

THE CITY HALL OF BALTIMORE.

IMPOSING DEDICATORY CEREMONIES.

Truth, Justice, Religious and Civil Liberty

IMMENSE OUTPOURING OF THE PEOPLE.

**Large Military and Civic Parade—
Demonstration of City Industries
and Trades—Dedicatory Exercises
—Report of Mayor Vansant—Speech
of Mr. J. H. B. Latrobe, &c.**

[Reported for the Baltimore Sun.]

In accordance with the wishes of the building committee and arrangements by a committee of the city council, the new City Hall of Baltimore, erected on the block bounded by Holliday, Fayette, North and Lexington streets, was formally dedicated to public use yesterday, and delivered over to the city from the hands of Hon. Joshua Vansant, president of the building committee, to Hon. John H. B. Latrobe, who formally received it for the city. To Mr. Vansant and his active coadjutors of the building committee the public is indebted for faithful and economical administration of the trust reposed in them, which found fitting and flattering recognition in the immense popular demonstration that crowned their labors yesterday. The superb marble building, covering a block of ground, and rearing a lofty dome, has been fully described heretofore, so that nothing more than a passing allusion to its graceful proportions and architectural beauty need be made at this time. The structure is an ornament to the city, and a monument to honest administration of public affairs.

The total cost of the imposing pile, including the ground and its magnificent furniture throughout, has been \$2,271,135 64 out of an appropriation of \$2,500,000, leaving a surplus of \$228,864 36. In all parts of the structure the material and workmanship have been the best, and are creditable to the mechanics and artisans of Baltimore engaged in its construction, and whose pride in it was very properly demonstrated by their presence, when the mayor was able to announce the building complete in all its parts and all departments of the city government in operation under its roof, with every dollar paid to the contractors and builders.

The great feature attending the formal dedication of the building was the imposing popular demonstration, not so much of organized bodies of soldiers, civilians, artisans and others, who turned out in procession in honor of the event, as in the vast multitudes of people who packed the thoroughfares and clustered on the fronts and at the windows of the houses, or stood ten ranks deep in the streets, outside the curb, on both sides of Baltimore and other streets, to witness the display. This immense turn out of the people included men, women and children of all ages, sizes and colors, comprising the vast proportion of the population, and extending over the whole route of march, several miles, almost as densely crowded.

FORMING AT BROADWAY.

The weather was the finest of the present glorious "Indian summer" season, with a soft air stirring and bright sunshine. On no previous occasion is it remembered when the city was all day so pleasantly animated, or that such vast crowds of its population poured forth into the streets marked out for the parade. Broadway, where the procession was formed, was a focus for great assemblages. Col. John McNulty, chief of staff of Gen. James R. Herbert, was stationed at Broadway and Lombard streets, and received reports, which were rendered so promptly that by 10.30 A. M. the entire line was ready to move, and at that hour started over the route from Broadway up Baltimore street to Paca street, Franklin, Charles, Fayette, Calvert, Saratoga and Holliday streets to Exchange Place. The spectacle presented by so wide a street as Broadway crowded with men, women and children, was unusual. The crowd was so great that General Herbert's staff officers and the temporary aids could with difficulty superintend the formation. The showing of military uniforms, including regulars from Fort Mifflin and volunteers, together with the music and the features of the civic parts of the procession, afforded variety calculated to draw the multitude and gratify the popular desire for spectacles. The starting of the procession was delayed some time by Governor Groome and staff, who had been detained by an accident to Adjutant General Bond, injured near Baruum's Hotel by his horse falling. General Bond was assisted into the hotel, and Assistant Adjutant General Pennington accompanied the Governor to the rendezvous, and, as stated, the procession moved promptly at 10.30 o'clock.

GOVERNOR GROOME AND STAFF.

Gov. Jas. Black Groome, superbly mounted, rode at the head of the procession, a pace in advance of Assistant Adjt. Gen. Pennington, Col. Wm. MacWilliams, Col. J. F. Lee and Col. D. M. Mathews, of the Governor's staff.

Gen. James R. Herbert and staff held the next position, the staff comprising Lieut. Col. John McNulty, Major Frank Hardesty, Major Phil. Dandridge, Major W. R. McKnew, surgeon; Capt. Ferd. Duvall, Capt. R. B. Chew, Capt. J. W. H. Brady, Lieuts. W. B. Kront and H. H. Greenway, and Col. Sergeant G. W. Wood.

The mounted temporary aids had the next place, as follows: Major G. R. Staley, chief; G. Brooks, Jr., J. Wesley Cross, F. L. Webb, Ed. Ward Murry, C. A. Webb, B. W. F. Hopper, Jr., R. Lawson, Jr., Fred Shriver, Thomas Hillen, Herbert Cassard, John Henry Keene, Jr., James Key, John B. Harrison, J. H. Lawson, E. D. Herring, J. W. H. Fry, J. Edwin Myers, C. F. Chalmers, Thomas J. Shryock, A. J. Leftwitch, E. J. Penniman, Henry Moale, Joseph Harris.

The Military Division.

The Military Division.

The right of the line was held by a battery of regular artillery, of four pieces, from Fort McHenry, and two companies of artillery parading as infantry, headed by the fine Fort McHenry band. The regulars looked well and attracted much attention. The Fifth Regiment, M. N. G., was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel H. D. Loney, but did not turn out strong. The bearskin hats were brought out for the occasion, which should not be used except with overcoats. The band, under the new leader, Wering, was excellent, and the drum corps was full.

The Sixth Regiment, Colonel Clarence Peters, turned out stronger than the Fifth, and presented a fine, soldierly appearance, in full dress uniform. Hoffman's Sixth Regiment band and the large drum corps were at the head of the regiment.

A battalion of cavalry closed the military division, composed of Captain Rau's company, and the Bond Guards from Anne Arundel county, Md., being in all about one hundred men. The battalion was in command of Captain Rau, in the absence of Major Gilmor. Dr. George W. Benson, surgeon, accompanied the battalion. The Bond Guards wore gray uniforms and black slouch hats with feathers, the city company wearing German hussar uniforms.

The Civic Parade.

The civic portion of the parade was very lengthy, embracing a number of benevolent societies, turner associations, Adams' Express Company, and trade associations. There were a large number of bands of music, flags and banners in the line, and many wagons carrying placards, specimens of wares, implements of trade, &c. Many of them had devices and mottoes on canvas expressive of the character of trade engaged in. Interspersed in the line were numbers of wagons intended to advertise the business of the owners, among which "kindling wood" was prominently conspicuous. It was evident by the turnout made by this branch of industry that the people of Baltimore will not freeze to death this winter for want of kindling wood. Sewing machine wagons and coal carts were also numerous.

The civic procession was formed on Eastern avenue, Lombard, Gough and Bank streets, contiguous to Broadway, and filed into the main line on Broadway in the following order:

Knights of St. Patrick—One hundred men in full uniform, chapaux and swords; Bernard McGinn, chief knight; Col. E. T. Joyce, assistant, with Itzell's band, and banner.

Knights of St. Peter—Eighty men, in full uniforms and swords, with Excelsior band, and banner; R. P. Gorman, chief knight; C. J. O'Brien, assistant.

Baltimore Schutzen Association—General Blumenberg King, and directors in carriages, with banner.

Baltimore Western Schutzen Association—H. Steger, president, and directors in carriages, with banner.

Bohemian societies, 136 men, in sashes and rosettes, brass band and banner; A. Zinker, chief marshal; Anton Wiskot, Frank Pond, Frank Koetwald, and Jno. Ciwarker, assistants.

St. Alphonsus German Catholic societies: A. Ostendorfer, chief marshal; St. Aloysius Society, John Westfalle, president; John Meyer and Frederick A. Roeder, marshals; 160 men, in sashes and rosettes, banner and music; St. George's Society, 50 men; St. Bonifacius, 25 men; St. Alphonsus, 40 men; St. Ludgerus, 45 men, and Fourteen Holy Martyrs, 62 men, all in uniform; St. James Society, 50 men; with banner and music; George A. Flack, marshal; Richard Reichert and Martin Gosman, assistants.

Marugari associations, 203 men in regalia, with banners, Huzzar's band; Christian Knipp, Henry Hartman, George Otto, John K. Stein and Charlie Albard, marshals.

Lafayette Turner Association, officers in barchouches, with banners.

Adams Express Company, with two four-horse express wagons, Thomas F. Martin and James Mitchell, drivers.

Baltimore Paperhangers' Association, forty men, Joseph Rust, chief marshal; Thomas McCansland, Charles Bosley and Edward W. Granger, assistants. Patterson's band, and a wagon with a canvas monument with mottoes.

Lumber pillars, employees of Shryock & Clark and John C. Carrick & Co., wagons loaded with lumber, about seventy-five men.

Bricklayers' Union, ninety men, with badges and banners; John S. Hammond, chief marshal; Richard Walts and James Goddes, assistant marshals; Walker's band. Following this part of the procession were a number of sewing machine and other wagons, representing different companies.

Trades' Demonstration.

The anti-convict contract labor division of the procession was large, and embraced the following trades and industries: Stonecutters, bell and brass foundries, iron moulders, printers and engravers, barrel factories, furniture factories,

shoemakers, saw mills, iron foundries, wagon and carriage-makers, carpenters and canmakers. It was headed by William J. Cochrane, chief marshal; C. H. Fullwood, chief of staff; E. Hoen, William Leonard, Thomas A. Rutter, Frank Russell, James Armstrong, J. J. Smith, W. H. White, Thomas Burns, John E. Cochrane, W. K. Graves, W. Rose and A. A. Setzer, aids, all mounted. The following was the order of the parade: Stonecutters, Hugh Sisson's employees, numbering 200 men, Richard Goodman, marshal, Joseph McIntyre and Frank Kelley, assistants; Captain Meer's band, a wagon drawn by four horses, bearing a large marble monument, and several other wagons, with men at work cutting stone; among the mottoes was one that "A State that legislates to cramp her own industries becomes accessory to her own ruin." Baltimore Branch United Order of Stonecutters, M. A. Sisson & Co.'s employees, F. Donnelly, chief marshal, James Brady and John Forrest, assistants, 100 men; motto, "We ask for honest competition."

J. Rogator & Son's brass and bell foundry, 20 men, Frederick Priller, marshal. A large bell mounted on a wagon, which was kept ringing.

Iron Moulders—Shepherd's moulders, 250 men, William Marshall, chief marshal. Four wagons, in which the various processes of moulding, closing and putting together of stoves were carried on, with fires burning.

Armstrong & Co., stove founders, of Port Deposit, Md., W. W. Davis, chief marshal, Robt. Stephenson assistant, 50 men. Riverside band of Port Deposit.

East Baltimore Iron moulders and Welskittle & Co.'s stove works, forty-five men, Weber's Band, two wagons, on one of which was a furnace drawn by a horse twenty-five years in the service of the firm. A furnace in blast in one wagon was turning out tea kettles. In this part of the procession there were a number of mottoes, among them the following: "We get 40 cents per day, the contractor of convict labor makes \$2 60." "We demand an honorable competition and well-paid labor." "There are thousands in the penitentiary, the woods are full of them." In one of the stove foundry wagons were white men blackened to represent colored men, and dressed in penitentiary stripes to represent convicts.

Printers and lithographers, J. D. Ehlers, chief marshal; Delegation of the Printers' Union; A. Hoen & Co., fifty men, and James Young, job printer; H. A. Hoen and E. Clemm, marshals; wagons with printing presses and printers at work striking off handbills and cards, superintended by Dr. Faust, and devils in red and green.

Barrelmakers.—Kimball & Shaffer, a large wagon drawn by four horses, in which were men making barrels.

Shoemakers.—Monumental band, Knights of St. Crispin, No. 244, two hundred men, Jacob Krause, marshal; Charles Vogel, assistant.

Evitt Brothers, Clement & Well and Dixon & Bro., 600 men, A. C. Williams, chief marshal; Louis Slungwick, Adam Kahn and C. W. Fader, assistants. Several wagons accompanied the Crispin, in which shoes of different kinds were being made, by machinery and by hand. Clark, Perry & Homans, employers, had three wagons, with men making pegged and sewed shoes.

Carriage-Makers.—Rhein & Kloman, with a blacksmith at his anvil hammering red-hot iron, and a wheelwright at work.

Saw Mill.—Wm. and J. H. Leonhardt—mill at work sawing boards and shingles. A long line of kindling wood wagons drawn by one, two and four horses. Mount Clare works. Iron moulders and laborers, representing the Mount Clare Foundry, two hundred men, Monumental band, John M. Conway, chief marshal; John Conner and Thomas Brown, assistant marshals; motto, "A State Legislature that cramps its industries becomes accessory to its own decline."

The Tin Can Makers, Independent Grays' band, Grillett, Mann & Tillory, 85 men, John Cony, marshal. The men carried a number of devices made of cans, and a wagon followed with a monument formed of cans. The display was tasteful and creditable and the tin can devices unique.

Moore & Co., thirty men, Jacob Boston marshal, two wagons, men making cans.

Hans & Foxwell, thirty-four men, Wm. A. Bevans, marshal. A Goddess of Liberty seated on a throne, surrounded by Jack Tars. Motto, "One tax on all."

M. Wagner & Co., Alexander Stephenson marshal, forty men, wagon with men making tin cans.

This division was lengthened out by a wagon containing fine specimens of fish and game; Heise & Co., carpenters, with men in a wagon planing boards, more kindling wood wagons, starch companies, ice wagons, steam packing box makers, clothing wagons, carts loaded with coal, beer wagons, an accordion factory, bread wagons, &c.

The Fire Department

The Fire Department.

One of the finest and most attractive displays of the parade was that made by the Baltimore Fire Department. The entire force turned out with their engines, trucks and reels, bright and beautiful, garlanded with wreaths and bouquets of flowers. The men, marching in front of their engines, presented a fine appearance, dressed in full uniforms—gray overcoats and capes lined with red, and firemen's hats. Many of them carried bouquets in their hands.

This division was headed by the fire commissioners and officers of the department in open carriages, as follows: William Wilson, Jr., president; Samuel Kirk, treasurer; Thomas W. Campbell, John F. Morris, commissioners, and G. A. Campbell, clerk; Charles F. Holloway, inspector; D. Hudson Fluck, assistant inspector; Henry Spillman, chief engineer; George W. Ellender and John M. Henulek, assistant engineers, and Dr. John G. Womble, surgeon.

The order of the firemen's parade was as follows:

Hook and ladder company, No. 1, with truck—Henry W. Mears, foreman; E. Burke, tillerman and J. E. Patterson, driver.

Engine company, No. 1—Jacob H. Hayward, foreman; G. W. Griffin, engineman; Jacob W. Yeaton, assistant engineman, and Lewis J. French, driver.

Engine company, No. 2—Jacob Hines, foreman; Thom. Wheatley, engineman; M. Lytell, assistant engineman, and Richard Kelly, driver.

Engine Company, No. 3—P. H. Flaherty, foreman; John F. Kelly, engineman; P. H. Humphreys, assistant, and P. F. Bradley, driver.

Engine Company, No. 4—Geo. W. Horton, foreman; Geo. W. Deal, engineman; William Cochran, assistant, and John Wernsing, driver.

Engine Company, No. 5—W. G. Miller, foreman; Francis Carrigan, engineman; J. Ryan, assistant, and W. Jamieson, driver. A beautiful model steam engine was at work on No. 5, which attracted much attention.

Engine Company, No. 6—Wm. W. Watson, foreman; M. Mulligan, engineman; Wm. M. Streb, assistant, and Andrew Jamieson, driver.

A large Holloway chemical engine, drawn by horses, and a small Holloway chemical engine, drawn by thirty-two boys of the American District Telegraph Company in neat uniforms. The boys were frequently applauded along the line.

Salvage Corps, J. Wesley Shaw foreman, with ten men dressed in uniforms, blue shirts and firemen's hats, seated in their wagon.

Hook and ladder company, No. 2—George H. Houck, foreman; John G. Gill, tillerman; Thom. Montgomery, driver.

Engine company, No. 7—Jacob Blouffer, foreman; W. Hoofnagle, engineman; P. F. Moriarty, assistant; C. H. Kemp, driver.

Engine company, No. 8—G. W. Krager, foreman; Wm. Thompson, engineman; W. M. Stanton, assistant; W. Kasbaum, driver.

Engine company, No. 9—Francis D. Kerr, foreman; Wm. T. Calvert, engineman; Daniel Rodgers, assistant; John Reed, driver.

Engine company No. 10—W. H. Ward, foreman; F. Conway, engineman; J. J. McCoy, assistant; John Kelly, driver.

Engine company No. 11—Andrew Perry, foreman; John Calder, engineman; Victor Nelson, assistant; John W. Ledden, driver.

Engine company No. 12—John P. Cosgrove, foreman; M. Lytell, engineman; George Lentzmyer, assistant; George W. Taylor, driver.

Hook and ladder No. 3—T. W. Humphreys, foreman; John McClellan, tillerman; Charles Gelger, driver.

The rear of the procession was brought up by a delegation of the odorless excavating companies, with apparatus, not a necessary adjunct to the display, though a useful industry, and more kindling wood wagons.

Dedictory Ceremonies.

A stand was erected at the east front of the city hall, on Holliday street. The stand was decorated with flags, wreaths, and bouquets of flowers. By 11 A. M. the gentlemen invited to participate in the ceremonies began to assemble in the mayor's reception-room, and at 12 M. they took seats upon the platform outside. To the right of Mayor Vansant were seated Hon. Reverdy Johnson, Hon. Thomas Swann, Chief Judge Bartol, and Judges Gilles, Gilmore, Garoy, Dobbins, and Grason. On the left of the mayor were J. H. B. Latrobe, Rev. Dr. Fuller, Rev. Dr. Leyburn, Ichabod Jean and John W. Colley, (of the building committee,) and General French, United States army. Among others on the platform were Ferdinand C. Latrobe, General James M. Anderson, Dr. James A. Stewart, Robert T. Baldwin, Hon. William J. O'Brien, George L. Berdan, of the State Department, Washington, ex-Mayor Robert T. Banks, Dr. E. J. Chaisty, Samuel H. Adams, Mr. Coleman, of the Philadelphia Ledger, Col. Frederick Kaine, together with all the members of the city council, many ex-members of former councils, and a number of gentlemen representing the various business and professional interests of the city.

Invitations had been sent to ex-Mayors Elijah Stansbury and John Lee Chapman, and also to many well-known citizens in different parts of Maryland, including members of Congress, judges, &c., who were not present.

Shortly after the platform was occupied, the head of the procession of military and citizens came up Holliday street from the north, and was received by Mayor Vansant, who, standing hat in hand, was saluted by the different divisions as they marched by. The mayor stood for an hour and twenty minutes, the time the procession occupied in passing, and he frequently bowed his acknowledgements of the demonstrations of respect universally extended to him. At 1.30 P. M., when the rear of the parade had gone by, the Fifth Regiment band, stationed on the portico of the Hall, with largely augmented numbers, played "Old Hundred," with marked effect.

Rev. Dr. Richard Fuller offered a prayer, in which he returned thanks for the completion of the building which was about to be dedicated to truth, justice, religion and civil liberty. He prayed that all who hereafter may occupy the building will be inspired with wisdom to labor for the best interests of the great city of Baltimore.

William E. Stewart, of the committee of ar-

angements on the part of the city council, announced that Hon. Joshua Vassant, chairman of the building committee, would make a report and address.

Mayor Vassant, after the applause with which he was received had subsided, spoke as follows:

Report of Hon. Joshua Vassant.

Mr. Chairman and Fellow Citizens: The necessity for erecting a suitable building in which the municipal authorities of an incorporated city should transact the public business is generally acknowledged. Notwithstanding this fact, the principal cities of our country have been generally very tardy in making the necessary provisions in that connection. In this matter the city of Baltimore is not an exception to the omission, for the subject has been agitated in the councils of the city of Baltimore, from time to time, for more than seventy-five years before the completion of the hall in front of which you are now standing.

On this occasion it may be pertinent, although it may not be interesting to the most of you who are familiar with the history of the city of Baltimore, to make a few statements in connection with the rise and progress of this beautiful and flourishing city. On the 8th of August, 1729, the old Colonial Assembly of Maryland passed "an act for erecting a town on the north side of the Patapasco, in Baltimore county, and for laying out in lots sixty acres of land in and about the place where one John Flemming lives." This tract of land was known as Cole's Harbor, and was owned by Charles and Daniel Carroll, who were brothers. It was located west of Jones's falls, and occupied an interval between Liberty and Gay streets, with a gradual slope towards what is now known as the basin. By the act referred to the following parties were appointed commissioners to render the grant of the Assembly effective to its end, to wit: Major Thomas Tolley, Wm. Hamilton, Wm. Buckner, Richard Gist, Dr. George Walker, Dr. George Buchanan, and Colonel William Hammond. These were clothed in the authority under the act to fill vacancies which might occur in their body. They purchased the sixty acres of land aforesaid from the Messrs. Carroll for forty shillings in Maryland currency per acre, which is equal to \$5% in federal money, or at their discretion, in tobacco at one penny per pound upon which land a town was to be erected to be called Baltimore Town, in honor of the Lord Proprietary. It was divided into lots, and each taker was required in his contract to build thereon within eighteen months from the date of purchase, a house that should cover at least 400 square feet of ground. In the contingency of a failure to fulfil that part of the agreement any other person might enter upon such lot who would construct a building thereon of the character indicated upon the payment of the stipulated price for the lot. The commissioners adopted a rule that all the lots that should remain unsold for the period of seven years should revert to the original owners; that is to say, to those who made the sixty acres purchase from the Carrolls. It appears by the records in the case that the lots were not sought after with much avidity or eagerness, for at the termination of the seven years indicated many of them reverted to the commissioners. As early as the year 1680 one David Abner, who owned some land on the east side of the stream which to this day bears his name, built thereon a dwelling, but it does not appear that any movement was made in his day towards the erection of a town.

The action of the settlers of Baltimore town west of the falls awakened an emulation in the few who resided east of that stream, who believed that the latter presented greater advantages for the erection of a town than the former site, and accordingly they made an application for a grant for that purpose to the colonial legislature, which body in July, 1732, passed an act to erect a town on the east side of Jones's falls to be called Jones's Town. In virtue of said act on the 28th day of October, 1732, Captain Thomas Sheredine, Capt. Robt. North, Capt. John Boreling, Thomas Todd and John Cockey were appointed commissioners, who appointed George Walker to be their clerk. These commissioners, says the ancient record, "issued their warrants, under their hands and seals, to the sheriff of Baltimore county, to summon a jury of the most substantial freeholders of said county to appear before them on the said land, called Cole's Harbor, to inquire who is the owner of the said land, and to assess what they think ten acres of the same are worth whereon the said town is to be erected." On the 4th of Nov. 1732, these gentlemen met on said land, which was near the water, "and asked a certain William Fell, who is in present possession of the said land, whether he would sell ten acres of land out of said tract, who answered positively that he neither could nor would sell any of it. Whereupon a jury of substantial freeholders returned by the sheriff of Baltimore county proceeded (being first sworn by the commissioners,) to inquire who is owner of said land, and found by their verdict the heirs of Col. Richard Colgate, deceased, to be the owners of the said land, and judged the value of it to be three hundred pounds of tobacco per acre for ten acres thereof." Tobacco at this date was worth about one penny per pound, which made the gross valuation or assessment twelve pounds ten shillings Maryland currency, being equal to thirty-three and one-third dollars federal money. The commissioners again met to complete their survey on the 22d of November, 1732.

It does not appear by the record that any of those lots were taken until July 20, 1733, when William Fell, Edward Fell, J. J. Gardner and John Thomas Bond took one lot each. One of the conditions to give a good title to a lot was that a dwelling should be erected thereon.

The record from which I have made these ex-

The record from which I have made these extracts is probably incorrect in the statement that William Fell was in possession of said land, for Col. J. Thomas Scharf, the intelligent author of "The Chronicles of Baltimore," who has with much care and labor compiled these chronicles, says that it was Edward Fell who was the keeper of a store on the premises. In this Col. Scharf is confirmed by Brantz Mayer, Esq., in his historical sketches of Baltimore from 1729 to 1870. Mr. Mayer says that William Fell, who was the brother of Edward Fell, was a ship carpenter, settled east of Jones's Falls in 1720, and in 1729 bought a tract of land called Copus's Harbor, and built a mansion there on the present Lancaster street. The subsequent improvements from the water advantages which that locality possessed soon increased its proportions to that of a town, which now bears the name of Fell's Point, and has become a part of Baltimore. William was doubtless the pioneer in laying the foundation of that part of the city. He lived and died in the eastern section, and all that the worm has left of this noble representative of the industry, energy and sagacity of the men of that day repose a few feet south of the building line on Shakespeare street, east of Bond street, embraced within the domain where he tilled his garden and plied his mechanical vocation.

The erection of this new and splendid structure, which we this day dedicate, and the collection and depositing therein of the musty records of the city, which had been passed from garret to garret of the various buildings which the corporation of Baltimore had from time to time occupied, and much of which was covered in piles of dust and rubbish because there was no proper depository for them, nor any one whose especial duty it was to protect them, has enabled the excellent librarian of the city to collect many records that are at least interesting as matters of history. I refer to those records now, and to the few facts I have gathered from them, more for the purpose of invoking the attention of those who are in the future to administer this municipal government to the importance of having such parts of them at least as relate to the city since its incorporation as such in 1796 collected and printed, or reprinted, as necessity may suggest, in a manner commensurate with the interest which all feel in the preservation of everything which relates to the honorable history of Baltimore, than from any desire on my part to furnish from these old and precious archives information that may be patent to many of the residents of Baltimore. Those archives should be printed and distributed in your city libraries ere the rolling march of time shall raise some vandal hand to snatch them from your possession. J

The records demonstrate that the commissioners appointed to build Baltimore town west of the falls received in the beginning but little encouragement in the matter of procuring purchasers for the town lots, for in six months after the commission was organized there were but thirteen lots taken up. It appears that on the 22d of February, 1730, being six months after the Colonial Legislature issued a grant to build Baltimore town, the vestry of St. Paul's parish in Baltimore county took up lot No. 10 to build the church of St. Paul's, located at Charles and Barutoga streets, where a church of that congregation now stands.

In 1747 the town began to manifest some show of vitality, of bustling activity, caused in a measure by the arrival of vessels in the harbor from foreign ports; the arrivals had increased from one a year to seven in that year and tobacco had become a regular article of export. At this period of time Joppa, located on the Gunpowder river, was the county town of Baltimore, and thither the goodly people of the county, which at that day embraced the domain which is now Harford county, journeyed on court days to get their law and make their bargains. In those days when the court held its sessions the farmers, it is said, let go the plow handle or dropped the hoe and nail and repaired to Joppa. In 1753 Baltimore contained some two hundred inhabitants or more, and the men of Joppa viewed with much envy the rising greatness of its threatened rival. The sequel proved that this feeling did not exist from groundless apprehensions, for in 1768 the county court of Baltimore was for the last time held at that ancient town. The court and the records were removed to Baltimore town, which was made the county town, and the solid dignity of old Joppa departed with the magisterial bench, and the town has become but a memory. Seven years after this date there were in Baltimore 664 houses and a population of five thousand nine hundred and sixty-four, and it continued to increase steadily in wealth and population.

By an act of the General Assembly of Maryland of the date of December 31, 1794, Baltimore was incorporated as a city to be governed by a mayor and two branches of the city council. The city was divided into eight wards, the first branch consisting of two members from each ward and the second branch of one member from each ward. The first branch was chosen directly by the people, and the mayor and second branch by electors. James Calhoun was the first mayor of the city. His residence was at the corner of Baltimore street and South lane, at which place it is supposed he administered the duties of his office. The first session of the city council was held February 27, 1795, at the old court house, which occupied the site now covered by the

Battle Monument. From 1797 to 1801 the city council met at the house of James Long, on Front street, near the middle bridge. As early as March 7, 1801, the mayor and city council passed an ordinance to erect a city hall, and Zebulon Hollingsworth, Nicholas Rogers, Richard Lawson, Elias Ellicott and James McCannon were appointed commissioners, with authority to purchase a lot of ground and erect the building. The sixth section of the same ordinance authorized them, with the assent of the mayor, to procure forthwith a suitable house for the accommodation of the city council and for the office of mayor and register until the new city hall referred to should be completed.

In those days the city council met but seldom, and enacted but very few ordinances or resolutions. The proceedings were kept in manuscript, and the record of a year made up but thirty-six pages. It does not appear, however, according to the records, that the special commission for the erection of a new city hall ever made a report upon the subject; certain it is the building was not erected. The economy which at that period marked the administration of the municipal government is demonstrated in the fact that the first levy upon the taxable property of the city was 10 pence upon the £100, which is about 8½ cents on the \$100. A dollar has materially dwarfed since that date. On the 24th of September, 1801, the mayor issued the following laconic proclamation: "By James Calhoun, mayor, &c.—Whereas it appears to me that the public good of the citizens of Baltimore requires the deliberation of the city council at this time; I, therefore, in pursuance of the power invested in me, summon the said council to meet at the buildings belonging to Maryland Insurance Company, on South street, at three o'clock this afternoon, to deliberate and act in all matters as shall appear to them desirable. Given under my hand, &c."

This South street building was dis-occupied for municipal purposes until 31st of 1812, when the mayor and council purchased for public purposes a building at the corner of Holiday street and Orange alley, and occupied it until the mayor and council, on the 4th of December, 1817, appointed a joint special committee of both branches to purchase the Baltimore Dancing Assembly Rooms at the northeast corner of Holiday and East (now Fayette) streets, for the accommodation of the city council and the officers of the city. This property was accordingly purchased and occupied by the city in February, 1819, and was so used until the 20th of March, 1824, when the city leased apartments from the Baltimore Exchange Company for the term of five years, at eight hundred dollars per annum, which lease was renewed until the year 1830. At the last-named date the mayor and city council purchased the old Peal's Museum building on Holiday street.

For a series of years this unseemly building furnished accommodations for the mayor, the city council and all the municipal departments. The rapid growth of the city and the consequent increase of public business compelled several of the departments of the city government to relinquish this edifice and provide accommodations elsewhere. The city council, however, continued to hold its sessions in that dilapidated structure until it took possession of the beautiful chambers of the new city hall in the spring of 1876.

Since the enactment of the law of the State incorporating the city of Baltimore the following gentlemen have served as mayor in the order in which they are arranged, as follows:—James Calhoun, Thorogood Smith, Edward Johnson, George Stiles, John Montgomery, Jacob Small, William Stewart, Jesse Hunt, Samuel Smith, Shepard C. Lockin, Samuel Brady, Solomon Allen, Jr., James O. Law, Jacob G. Davies, Elijah Stansbury, John H. T. Jerome, John Smith Hollins, Samuel Hink, Thomas Swann, George Win. Brown, John Lee Chapman, Robert T. Banks and the present incumbent. In all twenty-three.

The subject matter of the construction of a suitable building for the municipal purposes of the city has been agitated by the mayor and city council at different intervals between the years 1801 and 1865, and no progress appears to have been made for the accomplishment of the measure, save in securing a site on which to erect it, until the year 1865, September 25. In furtherance of an ordinance of that date in 1866 the Legislature of the State enacted a law empowering the mayor and city council to issue city bonds for the purpose of erecting a city hall upon its present site, upon the condition that it should not be commenced within one year from the passage of the act.

In 1867 John Lee Chapman, mayor, Thomas B. Burch, John W. Kirkland, Thos. C. Hassler and James Smith, were constituted commissioners for the erection of the building. George A. Frederick was appointed architect, and John T. Haswell superintendent. On the 18th of October, 1867, the corner-stone of the building was laid with appropriate and imposing ceremonies. But little work was executed under this committee save in the excavation of the cellar and the laying therein some of the foundation walls. On the 6th of August, 1868, the mayor and city council enacted a new ordinance providing for building the hall, and adopting the plans, drawings and specifications of George A. Frederick, architect. Under this ordinance Robert T. Banks, mayor, in virtue of his authority, appointed George A. Coleman, George W. Stinchcomb, John Ellicott, George A. Davis, Thomas J. Griffin and Oden A. Kirkland as a building committee, and John J. Purcell superintendent. Under the ordinance the mayor was made the president of the committee. This committee superintended and directed the construction of the building from the time of their appointment until October 28, 1869. George A. Frederick was retained as the consulting architect under the provisions of the ordinance.

On the 4th of November, 1869, an ordinance supplementary to the ordinance of 1868 for the building of a new city hall was approved. This supplement provided for the election of a building committee by both branches of the city council in convention assembled, and under its provisions Joshua Vansant, J. Hall Pleasants, John W. Colley, Ichabod Jean and Samuel W. Adams were elected as the committee. The committee organized on the 6th of the same month by the election of Joshua Vansant as president and Walter G. Smith as secretary.

The committee of which Mayor Chapman was

The committee of which Mayor Chapman was the president organized May 25, 1867, and met for the last time on June 30, 1868, having served thirteen months and five days. That of which Mayor Banks was the president organized October 3, 1868, and resigned October 23, 1869, having served twelve months and twenty days. The committee of which Joshua Vansant was president organized November 6, 1869, and served to the present time, being six years, less eleven days.

I have the pleasure now, my fellow-citizens, to announce to you, in behalf of the building committee, of which I am the president, and on this occasion the representative, that the new city hall is now completed, and that the net cost of constructing it was but \$2,271,135 64.

The items of construction, which make the aggregate, are as follows:

For drawings, plans and specifications, as per ordinance of August 5, 1868.....	\$10,000 00
Excavation, furnishing and laying stone, concreting and sinking wells, all embraced in cellar work..	41,179 24
Exterior marble work, including materials.....	357,626 15
Interior marble work, including materials.....	85,427 23
Bricks.....	125,124 68
Brick work.....	76,108 24
Cement.....	82,318 89
Iron work and hardware.....	96,352 50
Iron work for roof.....	77,478 07
Iron work for dome.....	73,885 23
Iron work for stairway.....	18,816 25
Lumber.....	72,054 58
Carpenters' work.....	192,625 57
Plastering work.....	60,478 47
Painting work.....	69,117 14
Glass, oil and paints.....	18,721 04
Heating apparatus.....	30,064 11
Sand, lime, calcined plaster, &c....	17,528 81
Copper spouting, valleys and flashing	14,555 95
Slating.....	7,241 24
Plumbing and materials.....	21,621 47
Stone, pavement and curbing.....	27,778 01
Mechanics and day laborers.....	25,870 17
Construction of sewer.....	9,312 68
Bell (Big Sam) and placing it in position.....	2,500 40
Bell striker by electricity.....	1,500 00
Clocks and clock arrangements.....	3,879 59
Gilt metal plaster caps.....	15,181 47
Measurement of work.....	15,433 29
Salaries of superintendent, officers and watchmen.....	51,717 38
Architects, commission under ordinance of 1868.....	10,184 58
Fuel.....	6,070 63
Advertising.....	2,203 48
Rent of offices.....	6,260 00
Insurance.....	1,016 00
Wharfage.....	828 38
Hauling dirt, removing debris, &c..	5,575 09
Lighting gas by electricity.....	250 00
Miscellaneous.....	6,813 31

Gross amount.....\$2,823,164 47
 Deducting therefrom proceeds of sales of barrels and materials..... 12,028 83

And the net expenses of construction will appear.....\$2,271,135 64

Net expenses under the first building committee.....\$69,107 77
 Net expenses under the second building committee..... 270,493 00
 Net expenses under the third building committee..... 1,931,544 78

Aggregate cost.....\$2,271,135 64

This is less than any estimate which the committee have announced in their reports at any time within the last three years. It is presumed that no one in this community, after the building had been constructed to the third floor, supposed it would cost less than \$2,500,000, while many believed it would largely exceed that sum.

The aggregate expense incurred in furnishing the hall was \$101,264 77, which includes chandeliers, drapery and furniture of every kind. This department of expense, added to the cost of the building, will make the aggregate cost of constructing and furnishing the same \$2,375,400 41.

The \$2,500,000 appropriated for erecting the city hall did not embrace the matter of furnishing it. It was not until the building was nearly completed that this department was placed in charge of the building committee. The mayor and city council made a special appropriation of \$100,000 for that purpose, and authorized the committee further to apply thereto such balance of the \$2,500,000, if balance, there should be, as might be in their possession after they had paid for constructing the building.

The structure covers an area of 25,462 square feet. It fronts on Holliday and North streets 238 feet, and on Fayette and Lexington streets 249 feet. The linear circumference is 842 2-12 feet. The height of the dome from the bed of Holliday street is 227 feet, and from the top of the roof 123 feet. The height of the building to the top of the cornice at the main entrance on Holliday street is 92 feet. It contains 100 rooms, and accommodates all the departments of the city government.

In beauty of design, in its architectural proportions, in the execution of the work of the building, exterior and interior, in its strength, in the materials used, in its ventilation, and in its perfect ventilation, it is unquestionably its equal in the United States, save in the building at Washington. In the construction, it is

labor nor necessary expense has been spared to render it perfect in beauty and durability, yet at the same time, considerations of economy have had their proper influence upon the minds and action of the committee, and it is safe to venture the assertion that there is not in the United States a building of similar dimensions, durability, beauty of materials and workmanship that has been erected for a similar amount of money. It stands a monument of honor to the integrity of the city of Baltimore. It is a fitting representative of the prosperity, enterprise, progress and spirit of our home people, and is worthy of the proud name which Baltimore maintains among the cities of the United States of America. It is a monument of fame to the genius of the young architect who designed the structure, furnished the plans, drawings and specifications for executing the work, and who watched its progress, from its foundation to its summit. Colossal stone, column, entablature and dome, which contribute to the strength and grandeur of the structure will, long after the present generation shall have passed away, stand as records of the artistic mind which ran its lines and fashioned its proportions, while the perfect construction of the building in that which gives solidity to it will attest his knowledge of the science of the equilibrium of forces.

John J. Purcell superintended the erection of the building from August, 1863, to the date of its completion, and has by his knowledge as architect and builder, and his attention in directing the progress of the building, rendered good service. The labors of the Building committee have been greatly facilitated by the intelligence and faithful and effective service of their secretary, Walter O. Smith, and all the contractors for work done on the building or materials furnished therefor have fulfilled their contracts to the satisfaction of the committee. The furnishing department was under the direction of F. Hanson *llies*, and the various rooms and business departments attest his judgement and good taste in that connection.

Of the labor performed by the committee in superintending and directing the construction of the edifice, of the responsibilities involved, of the embarrassments that accompanied the progress of the work, of the annoyances to which the several committees were subjected, none but those who have been charged with the responsibility of directing the construction of a public building of the magnitude of the one just completed can thoroughly understand or even imagine. But the work of the building committee is ended, and too happy are they now in the completion of their labors to dwell upon past regrets. It is agreeable for them to believe that they have been honored by a public confidence in their official integrity, and to declare, as they now do, their appreciation of the city council which from the commencement of their service to the conclusion thereof stood by and supported them in the exercise of their authority and fulfillment of their trust.

That support contributed to render the committee above and independent of the mercenary and selfish influences that too often surround, seek to control and embarrass those who are charged with the execution of responsible official duties. The determination of the committee, thus sustained, to perform their duty under the ordinances of the city independent of all influences save that of an honest public sentiment, has enabled them to present to you, fellow-citizens of Baltimore, the novel spectacle, in modern observation at least, of a magnificent public building, colossal in its proportions and splendid in all its appointments, that has been constructed at a comparatively moderate cost.

No city has erected a monument to inspired patriotism so beautifully grand and imposing, so artistic in its design, so perfect in the workmanship, as Baltimore has raised in honor of the Father of his Country; nor has any city in these United States, not excepting the populous city of New York, constructed a city hall of greater architectural beauty and more perfect in all its appointments than that we are this day dedicating. The first represents the patriotism of our people and their appreciation of the character and eminent public services of one of the greatest and best men that ever passed down the tide of time; the latter is indicative of their public spirit, while it proclaims the energy, thriving industries, honorable enterprise, wealth, progress and bright destiny of our city.

Within its walls I trust none will enter in an official character, who are not imbued with proper conceptions of the duty they owe to a noble constituency. No one, I hope, will take a seat in a representative capacity in the imposing council chambers without fully realizing the responsibility inseparable from his public trust. Better, far better, would it be that it had not been built than that the high places within its walls should be unworthily filled. But the citizens of Baltimore, whose temple this is, are intelligent, prudent and good, and in their hands may be safely trusted whatever may pertain to their interest and the honor and glory of a noble city.

And now, on behalf of and in the name of the building committee, whose humble representative I now am, I surrender to your representative, my fellow-citizens, this noble structure and its appointments, and invite a scrutinizing investigation of their stewardship.

At the conclusion of his address Mr. Vansant handed the key of the city hall to Mr. John H. B. Latrobe, who received it in behalf of the citizens of Baltimore. Mr. Latrobe, who was warmly applauded, then made an address, as follows:

Address of John H. B. Latrobe.

Address of John H. B. Latrobe.

Mr. John H. B. Latrobe said: My friends and fellow-citizens—The occasion we have met to celebrate is one of no ordinary significance. The completion of this noble edifice suggests more than is to be found in the features of the architecture or the perfection of the interior arrangements. Its erection indicates an advance in wealth, refinement and general prosperity. It is a mark set permanently, so to speak, on the highway of our municipal history. It is a leaf turned down, varying the simile, to indicate as it were a place where we left off in the narrative to be written hereafter, describing the career of Baltimore.

These epochs occur alike in the lives of cities and of men. A noticeable event of the same character, now many pages back in the municipal volume, was the removal of the council chambers and city offices from one of their temporary resting spots in the Exchange, to the building only just now evacuated, then known as Peale's Museum. This having proved it would seem a failure peculiarly, notwithstanding the attractions of its collection of curiosities in nature and art, and the lectures on natural philosophy of the accomplished proprietor, had been purchased and fitted up for the accommodation of the several departments of the city government. The removal of these to their new quarters was long used as a date to fix events by those who remembered the transfer of the portraits of the mayors of Baltimore to the walls of the late picture gallery, and the substitution of Calhoun, Thoroughgood Smith, Montgomery and others for the Roman fathers, the Grecian daughters and their multifarious companions.

And now we have another date to count from: another page turned down; and until this grand display shall have faded from the recollection of the crowds before me, the inauguration of the new city hall will be resorted to when uncertain memories shall have no other data for their guidance.

The mayor has already stated in accurate and interesting detail the statistics in this connection, and you have seen that it was not very long before it became apparent that even Peale's Museum afforded but restricted accommodations. The city was growing in all directions, not only in population, but in wealth, slowly indeed at first, but in a rapidly increasing ratio, and inasmuch as it was impossible to meet the multiplying requirements of the times by making further additions to the already sorry piece of patchwork in Holliday street, colonization became the only alternative. So, in due season, there followed the purchase of the present site, whose stately private mansions were at once occupied by the mayor, register, collector and other city officers, and here they remained for years in rooms that had once been thronged with the beauty of Baltimore in the days when Holliday Street Theatre was in the centre of the fashionable world, with the Gilmors, Hollinsees, Dugans, Pattersons on the south, the Tenants, Olivers, Purviances, Gilmors again, Harpers and Ridgley of Hampton on the east, while on the west, venturing as far as Monument Square, were the Smiths, Buchanans, Browns, Alexanders, Bosleys and Blackbreds. Surrounded by these forsaken halls of fashion, the new arrivals found comparative comfort, until the adoption of the design for the new city hall, and the preparations for its erection caused another sitting, and the mayor was transferred from Mr. George Brown's parlors in Holliday street to Mr. Haverdy Johnson's apartments in Monument Square. As many of the officials as could be crowded into the Johnson building—at one time the Buchanan mansion—clustered around him, and those for whom there was no room sought shelter across the way or elsewhere, until, in rainy weather, an umbrella became necessary where a person had business to transact with more than one department of the city government. And this has continued to be the case until now, when, once more, gathered under the same roof the councils and the municipal officers are within easy access of each other, to the very great advantage of the public, who, after it has been at last accomplished, wonder as they look back that it has been delayed so long.

But narrow and ill adapted, viewed by our present light, as was the Museum building, with all its patchwork attempts at enlargement, it operated no restraint upon the deliberations that took place there. The intelligence of the city fathers was neither dwarfed nor cramped by low ceilings and poor upholstery, nor by the pressure of the "lobby" which, overflowing the iron railing that was intended to confine it to its scanty corners, found itself within the bar in personal contact with the members of the council even at their very seats.

Here in this old city hall were adopted measures whose wisdom has been vindicated by our present prosperity. When railroads were a novelty in the land—almost, it might be said, in the world—"the mayor and city council of Baltimore" made the first subscription, it is believed, that was ever made to an undertaking of the sort. This it was that strengthened the hands of the projectors of our great road to the West, and with the city's subsequent subscription of three millions, and its loan of as much more—in all six millions and a half—the company was enabled, with the State's aid at a later date, to the extent of three millions, to complete the work to the Ohio.

Here, too, were the ordinances passed giving the city's assistance to the Susquehanna Railway Company, enabling it with individual subscriptions to complete what is now the Northern Central railway.

At a time when railroads cover the land as with a network—when their construction follows almost as a matter of course upon their suggestion, it is not always that due credit is given to those who helped them in their infancy and took all the chances of their failure. They were sagacious and far-seeing men in the councils of Baltimore in those days, who, when they marched in the long procession, with the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence at their head, to lay the corner stone of the great road on the 4th of July, 1828, had not yet seen the day which would have been their undoing had it not been for the fact by the construction that it was a railroad of thirty miles between Liverpool and Manchester, in

England, had been a success, another could, with energy and determination, be carried across the Alleghanies, and so aid in restoring to Baltimore the trade of that mighty West which was fast falling into other hands.

We are apt, nowadays, to forget that this Baltimore road was the first projected for general transportation in America; that it was the first that crossed the mountains and reached the banks of the Ohio; that the first passengers drawn by steam in the United States were those taken from Baltimore to Ellicott's Mills, by Peter Cooper's engine in July, 1830, and that for years afterwards Baltimore and its railroad constructions furnished information on this subject to other roads, that the example thus given had tended to call into existence. Without the aid of the councils that met in the old Museum building the results that we now enjoy might have been long, even if not indefinitely postponed.

Nor was the legislation of the abandoned hall one idea-ed only. The chambers there have rung with discussions that ended by giving us the parks, the water supply, the new jail, the uniformed police, the paid fire department, the deepening of the harbor, the police and fire alarm telegraph, and other measures of great, if not equal importance, and now that the old premises have been left forever, the preservation, even in so transitory a record as a speech like this, of pleasant memories connected with them, if not a duty, is at least a courtesy to which such old friends and their associations would seem fairly entitled.

Before leaving this part of my subject it may not be amiss to state, by way of memoranda, which some future antiquary may find interesting, that the southeast corner of the present site of the city hall was occupied by a somewhat imposing edifice, of an old fashion, fronting on Fayette street, the residence of Dr. White, a wealthy citizen, and afterwards by his son, a leading financial authority in those days, as cashier of the office of discount and deposit of the then Bank of the United States, now the Merchants' National Bank. Next, on the north, was what was intended for the back building of a house; then came the two handsome dwellings of Alexander and George Brown, both of whom, father and son, are inseparably and most honorably connected with the fortunes of Baltimore. Then came the residence of Mr. James Wilson, a distinguished merchant. This disappeared when Lexington street was opened on the north side of the city hall. At the southwest corner of the lot the Messrs. White had built a three-story structure on the ground once occupied, if my memory serves, by the stables of their dwellings; and here for a while the Baltimore postoffice found a sufficient accommodation. But how the postmaster, who was no less than our present worthy mayor, transacted the current business of the city there is to this day a wonder, only to be accounted for perhaps by the fact that the postmaster of that time exercised in his office the talent, skill and probity which have been, since so well illustrated in his office of chairman of the building committee of the new city hall. Next to the postoffice, on the north, were the stables of the building on Holiday street, until we come to the northwest corner, where stood the city watch-house, a mean two-story affair, adapted for some other and more appropriate use to the supposed good order of the city. To this receptacle the prowlers of the night were taken, when it was the luck of the police to catch them; and from thence issued, on their way to their respective octagonal snoozing boxes, our elderly guardians between sun and sun, who came out of their nests from time to time and went their rounds calling the hour and the weather, that thieves might have notice of their proximity, and so save the watchman the trouble of catching them.

And yet, small as the watch-house was, it sufficed, it would seem, for its peculiar purposes, and more, inasmuch as the apprentices' library was accommodated in the same building in the second story, where lectures were delivered to the boys on history and geography by a very young student of law, and on mathematics by a prominent member of the Baltimore bar. I know not whether the name of the originator of this library has been anywhere recorded; if not, it is only doing an act of justice to a most worthy gentleman, as modest as he was useful in quiet walks where few are eager to labor, to perpetuate, as far as this address may do, the name of Mr. Edward P. Roberts. If the Maryland Institute and the Mercantile Library Association have since swallowed up his less conspicuous effort, the value of his work, looking to the time, does not suffer greatly by the comparison.

We have now a city hall admirably suited to all the purposes for which it was designed, carefully constructed under the most jealous supervision, absolutely fire-proof, whose architecture, while ornate, offends no canon of good taste, and which in all its details corresponds with those models whose beauty has made them classic. It is very true that plain brick walls, with the square headed window and slight by ten glass, would have given protection from the weather and have afforded sufficient light for all useful purposes; and it may be admitted that the rich curtains and admirable upholstery of the council chamber cannot safely be relied upon to add to the wisdom or enhance the eloquence of those who deliberate in their presence, and I am quite aware that there have been some, and some there may be still, who deemed the building from which the council have just been delivered amply sufficient for all present and probable future exigencies of our city government. Such persons, however, have been fossilized by anticipation. Civilization and art are companions, marching hand in hand through the eyes, giving to each other counsel and assistance, and it might just as well be said that because Huxey woolsey would protect us from the cold, and the juice of the butternut dye brown, therefore the looms that produce the wondrous textures of modern times and the chemistry that imbues them with the hues of the rainbow, should be abandoned, as to insist upon the perpetuation in our public edifices of the quadrangles of a country barn or an old time meeting-house.

Civilization and art react upon each other, and

Civilization and art react upon each other, and no better illustration of the improvement that is the result can be referred to than is afforded by the streets of Baltimore. Most of us even yet remember when plain four-sided granite pillars were substituted for brick piers, and were claimed to be æsthetic contrivance. Presently marble made its appearance here and there in Baltimore street fronts. From columns and cornices it spread itself over the face of the entire building. Then we had brownstone, graystone, drabstone occasionally. Taste was becoming exacting in proportion as it became refined. Pride sought the aid of art not only in the erection of the private dwellings of the rich but even in the store-houses of trade. Excited by the popular demand for ornamental architecture, ingenuity brought iron into competition with granite, sandstone and marble, and then the facilities of the foundry soon gave us all manner of designs, whether gothic or classic, and even reproduced ancient statuary as the last refinement of ornamentation.

But who, to-day, dreams of going back to the square pillars of granite with which the improvement of the store fronts of our main thoroughfare began. Were Baltimore polled to-morrow few indeed would be willing to vote to part with the city hall as it is, and return to the old quarters, or to an edifice in any respect inferior to the present, and this, even could the change be effected without the possibility of expense.

Irrespective, however, of any other consideration, we cannot afford to be behind our sister cities, and even if what we have done was not right in itself our pride would not permit us to do less.

Of old we showed strangers our monuments to Washington and to the dead who fell at North Point, and these, with the Cathedral and the interior of the dome of the Exchange, were, really, all we had to show. Now we have in addition our parks, our city hall, and the still more convincing proofs of our wealth, energy and taste, afforded by the private dwellings extending in long lines in all directions, adapted to all fortunes and all wants, and maintaining in hundreds and hundreds of cases that most praiseworthy characteristic of our city, which, without a tenement house to demoralize its occupants, gives to each family a separate dwelling, which is its castle, and its castle only.

It would be ungracious on this occasion, when we have assembled formally to dedicate this building to its appropriate purposes, to say nothing of those to whom, in one way or another, its occupants are indebted. Of the councils I have already spoken. But the architect must not be forgotten. Some claim to be architects whose talent extends no further than to place agreeably upon paper forms and combinations of beauty. Others again claim the character who, without such power, are really incompetent save to execute mechanically the plans of others; and there is another class who, without being artists or mechanics, are still capable of arranging the parts of a building so that they will come together as a compact whole. But the thorough architect is one who combines all these qualities, and that such in a great degree is the happy fortune of the architect of the city hall must be apparent to those who will take the trouble to see what are the difficulties to overcome, the exigencies and contingencies to be provided for, and then mark how all the requirements of the occasion have been satisfactorily met.

But by himself the architect is helpless. He is dependent upon others from the beginning to the end—from the faithful preparation of the concrete that maintains the foundation walls to the accurate soldering of the joints of the top-most gutters of the dome, where a leak might loosen the plastering or destroy a costly fresco by precipitating it to the floor. Between roof and foundation the architect is in like manner dependent upon every artisan, mechanic and laborer employed about the work. In this instance not one has failed in his duty, or if there has been failure in any one injurious consequences have been obviated by the thorough and efficient action of the building committee, and the anxious, zealous and untiring watchfulness of the immediate superintendent of the structure from its commencement to its completion. To all engaged in its construction this, our new city hall, is a most honorable monument. From the first blow that was struck in the removal of the old building upon the site, to the last touch that arranged the tapestry in the last completed apartment, not one contract was made except upon fair competition, not one that was not faithfully fulfilled. Costly as the work has been, its cost has been largely within the estimate of its architect, and throughout the eight years of its progress, I am authorized to say that not one dollar has dishonestly gone to benefit a single individual at the expense of the public, so that it may be truly said—and there is a pride in these days in being able to say it—that honesty has as proud a monument in the city hall of Baltimore, as patriotism possesses in any of those which justified, in years gone by, the toast that described us as "a people who gave graves to their foes and monuments to their defenders."

One word more, my friends and fellow-citizens, and I have done. The orator of the day when the corner-stone was laid, on the 10th of October, 1837, the very great honor has now been conferred upon me of receiving from the building committee the keys of this vast pile on the part of the citizens of Baltimore. You stand around me by thousands and tens of thousands—witnesses of the re-estabishment of the trust which the committee has so faithfully and so honorably discharged, and now, gentlemen of the committee, receive from you the keys here handed to Mr. Latrobe, in the name of

this vast constituency I tender to you the thanks that are rightly yours, for duty wisely, assiduously and gratuitously performed.

Rev. Dr. John Leyburn concluded the dedication ceremonies with a benediction. The exercises were interspersed with music from the band.

THROWN OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

At 4 o'clock P. M. the city hall was thrown open to the public, and from that hour until 10 o'clock last night it was thronged, many thousands of persons availing themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of inspecting the building. At night all the rooms were lighted, and the spectacle presented was an animated one. During the evening the corridors, halls and chambers were densely thronged with people, a large proportion of them ladies, who expressed their approbation of the beauty of the interior and its handsome furniture. The visiting at the hall in the evening was in keeping with the large turn-out of people on the streets during the day, and formed a leading feature of the dedication demonstration.

The architect of the building is Geo. A. Fredericks; the building committee—Joshua Vansant, John W. Colley, Ichabod Jean; the committee of arrangements on part of City Council—H. B. Loney, George A. Kirk, C. W. Lewis, Charles Streeper, Wm. E. Stewart, M. W. Donavin.