

a vast hall of the dimensions allowed by the outer walls, with a ceiling 75 feet high, and supported by two rows of graceful iron pillars. The design of the architect is to make it both earthquake and fire-proof, and it is assumed that the iron pillars will support the roof should the brick walls be shaken down. The date of completion of this grand edifice or its cost cannot as yet be estimated.

The First Congregational Church in course of erection on the southeast corner of Post and Mason streets, will rival in dimensions, architectural appearance and altitude of spire, the great St. Patrick's. The spire of this church will have an altitude of two hundred and thirty feet, and as the church stands on high ground, it will have a most commanding effect. The cost of the edifice is estimated at \$100,000.

The synagogue, Sherith Israel, on the east side of Taylor Street between Sutter and Post is one of the most pleasing architectural ornaments, of the city. A capacious brick basement furnishes a convenient school and lecture room. The superstructure is of wood, and the interior is tastefully and elegantly furnished, the lofty ceilings, arched and frescoed in imitation of the sky at night when dazzling with stars, the whole presenting a most beautiful appearance.

**SCHOOL HOUSES.**—The building of school houses has progressed during the past year to a greater extent than during any previous year of San Francisco's history. The style of architecture and interior arrangement is that of the most approved plan, designed and superintended by Messrs. Raun & Taylor, architects to the Board of Education. The glorious free-school system, the keystone of the Republic and preserver of our liberties, is the pride of all good citizens. Richly endowed by a beneficent government, the erection of grand academic structures is possible and a support is assured that gives education to every class.

The school houses erected by the Board of Education comprise, the Girls' High School, three Grammar Schools, the City Front Primary School and Point Lobos Avenue School.

The first, the Girls' High School, situated on the north side of Bush Street, bet Hyde and Larkin, is a building of basement and three stories, surmounted by an observatory. The main building has a front of 54 feet 8 inches, by a depth of 82 feet 4 inches, and two wings, each 21 feet 5 inches front by 50 feet 6 inches deep. The first and second stories are each 14 feet 6 inches high, and the third story is 16 feet in the clear. The basement, used as a play ground, is 10 feet in the clear. This latter portion, and the foundation are of brick, but the superstructure is of wood. In the building are 10 class rooms, a large assembly room, teachers' rooms, lecture rooms, halls, closets, cloak rooms, library, etc. The necessary water conveniences are ample, each cloak room, teachers rooms, library, and lecture hall, having a marble topped wash stand, and in closets for that purpose a fire hose bibb, and the basement has a sink with the necessary water service. The yard is planked and at the rear are located the water closets, and a shed with sink and water.

The three Grammar schools are precisely alike, one erected on the east side of Eighth Street between Harrison and Bryant, one on the north side of McAllister Street between Gough and Franklin streets, and the other on the east side of Valencia Street between Twenty-second and Twenty-third. These are similar to the Girls High School. They are of three stories and basement, with brick foundations and wood superstructures. The dimensions on the ground are for the main building, 51 feet 8 inches front, by 79 feet 1 inch deep, on each side of which is a wing 38 feet 2 inches wide, by 34 feet 7 inches deep. There are 16 class rooms, teachers rooms, halls, lecture rooms, closets, etc., as in the first described. The yards are divided into two equal parts by a close board fence, and are supplied with water closets, sheds, etc.

The City Front Primary School is situated on the north side of Broadway, between Montgomery and Sansom streets. This is a two story building, and contains eight class rooms, teachers rooms, closets, etc. The main building is 48 feet 3 inches front by 79 feet deep, with a wing on each side 10 feet 3 inches wide, by 37 feet 6 inches in depth. There is no assembly room, but the class rooms in the second story are connected with sliding doors in such a manner as to make two large rooms. The teachers' rooms are furnished with marble-topped washstands, and hose is provided for washing purposes and as a protection against fire.

The Point Lobos Avenue School is a one story building, containing four class rooms. The main building has a front of 71 feet and a depth of 51 feet. A wing in front of 27½ feet wide by 9½ deep, contains the front entrance and two cloak rooms, and a similar one in the rear contains the rear entrance and two cloak rooms. A wide hall runs from front to rear connecting the two entrances. On either side of this are two class rooms separated by sliding doors, which enables the transformation into two large rooms. The building is entirely of wood, and is surmounted by a cupola.

The disastrous fire at the Lincoln School necessitates the partial reconstruction of that splendid edifice, which will be made to appear again as the original.

The Boys' High School, soon to be built, will be located on the south side of Geary Street between Scott and Pierce streets. The Main building will have a frontage of 55½ feet on Geary Street, by a depth of 90 feet, with a wing on each side of 27½ by 52 feet dimensions. The basement will be for a gymnasium, the first, second and third stories for class rooms, halls, reception or lecture rooms, etc. The whole to be crowned by a Mansard roof. The design proposes a most elegant building, worthy the noble purpose for which it is to be erected. All these are from plans by Raun & Taylor, architects, and the work is done under their superintendence. The contractors are, Mr. Michael Casey, for the Girls' High School; Mr. John C. Casey, for the Grammar Schools, Mr. John C. Murphy, for the Point Lobos Avenue School, and Mr. Thomas H. Day, for the City Front Primary School.