glass window.

And what of Mr. John Sargent's "Miss Ada Rehan," in white satin and tapestried background? Possibly, to most persons, it is one of his least successful portraits, albeit the "satin is lovely," as some one, gazing at it, remarked. True, but many a painter has found white satin easier to paint than black cloth.

Mr. H. H. La Thangue's "Nightfall in a Cottage" is clever in its lighting. The mother sits with her baby on her lap, while two elder children kneel with their backs to the spectator. It is a dark twilight picture, with a clear rose-tinted sky seen through the lattice window behind the woman's dark figure. Another remarkable work is Mr. Frank Brangwyn's "S. Simeon Stylites receiving the Blessed Sacrament." The saint lies upon a sort of scaffolding stage to which the priest and his acolyte have climbed up at sunset — possibly the last sunset which the attenuated frame of the religious maniac will witness.

M. Fernand Khnopff exhibits a beautiful head of a sibyl in gray clay; and Signor Caccia, a no less beautiful terra-cotta head of a little modern child, which he appropriately names "Graziella."

S. BEALE.



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

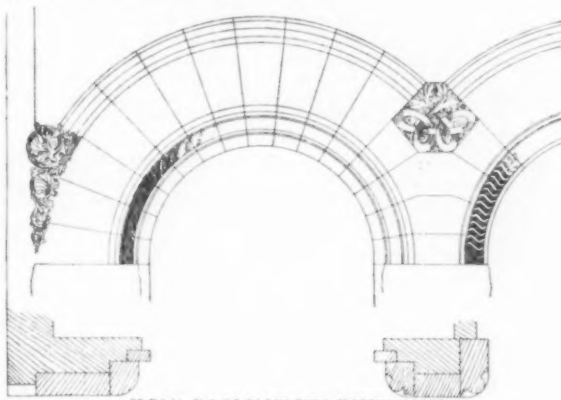
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GOSFORD HOUSE, LONGNIDDRY, SCOTLAND. MR. WM. YOUNG, ARCHITECT.



BOSTON, MASS. — Pictures loaned by Quincy A. Shaw; Gobelin Tapestries; Japanese Paintings; Color Prints by Arthur W. Dow; Line Engravings, Mezzotints, and Etchings by Rembrandt; at the Museum of Fine Arts.

CHICAGO, ILL. — Eighth Annual Spring Exhibition of Works of Architecture and the Allied Arts: at the Art Institute, opened May 23.

DETROIT, MICH. — *Exhibition, by the Art Club, of Paintings, also Works of Architecture and the Allied Arts:* at the Light Infantry Armory, May 18 to June 1.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. — *Twelfth Annual Exhibition of the Art Association:* May 10 to June 4.

NEW YORK, N. Y. — *Twenty-eighth Semi-annual Exhibition:* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

East Side Art Exhibition: at the Hebrew Institute, East Broadway and Jefferson St., opened May 8.

NOTES AND CLIPPINGS

FRENCH ARTISTS AND THE BERLIN EXHIBITION. — Quite a storm in a teapot has been raging here for some months, the occasion being the participation of French painters and sculptors in the Berlin Art Exposition, which will begin May 1. Those fickle artists by the Seine were invited to exhibit, and at first it looked as if they would come *en masse* and virtually swamp their German *confrères*, which would, indeed, have been a novel "*revanche pour Sedan*." Then they began to quarrel among themselves, and the different artists' organizations in Paris became jealous of each other, to which must be added that some of them became offended at the recent patriotic speeches of the young Emperor in Berlin and Kiel, and withdrew in a huff. The upshot of it all, however, was that one Paris organization, the one of the Champ de Mars, will send about 150 of their best recent works, and a number of individual artists will send another 100 or so of canvases and statues. This, in itself, argues very potently the decreasing spirit of chauvinistic enmity towards Germany, for it is the first official participation of French artists at any German undertaking of this kind since the war. But the whole business becomes still more significant from the tone of many letters written by these French artists to German *confrères*. One noted Paris sculptor, too, sends a work called "*Pitié*," showing a scene on a battlefield of 1870, where a French wounded soldier gives a bullet-pierced Prussian a drink from his bottle — quite characteristically, by the way, it is the Frenchman who shows pity to the victor, but then the spirit of reconciliation breathes in the marble. Among other Parisian artists who will exhibit are a group of talented Americans like Alexander Harrison, Whistler, Weeks and others, who want a room by themselves, and a number of the best-known Britishers will also come. At the same time, some magnificent canvases, by other noted Frenchmen, like Troyon, Corot, Carolus Duran, Daubigny, are on view in Gurlitt's spring exhibition, and another lot of them show in Schulte's gallery. Doesn't that look like peace? — *Exchange*.

A THEATRE HEATED BY ELECTRICITY. — After many experiments, a system of electric heating has been permanently installed in the Vaudeville Theatre, in London. The electric radiators are fixed around the skirtings on either side and along the front of the orchestra. These radiators are of "box" or "wall" form, that is, they have a front radiating surface studded with projections fixed into cast-iron boxes, which are screwed, by means of lugs and insulators, to the walls and partition. Each box radiator is two feet long and one foot wide, and, therefore, offers a radiating surface of two square feet. The air

is allowed to circulate between the casing and the wall, so that an extra heating-surface is obtained. There are six box radiators on either side of the theatre, and twelve attached to the partition in front of the orchestra. The latter are cased-in at the back, and a good current of air is obtained by carrying the casing below the boxes containing the radiators. Four large portable radiators, originally on trial, are arranged for use, either in the stalls or at the sides. Four wall sockets are fixed, two on each side, and four on the chair supports in the centre of the stalls. By means of these connectors, the radiators may be employed to warm the centre before the performance begins and afterwards removed to the sides. Each radiator, portable and fixed, has a safety connector, and can be detached from the circuit at will. The radiators reach

the usual temperature of hot-water pipes, and they are found to produce quite sufficient heat. The average temperature of the theatre inside after the radiators have been working a reasonable time is about 60 degrees when the corridors are about 40 degrees. Arrangements have now been made for warming the stage, and no doubt this will prevent the passage of the cold currents of air usually experienced when the curtain is raised. The current taken by each large portable radiator is 12 amperes, and the small box radiators take three amperes each, making in all a total of 114 amperes, but as only two of the larger radiators are found necessary the current actually used for warming the

auditorium is 90 amperes at 100 volts. Thus it will be seen that nine kilowatts per hour are required when the whole apparatus is in full work, and the cost at 8 cents per unit is 72 cents per hour. To warm the theatre, therefore, for a period of four hours the cost is \$2.88. — *Philadelphia Record*.

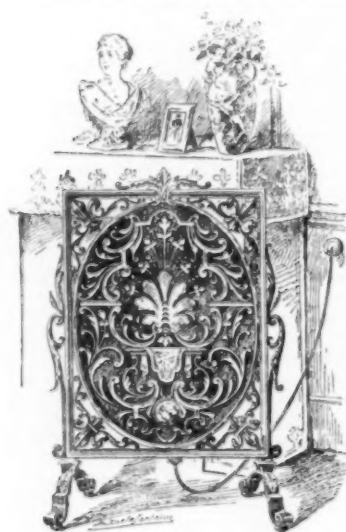
HOW ELECTRICITY SETS FIRES. — William McDevitt, chief of the electrical department of the Philadelphia Fire Underwriters' Association, recently gave a demonstration of some of the ways in which fires may be caused by electricity. The first danger was that arising from the common practice of grounding telephone wires on gas-pipe. A bad connection is generally made — quite sufficient for telephone purposes — and then if the telephone wire becomes crossed with an electric-light wire, the larger current meeting resistance at the ground-connection, heats the joint, punches a hole in the gas pipe, and the arc formed lights the gas. Mr. McDevitt gave a complete demonstration of the gas and insulation on the wire burning simultaneously. He also exhibited a section of gas-pipe that had caused a fire in just this way. The wires in the sockets of electric-lamps are liable to touch the casing, when an arc may be formed. For this reason, no drapery should be used around the lamp-sockets. The advantage of using metal conduits with insulated lining through which to run the wire was demonstrated, a wire outside being dangerously heated while from that inside the conduit there was no risk. A caution was given against the rough handling of flexible cords used for electric-lights as a common cause of short circuits and fire. There are other dangers due to ignorance on the part of the general public of the character of the electric current. In one case on record, the walls of a room were upholstered with stuff in which were interwoven a great number of metal threads. These were in contact with the electric-light wires, and when the current was turned on, the whole room was set ablaze. An obscure danger from frictional electricity has been traced. Sparks may be caused by shuffling the feet on carpet or by the rubbing of silk. Where benzine is used to clean such materials, a spark thus caused may give rise to a dangerous fire. It is believed that some benzine fires have been caused in this way. Another cause of fires is the unreliability of fuses. They are put in the line to be burned out when an excessive current is turned on, but like safety-valves, they do not always work. If they fail to fuse, a dangerous current may be carried along the line. To obviate this danger, a standard should be adopted. — *Boston Transcript*.

SIR RICHARD BURTON AND THE RELIC HUNTERS. — A good story is told of Sir Richard Burton, who, when travelling in Afghanistan, had adopted the disguise of a Mohammedan fakir. At one village where he stopped, he played his part so well that the people formed a high idea of their visitor's sanctity. He was congratulating himself, indeed, on the impression he had produced, when one night, to his immense surprise, the elders of the village came to him in private and earnestly advised him to go away at once. Burton asked in astonishment whether the people did not like him, and was answered, oh, yes; that was just the trouble. They were all enchanted with his remarkable holiness; and, considering what a splendid thing it would be to possess the relics of so good a man, whose tomb would draw whole crowds of pilgrims, they were debating with themselves whether or not it would be wise to kill him. That is the true spirit of relic-hunting all the world over. The mere physical possession of the great man's remains seems to bring him nearer, and to give you, as it were, some magical power over him; the question whether you acquired them by fair means or foul is usually considered of quite secondary importance. — *The Cornhill Magazine*.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF PRINCE BISMARCK. — The German architects have given Prince Bismarck, as "the architect of the empire," a carved oak tower, over three feet high. In acknowledging the present, the prince said that he had not been the architect of the imperial edifice, but only a helper in the work, and that he had drawn up the plans in accordance with the lesson of the last thousand years, just as modern architecture learns from the great works of the past. He would advise them not to follow the example of the French in attaching more value to external decoration than to internal comfort, but to take especial care, for instance, to provide convenient stairs with good solid banisters, on which one could lean in old age. — *London Exchange*.

QUEBEC LANDSLIDES. — A rather startling letter is published by the Quebec *Chronicle* from the City Engineer, Mr. Baillange, declaring that the proprietorship of the cliff upon which the Quebec fortifications are built, and the responsibility for all damages caused by landslides from it, rests, not with the Federal government or the local government, but the private owners of property at its base, whose rights, according to the city maps and their own title-deeds, extend to the summit of the cliff, and who are consequently responsible themselves for all damage caused by falls of rock or snow from it up as far as the line of fortifications. If this statement be well grounded, it effectually disposes of all the private claims against the Dominion government for the great Champlain Street landslide of 1880. — *Evening Post*.

DISCOVERIES AT TIMGAD. — M. Albert Ballu reports further discoveries at Timgad, in Algeria. In clearing the approaches to the Temple of Jupiter, a number of private houses were found, and many fine objects of antiquity were brought to light. The *Journal des Débats* tells of a bronze Minerva, with a helmet, like the Pompeian one. There are many bronze lamps, and a fine casting of a wild boar attacked by dogs. Some of the early objects show a decided Phœnician influence. With the remains of Roman occupation were found those of the early Christians, as lamps in terra-cotta, with a Christ and the paschal lamb. There are candelabra identical with those found in Pompeii. Altogether, the discoveries at Timgad are of the greatest interest, showing how important was this Roman town in the past. — *N. Y. Times*.



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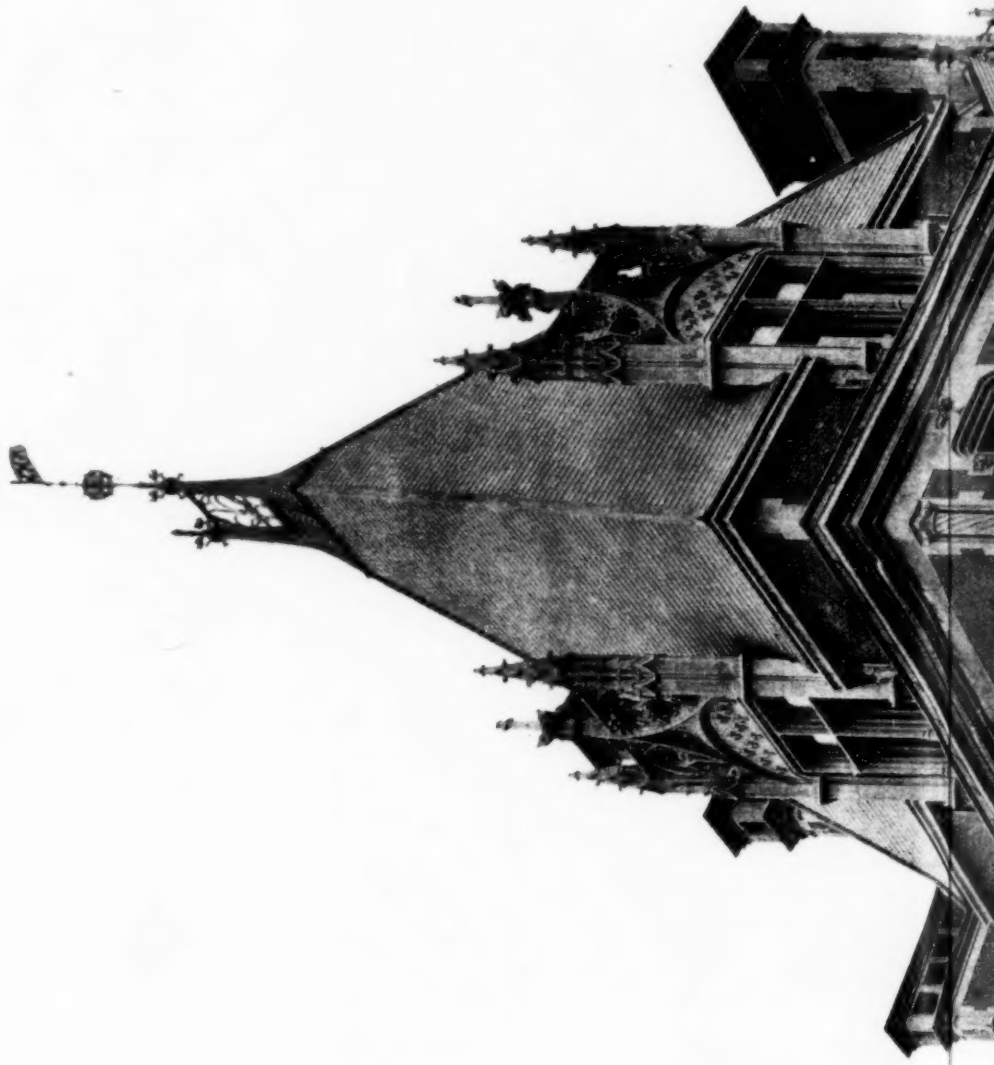
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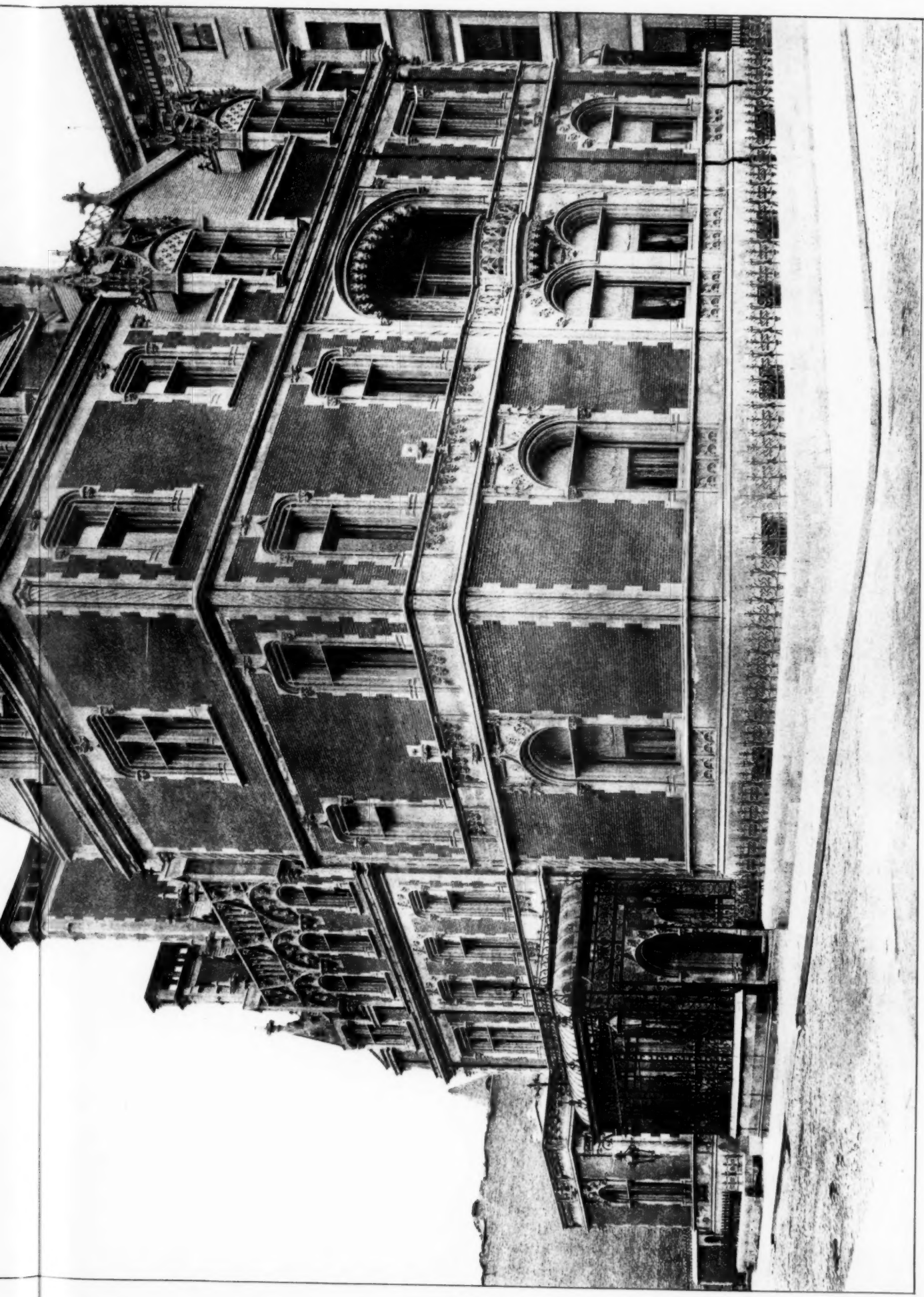
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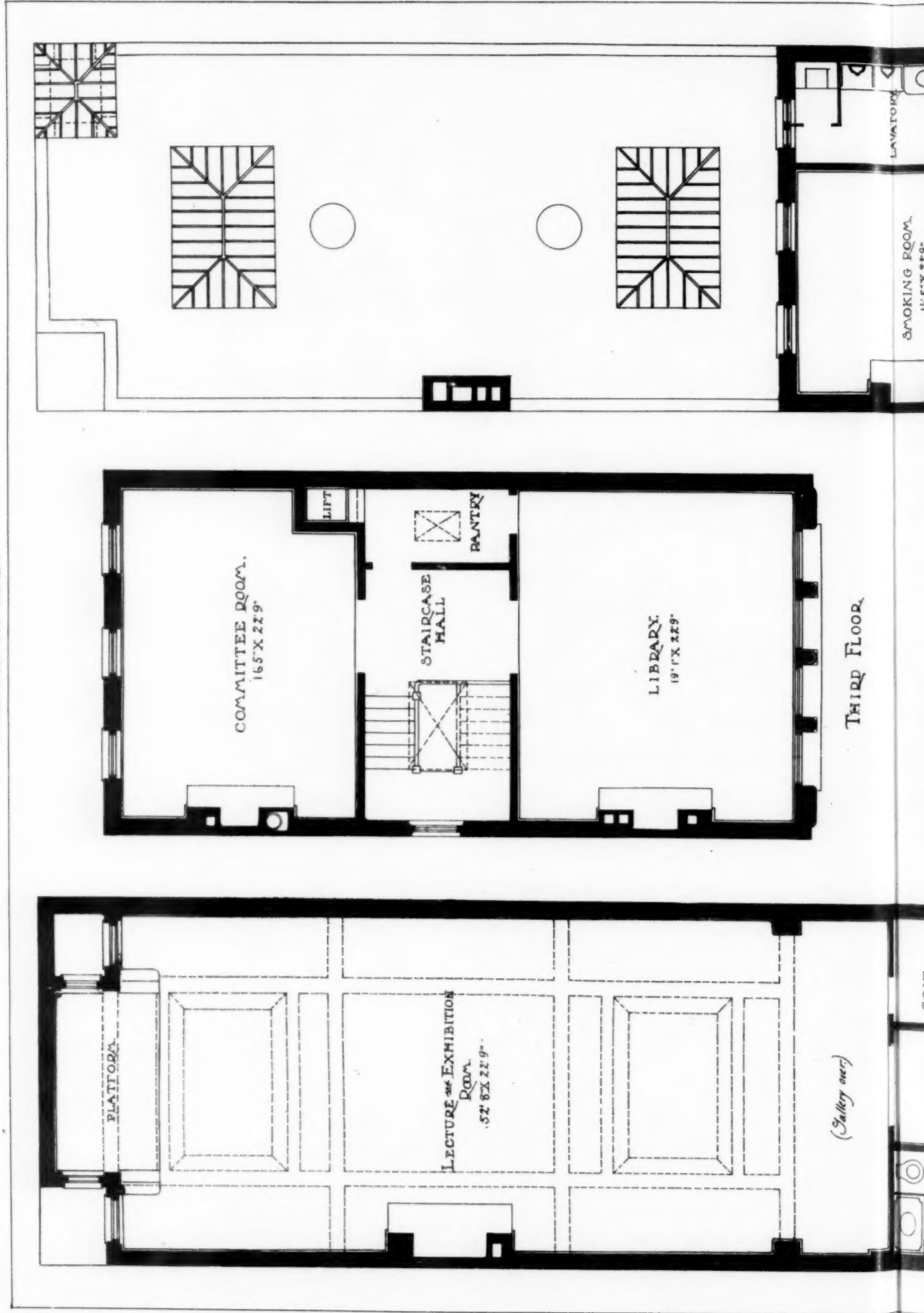


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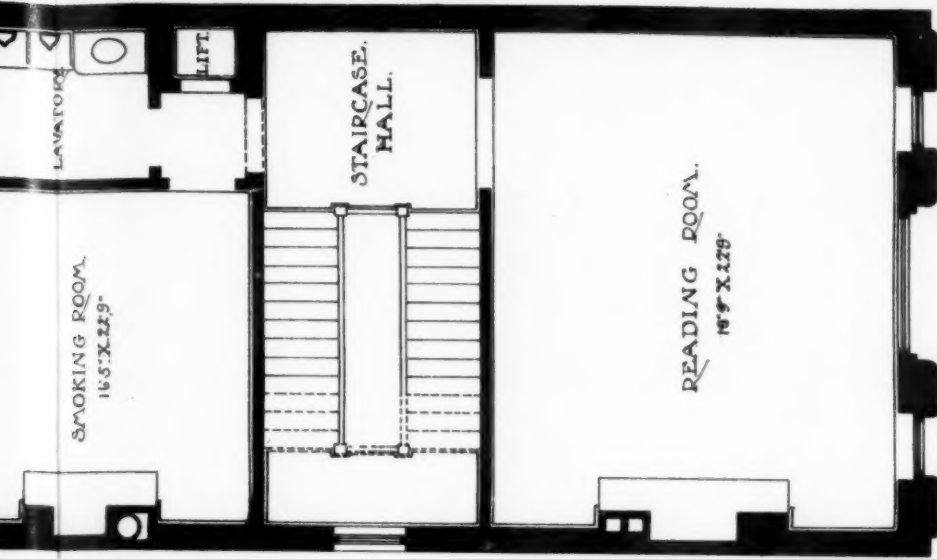
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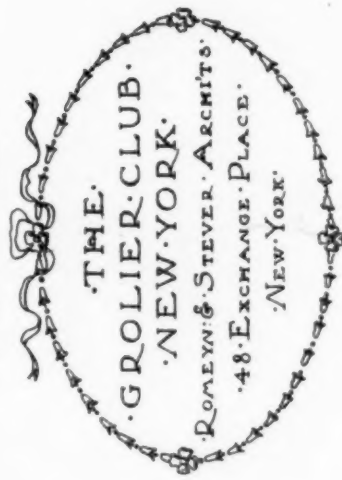
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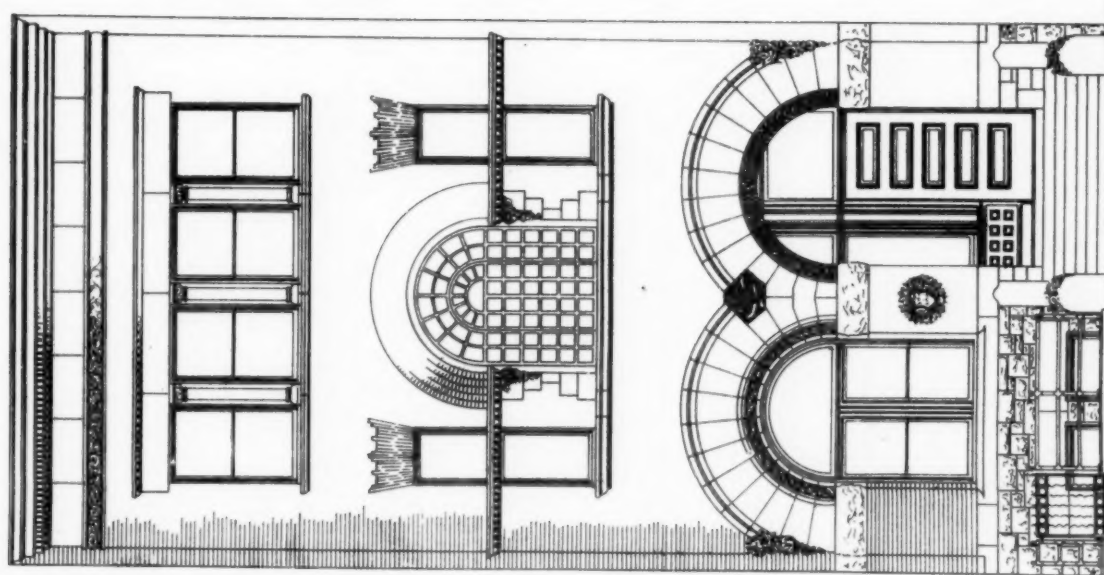
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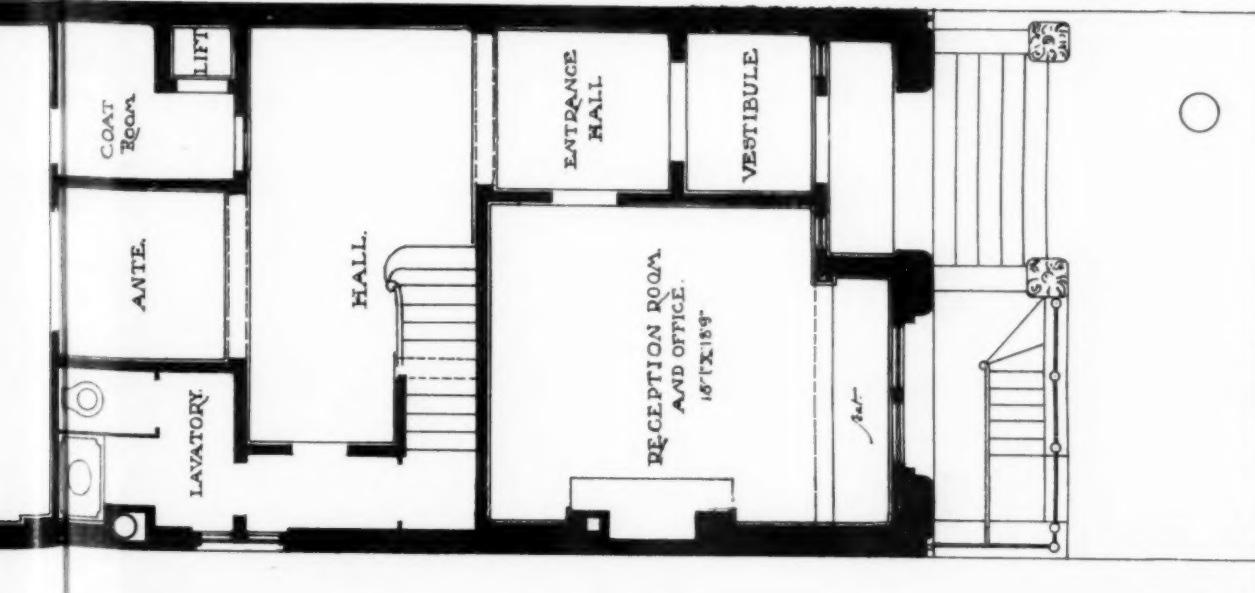
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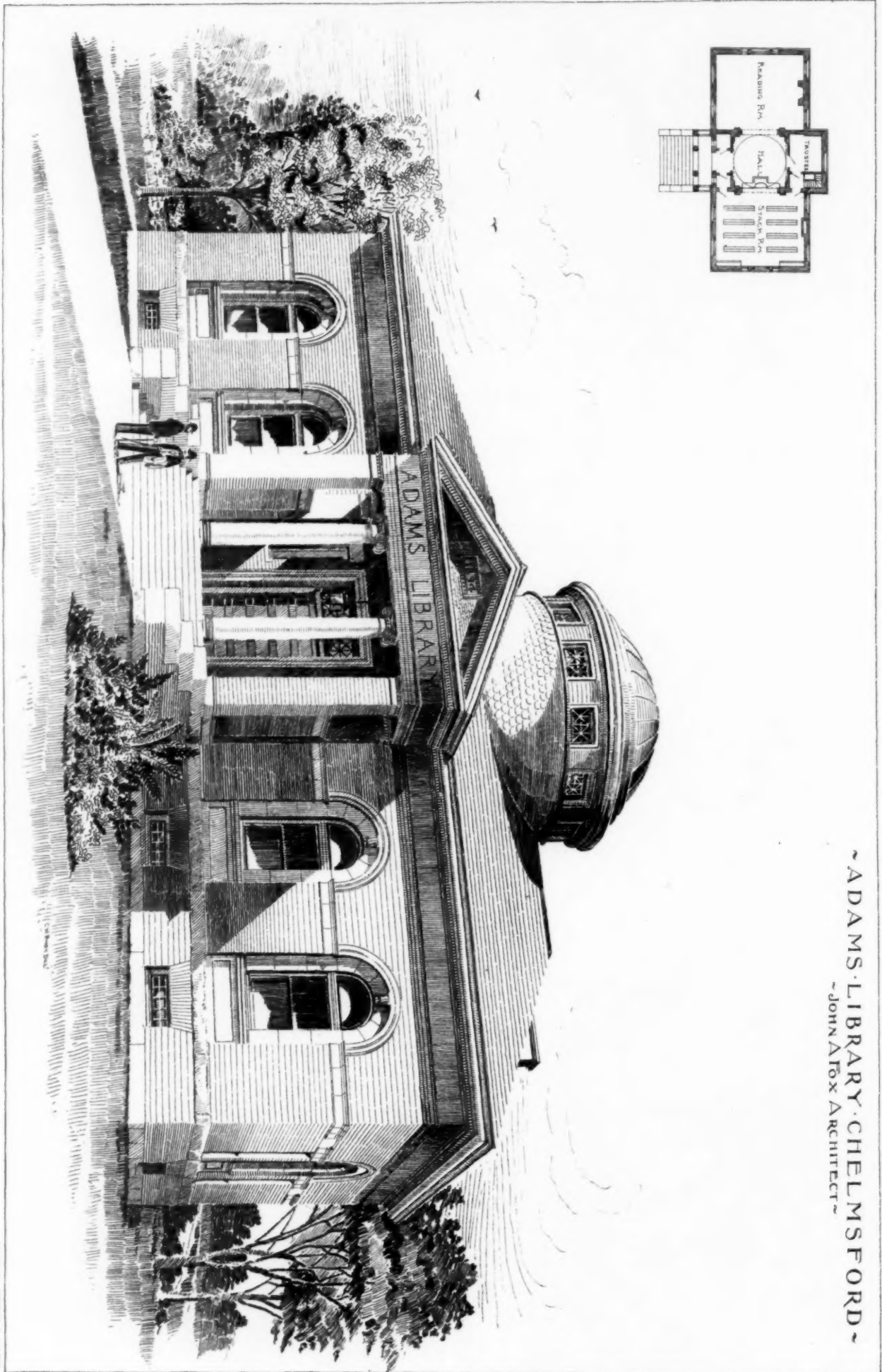


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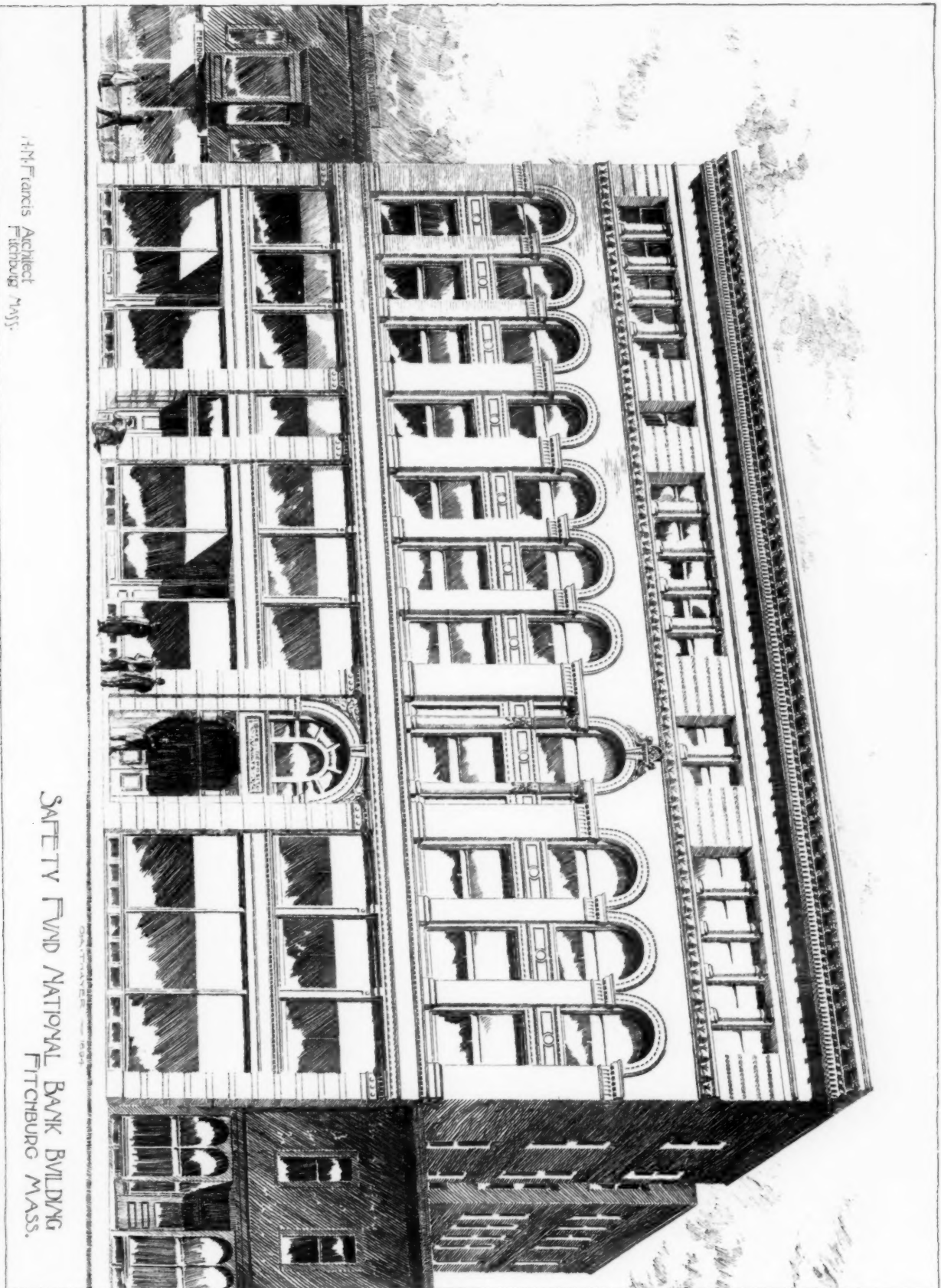


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