

The Capitol Building, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at Harrisburg.

In the words of the New York Tribune—"Pennsylvania is at last to have a beautiful building for her Capitol."

The original Pennsylvania Capitol building was considered one of the finest examples of colonial architecture in the United States, and many public buildings were modelled from it. It was destroyed by fire in 1897. The Capitol ground is beautiful for situation, high upon a hill, commanding a view across the broad waters of the Susquehanna, down through the green and fertile Cumberland Valley. There was no need to enquire further for a new site, and now, rising from the ruins of the old, the beautiful new Capitol rears its head strong, commanding, and beautiful.

The building consists of a central structure, flanked by two wings, the whole surmounted by an imposing dome. It is of granite, and contains 350 rooms, with fine senate and legislative halls, committee rooms, clerks' rooms and two halls for the supreme and superior court meetings. In one wing will be the grand executive reception room of the governor and also the lieutenant governor's room. The remainder of the wings will be for the various departments. The style of architecture is Corinthian. The building is longer than St. Paul's Cathedral, in London, being 519 feet long and 212 feet wide. The dome is 254 feet in height, surmounted by the typical figure, "Pennsylvania," designed by the architect, Joseph M. Huston, and modelled by the sculptor, R. Hinton Perry. It is the intention of the architect to make the Capitol tell the romance of the founding, progress and destiny of the State of Pennsylvania in mural art architecture and sculpture, and to make the building a combination of harmony, symmetry and unity throughout.

The mural decorations in the dome will be by Edwin A. Abbey, R.A., four in number, typifying coal, steel, art and shipbuilding; also the supreme court, by the same artist, will be traditional, written and modern law. Miss Violet Pahley's decorations in the governor's grand executive reception room will portray the "Rise of the State of Liberty Spiritual," or "Penns' Holy Experiment."

Barnard's sculptural groups will embody the idea of "Man's struggle with the forces that are," consisting of two great groups at the grand entrance. These groups, now being fashioned beyond Fontainebleau, are the sensation of France. The interior decorations will be marble, the walls being decorated with scenes in the history of the State. The building will be completed January 1st, 1906.

This will be the most beautiful building in the United States, and among the finest capitol buildings in the world. The brilliant architect, Mr. Huston, traveled around the world, visiting the principal buildings in every land, before completing the plans for this princely structure. The building will cost four millions of dollars, exclusive of fittings and furnishings, and in all will have been three years in course of erection. It is a marvellous combination of noble dignity and symmetrical beauty, and stands as a triumph of the architect's genius and the builders' skill.

Mr. Huston's architectonic idea pervades the building even to the smallest detail, so that, as you enter the building, at every turn you are confronted with the reminders of all that has enriched history and made the world great. Here one is greeted by the names which represent the noblest in poetry, fiction, philosophy, oratory, law, medicine and theology, journalism, exploration and discovery. As one wanders through the lofty