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VIEWS  
IN  
Philadelphia  
AND ITS  
ENVIRONS,  
From original Drawings taken in  
1827-30.

PHILADELPHIA,

Published by G. G. Childs

E. V. R. I. V. R.

80 Walnut St.



**VIEWS**

IN

**PHILADELPHIA,**

AND

**ITS VICINITY;**

ENGRAVED FROM

**Original Drawings.**



**PUBLISHED BY C. G. CHILDS,**

ENGRAVER,

**PHILADELPHIA:**

1827.

3016

*Eastern District of Pennsylvania, to wit:*

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the tenth day of December, in the fifty-second year of the independence of the United States of America, A. D. 1827, Cephas G. Childs, of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor, in the words following, to wit:

“Views in Philadelphia, and its Vicinity; engraved from Original Drawings.”

In conformity to the Act of the Congress of the United States, intituled, “An Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned”—and also to the Act, entitled, “An Act supplementary to an Act, entitled, ‘An Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned,’ and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints.”

D. CALDWELL,

*Clerk of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania*

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*Clark & Raser, Printers*

TO THE  
**Historical Society of Pennsylvania,**  
AS A  
TOKEN OF ZEAL FOR ITS OBJECTS, AND OF ESTEEM FOR ITS  
VALUABLE LABOURS,  
THESE  
**VIEWS OF PHILADELPHIA,**  
ARE  
RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,  
BY  
C. G. CHILDS,  
ENGRAVER.

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## Hall of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

At a meeting of the Council of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, held Sept. 23d, 1830, on motion of Roberts Vaux, Esq., seconded by Joshua F. Fisher, Esq., the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the Secretary was requested to furnish Col. Childs with a copy thereof:—

Resolved, That this Council entertain a respectful sense of the public spirit and taste of C. G. Childs, Esq., a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, in undertaking and executing a series of engraved views of public edifices, &c., in and near Philadelphia.

Resolved, That this Council regard the preservation by such skilful delineations of objects illustrative of history, and which are liable to decay, or to be otherwise removed, as an important auxiliary of the purposes of the society, and deeming the work in question correct, and highly valuable, earnestly recommend it to general patronage.

J. R. TYSON,  
*Secretary.*



THE concluding number of this work being now before the public, the *Proprietor* embraces the opportunity of repeating his acknowledgments to those professional gentlemen to whose valuable assistance he has been indebted during the execution of it. In a more especial manner, he would express the great obligations he owes to those gentlemen who have voluntarily contributed the appropriate descriptions with which the embellishments are accompanied. To his friends and patrons he expresses his gratitude, for their liberal patronage.

In taking leave of his subscribers, the Proprietor confesses the hope, that his "VIEWS" will not be without interest to those who, at a future period, may desire to review the history of our rapidly improving city, and that they may serve to illustrate, not unfavourably, the state of the Arts at the present period.

*Philadelphia, Nov. 1830*

DIRECTIONS TO THE BINDER.

	<i>Pictures by</i>	<i>Engraved by</i>
1. Philadelphia from Kensington . . .	T. BIRCH, P. A.	J. CONE.
2. Swedish Lutheran Church . . . . .	T. SULLY, P. A.	C. G. CHILDS.
3. Christ Church . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
4. Friends' Meeting-house at Merion . .	H. REINAGLE.	J. W. STEEL.
5. St. Stephen's Church . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
6. First Congregational Unitarian Church	H. REINAGLE.	C. G. CHILDS.
7. State House . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
8. Fairmount Water Works from the } West . . . . . }	T. DOUGHTY, P. A.	J. CONE.
9. Fairmount Water Works from the } Reservoir . . . . . }	T. DOUGHTY, P. A.	W. E. TUCKER.
10. On the Schuylkill from the Old } Water Works . . . . . }	CAPT. WATSON.	C. G. CHILDS.
11. Bank of the United States . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
12. Bank of Pennsylvania . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	W. E. TUCKER.
13. Girard's Bank . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
14. Pennsylvania Hospital . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
15. Pennsylvania Institution for the } Deaf and Dumb . . . . . }	G. STRICKLAND.	{ G. FAIRMAN, P. A. & C. G. CHILDS.
16. University of Pennsylvania . . . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	J. W. STEEL.
17. Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine } Arts . . . . . }	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
18. Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania	W. MASON.	C. G. CHILDS.
19. Plan of the Eastern Penitentiary . .	J. HAVILAND, P. A.	C. G. CHILDS.
20. United States Mint . . . . .	W. STRICKLAND, P. A.	W. H. HAY.
21. Widows' and Orphans' Asylum . .	G. STRICKLAND.	J. W. STEEL.
22. Schuylkill Canal at Manayunk . . .	G. LEHMAN.	C. G. CHILDS.
23. Eaglesfield . . . . .	W. MASON.	C. G. CHILDS.
24. Sedgley Park . . . . .	E. W. CLAY.	{ STEEL, HAY, & CHILDS.
25. Academy of Natural Sciences . . .	G. STRICKLAND.	C. G. CHILDS.
26. Title Page . . . . .	T. M. RASER.	H. E. SAULNIER.
27. Lathic Work on the Cover—Embellishments . . .		{ FAIRMAN, DRAPER, UNDERWOOD & CO. & S. H. CARPENTER.

*Clark & Raser, Printers.*





Engraved by T. B. Burt

Philadelphia, 1878

**PHILADELPHIA EXPERIENCE,**  
FROM WASHINGTON

Pub. by C. G. Childs, engraver Philadelphia 1878  
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## PHILADELPHIA.

### PHILADELPHIA.

MANY of our most flourishing towns and cities look very much like the results of accident. There is scarcely any intimation of plan or arrangement in their appearance. The paths worn by the infrequent feet of the first settlers, have been insensibly widened into busy and crowded streets. Or, if the design of founding a city has been conceived, it has often happened that the site at first selected and laid out, has been forsaken by personal convenience or caprice, and the next generation sees a prosperous community spreading itself out, as if in mockery of human foresight, upon another spot, and along the narrow, crooked, and irregular paths thrown open by the impatient spirit of individual enterprise, which seldom takes into account the accommodation of posterity. It is peculiarly the distinction of Philadelphia that it is the successful fulfilment of the original design. The spot upon which it now flourishes, was chosen for a town shortly after the landing of William Penn at Newcastle, Oct. 1682; and the present city realizes, in all important respects, the plan and intention of its illustrious founder. Its regularity, therefore, if it has no other charm, cannot fail to impress us, inasmuch as it is powerfully expressive of the prospective wisdom and benevolence of the human mind.

Before the site of Philadelphia was fixed upon, the place was occupied by a few emigrants who had preceded William Penn, and who lived in huts after the manner of the natives, or in caves dug in the high banks of the Delaware. In one of these caves the first native Philadelphian was born. In less than a year after the town was established, eighty houses were erected, and the various occupations of civilized life busily carried on. In about ten years the private estates in Philadelphia were valued at £75,000 and upwards—a decisive proof of the astonishing rapidity of its increase.

In 1701, Philadelphia was incorporated as a city, and it was declared by the charter to be bounded by the rivers De-

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laware and Schuylkill on the east and west, and by Vine and Cedar streets on the north and south. The limits of the town had embraced a much larger surface, extending beyond the Schuylkill. In the course of time the population of the city has spread itself out far beyond the boundaries fixed by the charter, until its amount without the limits of the city exceeds the amount within them. The suburbs, thus populous, have from time to time been divided into corporate governments, under the names of the Northern Liberties, Kensington, Spring Garden, Southwark, Moyamensing, and Passyunk. The population of these districts, together with that of the city, amounted, in 1820, to 119,931. From the census of the present year we are enabled with considerable accuracy to state an increase of 50,000, making the present population of Philadelphia and its suburbs amount to upwards of 170,000.

In 1789 a new act of incorporation superseded the charter of 1701, and continued in force until 1796, when the present form of municipal government was established. A mayor, a recorder, fifteen aldermen, and a select and common council, compose the chief authorities of the city. The recorder and aldermen are appointed by the governor. The mayor is annually chosen by the councils from among the citizens. He appoints the city commissioners, the high constables, &c., and receives an annual compensation of two thousand dollars. The members of the select and common councils are chosen by the people; the former serve three years, and vacate their seats in rotation; the latter are annually elected. They receive no compensation, sit in separate chambers, and each body has a negative on the legislative acts of the other. The mayor, recorder, and aldermen, or any three of them, whereof the mayor or recorder must be one, constitute "the Mayor's Court," which has a jurisdiction similar to that of the Quarter Sessions in the counties. The aldermen have the powers and perform the duties of justices of the peace.

Philadelphia is forever consecrated, in our political history, as the place where that immortal Congress first assembled, to whose energy and wisdom the foremost minds and the most eloquent lips of the British Senate, in the very excitement of



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the contest, paid the tribute of their admiration and respect. On this spot the independence of the country was formally proclaimed, and here in a manner is the print of the boldest step yet taken in the progress of free institutions. Philadelphia shared in the trials of the Revolution, and was for nearly nine months in the possession of the British. Some of the severest passages of the war took place in its neighbourhood. It was the seat of the general government for eleven years after the adoption of the Federal constitution.

At an early period, Philadelphia took the lead in commerce among the cities of the United States. And if its commercial importance has since been lessened by those causes which gave a check, greater or less, to the trade of the whole nation, it may be safely affirmed that at this present time it enjoys a commercial and a general prosperity, as secure and solid as can be witnessed in any part of the country. Throughout the city, the spirit of sure, although gradual improvement, is discernible—and the extraordinary abundance of the common comforts of life, the variety of the manufactures, the increasing means of communication with the interior, the marble, clay, and exhaustless beds of coal in the neighbourhood, the capital of Philadelphia unexcelled in its soundness and amount by that of any city of the Union, the public spirit of the inhabitants seldom excited by the fever of speculation, but exhibiting itself in a quiet and steady pursuit of the useful—all these are pledges of the pre-eminence to which Philadelphia is destined in every particular that helps to constitute a beautiful, enlightened, and prosperous city.

To the claims of Philadelphia, in respect of its public, benevolent, literary, and religious institutions, the pages of our work will, we trust, bear some testimony. To the character of its inhabitants, their works bear witness. The stranger who walks through the streets, will see in their regularity and cleanliness, and in the fondness every where shown for a simple and chaste architecture, no slight indication of the moral tastes and habits of the people. For almost every variety of human suffering, Philadelphia has opened a noble asylum; and we believe that no well-accredited stranger can go from the city without the remembrance of its polite

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and generous hospitality. Its pretensions, in a literary and scientific point of view, are by no means inconsiderable. In many substantial forms it evinces its respect for that wealth which is of the mind; and the love of utility which characterizes all its institutions, shows it to be peculiarly worthy of the honour it enjoys in being entrusted with the ashes of Franklin.





Drawn by T. Ashurst

St. John's Church, Cambridge  
The Church of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge

## PHILADELPHIA.

### THE SWEDISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

THIS simple building, which stands nearly on the edge of the Delaware, in Southwark, was consecrated in the year 1700, under the name of "Gloria Dei." It is sixty feet long, about thirty feet wide, and its height to the eaves is twenty feet. It has been so often repaired, that scarcely any thing remains of the original structure except the brick walls, which are still firm, and promise to survive the new but frailer materials that they support. From this slight description, and from the view annexed, it will be seen that the claims of this rustic edifice are very modest in point of architecture. There are other respects however in which it demands attention, and will continue to awaken an increasing interest.

One cannot step within its humble precincts without being filled with the genius of the place. The visiter on a week day enters the churchyard through the shady grounds of the parsonage, and by a path imperfectly indicated by a few bushes of overgrown box. The parsonage itself, standing in affectionate proximity to the Church, separated from it only by a fence, whose decayed condition tells you that it serves merely as a landmark, and is not intended to divide the servant of God from the home of his heart and his labours—the Church, as a work of art, entering into no proud rivalry with nature, but harmonizing with the rural character of the spot—the gray stones, that mark the places where the congregation of the dead repose, and in addition, the recollection of the venerable years of the present pastor—all conspire to make a deep and tender impression on the mind. The effect is probably somewhat heightened by the sudden transition from the noise and hurry of the city to the comparative seclusion of this spot. The interior of the church has nothing to attract attention except the inscriptions at the foot of the pulpit, beneath which the remains of the departed pastors of this flock of Christ are deposited. So, although dead, they yet

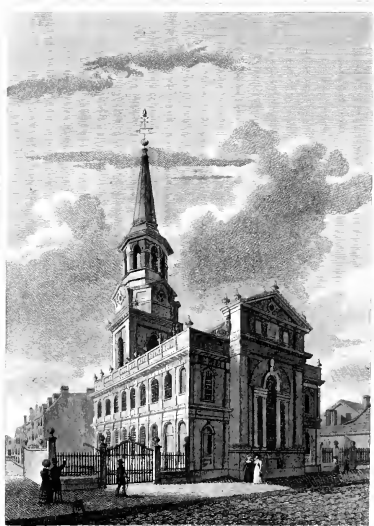
## PHILADELPHIA.

speak—but not in an unknown tongue—from the same place where their living voices were heard.

The Swedish Lutheran Church is interesting for its antiquity. A foreigner would smile perhaps at this pretension. We ourselves are free to confess, that if the building of which we speak were the relic of a period of oppression and barbarism, it would require more than a hundred and thirty years to hallow it in our eyes, and to give it the charms of antiquity. To our strong republican taste, the remains of a benighted age would need the consecration of many centuries ere dignity or interest could be imparted to the crimes and abuses they commemorate. But around such a monument of peace and piety, of the innocence and worth of our ancestors, of the pure origin and healthy birth of our country as the Swedish Church, all that is attractive in antiquity gathers full fast and appeals to us with a subduing eloquence.

This Church advances yet another claim upon us. It is here that the ashes of Alexander Wilson repose. His tomb is a prominent object in the engraving. His biographer tells us that it was the wish of this sweet lover of nature to be buried in some rural retreat where the birds might sing over his grave, and regrets that this wish was not known to those who bore him to his last home. The spirit of his request, however, has been unconsciously observed. It is meet that he who cherished so deeply that common sympathy that unites all created things, and sought to awaken it in others, by bringing them acquainted with one of the most delightful portions of the great household of nature—it is meet that the memorial of him should be found in a place, whose primitive appearance so powerfully recalls to the imagination the thousand melodious voices and all the wild music of nature, with which these shores resounded a little more than a century ago.





W. B. Woodcut

Engraved by P. P. T. G. G.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

W. B. Woodcut. Engraver - Philad. 1817

Printed by D. M. W.

Opposite the City Hall



## PHILADELPHIA.

### CHRIST CHURCH.

OWING to the destruction by fire of the early records of this venerable building, the precise date of its erection cannot now be ascertained. Enough, however, is known to prove, that a building stood upon the site of the present church, prior to the year 1696; and that the only assistance obtained from England in aid of its erection, was a stipend of fifty guineas, given by king William.

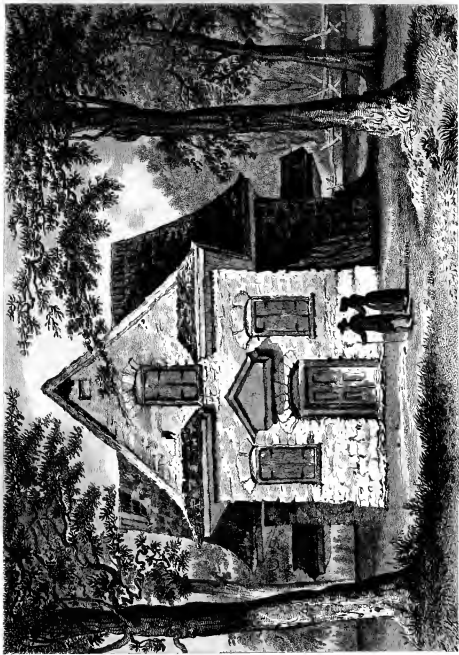
The body of the church, together with the basement and superstructure of the steeple, is of the Roman Doric order: its dimensions in front on Second Street, is sixty-three feet: its depth, including the base of the steeple and the projection of the chancel in front, is one hundred and twenty-three feet two inches:—The steeple is thirty-one feet square, and the total height one hundred and ninety feet, including the rod which supports the ball, vane, and mitre: it is built of brick to the height of eighty-five feet. The cupola and spire is of wood, octangular in plan, which rises eighty-five feet above the brick work.

Originally the windows of the front and flanks of the church, of which there are two rows, were formed with leaden sash, somewhat in the Gothic style; indeed it would seem from the disposition and general arrangement of the various parts of the whole edifice, that a Gothic model had been kept in view by its projectors as far as respects some of the details of its external and interior distribution. The high pitched roof, surrounded by piers and balusters; the subdivision of the flanks with pilasters, together with the columnar separation of the nave and side aisles of the interior, indicate strongly some of the leading features of a Gothic model.

The proportions of the steeple particularly are good; it was erected from a design by Robert Smith, about 1745: but there are unquestionably many crudities in the details of the building, which mark an era of profusion in architecture that belonged to the Anglo-Palladian school in the reign of George the Second.







Hugo Deming Pinx

Engraved by J.W. Steel

FRÉDÉRIC MEETING EUGÈSE MERION.

And by the title *Leconte et les Femmes*, 1840.

## PHILADELPHIA.

### FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE AT MERION.

AMONG the companions of the illustrious founder of PENNSYLVANIA, when he arrived on the shores of the Delaware, in the year 1682, were a large number of Welsh people of great respectability and substance. These excellent persons, before they left their native country, had purchased of the proprietary several thousand acres of land on the western side of the river Schuylkill, about six miles from the spot fixed upon for the city of Philadelphia; and this tract was called MERIONETH, in honour of their birth-place.

Immediately after their landing they proceeded to occupy and improve their possessions; and one of their earliest cares was the erection of a meeting house for public worship, and for the transaction of the affairs of the Religious Society of Friends, of which they were members.

The venerable structure here exhibited is a monument of the pious labours of those devoted men. It is built in the form of a cross; the walls are granite, and the timber that enters into its composition is HEWN, saws of a large size not being then employed in the settlement. The simplicity of the workmanship, and the style of the edifice, form together a record of the taste, and of the capacities of our ancestors, to execute plans of this kind, even under the most unfavourable circumstances. A patriarch of that day, and whose means were liberally contributed toward the erection of this building, was HUGH ROBERTS; he caused a sun-dial of ample dimensions to be placed near the house, which remained for more than a hundred years, the only public regulator of the time-pieces of that neighbourhood, his design being, to use his own words, "that Friends might be punctual, and orderly in their attendance at meeting." Many interesting anecdotes are related of the primitive people who worshipped at Merion Meeting House, a building which has

## PHILADELPHIA.

been consecrated to religious purposes for almost a century and a half.

It is a gratification which we cannot too much appreciate, often to reflect upon the devotedness of our forefathers, who came hither to establish and enjoy civil and religious freedom.

We owe to those distinguished pioneers a debt of gratitude which never can be paid. Let then a generous sense of their services be manifested, by the homage which we render to their principles, the honour that we confer upon their names, and the regard with which we contemplate even the trees that they have planted, and the fabrics they have constructed.

## PHILADELPHIA.

### PLACES OF WORSHIP.

THE experience of the United States furnishes conclusive evidence of the fallacy of that theory, which supposes religion to depend for her influence and success upon the support of the temporal government. In no country—at least of modern times—has the doctrine of the lawfulness of an union between church and state been more thoroughly repudiated than in this republic; which set the first example of a solemn and constitutional prohibition of religious establishments. Single and self-poised, but not in hostility with the civil institutions of men, religion draws her nourishment from the great mass of the community, and returns her healing influences exactly in proportion with the breadth of the popular interest. It may be affirmed with confidence, but without any vain glorious emotion, that whether we regard the state of morals or the means of worship, the evidences of the diffusion and efficacy of religion are at least as numerous and convincing in this country, as in those in which she is sustained and countenanced by the civil government. In Great Britain, for example, the temples of worship have generally been erected by the public authorities at the public expense, and the ministers of the established faith are supported by tythes or taxes imposed by law, and collected without the pretence of co-operation on the part of the people. In this country, every thing that is expended on the churches or their ministers, is derived from the free and spontaneous liberality of individuals. Such, however, is the effect of free institutions, and freedom of choice and opinion, that if we compare our atlantic cities, at least, with the chief towns of Great Britain, it will be found that the number of edifices devoted to religious worship, and the number of ministers actually engaged in the offices of the pulpit, is much greater with us in proportion to the population, than in that country which has devoted so much of the public funds, and employed so extensively the machinery of the law, to the support of a religious establish-

## PHILADELPHIA.

ment. In the year 1824, there were in London 333 places of worship of all kinds, sizes, and denominations, from the humble meeting house of the Friends, up to the gorgeous cathedral of St. Paul's. At the same time, it was calculated that the metropolis contained a population of about 1,270,000 persons, which will give one place of worship for each 3813 persons. In *Dublin*, in 1821, there were 82 churches, and about 250,000 inhabitants, averaging 3048 persons to each church. In *Edinburgh* the proportion is about the same. In *Philadelphia*, in 1830, there are supposed to be about 160,000 inhabitants. The number of churches of all denominations is not short of 96; averaging one church to about 1666 persons, and thus exhibiting more than *twice* as many places of worship, in proportion to the population, than London. In Boston, New York, and Baltimore, the relative number of places of worship and inhabitants is nearly the same as in Philadelphia; and in all, the increase of churches is at least as great as that of the population, although the progress of the latter is at a ratio of which Europe affords no example.







View of the Front

Designed by G. P. [Name]

THE [Name] [Name]

1854

[Name]

[Name]

## PHILADELPHIA.

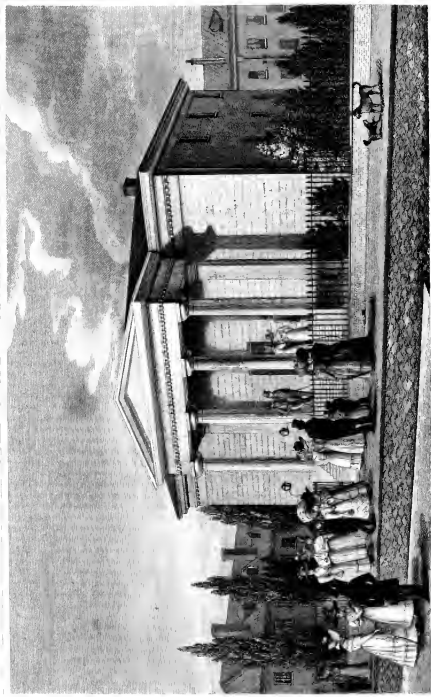
### SAINT STEPHEN'S CHURCH.

Among the religious edifices of Philadelphia, St. Stephen's church is one of the most distinguished. It was intended by the architect (Mr. Strickland) to present a specimen of the gothic architecture of the middle ages, and he has happily executed the design; but it is to be regretted that the position of the building, standing, as it does, on the line of the street, prevents the full observation of its great merits. The church is situated on the east side of Tenth street between Market and Chesnut streets. Its extreme length is one hundred and two feet. The breadth of the body of the building is fifty-five feet; that of the front, including the towers, is sixty-one feet. The towers are eighty-six feet high, comprising five stories with windows and offsets terminating in an embattled parapet. The curtain or space between the towers is thirty-three feet front, by sixty feet in height. The windows are separated by mullions into four compartments, and decorated with pannelled tracery; the head of each window is ornamented with stained glass imported from England, representing cherubim. The interior of the church has a vestibule or anti-chamber separated from the body of the building, which communicates with a stairway in each tower leading to the gallery and organ loft. The pulpit and chancel are highly finished with recessed screen pannels, tracery, and clustered columns supporting four projecting canopies. There are three large windows immediately behind the pulpit covered with highly enriched gothic soffits supported by brackets projecting from the walls. The gallery screen is parallel with the sides of the church connected in a semicircular form opposite to the pulpit. It is enriched with perforated tracery and pannel work, and lined with purple drapery, and supported by clustered columns. The massy ribs which sustain the ceiling spring from the upper part of the intervals between the windows of the flanks. Each rib is supported by brackets, and terminates in a key or pendant; the spandrils being

## PHILADELPHIA.

pierced with pannels. These ribs, brackets, and pendants, being regularly dispersed along the ceiling, dividing it into many compartments, produce a beautiful perspective effect. The organ loft or choir is situated at the western front in the rear of the circular pews of the gallery. The organ, which is a very superior instrument, and remarkable for the sweetness and power of its tones, was finished and erected in the spring of 1827, at a cost—including the screen—of upwards of three thousand dollars. The screen is a very rich but chaste specimen of workmanship, in perfect harmony with the character and ornaments of the edifice. The ground floor contains one hundred and twenty-two pews; the gallery fifty-four. The church was consecrated on the 27th of February, 1823. The rector is the Rev. James Montgomery, D. D.





Engraved by C. C. Childs

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITARIAN CHURCH.

Lowell, Mass. by the Rev. James M. Vinton, S. T. D., 1840.

1840, cast-iron

Printed by H. Burroughs

## PHILADELPHIA.

### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITARIAN CHURCH.

THIS edifice was erected during the past year, and stands at the corner of Locust and Tenth streets, facing south.

The design of the building was furnished by W. Strickland, and is exceedingly simple: the whole style of the work does honour to the spirit of those who worship within its walls, and have so liberally contributed towards its completion.

The plan of the building is a parallelogram, 61 by 83 feet. The south front elevation is a plain unbroken surface of Pennsylvania marble, embracing a tetrastyle portico, of the Grecian Doric order. The columns are three feet in diameter at their bases, and support a full entablature and pediment which project nine feet from the front of the building.

The approach is by a wide flight of steps leading to the portico and door of entrance into the vestibule and body of the building: from the vestibule, to the right and left, stairways communicate with a large front gallery and organ loft. In the rear or north end of the church, a recess is formed, embracing the pulpit, which is flanked by two Doric pillars, supporting an entablature, the frieze of which contains the following inscription:

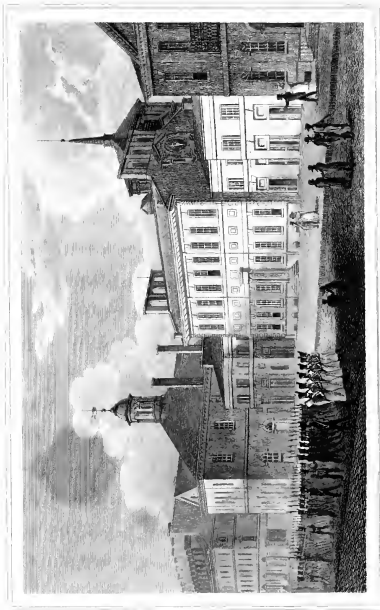
“ This is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”—*John xvii. 3.*

The idea produced in the mind of a spectator on viewing this edifice, is its peculiar fitness to the purpose for which it was intended—a temple dedicated to the worship of the Almighty.









Drawn by Geo. Strickland.

Engraved by C.C. Childs

## STATE HOUSE.

Pub'd by C. C. Childs, Engraver, Philadelphia 1846.

## PHILADELPHIA.

### THE STATE HOUSE.

IN the year 1729, less than half a century after *William Penn* had proclaimed, on the shores of the Delaware, amid the silence of its wilderness, his great charter of religious and civil liberty, this edifice was commenced by the freemen of the province of Pennsylvania.—It was finished and ready for the reception of the Legislature and the Courts of Justice in 1733, having cost about six thousand pounds.

The plan is rectangular, 110 feet in front, by forty-four feet in depth, with an offset of 32 by 35 feet in the rear for the stairway and main passage, over which a steeple was originally erected, but having been removed in consequence of its decayed condition, is at present replaced by a small wooden pinnacle.—The building, two stories in height, is constructed of brick; the façade being of the Roman character, with rustic corners, and an enriched Corinthian cornice, with flush pannels of marble between the stories. The main entrance is by a Corinthian door-way of recent construction, and opens into a commodious vestibule, dividing the building in its centre in a latitudinal direction, highly enriched, by architectural ornaments, in the prevailing taste of that day. The rooms on either side have a modern appearance, from alterations made a short time since, in violation of every principle of good taste. In the attic story of the basement of the steeple is suspended the great bell, which bears the following prophetic inscription:

*“ Proclaim liberty throughout ALL the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof.”* Lev. xxv. 10.

*“ By order of the Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania,  
for the State House in Philadelphia.*

FASS & STOW:  
PHILADA.  
MDCCLIII.”

## PHILADELPHIA.

This venerable edifice has become one of the most interesting in the history of the world. Beneath its roof was assembled, the august body which pronounced the freedom and sovereignty of the United States.—In the same hall (that on the east) which enclosed those patriots who framed the *Declaration of Independence*, at the distance of little more than *Ten* years, a national council peaceably deliberated upon a general and comprehensive system of government for the American Union.—It is difficult to determine, whether greater gratitude is due to those illustrious citizens, whose courage originally asserted the liberties, or to those whose wisdom afterwards provided the means, for perpetuating the happiness of the Nation.

On either side of the State House are wings erected for the accommodation of the public offices, terminated on the west by the County Court House, and on the east by the City Hall.

The State House, with the square annexed to it, remained the property of the Commonwealth until 1816—when they were purchased by the Corporation of the City of Philadelphia, for Seventy Thousand Dollars. The grounds have been laid out and improved with considerable taste, and are enclosed by an iron railing, elevated from the level of the pavement by a terrace wall.

By an ordinance of Councils this memorable portion of our City is denominated **INDEPENDENCE SQUARE**, and forms one of its most decided ornaments.

During the recent visit of the venerable **LA FAYETTE**, into the ancient **CAPITAL** of the Colonies, the Hall of Independence, with singular felicity, was appropriated as his drawing room; thus, presenting to the eye, the memory, and the feelings, a combination, animating and interesting beyond the power of language to express.





View of the Island of Hawaii.

Painted by J. G. ...

THE ... OF ...  
FROM THE ... BANK OF THE ...

Painted by C. ...

Copied by ...





Engraved by T. S. Ashby.

Illustrated by T. S. Ashby.

THE SUGAR-FACTORY AT PUNAHOU, HAWAII.

FROM THE COLLECTION

OF THE U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Copyright, 1882.



## PHILADELPHIA.

### FAIRMOUNT WATER-WORKS.

THE erection of those vast works of art, which add to the comforts, and minister to the wants of a people, are the most acceptable efforts of a government, and secure to it the surest praise and lasting glory. By such works, men who have stained themselves with blood and trampled on unregarded laws, have soothed the sufferings which they caused, and even blended the wreath of popular applause with the crown of conquest and triumph. By such works, monarchs who have lavished thousands on their own caprices, have been pardoned, by the gratitude of those who were willing to forget what they suffered in the enjoyment of what they gained. To such works we turn our first attention, in estimating the happiness and pointing out the glories of other nations; and we look upon their relics, among the ruins of past glory and grandeur, with feelings which are never roused by the more splendid and more perfect trophies of useless magnificence.

These then should be our arts; and sincerely do we hail every rising edifice, which is to confer some new blessing, by adding to the innocent enjoyments of our people, and ennobling while it adorns the increasing prosperity of the republic.

From the earliest times, Philadelphia has not been wanting in the spirit which leads to such enterprises, though it has not always been accompanied either with the knowledge or taste which renders them successful as works of utility, and beautiful as specimens of art. With the present century, however, a new era commenced, and, with few exceptions, our public works have been such as may be viewed without shame, while their benefits can never be too highly estimated.

Among these, the Water-works at Fairmount are perhaps the most conspicuous. After several plans had been tried with more or less success, to supply the city with abundance of wholesome water, the scheme of elevating and turning into it the river Schuylkill, by means of an immense dam and

## PHILADELPHIA.

water power, was determined upon in the year 1818. This plan was at once boldly adopted, and has been crowned with complete success. Its principal features are—the construction of a dam, fourteen hundred and sixteen feet in length, across the Schuylkill, which backs the water up the river about six miles, and creates a power sufficient to raise into the reservoir ten millions of gallons a-day; the forcing pumps, at present four in number, placed in a horizontal position, worked by cranks on the water-wheels, and connected with four mains of sixteen inches diameter each, and about two hundred and ninety feet in length, which convey the water into the reservoirs; the reservoirs, situated on the top of Fairmount, at an elevation of one hundred and two feet above low tide of the Schuylkill, and fifty-six feet above the highest ground in the city of Philadelphia, covering an extent of more than three hundred thousand square feet, and capable of containing twenty millions of gallons of water; and finally the mains and pipes, which pass from the reservoirs to the city, and are then laid along the different streets, extending, at this time, to the length of thirty-two miles. Though the cost of this work has of course been great, not indeed falling short of a million of dollars, yet the advantages derived from it are such, as more than to redeem all expense; and it has even been found to be a source of profit in a financial point of view. The water-tax, which is exceedingly small, after providing for all the present expenses, and paying the interest on the sum laid out, produces a surplus which is applied to the reduction of the principal, and will entirely liquidate it, at no very remote period.

The situation of Fairmount is exceedingly picturesque, and the works themselves are constructed with great neatness; it is a favourite resort of the citizens, and the view of it is highly interesting, blending as it does the beauty of nature with the ornaments of useful art, and the gaiety and animation of groups of well dressed people.





Drawn by Capt. J. R. Watson.

Engraved by C. C. Chapman.

**VIEW ON THE BAY OF YOKOHAMA.**

FROM THE OLD WATER WORKS.

*Pub. by C. C. White, Engineer, Philadelphia - Pa.*

## PHILADELPHIA.

### THE RIVER SCHUYLKILL.

RIVERS in all ages and countries have been regarded with a species of exclusive, even of patriotic feeling. They are the favourite theme of poets, they have been adorned by fancy with a thousand new beauties, they have been endued with miraculous attributes, and assigned as the abode of deities. In the burning and sandy regions of the East, rivers are said to exist in icy coldness; others, to bear fertility in their waters, and to distribute new blessings among the regions through which they flow. Travellers can yet discover in dry plains the once famous fountains of Greece, from the graphic descriptions in which her writers delighted to indulge. There is scarcely a stream in Italy, from the silent Liris to the majestic Po, that is not adorned and immortalized by genius. All the waters that wander through the irriguous valleys of England, from old father Thames to the remote and sylvan Wye, have been recorded in the familiar pages of poetry and romance, till they seem something more than the features of inanimate nature, and are fixed in the mind as objects of peculiar veneration and love.

Imagination has scarcely yet given these additional charms to the streams of America, but as in native beauty they far surpass all that the old world can offer, so in future times there may arise new Virgils and new Miltons to endow them with that which genius and fancy only can add to nature. The character of vast grandeur that has been impressed upon her mountains, her forests, her cataracts, and her boundless prairies, has also distinguished her rivers; and the endless torrents which flow through the beds of the Mississippi and the Amazon, have caused her smaller streams to pass unnoticed, though they may well rival the most boasted of Europe.

Of these no one exceeds the SCHUYLKILL in various usefulness and beauty. It flows for more than a hundred miles through the state of Pennsylvania, its shores covered with luxuriant forests, with fields rich in every product of agricul-

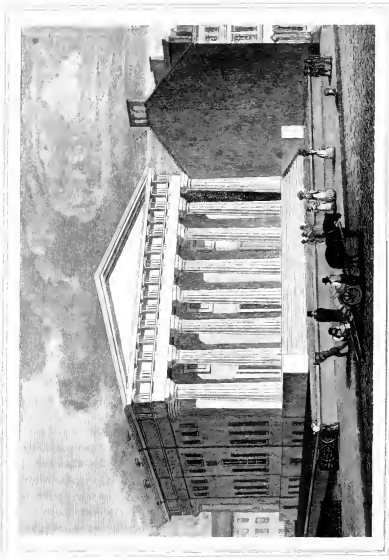
## PHILADELPHIA.

ture, and with mines of valuable minerals. The scenery is picturesque beyond description. Here are seen spreading along its banks, villas and verdant lawns—there the eye can penetrate but a little way into woods of primeval growth; occasionally a passage is worn through ridges of mountains rising precipitously on either side, the channel studded with gigantic rocks, scattered with the wildest irregularity—in other places the stream spreads into broad and placid sheets of water, as bright and as beautiful as the lakes of Italy.

The annexed engraving presents a view of the SCHUYLKILL, where it passes the western limits of Philadelphia. The two bridges by which it is there crossed are both delineated, and as noble specimens of enterprise and art they are deserving of attention and examination. The lower or Permanent Bridge is thirteen hundred feet in length, and consists of three arches, of which the centre one has a span of one hundred and ninety-five feet, and an elevation from the surface of the river of thirty-one feet; the western pier is a work of regular and solid masonry, in a depth of water forty-one feet, in which respect it is supposed to exceed every other in the world. It was executed in forty-one days and nights, and contains six thousand one hundred and seventy-eight perches of stone. The Upper Bridge, at Fairmount, consists of a single arch of great beauty, stretching over the whole surface of the river, and is three hundred and thirty-four feet wide, a span believed to be greater than any other in existence.

Beyond these works are seen the celebrated structures that supply the city with water; on the right of the foreground the buildings originally erected for the same purpose; and around, the increasing edifices, which are fast depriving the stream of every picturesque feature, and leaving it rather the channel of abundant commerce, than an object of admiration to the lover of simple nature.





Drawn by Geo. S. Stoddard

Engraved by J. C. Smith

**BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.**

*Hobby Club's Favorite Philadelphia*

*1898, Right, second*



## PHILADELPHIA.

### THE BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Bank of the United States was incorporated in the year 1816, with a capital of thirty-five millions of dollars, distributed between the Parent Bank and nineteen Branches. To describe its nature and its operations, would lead us too far from our present purpose, which is simply to illustrate, by a short explanation, the view of the Building at Philadelphia, in which the general administration of the Bank and its branches is concentrated.

The corner stone was laid in April, 1819, and the whole was finished near the close of 1824. The cost of the ground was \$155,628—of the structure itself, \$257,452—making an aggregate of \$413,081; an expense which may be regarded as very moderate, when we consider the great mass of materials which it contains; there being not less than 41,500 cubic feet of marble in the porticos and walls—about 3 millions of bricks, and 3000 perches of building stone, and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  tons of copper on the roof.

In choosing the situation of such a building, its centrality and its convenience for business, were of course more important considerations than picturesque effect; and the lot—a parallelogram of 152 feet by 225—is, on that account, more circumscribed than would be desirable. This defect was to be obviated by placing the structure as far as possible from the street—by insulating it entirely—by interposing nothing between the spectator and the building—and by raising the foundation so as to acquire for the whole an artificial elevation, which to the eye would produce the effect of distance. Accordingly, in the centre of the ground is constructed a terrace, 3 feet high, 119 feet in front, and 225 in depth, serving as the foundation from which, at the distance of 16 feet from its front and flank edges, the building rises. It occupies 87 feet in front, and 187 feet in depth, including the steps, or 161 feet excluding them. On reaching the terrace, which, in

## PHILADELPHIA.

order to preserve its form entire, is done by steps in the rear of the gateways, the building is approached by a flight of steps along the whole front—13 in number, and occupying 13 feet in depth. These lead to the portico, which has a base-ment of 10 feet 6 inches in width, on which stand eight Grecian Doric columns, 4 feet 6 inches in diameter, 27 feet in height—fluted, and without bases, and supporting a simple entablature and a pediment, which, like the roof, has just that degree of elevation necessary to carry off the water—the vertical angle being  $153^{\circ}$ . Behind the columns, and at the due distance from them—the width between the two columns at the end of the portico—is the wall of the building. The door opens upon a vestibule of 30 feet by 18 in width, the ceiling of which is richly worked, and the pavement tessellated with American and Italian marble. On the right and left sides are the Loan Office and Transfer Office. From the vestibule, an arched entrance leads to the Banking room, situated in the centre of the building, and extending 48 feet in breadth, and 81 feet in length. Through the whole of this length, on each side, at the distance of ten feet from the walls, is a range of six fluted Ionic columns, twenty-two inches in diameter, behind which are ranged the desks of the Officers of the Bank, so as to leave the whole of the interior open. These columns support an entablature, from which spring the central and side arches. The great central arch is of a semi-cylindrical form—20 feet in diameter, and 81 in length—and raises the ceiling to the height of 35 feet from the floor to the crown of the arch. At the four corners of the Banking room are the rooms of the President, Cashier, and other principal officers of the Bank. Towards the south, a second arched entrance conducts to the Stockholders' room, a parallelogram of 28 feet by 50 feet. Into this room open two smaller apartments, and also the two staircases leading to the upper part of the building. To the Stockholders' room succeeds the southern portico, which is exactly similar to that on the north.

The whole is built with marble from the quarries of Montgomery County, near the city—the interior is vaulted throughout and arched, so as to be entirely fire proof, and the roof is coppered.

## PHILADELPHIA.

The Banking room is warmed, during winter, by a furnace below, the heat from which diffuses an equal temperature throughout its whole extent, while in summer the massiveness of the structure preserves its coolness.

From this sketch may be gathered the degree of its resemblance to the ancient temples, and especially to the Parthenon, from which some of its proportions are taken. In its general dimensions it is much larger than the Temple of Theseus at Athens, and smaller than the Parthenon. Their respective proportions are these:—

	Front excluding steps.	Length excluding steps
Temple of Theseus,	45 ft. 2 in.	104 ft. 2 in.
Parthenon,	101 ft. 1 in.	227 ft. 7 in.
Bank U. S.,	87 ft.	161 ft.

making the Parthenon 14 feet 1 inch wider, and 66 feet 7 inches longer than the Bank; but as the Temple of Theseus has only two steps, and the Parthenon only three, while the Bank has 13, extending 13 feet on each front, the length of the buildings, respectively, including the steps, would be considerably varied, the length of the Bank, from the outer step, being 187 feet, that of the Parthenon, 236 feet 9 inches. The comparison may be best illustrated by the fact that the Parthenon with its steps, covers an extent of ground nearly, but not quite equal, to the area of the terrace of the Bank.

As however the double row of columns in the portico and the flanking colonnade required so much space, the actual dimensions of the interior of the two buildings are much more nearly equal than these proportions would indicate. Thus:—the enclosed part of the Parthenon was in width 70 feet 6 inches; in length, 158 feet 7 inches; and the whole area of the enclosure was therefore 11,181 feet: while the enclosure of the Bank is in width 87 feet; in length, 141 feet; making an area of 12,267 feet, or 1,806 feet more than that of the Parthenon.

The interior of the Parthenon, after deducting the Pronaos and Posticum at the two ends, occupying 12 feet each, was divided into two rooms, the Treasury or Opisthodomos of 62 feet by 42 feet 10 inches, and the great central hall, the scene of all the exhibitions, which was 98 feet 7 inches by 42 feet

## PHILADELPHIA.

10 inches, while the Banking room is 48 feet by 81, giving an area very nearly equal.

The principal differences between the two buildings are these. The Parthenon had a colonnade on the flanks, which here is wanting. This beautiful ornament was probably deemed too costly, and we may reconcile ourselves to the loss of it, by the reflection, that in a building destined to receive its light from the side, it might have too much overshadowed the scene of business. The Parthenon has been regarded as what is technically called *hypæthral*—that is, having its roof open in the centre, as would be the middle aisle of a modern church. Recent observations by detecting something of the later ages in the columns of the interior, have excited doubts as to this fact, which the present dilapidation of the building will forever render inexplicable—but the probability is, that the light of the Parthenon came from the roof, not from the sides—and the flanking colonnade would, on that account, present no inconvenience.

The other difference, the absence of the second row of columns in the portico, is scarcely to be regretted. Behind the front row in the Parthenon stood a second row of smaller dimensions. This was very rare in Greek architecture—and the effect of it is of doubtful advantage, for it tends to complicate the simplicity of the portico, by multiplying the objects embraced in it, and particularly to disguise that established proportion of distance between the columns and the wall of the building which is so beautiful. Nor need we lament more the want of many other ornaments with which ancient architecture was overloaded. The Parthenon still retains the pedestals (the *acroteria*) at the top and the ends of the pediment. What these supported can be only conjectured—but they were probably either gilt vases as at the temple of Jupiter at Olympia, or gilt chariots as at the Propylæa, in Corinth. Then too the sculptures in the pediment of the Parthenon were gilded, as was the frieze of the temple of Theseus at Athens, and the cornice of the Propylæa at Athens—incongruities these, rejected by the severer taste of our day, which is more satisfied with the uniformity of colour in the pediment, and the well defined continuity of the edge of the

## PHILADELPHIA.

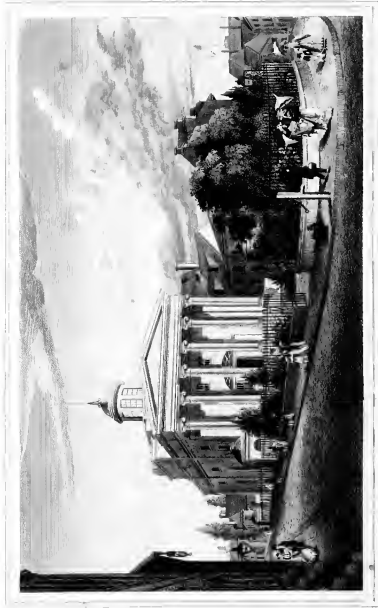
roof. These beauties are here admirably displayed. The portico of the Bank is indeed its great ornament, and it is one of the highest merit. The proportions are modelled on those of the Parthenon in all their severity, and there is perhaps nothing now standing, which excels it for that pure and chaste simplicity, the most endearing charm alike of character and of architecture, which we cannot too often or too anxiously recommend to the study and imitation of our countrymen. This ought to be emphatically the country for the triumph of architecture. In Europe, the demand for palaces, churches, and even prisons, is nearly exhausted; but in this new and growing region, where so many states are displaying the honourable pride of sovereignty, by embellishing the seats of their legislatures, where so many towns and counties require edifices for the public service, and where religion—which in every age has done more for the arts, than all their other patrons, is daily multiplying its temples—we may hope, that our American architecture may soon assume the rank to which these advantages naturally lead. For this purpose, it is of great importance to preserve the purity of the public taste—to wean it from the admiration of gaudy and showy exhibitions, and to fix its choice on those pure and simple forms, such as are embodied in this building, which so harmoniously associate the beautiful and the useful, and which have no rival, and can have no superior, in the deep and enduring impressions they stamp on the mind. They who are once familiarized with Doric architecture, become impatient of every other; the eye and the mind are soon satiated with the refinements of mere decoration, and seek repose in the calm and even stern simplicity of this style, which is happily adapted, not less to the institutions and habits, than the climate of this country. *To the institutions*—for if there be any analogy between public works and the public spirit which achieves them, we may naturally look for the simplest style of architecture in that nation, which above all others, has assumed as the basis of its institutions, the utmost simplicity in all the forms of its government. The expectation may be encouraged by the fact, that in this country, as among the great people to whom we owe these structures, the equal mediocrity of fortunes by

## PHILADELPHIA.

preventing private citizens from rearing large buildings, has made us seek to gratify the national pride by the magnificence of our public edifices, in which every citizen has his due share alike of the burden and the glory, and by the ennobling reflection, that all our great works are the common property of the nation—at once the evidences and the fruits of public prosperity. It belongs essentially also to our *habits*, to require that these structures should be erected with every regard to economy, and in that respect the style of architecture we are noticing has every attraction; for in this, as in all other pursuits, the fanciful and the superfluous are generally the most costly—while the simple is at once the best and the cheapest. It would not perhaps be practicable, to unite the materials of this building in any form less expensive: and when we compare its cost with that of similar structures elsewhere, we discover a new proof, that the adoption of the purest models is recommended equally by taste and economy. In regard to *climate*, as we must provide against the extremes of heat and cold, that mode of building seems preferable, for both health and pleasure, which by its thick walls and small windows, possesses the double power of retaining in summer its own coolness, and excluding in winter the colder atmosphere without.

It remains only to offer the honour due to the architect. Before commencing the building, a public competition was invited and plans presented from various parts of the union. The choice fell on that exhibited by William Strickland, Esq. by whom the whole work was executed, with what success will best appear from the details into which we have been tempted—the admiration of the work being the most appropriate and grateful homage to the artist.





Drawn by Geo. Strookland.

Engraved by Wm. L. Tuckert.

**BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA.**

*Pub. by C. S. Childs. Engraver Philadelphia 1827.*



## PHILADELPHIA.

### THE BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA.

THIS chaste and classical building was designed by the late B. H. Latrobe, Esq. Its principal front is situated on Second Street, near Walnut; and the engraving represents the western portico and ornamented grounds, viewed from a point near Dock Street.

By professional men this edifice is deservedly ranked in the first class of architecture, both for its simplicity of design, and beauty of execution.

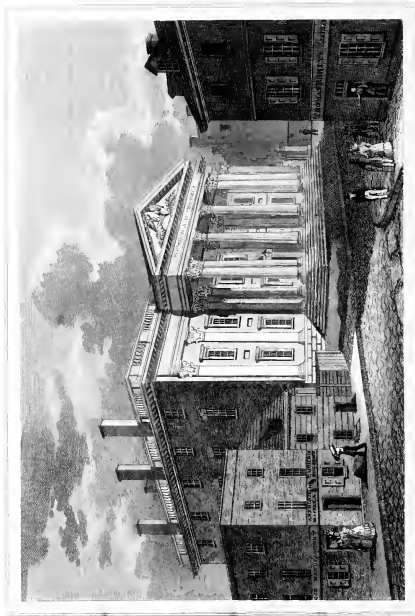
The plan is a parallelogram of 51 feet by 126 feet, and is technically termed Amphiprostyle, having two hexastyle porticos of marble, one on each of the principal fronts. In the main subdivisions of the first floor, there are four fire-proof rooms, for the accommodation of the president, cashier, stockholders, &c. It also contains a circular banking-room, 45 feet in diameter, which is situated in the centre of the building, and surmounted by an interior dome covered with marble, and lighted by a lantern from the roof.

The proportions of the columns and entablature of the porticos, are copied from a celebrated Ionic temple on the Ilyssus near Athens, and, with the exception of a few slight deviations in the sculpture of the capitals and architrave, which are more highly enriched, the architect has produced an example of the Grecian Ionic in all its original purity and simplicity.

The mouldings throughout the building, like those of its prototype, differ much from all other modern examples of the order; their forms are extremely simple, but withal elegant, and the whole is so well executed, that it may doubtlessly be considered the best specimen of the Ionic in any country, and highly honourable to our taste in the art of building.







Drawn by Geo. Shrevekland.

**STATE BANK OF OHIO.**

LATE UNITED STATES BANK.

Architect, *Wm. C. Cullen*, 1837. *1837*  
*1837*

Engraved by J. C. Childs.

## PHILADELPHIA.

### GIRARD'S BANK.

THE building occupied by Mr. Girard for his Bank, ranks among the choice architectural embellishments of Philadelphia. It was begun in the year 1795, and completed in 1798, having been originally constructed for the accommodation of the old Bank of the United States. But upon the expiration of the charter of that institution, Congress refused to renew it, and the building has since been purchased by Mr. Girard, whose private banking-house has long enjoyed a degree of confidence equal to any public establishment.

The edifice under consideration, stands on the west side of South Third Street, nearly facing Dock Street, from which the accompanying view was taken. It occupies an oblong square, ninety-six feet in front, by seventy-two in depth. The front is constructed of white marble, from a design by Mr. Blodget. The side walls are of brick. The original cost of the structure, including the ground-plot, was about \$250,000.

Six Corinthian columns, with fluted shafts and richly sculptured capitals, support the entablature and pediment. These pillars have corresponding pilasters. The intercolumniations are equidistant, except those of the angular columns, which are coupled. The frieze is plain, and bears an inscription in gilt letters—

FOUNDED A. D. MDCCXCV.

A bass-relief, representing the American eagle, cornucopiæ, and other appropriate national insignia, ornament the tympanum of the pediment.

The portico is elevated on its three sides upon seven marble steps. The spaces between the portico and the angles of the main building, have each two fluted pilasters, which extend from the basement to the cornice.

A door in the centre of the front, leads from the portico through a vestibule into the interior, where we find the banking-room. Through the middle of this, a semicylindrical arch

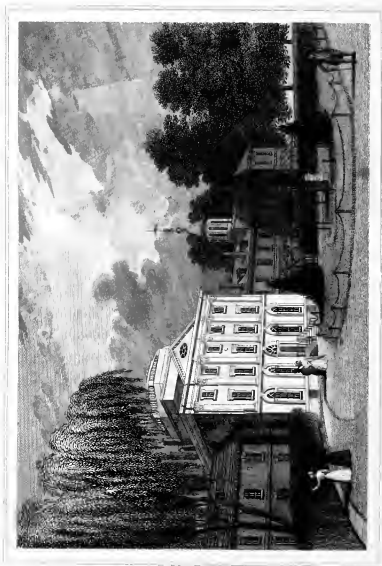
## PHILADELPHIA.

runs from the front backwards, supported by columns and entablatures of the Corinthian order. Between these columns and the side walls are the counters and officers' desks. Windows on all sides admit an abundance of light.

This building appertains to that classic order of temples which the Greeks termed Prostyle, from the columns being placed only at the front or entrance. That the designs appropriated by the ancients to sacred edifices, should be applied by moderns to those destined for commercial purposes, though apparently inconsistent at first view, will appear less so when we consider that the Greeks themselves often made their most magnificent temples serve as banks, where the treasures deposited by individuals and states were protected by a commission separate from the regular priesthood.

The Corinthian order does not appear to have been much employed in Greece, previous to the invasion of the Romans. These proud conquerors seem to have adopted it as a very great favourite, introducing it almost exclusively throughout their extensive empire, especially in the construction of their triumphal arches. To edifices intended as receptacles of riches, the characters of the order seem peculiarly appropriate. But it is, nevertheless, the type of a higher degree of luxury and gorgeous magnificence than has yet existed on this side of the Atlantic, where the more plain and substantial, but chaste and noble Doric and Ionic, harmonize best with the prevailing genius and institutions.





HARRISBURG, PENN.

Engraved by COCHER.

PENNSYLVANIA, HARRISBURG.

As by COCHER'S Engraver Philadelphia. 1848

Opposite Second



## PHILADELPHIA.

### PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL.

As early as 1707, but twenty-five years after the landing of *William Penn* on the shores of the Delaware, the subject of establishing a Hospital, claimed the attention of some of his benevolent followers. It was not however until 1751, that several distinguished individuals associated, and laid the foundation of the Pennsylvania Hospital, the first institution of the kind in the western hemisphere. In the last mentioned year, the contributors to this valuable charity, made their original election of the following named gentlemen, as managers; viz.—Joshua Crosby, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Bond, Samuel Hazard, Hugh Roberts, Richard Peters, Joseph Morris, John Smith, Evan Morgan, Charles Norris, Israel Pemberton, jr., Samuel Rhodes; Treasurer, John Reynell.

On the 28th of the 5th month, (May,) 1755, the east wing of the present edifice was commenced under their direction, and a block of marble was laid as a corner stone, bearing the following inscription:—

“ In the year of Christ  
MDCCLV.  
George the Second happily reigning,  
[For he sought the happiness of his People]  
Philadelphia flourishing,  
[For its inhabitants were public spirited]  
This Building  
By the bounty of the Government,  
And of many private persons,  
Was piously founded  
For the relief of the sick and miserable.—  
May the God of mercies  
Bless the undertaking.”

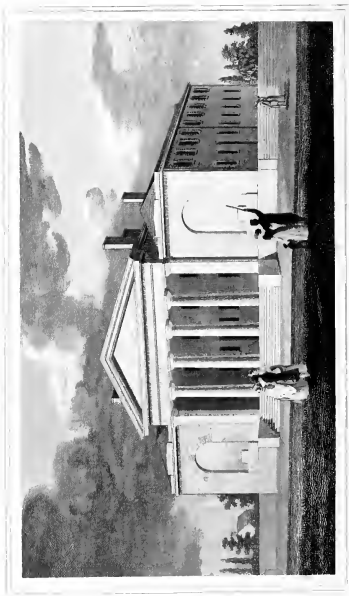
The Hospital in its present form, together with its appurtenances, occupies the whole square between Eighth and Ninth, and Spruce and Pine streets, and fronts to the south

## PHILADELPHIA.

on the latter.—It consists of a central square park, united by two long buildings to two wings, running north and south, and parallel with the sides of the original square. The centre is about sixty-three feet in length, by sixty-one, in depth—the eastern long building is eighty-one feet, by twenty-seven, and the east wing twenty-eight feet, east and west, by one hundred and eleven, in the north and south direction. The western long building is eighty-one feet, by thirty-three feet—the west wing thirty feet, by one hundred and eleven. The length of the whole is two hundred and eighty-five feet.—In the centre building are a spacious hall and staircases—a library room, containing about six thousand volumes—the apothecary's establishment—an elegant amphitheatre for surgical operations—a lying-in ward—a female sick ward—chambers for the resident physicians, and rooms for the steward's family. The apartments on the west of the centre building are exclusively devoted to the insane, and will comfortably accommodate upwards of one hundred patients. The medical and surgical wards are on the east, in which one hundred and sixty patients may be conveniently provided for. There are several other buildings on the square, one containing *West's celebrated Picture of Christ Healing the Sick*—two extensive green houses—a commodious stable, work shops, &c. &c. Large lots, enclosed, and under cultivation, adjoin the Hospital square, and the space of ground belonging to the institution, is nearly fifteen acres. On the top of the centre building, where the visiter is protected by a balustrade, a fine view of the city and neighbouring country is afforded. There are several objects of much interest connected with this noble establishment, among which an excellent statue of Penn, the founder of the state, of lead bronzed, presented by his grandson—a fine collection of exotic plants—and the range of lofty buttonwood trees which were planted seventy-two years ago, and surround the square on which the Hospital stands, are worthy of notice.

From the foundation of this institution down to the first day of January, 1828, there have been admitted to its benefits no less than *twenty-four thousand nine hundred and eighty-three patients*.





Engraved by J. G. Wallis.

Drawn by C. A. Stoddard.

PAENITENTIAE CONVENTIONIS PRO MORBIS ET LOCUSTIS.

Pub. by Ciculae Typogr. Philadelphia 1821.

## PHILADELPHIA.

### PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

ON the eighth of April, 1820, Horace Binney, Clement C. Biddle, Joseph Corea de Serra (late minister from Portugal to the United States), Jacob Gratz, Dr. N. Chapman, and William Wilkins, of Pittsburgh, assembled by invitation at the residence of Roberts Vaux, in this city, to consider the propriety of establishing an institution for the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb. It was there determined to call a meeting of a larger number of gentlemen at the Hall of the American Philosophical Society, on the 20th of the same month. The meeting took place on the appointed day, at which the Right Reverend William White presided, and William Meredith officiated as secretary.

Mr. R. Vaux offered some observations on the importance of the subject, and laid before the gentlemen assembled an outline of a constitution providing for the organization of the contemplated establishment, which being approved, subscriptions were immediately made, and an association formed. On a subsequent day, officers and directors were chosen by the contributors; and soon after, temporary accommodations were provided for the reception of pupils.

The contributors to the institution were incorporated by an act of the General Assembly, passed on the 8th of February, 1821, and the legislature liberally endowed it by a grant of eight thousand dollars; and also provided for the payment of one hundred and sixty dollars per annum, for the support and education of every indigent mute child of suitable age in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which should be admitted to the institution.

The system of instruction adopted in this establishment is that of the Abbés de l'Épée and Sicard, which has been so successfully practised in Europe.

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The whole number of pupils who have hitherto partaken of the benefits of the institution, is one hundred and thirty-eight; and eighty are now under its care.

The Asylum, located on the west side of Broad, near the corner of Pine Street, was designed by Haviland, and is constructed of granite: the foundation was laid in the month of May, 1824. It is composed of a centre building, fifty feet front by sixty-three in depth; with wings of two stories, each twenty-five feet in width, and extending at right angles with the centre ninety-two feet, and the whole front is ninety-six feet six inches.

The Asylum was built with reference to the convenience and safety of its inmates: the basement is appropriated for dining-rooms, work shops, baths, apartments for culinary and other domestic purposes. The next floor is devoted to parlours, offices, a chapel, and spacious passages to the wings, where the children pass the time not employed in school, or in the courts or shops. The upper story of the main building is divided into school-rooms, and chambers for the Principal, teachers, matron, &c.

The pupils are lodged in the second story of the wings, the sexes being carefully separated; and for security against fire, the stair-cases from the basement to the chambers are of marble.

One afternoon in every week is assigned for the admission of strangers sojourning in the city, who may be disposed to visit the Asylum, and witness the exercises of the pupils; for which purpose a card must be obtained from one of the directors.





THE UNIVERSITY BUILDING



## PHILADELPHIA.

### UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

THE annexed plate represents a south-east view of this building, situated in Ninth street, between Market and Chesnut streets. It was erected in pursuance of an act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, passed in 1791, as a mansion for *Washington*, then *President* of the *United States*, in testimony of the grateful sense entertained for his eminent services. But, on its completion, it was found that constitutional difficulties existed as to its acceptance by the President; and the offer on the part of the State was politely declined by Mr. Adams, who had succeeded to the office of Chief Magistrate of the Union.

By purchase, it ultimately became the property of the Trustees of the University, and in 1802 it was taken possession of, and has since been occupied by the several schools which belong to this ancient Seminary.

In 1807, from the vast increase of students in the Medical Department, the Trustees were induced to add the large wing on the south flank of the main building, for the accommodation of the several classes. The whole structure, though wanting in classical taste, and established rules of architecture, is imposing from its magnitude; and, perhaps, as regards the extent and convenience of its internal arrangements, is not surpassed by any in this country.

In the University, there are, at present, four faculties: that of the Arts, the Physical Sciences, Law, and Medicine. It is the latter only, however, which flourishes, having each session averaged, for a long term of years, between four and five hundred students, and continues to maintain a decided ascendancy over all the other Medical Institutions of the United States.

We learn, with satisfaction, that the Trustees have, for some time, been actively engaged in an endeavour to reform the other departments, and are nearly prepared to carry into execution, a plan by which the University shall again become worthy of its former renown, rendered commensurate with its ample endowments, and suited in every respect to the character of an opulent, literary, and enlightened City.







University of Turin

UNIVERSITY OF TURIN

University of Turin

## PHILADELPHIA.

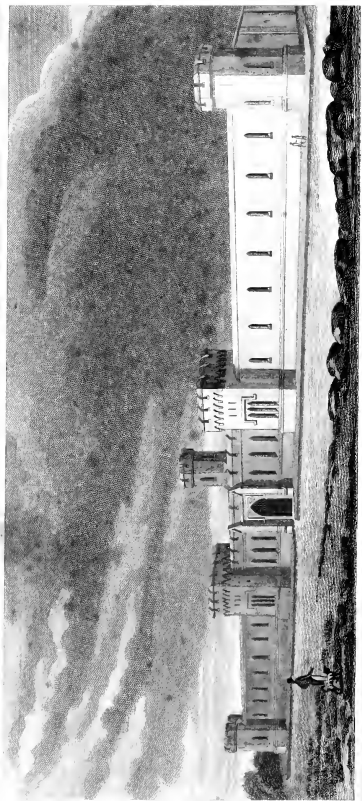
### THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS,

WAS founded in the year 1805, by the voluntary association and contributions of a number of the citizens of Philadelphia; and received a charter from the Legislature of the state in March, 1806. The objects of this institution are not confined to providing an elegant and rational recreation for the public; nor to that improvement of the public taste which must result from the collection and exhibition of the most celebrated works of art in statuary, painting, architecture, and engraving. It is also a school for the young artists of our country, where their genius is fostered, and their knowledge and taste cultivated, by placing at their disposal the finest models of antiquity, particularly in statuary and architectural drawings. From a small beginning, the Academy has now become fully adequate to the great purposes of its institution. The building consists of a circular saloon, forty-six feet in diameter, the entrance into which is by a handsome vestibule. The saloon is lighted from a lofty dome, constructed in correct proportions. It was originally intended for works of statuary, but it is now hung with fine pictures, for which it affords an excellent light. On the north of the saloon, there is an entrance into a gallery, also used for pictures, which is fifty feet in length, and thirty feet in width, lighted from the ceiling. On the east is the "antique gallery," in which the statues and busts are arranged on pedestals. This gallery is sixty-six feet long and twenty-five wide, lighted from the ceiling; at the south end of it the library is placed. A large vacant space remains on the west for further additions and improvements. An exhibition is annually held in the Academy for six weeks, to which American artists are invited to send their productions, and where pictures of distinguished merit, from private collections, are also displayed.

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The walls of the picture galleries are now covered with paintings of the ancient and modern schools, some of them by masters of the highest celebrity. Among these, are *Diana and her Nymphs*, by Rubens; *Virgin and Child*, by Vandyke; *Magdalen*, by Titian; *Napoleon crossing the Alps*, by David; *Joseph Napoleon in his coronation robes*, by Gerard; &c. &c. The *Antique Gallery* contains casts of all the most celebrated Grecian statues, and busts, together with several from the hand of Canova. The library is adorned with many splendid works of engravings, in various departments, as well as with some valuable volumes on the arts.





Engraved by W. M. Bennett

Engraved by C. C. Smith

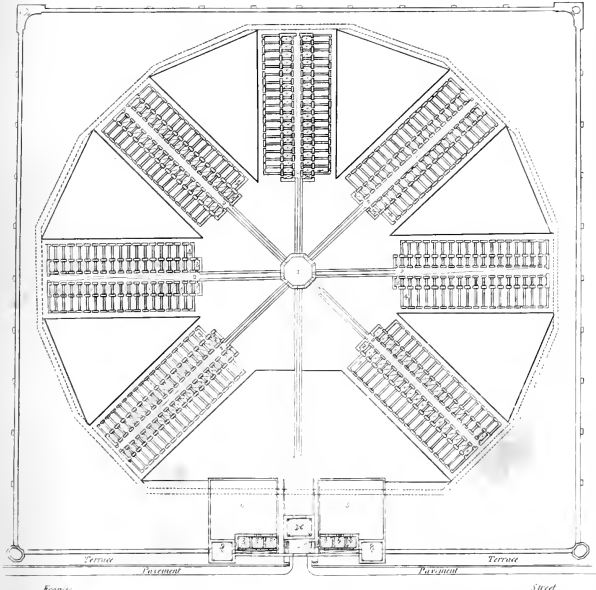
**EASTERN PENITENTIARY OF PENNSYLVANIA.**

*Philadelphia Architectural Engraver 165 Chestnut St. Decr. 1829.*

*Copy right owned*



PLAN OF THE HOSPITAL, THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.



Front

Street

Location

1. Entrance - 2. Corridor - 3. Halls - 4. Yards - 5. Working Garden - 6. Operating Hall - 7. Dispensary - 8. Apartments over these is the hospital and beneath are the cellars and offices - 9. Reception apartments - 10. Superior apartment over which are the hospital rooms. The floor of the hospital is over water - the apartments are the above water level.



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### THE EASTERN PENITENTIARY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

THE prevention of crimes and the reformation of criminals, in lieu of the vindictive infliction of pain on offenders, are *now* almost universally acknowledged to be the only legitimate objects of human punishments. Policy and humanity equally dictate the application of severity sufficient to prevent offenders repeating their crimes, and to deter others from following their example. The intentional addition of any further suffering constitutes cruelty. However obvious this theory may appear at the present day, its justice has been but recently acknowledged; and in practice it is to the present hour almost unknown throughout the greater part of Christendom. The gratification of vengeance and securing the persons of convicts to prevent the *immediate* repetition of offences, appear to have constituted the only design of imprisonment, until near the conclusion of the last century. In the prisons at that period, the mixture of all ages, ranks, and sexes, into one corrupting leavened mass of shameless iniquity, and the unrestrained intercourse which was permitted day and night, rendered the consignment of a juvenile offender to these abodes of depravity, a certain sentence of moral death: he who entered their gates a novice in guilt, accomplished his education in villany, and leaving character, shame, independence, and every incentive to voluntary industry and virtue within their walls—departed an adept in crime, ignorant only of his duties; prepared to practise at the expense of society, those lessons of vice which its folly had forced on his acquaintance, and almost compelled him to exercise as a profession when discharged.

Such was the condition of these colleges of vice, as they have been too correctly denominated, when the *first* association for the purpose of ameliorating Prison Discipline was formed in Philadelphia on the 7th of February, 1776. This

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society is therefore entitled to the distinguished honour of leading the way in this novel and important subject. It is the venerable parent of the numerous institutions for the promotion of similar objects which are now in active progress throughout the world. The revolution suspended the existence of this association, which was however revived in 1787, under the name of the Philadelphia Society for alleviating the miseries of Public Prisons, and has ever since continued to pursue its labours of benevolence.

The contamination resulting from the association of prisoners, and the prejudicial effects resulting from their acquaintance with each other, induced this body to petition the legislature to separate the convicts, and finally to adopt the only effectual system, viz.—separate or solitary confinement. The celebrated law which was enacted April 5th, 1790, authorized the construction of 30 solitary cells, which were consequently built and occupied. Numerous other improvements were introduced, the effects of which were soon visible in the reduced number of convictions, and in the reformation of the inmates of the prison. This institution, the first in which the system of solitary or separate confinement was adopted, rapidly acquired celebrity throughout the Union, and many parts of Europe, where it has been subsequently imitated. During the last year, upwards of 4000 convicts have been sentenced to solitary confinement in the kingdoms of Great Britain and France alone.

Causes, which it is unnecessary to describe, in a few years crowded this Penitentiary with inmates, and consequently rendered the operation of the new system almost impracticable. Repeated memorials of the society, and of other philanthropists, finally induced the Legislature of Pennsylvania, in 1817, to authorize the construction of a prison at Pittsburg; and in 1821, another at Philadelphia, in which the separate confinement of every convict day and night could be fully accomplished. The latter of which is the subject of the present notice.

The Eastern State Penitentiary is situated on one of the most elevated, airy, and healthy sites in the vicinity of Philadelphia. Large sums have been expended for the purpose of

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giving an unusual degree of solidity and durability to every part of this immense structure, which is the most extensive building in the United States. The ground occupied by it, contains about 10 acres. The material with which the edifices are built, is a greyish granite, or gneiss, employed in large masses; every room is vaulted and fire proof.—The design and execution impart a grave, severe, and awful character to the external aspect of this building. The effect which it produces on the imagination of every passing spectator, is peculiarly impressive, solemn, and instructive. The architecture is in keeping with the design. The broad masses, the small and well proportioned apertures, the continuity of lines, and the bold and expressive simplicity which characterize the features of the façade, are most happily and judiciously combined. The originality of the plan, the excellent arrangement and execution of the details, display the taste and ingenuity of the architect, to whom our country is indebted for some of her noblest edifices—our fellow citizen, Mr. John Haviland. The laborious and gratuitous services of John Bacon Esq., the Chairman of the Building Committee, and of some of the other Commissioners, are entitled to our gratitude. The total cost of this building when finished, will be four hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars. We are not advocates of inconsistent or meretricious decoration, but we may express our gratification that no unwise parsimony rendered the aspect or arrangements of this institution an opprobrium to the liberal, humane, and enlightened character of our commonwealth.

This Penitentiary is the only edifice in this country which is calculated to convey to our citizens the external appearance of those magnificent and picturesque castles of the middle ages, which contribute so eminently to embellish the scenery of Europe.

A reference to the accompanying view and plan will render only a brief description necessary. The front of this building is composed of large blocks of hewn and squared granite; the walls are 12 feet thick at the base, and diminish to the top, where they are  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet in thickness. A wall of thirty feet in height above the interior platform, encloses an area 640 feet

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square: at each angle of the wall is a tower for the purpose of overlooking the establishment; three other towers, which will be presently described are situated near the gate of entrance. The façade or principal front which is represented in the accompanying view is 670 feet in length, and reposes on a terrace, which, from the inequalities of the ground, varies from 3 to 9 feet in height; the basement or belting course, which is 10 feet high, is scarped, and extends uniformly the whole length. The central building is 200 feet in length, consists of two projecting massive square towers 50 feet high, crowned by projecting embattled parapets, supported by pointed arches resting on corbels or bracketts. The pointed mummioned windows in these towers contribute in a high degree to their picturesque effect. The curtain between the towers is 41 feet high, and is finished with a parapet and embrasures. The pointed windows in it are very lofty and narrow. The great gateway in the centre is a very conspicuous feature; it is 27 feet high, and 15 wide, and is filled by a massive wrought iron portcullis, and double oaken gates studded with projecting iron rivets, the whole weighing several tons; nevertheless they can be opened with the greatest facility. On each side of this entrance, (which is the most imposing in the United States,) are enormous solid buttresses diminishing in offsets, and terminating in pinnacles. A lofty octangular tower, 80 feet high, containing an alarm bell and clock, surmounts this entrance, and forms a picturesque proportional centre. On each side of this main building (which contains the apartments of the warden, keepers, domestics &c.,) are screen wing walls, which appear to constitute portions of the main edifice; they are pierced with small blank pointed windows, and are surmounted by a parapet; at their extremities are high octangular towers terminating in parapets pierced by embrasures. In the centre of the great court yard is an observatory, whence long corridors, 8 in number, radiate: (three only of these corridors, &c., are at *present* finished.) On each side of these corridors, the cells are situated, each at right angles to them, and communicating with them only by small openings for the purpose of supplying the prisoner with food, &c., and for the purpose of inspecting his movements without

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attracting his attention; other apertures, for the admission of cool or heated air, and for the purpose of ventilation, are provided. A novel and ingenious contrivance in each cell, which has been frequently described, prevents the possibility of conversation, preserves the purity of the atmosphere of the cells, and dispenses with the otherwise unavoidable necessity of leaving the apartment, except when the regulations permit: flues conduct heated air from large cockle stoves to the cells. Light is admitted by a large circular glass in the crown of the arch, which is raking, and the highest part 16 feet 6 inches above the floor, (which is of wood, overlaying a solid foundation of stone.) The walls are plastered and neatly white-washed; the cells are 11 feet 9 inches long, and 7 feet 6 inches wide: at the extremity of the cell, opposite to the apertures for inspection, &c., previously mentioned, is the doorway, containing two doors; one of lattice work, or grating, to admit the air and secure the prisoner; the other composed of planks to exclude the air, if required; this door leads to a yard (18 feet by 8, the walls of which are  $11\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height) attached to each cell. The number of the latter in the present plan is only 266, but it may be increased to 818, without resorting to the addition of second stories. We have had an opportunity of examining many prisons, and other similar institutions in Europe and this country; but we have never seen a building so admirably adapted to the purposes of security, seclusion, health and convenience, as this Penitentiary. The rooms are larger, viz. containing more cubic feet of air, or space, than a great number of the apartments occupied by industrious mechanics in our city; and if we consider that two or more of the latter frequently work or sleep in the same chamber, they have much less room than will be allotted to the convicts; whose cells, moreover, will be more perfectly ventilated than many of the largest apartments of our opulent citizens.

The convict, on his entrance, after the customary examination, ablution, medical inspection, &c., is clothed, blindfolded and conducted to his cell, where he remains locked up; and after a patient and careful inquiry into his history, and the delivery of an appropriate address to him on the consequences of his

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crime, and the design to be effected by his punishment, he is abandoned to that salutary anguish and remorse which his reflections in solitude must inevitably produce. Every means which have been devised by philanthropy and experience for effecting reformation will be zealously applied. The labour in which the convict will be employed, is considered as an alleviation, not an aggravation of his sentence. Labour prescribed as a *punishment* is an error in legislation, founded on an ignorance of the feelings, the desires and antipathies, the habits and associations, of mankind: the tedious hours spent in solitude will be a punishment sufficiently severe, without rendering the infliction of hard labour, *for this cause*, necessary. The want of occupation will produce a feeling of tedium or irksomeness—the state of mind in which labour or employment will appear to the convict—perhaps for the first time in his life, as a means of preventing uneasy feelings, of producing relief and pleasure; and as the powerful influence of association is acknowledged, this beneficial feeling will become habitual, and after the discharge of the convict from his durance, will be a most effectual safeguard from the temptations of idleness. Accordingly persons duly qualified are employed to teach the prisoner suitable trades, and to instruct him in religion, and in the elements of learning. The prohibition of all intercourse with society, is not, therefore, continual; the visits of the *virtuous* cannot injure, and must benefit the majority of the prisoners, between whom, *alone*, all communication is rendered impossible. The degree of seclusion to be practised, or of labour and other alleviations permitted, may be varied with the varying dispositions of the prisoners. Regular exercise in the yards, in the open air, is permitted, and required when necessary; provided that no two adjoining yards be occupied at the same time, for the purpose of preventing conversation.

From this outline of the system it is obvious that the charge of cruelty, which ignorance and misrepresentation have attempted to attach to it, is untenable. The humane and intelligent, who have sanctioned its adoption in our community almost unanimously, certainly require no defence of the purity of their motives. Among the advocates of this



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system in Europe, we may refer to Howard, Paul, Eden, Mansfield, Blackstone, Paley, Liancourt, Villermé, &c.; and in this country, to the venerable Bishop White, whose whole life has been but one prolonged illustration of that religion which he professes, Dr. Rush, Bradford, Vaux, Wood, Sergeant, Livingston, and many of our most eminent citizens. The intrinsic and obvious excellence of the plan afforded a powerful argument for its adoption upwards of 40 years since. The partial experience of its merits has been beneficially extended in our State and other parts of the Union, notwithstanding the numerous disadvantages which have heretofore attended the trial. The only failures which have occurred in other States, are unquestionably attributable to the absurd and culpable manner in which the process has sometimes been conducted. The experience of several of the European states, as well as of our own commonwealth, incontestably proves that this system of Prison discipline is the most efficient which the wisdom of philanthropists has heretofore devised; that, when administered in a proper manner, the reformation of the great majority of criminals is practicable; that no injury to the health, mental or bodily, of the convicts, occurs; that the severity is sufficient, not only to operate on the inmates of the prison, but to deter others by the example of their sufferings; and finally, that as a means of preventing crimes, it is in fact the most economical. A superficial view of this subject has too frequently led to erroneous conclusions in some of our sister States. The operation of this system diminishing the number of convicts to be maintained by society, of course in some measure diminishes its expense: but the maintenance of criminals, whilst they are confined in prison, constitutes but a small portion of the actual, enormous, and unequal expenditure to which they subject society—their trial and conviction, the support of a numerous and vigilant police to prevent, detect, and punish offences, &c. are onerous but indispensable items. Criminals, when not in prison, are in fact supported at an increased cost by the public. The ravages of the incendiary, the fraud of the counterfeiter, the depredation of the burglar and robber, constitute an unequal, a grievous, an incalculable tax on those members of society,

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who in general are least able to endure the exaction. The habits of criminals tend to pauperism, always to idleness; they are consumers, not producers; their evil example occasions wide spread corruption, terror, and misery. What economist can therefore calculate the real cost of crime? The expenditures in the Penitentiary compose but an insignificant comparative item: that partial view is indeed limited, which is confined by its walls. As "the Pennsylvania system of Prison Discipline" effects, not indeed the extirpation, but the prevention or diminution of crime, to an unknown and unrivalled extent—the dictates of mere economy, of sordid self-interest, as well as of patriotism, humanity, and religion, cry aloud for its general adoption. The prime cost of an efficient labour saving machine is never considered by the intelligent and wealthy capitalist as a wasteful expenditure, but as a productive investment. This Penitentiary will be, strictly speaking, an apparatus for the expeditious, certain, and economical eradication of vice, and the production of reformation. The State of Pennsylvania has exhibited, at once, her wisdom, philanthropy, and munificence, by the erection of this immense and expensive structure, which, in connexion with her other noble institutions, will largely contribute to the amelioration and protection of her population.

G. W. S.





Original designed by Wm. L. Lind Architecture

Designed by Wm. L. Lind

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
127 St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario

## PHILADELPHIA.

### MINT OF THE UNITED STATES.

A RESOLUTION in favour of the establishment of a Mint, was adopted by the old Congress on the 21st February, 1782. The question it appears was at different periods resumed under the Confederation, and on the 16th October, 1786, an ordinance was passed on the subject, which, however, was not carried into effect. The Mint of the United States was eventually instituted at Philadelphia, by an act of Congress, under the Federal Constitution, passed the 2d day of April, 1792, and a few specimens of half dismes were issued before the close of that year. Early in 1793, the general operations of the establishment were commenced, in a very plain dwelling house, purchased for the object, on the east side of Seventh street, between High and Mulberry streets. A rude structure, in the rear of the same lot, was also occupied by a portion of the machinery. In this simple, unpretending style, the institution began its transactions, under the patronage of General Washington, then President of the United States, who duly appreciated its importance, and evinced, by occasional visits, his interest in its prosperity.

During the first few years, the supply of the precious metals, offered for coinage, being very limited, the annual expenditures of the Mint appeared disproportioned to its productiveness, and the general policy of such an establishment was more than once made a question in Congress. The steadfastness of public opinion in its favour, however, sustained it under these discouraging aspects; and it is worthy of remembrance as an example of republican constancy, that even the characteristic and highly liberal feature of the institution, the coinage of both gold and silver free of charge, was invariably maintained. National in its character and its objects, the institution is supported from the public treasury for the general good, and depositors of gold or silver bullion, of standard fineness, receive, without expense, an equal weight in gold or silver coins.

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The average annual coinage of the Mint, from its commencement to the end of the year 1800, was in round numbers, \$362,000. The average of the next ten years, ending with 1810, was \$697,000. That of the succeeding ten years, ending with 1820, may be stated at \$1,166,000, and that of the ten years ending with 1830, at \$1,850,000. The whole coinage, from the establishment of the Mint to the end of the year 1830, may be stated at \$37,000,000.

With the progressive increase of the supply of bullion, the accommodations of the Mint were from time to time enlarged by partial additions; but an extension of power commensurate with the increasing demand for coinage, under the expanding operations of the Bank of the United States, it became apparent, could not be effected by these expedients. In 1827, the bullion deposited by that Bank alone, exceeded the whole supply from all other sources in any previous year, and the whole coinage of that year exceeded three millions of dollars. These impressive facts rendered it indispensably necessary to solicit the consideration of Congress to the expediency of a more extended establishment. This was done in a communication from the Director, addressed to the Hon. John Sergeant, chairman of the committee on the Mint of the House of Representatives, December 23d, 1828. On the 2d of March, 1829, the measure received the sanction of the government, and a liberal provision was made for its accomplishment.

Under this provision a lot was purchased, with the approbation of the President, fronting towards the south on Chesnut street, and towards the north on Penn Square, 150 feet, and extending along Juniper street 204 feet. On this site, on the 4th of July, 1829, was laid the corner stone of the Mint of the United States.

The building is of white marble, from designs furnished by Mr. Strickland. It fronts on Chesnut street, Penn Square, and Juniper street. Its dimensions are 123 feet on the fronts. The flanks, exclusive of the porticos, 139 feet—projection of the porticos each 27 feet—whole flank, 193 feet. The two porticos are each 60 feet in front, containing six columns on Chesnut street, and a like number on Penn Square.

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The order is Ionic, taken from that celebrated Grecian Temple on the Illyssus, near Athens. The columns are three feet each in diameter, fluted, and bound at the neck of the capital with an olive wreath. The entablature of the porticos extends entirely round the fronts and flanks of the building, supported by antæ at the corners, and surmounted at the extremes of the flanks by four pediments.

The building consists of a basement, principal, and attic stories. The officers' rooms, vaults, &c., on the Chesnut street front, and part of the western flank, are arched in a complete fire-proof manner. The roof is entirely of copper, and covers the whole area of the building, with the exception of a court yard in the centre of the interior pile. The court is 55 feet by 84 feet, and is designed to afford a free communication, by means of piazzas in each story, with all parts of the building, and to give additional light to the various apartments contained within its walls.

The entrance from the south portico is into a circular vestibule, communicating, immediately, with the apartments of the Director and Treasurer, and by arched passages with those of the Chief Coiner, Melter, and Refiner, and with the rooms for receiving bullion and delivering coins. These passages communicate also by a marble stair-case in each wing, with the attic story, where are the apartments of the Assayers and Engravers.

The east flank and north section of the edifice contains the rooms appropriated to the operations of the Chief Coiner. The west flank contains those appropriated to the operations of the Melter and Refiner.

In the distribution of the interior of the edifice, no sacrifice has been made of utility to mere display. Solidity of structure, symmetry of arrangement, and a due adaptation of the several apartments to their destined uses, have been chiefly kept in view. Apartments designed for the accommodation of individual officers, are of dimensions merely sufficient for that purpose. Where extended space was essential, this has been finely appropriated.

The important processes of the assay are accordingly provided for, in two suites of rooms, each extending 50 feet by

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20. The operations of the Melter and Refiner are accommodated in a range of apartments extending 95 feet by 32. The principal melting room is an apartment of 37 feet by 32, and the process of gold and silver parting, for which a contracted space would be peculiarly unfit, is provided for in an apartment of 53 feet by 32.

The preparatory operations of the Chief Coiner are accommodated in two rooms for laminating ingots, of 55 feet by 40, opening to the north portico; the propelling steam power being placed in the basement story. A range of apartments extending 120 feet by 32, is appropriated to the more immediate operations of coinage, and the machinery connected therewith. The principal coining room extends 37 feet by 32, being sufficiently capacious to contain ten coining presses.

A distinct suite of three rooms in the attic story, extending 58 feet along the south main front, claims a brief notice. Here are preserved the standard weights of the Mint, and the balances for adjusting those in ordinary use. The central room is lighted through the dome, and is intended as a cabinet for the safe keeping of selected coins and medals, and also of mineral and metallic specimens instructive on the subject of metallurgy, and especially in regard to the precious metals. These apartments communicate with each other by ample folding doors, thus affording a spacious and appropriate accommodation to the commissioners of the annual assay appointed for the purpose of testing the conformity of the coins issued yearly from the Mint, with the standard weight and fineness of the coins of the United States as established by law.

The Mint was established "for the purpose of a national coinage," with provisions obviously designed to attract, by liberal facilities, an influx of the precious metals sufficient for an abundant currency. The reports of the Director to the President of the United States, laid annually before Congress, and from which the preceding statements of its issues are collated, exhibit the extent to which the purposes of the institution have been accomplished, hitherto, with imperfect means; and offer an auspicious promise of higher usefulness, under its extended powers, in future years.



1884

1884



Drawn by Geo. Strickland.

Engraved by J.W. Steel

**WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' ASYLUM.**

*Pub. by C. G. Child, Treasurer, Philadelphia 18. 5*

## PHILADELPHIA.

### WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' ASYLUM.

THE Asylum for the relief of "INDIGENT WIDOWS AND SINGLE WOMEN," and that for the relief of "ORPHANS," claim a pre-eminent rank among our charitable institutions, whether we consider the motives of their promoters, or the beneficial ends they are calculated to effect. To protect the unprotected—to minister to those whom Providence has left desolate—to pour relief upon the widow's anguish, and dry the tear of memory from the orphan's cheek, is at once the most beautiful and appropriate office which charity can assume.

It is further recommended by the simplicity of the plan, and by the certainty of its application to meritorious objects. We may honestly doubt the policy of many of the charitable doctrines of the day, but his heart must be steeled against the very instincts of humanity, who could refuse his countenance or his means to an undertaking, whose sacred object is the protection of the fatherless and the widow.

The Indigent Widows' and Single Women's Society took its rise in 1817: in 1819 a lot of ground was presented to the Society, on which the present building was erected, and the family removed to it in the spring of 1820. The building has been constructed with a special view to the comfort of its venerable occupants. Forty-five aged females are at present supported by the bounty of this institution, and upwards of one hundred have been received under its protection since its establishment.

"THE PHILADELPHIA ORPHANS' ASYLUM" was instituted in 1814, and the first permanent edifice erected in 1817, upon a lot of ground presented to the Society by Messrs. Archer, Ralston, Richards, and Wetherill, situated on the north-east corner of Schuylkill Fifth and Cherry Streets. Early in the morning of the 24th January, 1822, this building was consumed by fire: the season was unusually inclement, and 23 of the little inmates perished in its ruins. Perhaps no

## PHILADELPHIA.

similar event ever excited a more universal sympathy than the fate of these unfortunate children. Subscriptions were immediately set on foot, and the sum of \$27,978 raised in a few days. This, with a liberal grant from the Legislature of \$5000, enabled the Managers immediately to commence the erection of another edifice.

Warned by the recent catastrophe, the skilful architect who constructed the present building has effectually guarded against its recurrence: the basement being arched throughout, renders the first and second floors completely fire-proof; the stair-ways are of stone from the foundation to the bed-room floor. The number of orphans at present in the institution is ninety-six.

It should not be forgotten, that both these institutions were established by the *Ladies* of Philadelphia. They have their reward—And when youth's delighted hour has passed away—when the dew of the morning has dried on beauty's faded flower—when hope has ceased to picture scenes that will never be realized, and fancy can no longer veil from their view the sad realities of life, the remembrance that waits on deeds like these, will lend a radiance to the darkness of the past, and “please when pleasures lose the power to please.” They must feel that they have been the instruments of Providence in the accomplishment of his merciful purposes; the medium through which the rays of heavenly love descend upon the desolate children of adversity. Their own hearts must imbibe some portion of its warmth, their own souls must feel the kindly influence they impart. As the light, which of old shed its halo round the prophet's head, while it attested the divine authority and illuminated the countenance of the lawgiver, cheered the people and comforted them in their wanderings.





Engraved by E.C. Clark

DEPTFORD HOUSE, DEPTFORD, N.H.

DEPTFORD HOUSE, DEPTFORD, N.H. 1850

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Wm. L. Latham

## PHILADELPHIA.

### THE SCHUYLKILL, AT MANAYUNK.

THE idea of improving the navigation of the Schuylkill was an early favourite of the people of Pennsylvania. A very considerable sum of money was subscribed for this object, in the year 1761, and commissioners were appointed by the provincial assembly, with full powers to apply it. The project, however, like most of those which have succeeded it in our country, was found more difficult and expensive than had been anticipated, and the work languished in consequence.

After much ineffectual legislation on the subject, companies were incorporated in 1790 and 1791, for the purpose of connecting the Delaware with the Susquehanna, by the intervention of the Schuylkill: but these, after a fruitless expenditure of half a million of dollars, found their operations arrested by a want of funds; and in 1811, they were merged in the Union Canal Company.

The Schuylkill Navigation Company was formed in the year 1815,—and it is by their energy and perseverance, amid difficulties of the most formidable character, that the great object has been at last attained. By a system of basins, formed by damming the bed of the river, and linked together by canals and locks, they have made an uninterrupted slackwater navigation from the city of Philadelphia to Mill Creek, a distance of one hundred and ten miles.

At Reading, sixty-two miles above Philadelphia, the Schuylkill works are met by the Union Canal, which connects them by a line of eighty-five miles with the Susquehanna at Middletown, where the State canals from Lake Erie and Pittsburg have their termination.

The thriving little village, of which our engraving represents one of the most interesting parts, is situated on the banks of the river and of the canal, at the distance of about six miles from Philadelphia. It derives its name from the

## PHILADELPHIA.

aboriginal title of the Schuylkill, and owes its origin to the improvements which have been made upon that stream.

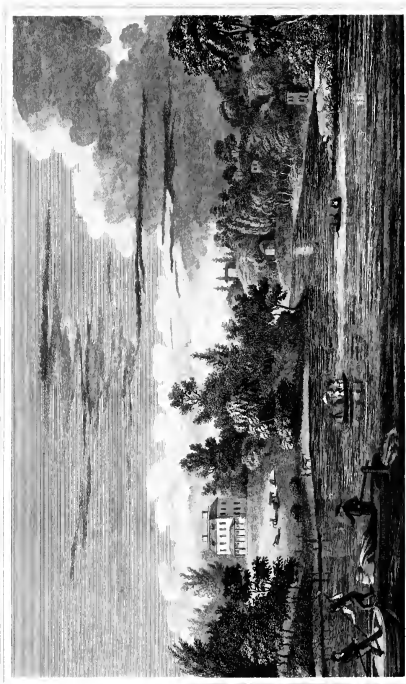
Within the last twelve years, the spot which it covers was singularly wild and secluded. High and barren rocks overhanging the river, crowned by thickets which were scarcely broken; and the broad projecting cliff, which gave for a time the name of Flat Rock to the early settlement, remained nearly as inaccessible, as when it was the chosen encamping ground of the Indian hunter.

Manayunk is now the scene of active and extended business. It contains sixteen manufactories, five of which give motion to sixteen thousand spindles, and to two hundred and fifty power looms,—two schools, a neat and capacious place of worship, four taverns, and about two hundred tenements, which accommodate some fifteen hundred inhabitants.

The scenery, though somewhat changed, retains much of its picturesque and romantic character. The canal winds its way round the base of the rocky hill, secured by a bold embankment from the rapid and broken waters of the river, and after passing through the village, enters the spacious basin, which the Navigation Company have formed above it. Few places near Philadelphia have more to interest the man of business; and he, who loves to look at Nature in her forms of irregular beauty, may be satisfied to wander in its neighbourhood at the close of day, and listen to the dashing of the waterfalls, or the distant bugle of the boatman.







Drawn by W. Mason.

**EALESFIELD.**

*Sketch of the Side Entrance of Richmond, St. Philip's Bay  
by the Engraver*

Engraved by COGGIN.

## PHILADELPHIA.

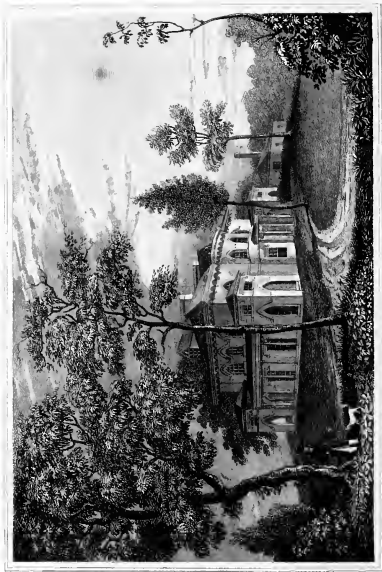
### EAGLESFIELD.

AMONG the various country seats which adorn the banks of the Schuylkill for some miles above Philadelphia, no one surpasses in beauty of situation, that of which we here present a view. From the portico of the house the eye looks down upon the sloping shores of the river, upon its placid, lake-like bosom, and upon a prospect adorned with all that taste, high cultivation, and natural scenery, can conspire to make lovely. From the pier of the dam at Fairmount, whence the present sketch was taken, the scene is not less picturesque; the house itself forms the prominent object, resting as it does on the summit of a rising and verdant lawn; and the proportions of the edifice, and the disposition of the grounds around, display a taste adapted to the natural advantages of the place.

It was erected in the year 1798, from a design by Parkyns, and is the seat of John Joseph Borie, Esq., a distinguished merchant of Philadelphia.







Engraved by COBBIN.

Printed by J. H. COBBIN.

London: E. Colburn.

### SEDCLEY PARK

Part of the Middlesex Express, Philadelphia, No. 1  
See page 100 and 101

## PHILADELPHIA.

### VIEW OF SEDGELEY PARK,

THE SEAT OF JAMES C. FISHER, ESQUIRE.

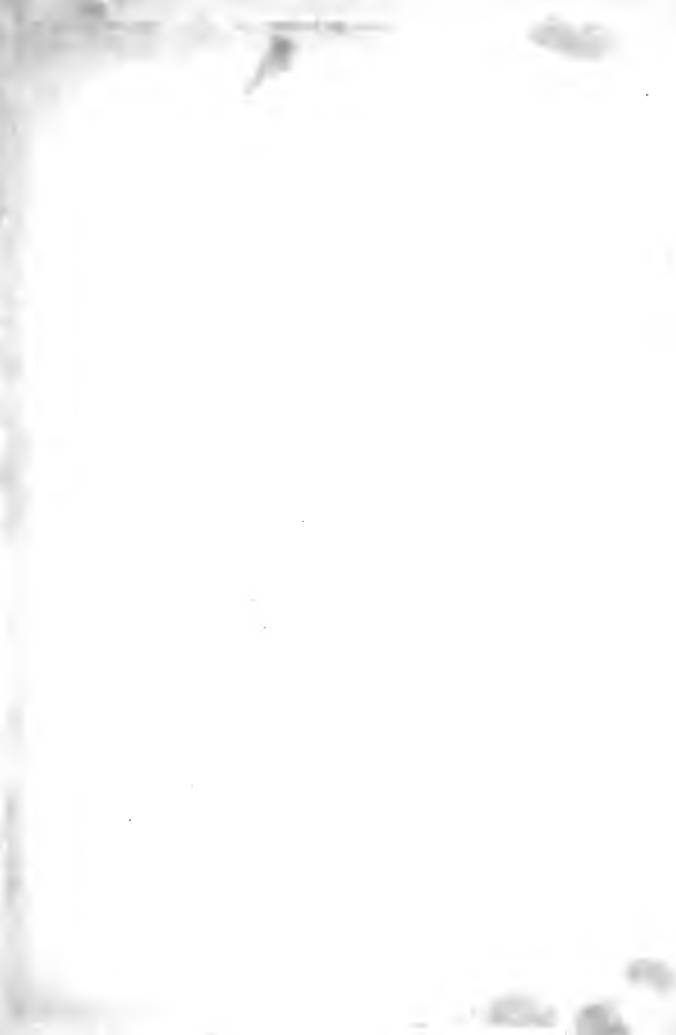
SEdgeley Park is situated on the east bank of the Schuylkill, at a distance of three miles from the city of Philadelphia, and upon an elevation of eighty feet above the tide waters of the river. The mansion was designed and erected under the superintendance of the late Mr. Latrobe, and has been much admired for its architectural beauty. The style is Gothic, with a portico front and rear, supported by eight columns each. It presents a length of seventy-five feet, and is well adapted in the arrangement of the interior for a gentleman's residence.

The natural advantages of Sedgeley Park are not frequently equalled even upon the banks of the romantic Schuylkill. From the height upon which the mansion is erected, it commands an interesting and extensive view. The scenery around is of unusual beauty: but its character is altogether peaceful and quiet. The country is covered, in every direction, with gentle hills, and these are frequently crowned with neat country seats. The river, after winding in its fanciful and rugged path, between mountains and beneath precipices, here assumes the nature of every thing around, and flows silently beneath; while the busy passage of the canal boats on the opposite bank gives an agreeable variety to the scene.

In the arrangement of the grounds the proprietor has been peculiarly happy. The park exhibits the marks of cultivation and taste, and the mansion is beautifully shaded with the native and luxuriant forest trees of the country.









ALBANY ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

*Published by the Academy, 40 Walnut Street, Albany, N. Y., 1840.*

*Price, 25 Cents.*

## PHILADELPHIA.

### ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA.

THE Academy originated in the year 1812, with a few gentlemen who met once in every week to receive and impart information on the various branches of natural history. It was incorporated in 1817; and since that period, its prosperity has perhaps been unrivalled by that of any similar institution in this country.

The property now owned and occupied by the Academy at the corner of Twelfth and George streets, was originally a place of worship of the Swedenborgians. Material alterations, however, have been made in the building, to adapt it to its present purposes. It is a quadrangular edifice, about forty-four feet square, surmounted by a dome. The interior presents a single saloon with a gallery midway between the floor and ceiling. The lower floor is chiefly used as a library and meeting room, while the gallery is occupied by collections in natural history. The latter are conspicuously arranged, according to the most approved systems, and already embrace 10,000 plants, 3000 minerals, 5000 geological specimens, 1200 shells, 500 birds, 200 reptiles, besides small but increasing collections of quadrupeds, fishes, insects, &c. &c.

The museum of the Academy is open to the gratuitous admission of citizens and strangers on the afternoons of Tuesday and Saturday, throughout the year.

The library contains 3000 volumes, of which upwards of 2000 are on subjects of natural history.

The number of resident members is between fifty and sixty. Among the corresponding members are many of the most distinguished naturalists of America and Europe.



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