

PORTLAND POST OFFICE.

Our leading illustration represents the new post office building, at Portland, Oregon, as it stands, now nearly ready for occupation, at a cost of about a quarter of a million. Perhaps the illustration will give the reader a better idea of the exterior appearance than we could by any description in the limited space allowed us. Situated as it is in the centre of an elevated block in the heart of the city, between Fifth and

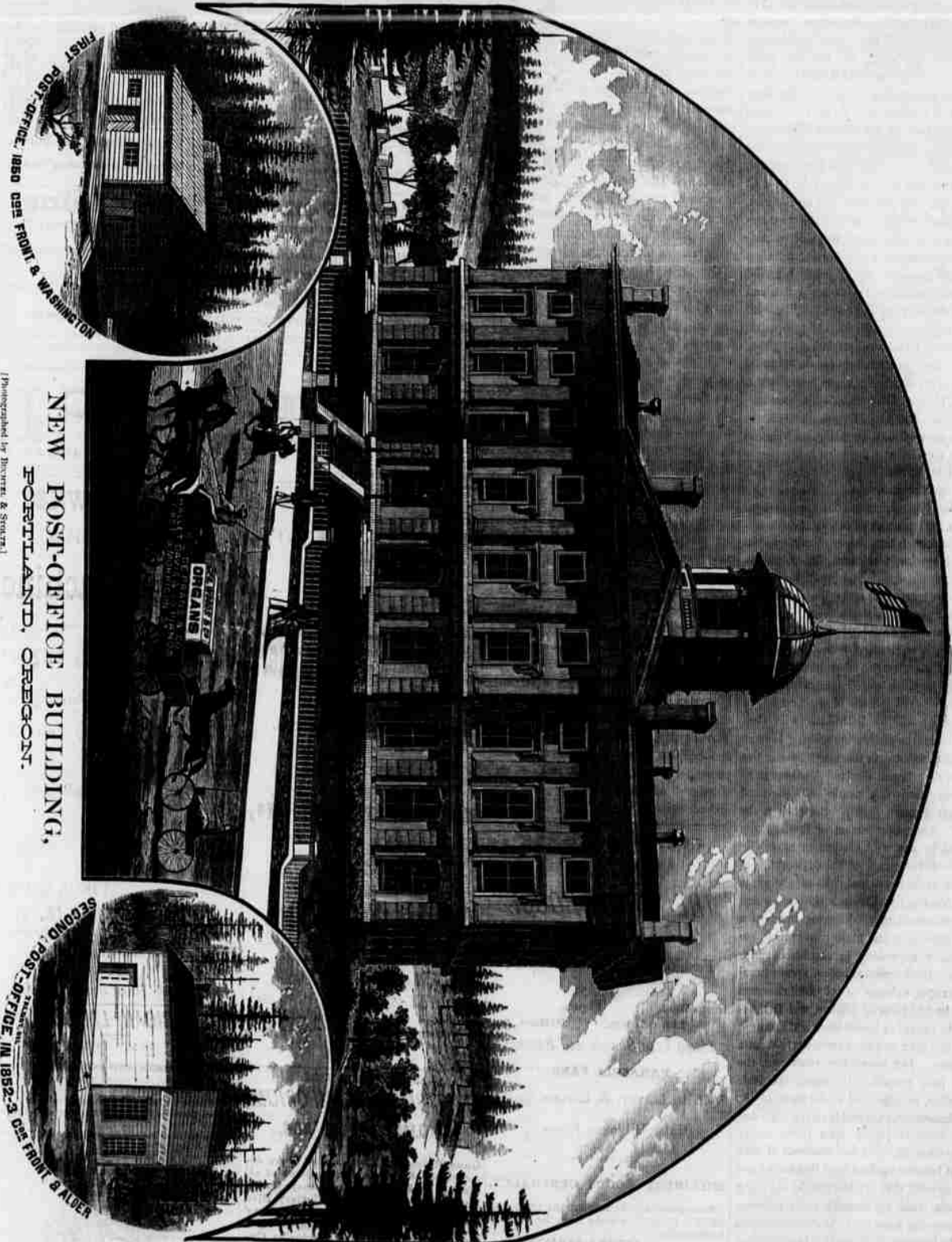
Sixth, Yamhill and Morrison streets, it presents, as viewed from either point of the compass, a grand and majestic appearance. The exquisite grounds, clothed with its almost perpetual verdure peculiar to the mild climate of Oregon, and the imposing structure of beautiful blue free-stone, the conspicuous situation, the solid and substantial character of the work, the neat style of its architecture, and the taste and perfection of its construction from foundation to dome, at once attracts the admiration, each part of

the work having been performed in the most substantial and workmanlike manner, under the immediate supervision of W. L. Higgins, Esq., Superintendent of Construction, who has just reason to feel proud of that monument of his skill, which will for ages remain a record of his labor.

The fine and beautiful free-stone of which the edifice is constructed, was taken from a quarry near Bellingham Bay, W. T., by Noah Lambert, under contract with the government for a specified number of

stones of a certain size, quality and finish, each stone when taken from the quarry having been designated for a particular position in the grand work of construction, and how well each stone has filled its intended office, to the width of a barleycorn, a close inspection of the seams and layers will bear testimony.

Ascending the steps at the eastern front of the building, you enter upon a spacious hall floored with black Belgian and white



NEW POST-OFFICE BUILDING, PORTLAND, OREGON.

American tile alternately laid, forming a beautiful mosaic finish, the south end of the building being fitted up for the Post Office Department. Space will not allow an extended description, but sufficient to say that the inside work is in perfect keeping and harmony with the taste and expensiveness displayed in the exterior, the apartments being commodious and the arrangement complete, the woodwork being nearly all of the best of Oregon ash, that under its present fine polish gives a rich

and luxurious appearance, and so completely and systematically arranged that it will greatly lessen the labor of employes in that now laborious department, over which Hon. Geo. A. Cole, present P. M., so faithfully presides. The principal entrance to the Post Office being on the southern front of the building, the visitor steps immediately in front of long rows of private Post Office boxes, gotten up in accordance with the most modern style of improvement, and numbering up to nine hundred

and ten, of the ordinary or letter style, with sixty drawers for large business houses, and passing on round to the right you arrive at the Money Order Department, the outer front of which is finished with black walnut, all in accordance with the same lavished taste exhibited elsewhere. In this building also are fitted up offices for the Collector of Internal Revenue, where Hon. O. N. Denny officiates in a most agreeable manner; Surveyor General's Office, with Hon. Ben. Simpson occupant;

all the work displaying exquisite taste and arranged for convenience, showing plainly that Uncle Sam feels such an interest in his boys that he desires to see them safely ensconced in comfortable quarters. After ascending a double flight of steps, of Oregon ash, to the second story, we come upon the United States District Court Room,—also Clerk of U. S. Courts and U. S. Marshal,—all displaying the same superb taste in arrangement peculiar to