

PORTLAND'S LIBRARY.

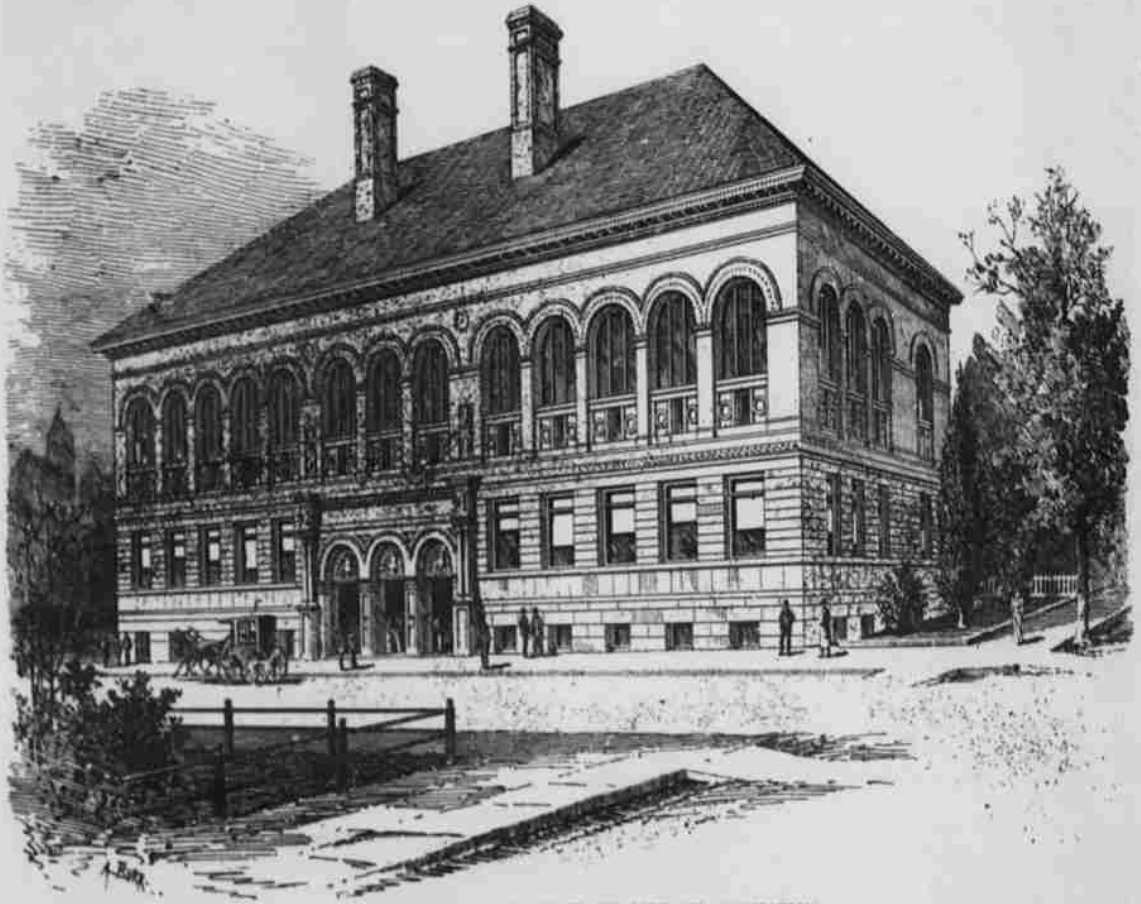
The fine stone structure now being erected by the Portland Library Association will be an ornament to the city. Its construction has been made possible by the legacy of the late Miss Ella M. Smith, to whose memory the memorial reading room will be suitably decorated and dedicated. The building is of stone, of the Italian Renaissance style, the basement being of Nelson granite, the stories of light colored sandstone and the roof of tiles. It will have a length of 144 feet on Stark street and sixty-four feet on Seventh and East Park.

The main entrance is in the center of the Stark street front, through an open vestibule, whence a few steps lead to the main hall and corridor of the first floor. This floor will contain the stack, or bookroom, in size 110 x 24; librarian's room, 15 x 23; ladies' reading room, 15 x 24; magazine room, 21 x 34; chess room, 21 x 22; newspaper room, 52 x 22; and also toilet rooms for ladies and gentlemen. The second floor will have a memorial reading room, 140 x 24; reference library, 21 x 34; trustees' room, 21 x 21; lecture hall, 32 x 40; and also toilet rooms. The basement will have ample accommodations for the reception of books and for cataloging and distributing.

memorial reading room, located over the stack room, on the south side of the building, and occupying the entire length of the building, 140 feet.

The reference library on this floor is located on the Seventh street side, directly over the magazine room. The trustees' room is on the Stark street side, near the staircase. At the west end of the building, over the newspaper room, is a lecture hall which, it is expected, will be used for lectures on art, education, science and kindred subjects. The details of the interior finish are not yet settled, but all the rooms will be simply and quietly treated, in keeping with the purposes of a library. The building will cost, when completed, about \$120,000, and will probably be ready for occupancy in the latter part of this year.

The Philadelphians are at it now. A few paintings of the undraped human form, alleged to be divine, have been hung at the Academy of Fine Arts, and this has led to an indignant protest against the public exhibition of "indecent" pictures. The same ground that was fought over in the Portland papers is now being reddened with gore in the Quaker City, and the prude and the puritan are both enjoying themselves. The contestants on both sides appear to miss the kernel of the question. It is the spirit, rather than the



NEW BUILDING OF THE PORTLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

These rooms are reached by an exterior entrance at the east end of the building, and also by interior staircase. The west end of the basement is to be used for boiler room, engineer's room and storage room, reached by exterior steps at that end of the building.

The stack room on the first floor is given up to books arranged in alcoves, with a large open space in the room that will be lighted by large windows on the south side of the building. The librarian's room is at the east end of the stack room, and the ladies' room at the west end, with retiring room conveniently placed. For the present there will be accommodation for about 30,000 volumes, but in a few years this stack room will be entirely devoted to books, accommodating 120,000 volumes, and necessitating the use of the memorial room on the second floor as a general reading room, where the books will be delivered by means of lifts from the floor below.

The chess room is located on the Stark street side of the building, just east of the main entrance, and the magazine room is on the east side facing Seventh street. The newspaper room occupies the entire north side of the building on Stark street, west of the main entrance. By means of a large, easy, double staircase the second floor is reached, leading directly to the

substance, of a picture that makes it good or bad. If a picture suggest impurity it is bad, and if it suggest purity it is good, irrespective of the quantity of clothing with which human figures it contains may be adorned. Tested by this standard many a nude figure will stand higher than others with enough drapery on them to clothe a family.

An Australian paper says that Americans should be proud of Choynski. Indeed, we are. As he stood in the sawdust arena, "dripping with gore," he was a sight to make every American heart swell with pride, despite his name, which is more suggestive of the second hand clothing business than of heroics. We have had great men in the past who have gone abroad and received the hospitality and homage of the world, such as William H. Seward, Generals Grant, Sherman and Sheridan and James G. Blaine; but we were not puffed up with pride, nor did we exalt ourselves unduly, until this noble representative of American manhood, with his eyes closed and his mouth and nose bleeding, hung senseless over the ropes in Sidney, knocked there by a man weighing thirty pounds more than he, including his name.