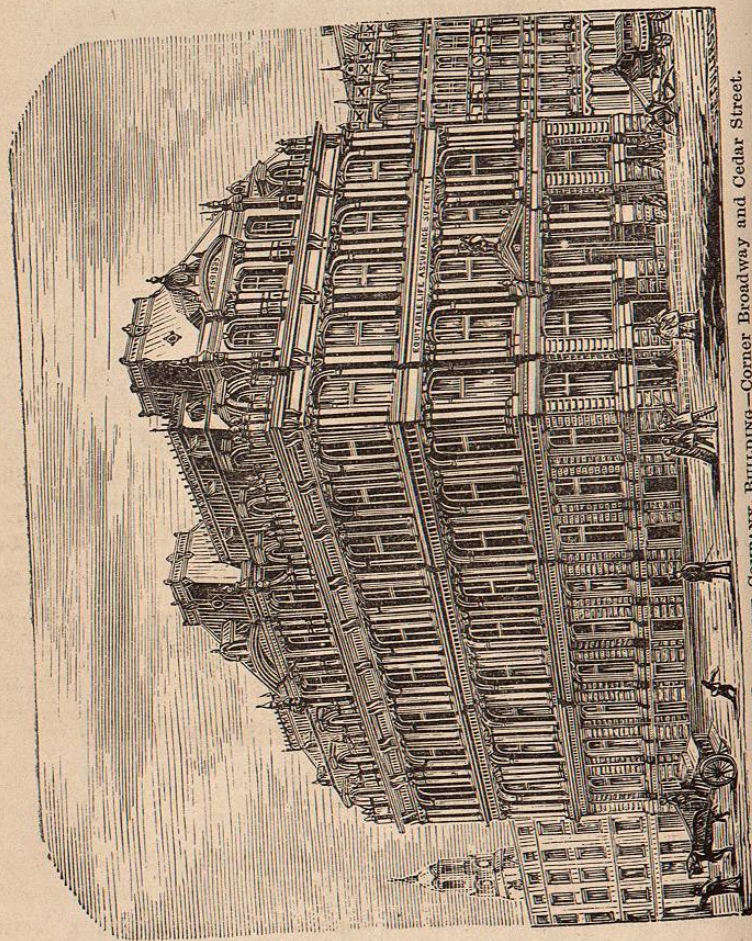
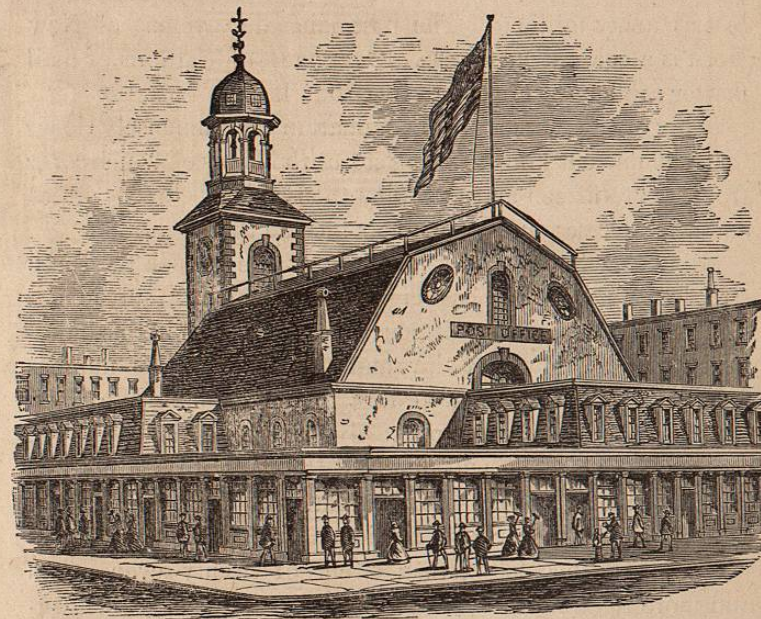


broad steps ornamented with marble pillars. The architect has suggested the idea of making the tower crowning the apex of the dome a light-house, which from its great height could be seen from vessels far out at sea. The edifice is Corinthian in style, much larger and richer in finish than any public building hitherto erected on Manhattan, and is costing the public vast sums. Many private purses are believed to have been unduly filled in connection with its construction.



EQUITABLE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY BUILDING—Corner Broadway and Cedar Street.



OLD POST-OFFICE.
(Corner Nassau and Liberty streets.)

THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE, now being constructed at the southern point of City Hall Park, nearly opposite the Astor House, will be somewhat triangular in form, with a front of 279 feet toward the Park, two equal lateral façades of 262½ on Broadway and Park Row, and a front of 144 feet at the south-western extremity. The walls are to be of Dix Island granite, three stories besides basement and attic, the main

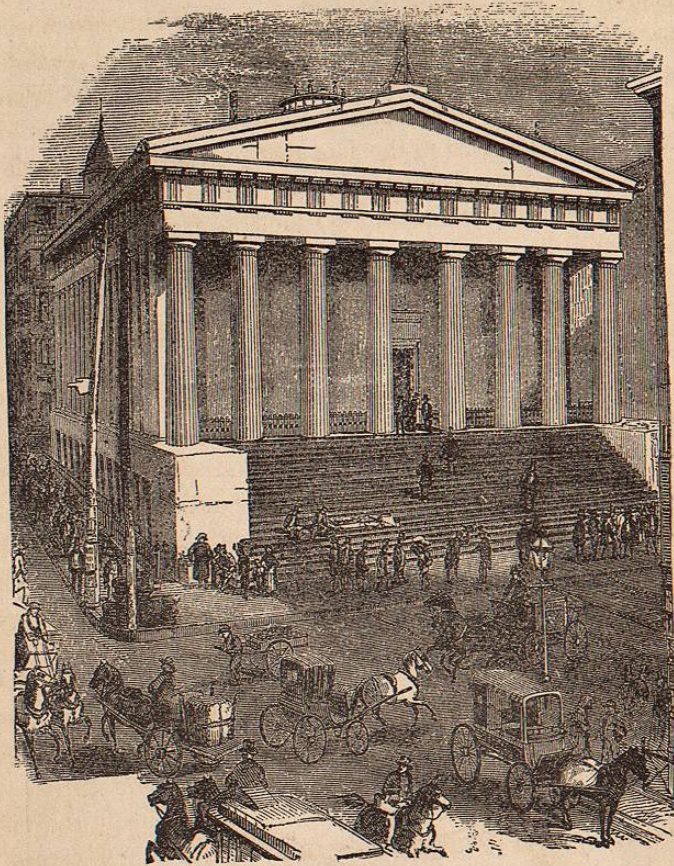
cornice 80 feet above the sidewalk, and the crown of the central dome 160 feet. The windows are to be semicircular-headed throughout, the archivolt ornamented with voussoirs, and carried on projecting pilasters. The inside, which is to be devoted to the General Post-Office department and the United States Court, will have its appropriate appointments and corridors, while its exterior will be adorned with a profusion of classic pillars, balconies, balustrades, and other marks of genius. It will probably take several years to complete it, and cost as many millions. The post-office department of New York is a colossal enterprise. Over one hundred tons of mail matter are handled every twenty-four hours.

Many of the merchants of Manhattan are immensely richer than the ancient kings, owning stores the floors of which cover from five to fifteen acres, employ thousands of clerks, porters, and seamstresses, and count their income by the million.

MR. A. T. STEWART'S retail store, at the corner of Tenth street and Broadway, has eight floors, which, if spread out singly, would cover over fifteen acres. His sales in this building average \$80,000 per day, and the daily visitors number from 15,000 to 50,000, according to the season. Mr. Stewart has just erected the most costly private residence on the continent for himself and family. It stands at the corner of Fifth avenue and Thirty-fourth street, is of white marble, and said to have cost over two millions. Mr. Stewart paid last year a larger income-tax than either of twenty-seven States and more than nine of our territories combined. This gentleman has also an immense wholesale store near the City Hall doing a vast business, and is in this line only excelled by H. B. CLAFLIN & Co., who have not only the largest wholesale store, but are the heaviest dealers in dry-goods in America. Their store has a frontage of eighty feet, and extends from Church street to West Broadway along Worth street, a distance of 375 feet. Beside many purchasing agents abroad, there are about five hundred clerks and other employes attending to the everyday affairs of this colossal business



CUSTOM HOUSE—Wall Street.



UNITED STATES TREASURY BUILDING—Cor. Wall and Nassau Street.

theater. The sales of the house have reached seventy millions in a year, and one million in a single day. Mr. Clafin worships at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn.

LORD & TAYLOR have just added another immense business palace to the Metropolis. It stands at the corner of Twentieth street and Broadway, is of the composite order, with a front of 110 feet, a depth of 128, and a height of 122 feet. Its solidity may be imagined from the fact that over a thousand tons of iron were employed in its construction. Though one of the most massive structures on the island, its front is so profusely and tastefully ornamented that one almost forgets that it is a place of business.

TIFFANY & COMPANY have also just erected a fine building on the southwest corner of Union square, on the site originally covered by Dr. Cheever's church. They are said to be the largest dealers in jewelry in the world, their sales amounting to several millions per annum, and probably have the largest and finest store of its kind yet constructed.

There are now about sixty-five thousand buildings on the island, of which about thirty-four thousand are of brick, twenty thousand of stone, and eleven thousand of wood. Twenty thousand of these are occupied as tenant-houses and contain over half the population. Many of the churches are large and beautiful, worthy of the times and the people who built them, though it is not complimentary to our Protestant evangelical Christianity, that the three largest enterprises in church architecture undertaken on the island during the last ten years, should result in a Jewish synagogue, a Universalist church, and a Roman Catholic cathedral.

Choice architecture on Manhattan amounts to a practical science, which is much studied, and some intrepid genius is every year seeking to eclipse all his predecessors. At this writing the Free Masons are erecting a superb temple on Sixth avenue and Twenty-third street; a fine building called the Seamen's Exchange is rising on Cherry street, at an expense of \$100,000, to contain a reading room, savings bank,

and other means for improving the condition of sailors. The Industrial Exhibition Company have purchased a plot of twenty-two acres between Third and Fourth avenues, at One Hundredth street, and are preparing to erect a vast crystal palace, the dimensions of which are to be so immense, that the crystal palace of nineteen years ago will be remembered as a mere "toy-house." What the next generation will undertake we shall not attempt to divine.

V.

BUSINESS IN NEW YORK.

CAUSES OF BUSINESS FAILURE—BUSINESS IN REAL ESTATE—
CLASSES OF RICH MEN—POLITICIANS—SPECULATORS AND STOCK
GAMBLERS—SUCCESS OF GREAT MEN.



WHILE it is true that business is essentially the same the world over, it is equally true that in a great city everything is accelerated. In great commercial centers business is reduced to a sort of science, and abundant scope is afforded for the play of the largest and rarest talents. Nearly every man in cities has his specialty, which he plies, paying little attention to the rest of the world. If one thought predominates over all others in the busy centers of New York, it is that of dispatch. Everything is on a run, and everybody from butcher to baker in a hurry. A clerk fresh from the country, toiling for his board, can scarcely be tolerated on account of his tardiness. Steamboats, horse-cars, and stages are too slow to satisfy the desires of the rushing masses. Every scheme for elevated roads, underground roads, river bridges, or tunnels meets with ten thousand advocates, through the ever-present desire to hasten travel and dispatch business. If you call on a business stranger, however important your business, you must be able to state it tersely and at once, or you will be summarily dismissed without a hearing. Everything goes on the old maxim, "Time and tide wait for no man." Men get rich in a year, and poor in a day; "up like a rocket, and down like a stick."