

and when finished will probably be second to no institution of the kind in the Union. It will have all the accommodations and other necessary requisites for such an important branch of the Government, many of which are lacking in the old concern on Commercial Street. The plan of the building has been so often described that it is unnecessary for us to enter into detail, but we will give the general dimensions of the building. It will have a frontage of one hundred and sixty-five feet on Mission Street, by a depth of two hundred and twenty-five feet on Fifth Street. The building will be two stories in height, with a basement above the foundation. The style will be of the composite order of architecture. Doubts having arisen as to the capacity of the ground to support such a structure, a boring of forty-four feet was made, which proved satisfactory, when work was immediately commenced, and a solid foundation laid in concrete. The building will cost \$975,000, and the appropriation for the Mint when finished is stated at \$1,250,000. Mr. A. B. Mullet is the architect.

THE GRAND HOTEL.—This hotel, now in course of construction, will, when completed, be one of the most magnificent structures of its kind in San Francisco, or, perhaps, in any city of the Union. The style of architecture is the French *renaissance*, highly decorated. The building will consist of a basement, three stories, and an attic with a high Mansard roof. There will be two distinct blocks of buildings, connected in the upper stories by a bridge across Stevenson Street. The largest of the two blocks will front on New Montgomery, Market, Second, and Stevenson streets; the smaller one will front on New Montgomery, Stevenson, and Jessie streets. At the corner of Market and New Montgomery streets there will be an octagonal tower, to be used as an observatory. Each corner of the building will also be surmounted by a tower. The dining-room will be sixty by ninety feet, and twenty feet in height, richly decorated. The main entrance will be on New Montgomery Street, the other entrances on New Montgomery, Stevenson, and Jessie streets, so that in case of alarm there will be ample means of egress from every part of the building. On the first floor there will be twenty-two stores, and in the hotel there will be four hundred rooms, single, double, and *en suite*. An improvement on the old system of bells will be the introduction of telegraphic communication between the rooms and the office. The building will be of iron and brick, with thoroughly-braced wooden frames, to which the iron and brick will be secured with anchors, placed vertically and horizontally, three feet apart, so as to render the building comparatively secure against earthquakes. The whole structure will cost about \$400,000, and is expected to be finished in February, 1870. The hotel has been leased by G. S. Johnson & Co., and will be opened for guests about the first day of May, 1870. J. P. Gaynor is the architect.

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL.—An addition is being made to the already gigantic proportions of this splendid hotel. The new portion will have a frontage of sixty-six feet on Montgomery Street, by a depth of one hundred and sixty-seven feet on Sutter Street. The first story, as in the older portion of the building, will be occupied by stores, six in number, and the upper part will add to the present large accommodation for guests, for which the hotel is celebrated. The entire building will contain, when the addition is completed, four hundred and twelve rooms, exclusive of ladies' parlor, dining-room, billiard-rooms, offices, etc. Fire hydrants, with the necessary hose, are placed at convenient distances in case of an alarm of fire, and a spacious hall and stair case, will be built in the new building to give free egress should a panic occur. The hotel is to be furnished with an elevator, to be worked by steam, for the accommodation of guests who do not wish to use the common stairs. The walls will be iron braced and thoroughly anchored, and secured by heavy tie-rods, in every story, thereby securing the building against earthquake shocks. The addition will cost \$190,000. Messrs. Johnson & Mooser are the architects.

THE PACIFIC BANK.—This new building, on the northwest corner of Pine and Sansom streets, is, perhaps, one of the most secure buildings in the city. Its style of architecture is the French *renaissance*, and its dimensions are eighty-eight feet on Pine Street by thirty-six feet on Sansom Street. It is a three-story and basement building, with lofty ceilings; the first floor to be occupied by the bank and the upper stories to be let for offices. This building is considered earthquake-proof, the outer walls of brick and iron being fastened by strong anchors to an inner structure of heavy timber, so as to prevent the falling of the floors should the outer walls give way. This is a great improvement on the old style of building, and will give a sense of security to the occupants. The cost of this building is estimated at \$90,000. S. Rawn is the architect.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA AND OTHER BUILDINGS.—On the northeast corner of California and Sansom streets, Mr. I. Friedlander is erecting three buildings, which, for solidity, safety, and beauty, will compare favorably with any structure heretofore erected in this city. The style of these buildings is English *renaissance*, and in height they are three stories and basement. The iron castings are of the most magnificent patterns, and will add luster to the costly architectural designs already displayed on California Street. The corner building will be occu-