

# New Public School Building

The New Building Nearly Completed, and Ready for Occupancy.

## A MAGNIFICENT STRUCTURE.

In Point of Architectural Beauty and Completeness of Construction It Is a Model, and Will Stand the Test of the Most Minute Criticism—The Building Is an Seven-Roomed Two-Story Structure, Without a Peer in the Lehigh Valley.

Through the kindness of Charles Heister, of Reading, the affable and obliging boss builder for Levi H. Focht, of Birdsboro, who secured the contract for the erection of the model New Public School building, which is receiving its final touches and which it is expected will be ready for occupancy in a few days we are indebted for the following history of the new building, which it is safe to say has no equal in architectural design and beauty of finish in the Lehigh Valley, and as an ornament to our town's growth and prosperity will ever stand as a beautiful monument, and redound to the credit of those instrumental in securing its erection. The building was designed by Architect Seymour Davis, of 907 Walnut street, Philadelphia, and is a two-story, seven-room brick structure, 96x82 feet, with the latest and most modern improvements, surmounted by a clock tower.

Ground was broken on June last, and the cellar excavations were rapidly pushed and completed in about one month. The contract for this was subletted to Slatington parties.

William Henry, stone mason, of Reading, secured the contract for the construction of the foundation walls, which are 20 inches in thickness and are compact and substantial rubble work walls, attested by the fact that not a mark, blemish or crack is discernable in any part of this beautiful and extensive building.

The well-known and famous brick masons, the Burkert Bros, of Reading, did the brick work, and we verily think they too sustained the masterly reputation accorded them in their native home—Reading—as being master mechanics.

Ollenderfer & Hollenbacher, painters, Edward DeHaven, plasterer, H. A. Haage, plumbing, William Kempis, iron work, Leading Hardware Co., all of Reading; Mager, Ritter & Co., tanners and galvanized iron workers, of Allentown, and Henry Bomgardner, of Vera Cruz, slating, each added his share in their allotted part in the erection of the model school building now so prominently located in our midst as the pride of our citizens and the envy of our neighbors.

### BASEMENT.

The basement contains 4 rooms, 25x35; Janitor's room, 14x23-9; coal bin, 10 ft 11 inches by 32 feet 9 inches; 2 furnaces, Smead & Wills Co., make, Philadelphia; hall between two furnaces, 25 feet; 19 toilets; water in Janitor's room and girls and boys' toilets. A stairway leads to basement from outside and two large stairs lead to the basement on either side of the building from a 10-foot-wide hall, with 3½ feet yellow pine wainscoting.

### FIRST FLOOR.

The first floor contains four school rooms, each 26 feet 2 inches by 34 feet 8 inches; a Director's room and library, 15x24 feet 2 inches; also 4 cloak rooms, and a hall, 10 feet wide, full length of building with yellow pine wainscoting. There are four large entrances to building with double doors, two in front and one on each side.

### SECOND STORY.

This story contains two rooms, each 26 feet 2 inches by 34 feet 8 inches; High School room, 63x33 feet 8 inches; recitation rooms, 15 feet by 23 feet; also, cloak rooms for each school. The High School will contain 107 desks, and the two Grammar schools 48 each.

### ATTIC.

A five-foot stairway on each side of a wainscoted 10-foot hall leads to the attic which will not be used for any purpose.

The building is finished throughout in yellow pine. It will be occupied for school purposes on and after Monday, December 6.