

## OUR MARKET.

**The Handsome and Commodious  
Building Now Rapidly Nearing  
Completion.**

**Every Portion of the Structure Graceful, and Full of the Latest Improvements.**

The market building, on Cormorant street, will be handed over to the City Council in about four weeks, and in every respect it is a piece of property of which any Corporation might well be proud. It is the first of its kind in the world.

very few people here really know how the market really voted for a market is being expanded, and there are very many citizens who have a hazy notion that the place is being fashioned into something like a section of wooden stalls and pig troughs, arranged inside a common brick structure. But all one needs a short walk to convince them how mistaken they are, and what a creditable edifice our market really is. Before going into details, it may be as well to point out

will give to the residents of Victoria. A gentleman, who has played a prominent part in the market, cites them as follows. He says: "The farmer has a long time to make of the great discounts among most private buyers of farm and garden produce, that they have to 'pay through the middle' at second-hand for everything of the kind. The farmer has to sell his produce with a small margin of profit; a good many local retailers pay the farmers the smallest amount possible for their stuff and in turn sell it to the public for as much as they can get. The farmer has to be content with a matter of course, in their protests against the passage of the market by-law, and attempted in every possible way to defeat it, selling, locally, unaccountably. The farmers now sell their produce into the market, and sell direct to the public for a market

their goods cheaper than they have ever had them before. If it were only for the change alone, Victorians should welcome the change, and when people come to see what they will be able to do with their cheaper they will be able to get their food, and what a saving of labor it will be to be able to obtain under one roof every kind of article that is necessary for the household.

Resides being a market, the building carries, as will be seen from the appended description, be utilized for meetings, balls, flower shows, exhibitions and all affairs of a like nature. It will be a place where it will be to build in addition to the present places, another portion, very much larger, to be used as a fish and produce market, but the work ran away with so much money that it was not possible to build a market for the portion and let the other go until next year. The wisdom of this plan is apparent. The city will at any time be able to make additions, and it is as well to make the main building before incurring a great deal more expense.

The structure is built of brick and splendid pieces of Nelson Island granite, which is quarried in the city. The entrance, the prominence given to the building, is a fine example of the architecture of the city.

of 210 feet and a width of 69 feet. On entering it is hard to believe that you are in a covered building, as the light is, in any part, as bright as in the open air. The whole of the top roof is built of the finest cathedral glass, supported by strong but thin and shapely iron beams. On the ground floor (or rather the first floor) are five large open spaces, each of six commodious stores, which will contain the largest plate glass windows in the world. Leading from the back of these and from the side of the main entrance are shops, and these are marked by the front building, each being enclosed by a neat counter. There are eight iron pillars which support the gallery and first floor, and these are decorated with the same coats that have the same use. The iron columns are hollow, and through each runs a drain pipe which goes into the ground and is connected with a perfect system of sewers. There is not one water pipe in the whole building. All the drainage arrangements are imperceptible, thus doing away with the unsightly results generally attained

through the asphalt floors at each end of the building. Two handsome ornamental fountains will be placed at equal distances apart, and will also be supplied with water from the main. An ascent is made to the upper story by means of two broad, easy staircases, one at each end of the building. On reaching the top, the visitor is met by a series of the light airy appearance of the whole structure, as viewed from the top. The gallery over twenty feet in width, and forms a sort of balcony, and is supported by columns made by handsome railings, and on the outside by a series of large shops and stalls that run all round the building. At the top of the hill the balcony is reached, and from the balcony, commanding an excellent view, and certainly no other building in the city will be able to offer advantages so extensive to the general public as large public meetings. From this balcony a whisper almost can be heard in every part of the room, and the place is so arranged that the speaker can hear of people. On the top floor are rooms that will be reserved for lunch parlors for ladies, general restaurants, which will be run under the supervision of the city, and electric arc lights will be suspended from

stallers will be furnished with gas and water lights.

The city council have not yet decided on a plan for keeping each kind of stock in its own locality, but no doubt an arrangement will be made by which this will be accomplished. As was before stated, the original plan was to set aside the block between the present place 420-630 feet, facing out on the street; but for the present a fence will be erected and ample accommodation provided for the horses and carts of the farmers. The original estimate for the lot was \$50,000, but when everything is completed it will be found that the total cost will have been about \$55,000.

Already the question of admitting outsiders into the market has been discussed, and it is almost certain that there will be no restrictions which will prevent them from holding stalls. Whether or not they agree that the market will, after being ready for occupation, remain a very little less than the old and the great majority of stalls will be added to the addition to the city's public buildings of some 100,000 square feet.

John Savannah has gone to San Francisco, having received news of his father's death in that city.