

ample for the accommodation of one hundred and twenty-five patients. All the modern hospital improvements are found in this institution. It is maintained at a cost of about \$25,000 a year. The class of persons admitted here are merchant seamen (all persons employed on sea and inland merchant vessels) who are obliged to prove their vocation at the Custom House. This hospital is not a public charity. The Government makes a direct tax upon the seamen who receive its benefits, which serves to defray a part of its expenses. Dr. C. N. Ellinwood is the surgeon in charge, office 715 Clay Street, corner of Kearny, where permits for admission are issued. An ambulance leaves this office daily, carrying patients to the hospital.

THE ARMY, NAVY, ETC.—The military and other offices of the Federal service, numbering several scores in all, are not accommodated in any government building especially provided for them, but occupy rented offices in the most convenient locations available.

STATE BUILDINGS OR OFFICES.—Although several state officials necessarily have their offices in this city, the State has not yet provided any special building for their accommodation. The various Commissioners, Inspectors, and Agents, rent offices as convenient as possible to the respective locations of their several occupations. Should the reader have any special desire to know where these are he can easily ascertain by referring to the proper place in the general directory.

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS.—Of these the most important is the City Hall. In this are the various municipal offices, with exception of that of the Recorder, which have already been transferred to the new city capitol. The building at present occupied by the municipal authorities stands on the southwest corner of the block bounded by Washington, Montgomery, Merchant, and Kearny streets. It was one of the first large buildings erected in the early pioneer days. It is badly ventilated, poorly lighted, and in every way inadequate. Many of its offices, however, will soon have accommodations in the new City Hall.

THE OLD CITY HALL, long familiar to every resident for any considerable time, occupies the southwest corner of the block bounded by Washington, Montgomery, Merchant, and Kearny streets. It is brick, stuccoed. For inconvenience of arrangement and insufficiency of accommodation it stands pre-eminent. Several of the entrances are blind and roundabout, and few, if any of them, are broad or light enough. Many of the important offices are exceedingly inconvenient in themselves, both with regard to their situation relatively to each other, as well as for ready access by the general public. In addition to these objections, they are ill-lighted and poorly ventilated.

THE NEW CITY HALL.—This building when completed will not only be the largest and most durable structure in the city, but it is believed will be by far the largest edifice of this description in the United States. It is located upon a triangular plot of ground bounded by Larkin Street, McAllister Street, and City Hall Avenue, a site which though now somewhat removed from the business portion of the city, will doubtless be found most convenient, should the city continue its rapid spread, by the time the building is finally completed. The main front of the structure is on City Hall Avenue, and measures eight hundred feet. The main building consists of a series of pavillions which are adorned with Corinthian pilasters and columns forty-eight feet in height. At each end of the principal front is one of these pavillions, while in the center is the almost semi-circular portico which forms the principal entrance on City Hall Avenue. The Hall of Records, which forms almost a separate building, is a circular structure at the eastern extremity of the edifice. When the hall is completed it will have a frontage of five hundred and fifty feet on Larkin Street and six hundred and fifty feet on McAllister Street. On the Larkin Street front will be a portico one hundred and twenty-two feet long, with towers, each a hundred and fifty feet high on either side. From either end of the McAllister Street front will be projected wings, each one hundred and forty feet in length, enclosing three sides in an oblong square. The main tower of the building will be over the principal entrance; it will measure about two hundred and seventy feet in height, and be seventy feet square. The entrance from City Hall Avenue leads directly to a large circular hall eighty feet in diameter and one hundred and five feet high. From this lead numerous corridors to the various halls and offices. The basement of the building contains a story twelve and one-half feet high, which will be used as the city prison. Above this is the ground floor, twenty feet high, and next above is the principal floor of the building, which will be mainly occupied by the courts, the several halls being each thirty-four feet high. During the past year considerable progress has been made in the erection of the building, and the interior of the eastern wing, and that part which forms the center of the McAllister Street frontage, begin to give some idea of the appearance which will be presented when these are completed.

The work of finishing the interior of the Hall of Records was completed in the Spring of 1877, and the Recorder's office was removed thereto in May. The Hall of Records is a circular edifice, eighty-six feet in internal diameter and ninety-five feet in external diameter. It is surrounded by a wide arcade, which increases the diameter to one hundred and thirty-two feet over all, and surmounted by a dome, rising to a height of one hundred and thirty-four feet. That portion of the main building fronting on McAllister Street, and selected to be first completed, has been built and roofed. Fire-proof floors, with concrete fillings, have been put in, gas and water pipes have been laid, and the walls and ceilings of the two upper stories are nearly finished. In the Treasurer's office a large coin vault is in course of construction. It is