

ing firm of Messrs. A. and S. Nordheimer (pianoforte and music dealers), and takes its name from the ancient order of free and accepted masons, whose hall and lodge-rooms occupy the whole of the upper storey. The building is 102 feet front by 75 feet deep, and five storeys high. The centre part is six storeys high. There are four extensive shops on the ground floor, the fronts of which are fitted up with ornamental cast-iron columns. The window-sash and shutters are also of iron. The whole of the upper part of the front is carried out in richly carved Ohio freestone. The main entrance to the upper part is in the centre of the building. Here a wide staircase leads to the spacious halls above. These halls run the whole length of the building, and divide the first and second floors into handsome double offices. The entrance to the masons' suite of rooms is by a separate staircase. These consist of an ante-chamber, armory, coat, chapter, supper, and encampment rooms. The principal hall, or blue lodge, is 73 feet long by 42 feet wide, and is 24 feet in height. The building is amply provided with every convenience for mercantile purposes and public offices, and embraces all the improvements of modern architecture. The architect, Mr. William Kauffman, was also architect of the Rossin House. The principal contractors were—for stone and brick work, Messrs. Worthington and Brother; and for cast and wrought iron, Messrs. Vale & Co. The cost of the building and site was 100,000 dollars.

---