

**T. W. EVANS & CO.'S NEW SHAWL, MAN-
TLE AND SILK STORE—A MAGNIFICENT EDIFICE.**—Messrs.
T. W. Evans & Co., the well known dry goods merchants,
have just completed their new store on the site of their
old establishment destroyed by the great conflagration
of July 6th, 1854. In August last, Messrs. Evans
& Co. commenced rebuilding, and the work has since
been pushed vigorously forward without loss of time. The
result of the enterprise of the firm, and the skill and
exertions of the mechanics employed by them, is a mag-
nificent addition to the business architecture of Phila-
delphia. Evans & Co. can now boast the handsomest re-
tail dry goods store in the country, and, with a single
exception, the largest. Feb. 24, 1855.

The store is 43 feet front on Chestnut street, 147 feet
deep, and four stories high, with a basement 12 feet high
in the clear. The basement is divided into two rooms.
One for the reception of goods through a hatchway, front,
and the other for unpacking, examining and marking
goods ready for the salesmen and women. Connecting
this apartment with the store above, is a self-acting
dumb waiter of such simple and admirable construction
that it can readily be worked by a child. The principle
is based upon a spring. On the first or ground floor is a
room 36 feet wide, 104 feet deep, intended for the busi-
ness operations of the firm. This connects with a rotun-
da in the rear, 43 feet in diameter, and 64 feet high. On
both sides of the room are continued sections of shelving,
beautifully arranged for the different styles and kinds of
articles for sale. The shelving is finished in excellent
faste, with a fine bold cornice, the entablature finishes
being upon neat panelled pilasters with handsome carved
caps. Over each cap on the fascia is a neatly carved
wreath, which adds materially to the appearance
of the store. The top of the cornice is 9 feet from
the floor and 12 below the stucco cornice, of the
Corinthian order, in the ceiling. This has been superbly
frescoed, and harmonises with the rich fresco work on the
ceiling and rotunda. 20 feet of the west side is appropriated
for the book-keeper, cashier, and those employed for ty-
ing up goods preparatory to delivery. These counters
exhibit fine specimens of workmanship, and are conve-
nient for the purposes designed. The desks were made
by Mr. J. T. Hammit, and that portion in front of the
cashier, representing branches of oak trees, with the
word "cash" carved in wood over each opening, is a very
pretty feature in the store. The counters extend around
the store and through the centre, and measure nearly 500
feet. They have panelled fronts, with a neat cornice pro-
tecting eight inches, supported by carved brackets.—
There are four large skylights, which admirably light the
interior in every part. In the entire space from the door
to the rotunda, 43 feet by 104, the store is free from ob-
structions, except the counters, and is entirely safe. This
security is attained by means of five iron truss girders of
three feet spring, supporting the upper floors, and the
manner in which they are secured in the walls gives ad-
ditional strength to the building. Each girder weighs
six tons.

The entrance to the store is through a door way eight
feet wide, and fifteen feet high. On either side is a show
window nine feet wide, and fifteen feet high, of the
finest French plate glass, and in each is a mirror, six
feet by nine feet. The front of the store room presents
the boldest and most elegant appearance of any store in
the country, and as a person enters, the reflection of a
large mirror in the extreme southern end seems as if the
store was as long again as it is. The rotunda is covered
by an immense dome, surmounted with a lantern sky-
light. It is enriched with fresco, similar to the walls
of the store, and has a splendid effect. Around the ro-
tunda, sixteen feet above the floor, is a gallery supported
by ten large and beautifully carved brackets. The gal-
lery is six feet wide, enclosed by a massive railing. Con-
nected with the store is a neat apartment for exhibiting
silks by gas light, which is a very desirable object for la-
dies in selecting evening or party dresses. The store
and rotunda are connected by an opening twenty feet
wide, finished with Corinthian antae, columns, &c.
On each side is a mirror eight feet high, and four and a
half feet wide, while in the rotunda are two others, each
ten feet high and seven feet wide, and one ten feet high
and seven and a half feet wide—the largest ever imported
into the United States. The walls of the building being
square, gives eight rooms outside the rotunda. These
are appropriated for the private offices of the firm, ward-
robes, spiral stairways to the gallery of the rotunda, and
other conveniences. In the rotunda there are six large
carved tables, instead of counters, upon which the goods
sold in that part of the establishment will be kept dur-
ing the day.

The establishment is lighted with twenty-three light
chandeliers, of a handsome bronze pattern, made ex-
pressly for the house by Messrs. Cornelius & Baker. The
gallery has eight single stand lights of the same style,
which are pretty specimens of manufacture. The sit-
tings are revolving pedestals, covered with plush. These
were manufactured in Philadelphia, and show a marked
improvement over the New York make, which have been
previously used in this city, in nearly all our large

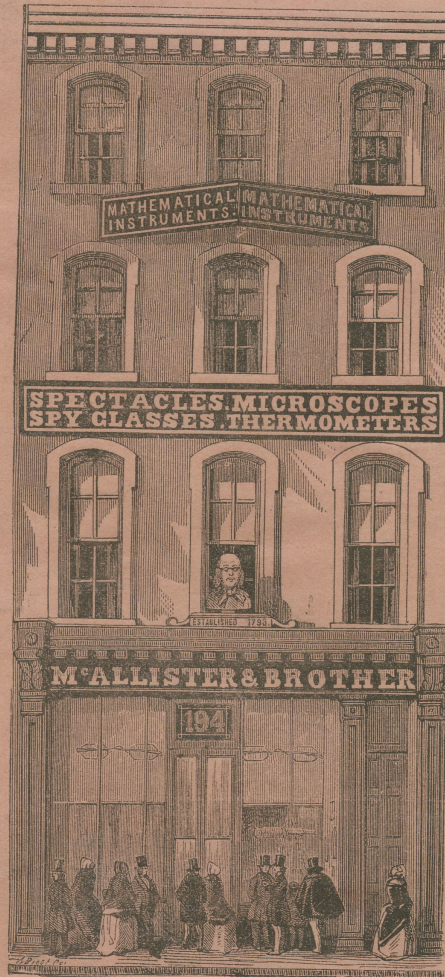
houses. As a substantial edifice, there is none in Phi-
ladelphia which surpasses this new building. The front
is of Connecticut brown stone, with a massive cornice of
the same material. The columns supporting the first
story of the front, were in the quarry at Connecticut on
the 5th of October, 1854. Early in November, the first
column was raised to its place above the ground. The
last piece of cornice was deposited in its place the first
week in December. Great despatch has been used by all
the artisans engaged upon the structure, and many of
those engaged upon the inside embellishment were en-
gaged night and day upon their share of the work.

The upper part of the building is arranged in suits of
rooms for renting; each apartment being well ventilated
and lighted and furnished with all the modern conve-
niences.

Messrs. Evans & Co. will open their splendid store on
Monday, and their stock of goods will be found in keep-
ing with the structure they will occupy. An entire fresh
supply of choice foreign goods has been secured in time
for the opening.

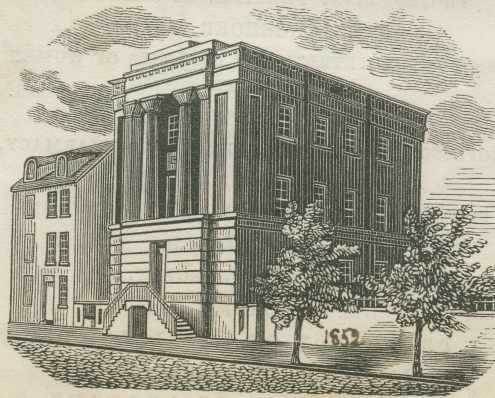
Another Fine Improvement.—Messrs. Wright,
Hunter & Co., have completed their improvement
at the Southwest corner of Ninth and Walnut sts.,
and have now located themselves in their new
premises. The building is five stories high, twenty-
six feet front by one hundred and twenty-six in
depth on Ninth street. The Walnut street front
has iron roller shutters, with handsome press brick
pilasters, and ornamented with window dressings
and heavy cornice, in imitation of brown stone.
The Ninth street front has four stores, and an en-
trance to the main stairs, which extends to the
upper rooms, and divides the building nearly in the
centre. The rooms on the north being about sixty-
five feet, and on the south about fifty feet. Having
seen sheet iron used in the Ledger Building, the
proprietors have adopted the same plan in lining
the stairway to the upper rooms as a protection
from fire, and to preserve the surface from injury
by persons in passing up and down the stairs. The
lower stories are occupied by the owners as their
office, and work-rooms for their plumbing and gas-
fitting business. The building was designed and
arranged by this firm, as their permanent place of
business. The plans were drawn by Mr. Burton,
architect, and the erection of the building was ac-
complished by the well-known builder, Mr. John
D. Jones.

ESTABLISHED IN 1796.



FROM
McALLISTER & BROTHER,
OPTICIANS,
194 CHESTNUT STREET,
(Lately Removed from the Old Stand, No. 48 Chestnut Street.)
PHILADELPHIA.

March 1855. Brown Fr. Ledger Building (Just Opened)



HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE.

Initiated - 1946 -

TAXABLES FOR 1855.—The following is the
enumeration of taxables for the present year:

Wards.	Taxables.
First,	3,133
Second,	4,678
Third,	3,373
Fourth,	3,638
Fifth,	3,373
Sixth,	3,275
Seventh,	4,716
Eighth,	3,154
Ninth,	3,738
Tenth,	4,286
Eleventh,	3,295
Twelfth,	3,298
Thirteenth,	4,076
Fourteenth,	4,136
Fifteenth,	4,057
Sixteenth,	4,320
Seventeenth,	3,685
Eighteenth,	3,667
Nineteenth,	4,082
Twentieth,	3,614
Twenty-first,	2,662
Twenty-second,	3,072
Twenty-third,	4,383
Twenty-fourth,	2,161
Total,	88,072

**A GRIZZLY BEAR AT LARGE—An Exciting
Scene.**—A scene of no little excitement was
witnessed on Market street, west of Eleventh,
yesterday morning. A monster grizzly bear,
which had been on exhibition on the south side
of Market street, near Twelfth, got loose, and
making his way into the street, sent the folks
scattering right and left. With the agility of
a cat, he mounted upon an omnibus horse, and
was soon shook and beaten off. He then got
upon the back of a horse attached to a furniture
car, and after an attempt to hug and scratch
him, he gave him a violent blow with his
paw, which sent the animal off at a race
horse pace, the bear leaping to the ground.
Mr. Bruin now took a promenade on the
pavement, and helped himself to beefsteaks
and chickens on the way, which the butch-
ers and country folks had left at his dis-
posal. By this time the street was in a
state of great commotion. A crowd had col-
lected, in which there were a few valiant
"Stars," but the whole party kept at a respect-
ful distance. Occasionally he would turn sud-
denly round and face his foes, when there
would be a general stampede, all running as
if Old Nick were after them. Finally, the
bear took refuge in a court near Market
and Eleventh streets, and here he was "cor-
nered," and by the aid of pitchforks, brought
to a stand still. By the aid of ropes, he
was secured, and returned to his quarters,
where he should be quarantined very soon, to pre-
vent further alarm. We learn that the animal
was brought from California. It is certainly
the largest bear that has ever been seen in
these parts. The showman was more alarmed
for the fate of Bruin than for the mischief
he might do. Ald. Thompson reproved him
for his carelessness in suffering the escape.

See p. 129. Jan 23 - 1855 -

The Mount Moriah Cemetery.—The grounds of
this new cemetery, about three miles from the city,
near the Darby Plank Road, are being rapidly im-
proved by the opening of walks, planting trees,
and other additions to the natural beauties of the
site. A substantial stone wall to enclose the
grounds is in progress, and an entrance of massive
and imposing appearance is about to be com-
menced. It will have a front of about 80 feet, the
walls curving on each side so as to give ample
space for carriages. The style selected for the
buildings is the castellated Norman, to be executed
in Connecticut brown stone. The entablatures and
cornices are to be surmounted with richly carved
vases, while in the centre a statue of Time, in pure
white marble, is to crown the edifice. The entrance
will form a very conspicuous feature in the view
from the Darby Plank Road.