



June 19 NEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1853
CORNER OF ARCH AND SCHUYLKILL FIFTH STREETS.

We furnish our readers in the present number with a handsomely engraved view of another of the splendid edifices which are shortly to be added to the many magnificent architectural embellishments of our city. The Presbyterian church, about to be erected at the south-west corner of Arch and Schuylkill Fifth streets, will vie, when completed, with any other church edifice in the city for convenience and architectural beauty.

The lot upon which this beautiful structure is being erected is 150 by 125 feet in dimensions. The general design of the building is in the Roman style of architecture, with some introductions of the Norman style which blends richly with the first, and gives variety and effect to the whole. The edifice will be 150 feet in depth, 86 feet in width, and 46 feet in height. The dome in the centre has a diameter of 43 feet, and it will be 49 feet high including the base. The cupola will be 144 feet in height.

The building is so arranged that the Lecture Room and also an apartment for the Bible Classes are upon the same floor with the Audience Room. Above the Lecture Room there will be a room appropriated to the Sabbath Schools of the church. There will also be a study arranged in this part of the house. To either of these apartments access can be had from the Audience Room or from without. The Audience Room will be somewhat octagonal in form. This peculiar formation is effected by projections upon either side of 7 by 48 feet, and by the distribution of columns and antæ that also give support to the splendid dome ceiling through which nearly all the light admitted into the room is obtained.

A broken entablature, surmounting the columns and antæ just described, especially the portion connected with the pulpit, adds much to the striking beauty of the interior. The ample vestibules, and the ingenious construction of the stairs leading to the choir, and the other details of the interior render the internal arrangements very complete. The projections, or wings, on either side of the house, are crowned with pediments seven feet high, which intersect those of the rear and the portico in front, at the junction of which springs the dome. The sloping sides of the roof are concealed by a rich balustrade, which will extend around the entire building, in connection with the four pediments. The course of the balustrade around the different projections and angles of the building adds much to the bold and imposing design.

The dome terminates in a cupola fourteen feet in diameter and fifty in height. It will be constructed of a base section supported by rich trusses, over which is the Corinthian order of eight columns, the entablature of which is heavily broken. The next section is of a Norman character, handsomely arranged in harmony with the other. Above this a section of ornamental trusses is placed, with the cornice breaking around them in a semi-circular form. Above all there is a pretty dome, from which starts the outline of an exceedingly chaste outline.

The front of the imposing structure will be finished with a portico of forty-two feet in width, standing out from a projection the diameter of one antæ, and projecting twelve feet six inches

therefrom; the entablature of which extends around the entire building, supported by antæ of bold projections.

The antea on the wings are coupled; between them will be Norman triple windows, rich with tracery and glazed with stained glass, which will add much to the effect of the interior. There are in the plan projections at either angle in front which form breaks in the entablature upon which stand bell towers 46 feet in height. These towers are to be constructed in the most elegant style.

There will be three grand entrances to the building. They are planned in a novel style. The windows in the projections and bell towers are of singular form, being double. The tops are filled with Norman tracery in a circular form over twin arches.

The corner stone of this new and stately edifice was laid with imposing ceremonies during the past month, and the work will be steadily pushed forward until its consummation. The church will be a great ornament to the rapidly improving neighborhood in which it is located, and it will, when finished, add one more to the many stately temples of worship of which the "West End" can boast.

EVENING BULLETIN

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1853.

DEMOLITION OF AN OLD BUILDING.—The old stone building, No. 41 South Second street, above Chesnut, is now being demolished by its owner, Mr. John Stone, for the purpose of erecting a more modern and convenient store upon its site. This edifice was a place of some note in its day. It was built by Mr. Thomas Dobson, a well known bookseller and publisher, who emigrated to this country from Edinburgh about the year 1785. Mr. Dobson located himself in this city, and soon after put up the house referred to for his own use. It is believed that the cut stone for the front, and the slate for the roof, were imported expressly from Scotland. Mr. D. always distinguished his location in his advertisements, as "The Stone-house in Second street." Dobson's American Encyclopedia, Seybert's Statistical Annals, a Hebrew Bible, and other works well known in their time, were published from this house. The publisher was also the author of several works. Those who were cotemporary with him represent him as being a most estimable man, although somewhat eccentric in his social and business habits. Mr. D. died about 25 years ago. The late Mr. Judah Dobson was the only son of the old publisher. The structure which is now being torn away was a good specimen of the substantial character of the buildings erected in the last century. These edifices are rapidly disappearing before the march of improvement.

LOCAL ITEMS 1853.

New Brown Stone Buildings.—Two fine buildings, constructed of brown stone, have just been erected in South Fourth street, above Chesnut, at Nos. 30 and 32. Nothing superior of the kind can be found in Philadelphia. They are at once elegant and substantial, and are a decided improvement to the neighborhood. The apartments are airy, well ventilated, and abundantly supplied with light. Water and gas are introduced throughout, and the arrangements, from first to last, are of the most judicious character. These buildings are suited to the dry-goods or almost any other kind of business. All the modern conveniences have been made available; the upper stories are furnished with inside venetian shutters, while each story has shutters of patent iron. The workmanship throughout is of the best description, and no expense has been spared.

The Kensington Screw Dock.—For more than 20 years this dock has been in successful operation. It is now capable of raising any vessel of 33 feet beam or less, with or without a cargo. Within the last eighteen months the wood base upon which the heavy machinery worked has been removed, and heavy granite has been substituted. No mishap has occurred in the course of the great number of years in which the dock has been in operation, to mar its success. In the year 1853 eighty-three vessels were docked, including ships, steamers, brigs and schooners. Early in the present month the California steamship Polynesia was raised; also the schooners Henry Nutt and Col. Manson. The fine clipper ship S. S. Bishop is now upon the dock for re-coppering. This vessel was built in 1851 by Mr. Wm. Cramp, of Kensington. Her first voyage was to New Orleans and back—then to San Francisco and home, outsailing several fast New York clipper ships. Her last voyage was to San Francisco, thence to Chincha Islands, thence home. She performed the voyage from Chincha Islands to this port in 65 days—the shortest trip ever made between these points.

Jan. 1854.