

BOSTON, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 30, 1871.

## LOCAL MATTERS.

### ABOUT TOWN.

#### NEW BUILDINGS ON THE BACK BAY.

##### ON BEACON STREET.

Among these new buildings one of the most attractive externally and one of the most convenient and tasteful in the interior is in process of erection by Mr. Frederick Pope at the corner of Beacon and Fairfield streets, fronting on the former and extending with its adjacent out-buildings to the water's edge. The house is of brick with trimmings of freestone beautifully carved, and has a front of thirty feet with a depth of seventy. It has two main stories above the basement with the inevitable Mansard roof over all, and thus avoids the unpleasant top-heavy effect which is too often given to modern buildings by their extreme height. The bay windows of the front are of an octagonal shape, as is also the large bay-window in the second story on the side looking down Beacon street. All over the house the windows are of the finest plate-glass with two panes to each. An ornamental iron cresting surmounts the roof as a snow-sender and giving a jaunty look to the whole structure.

In the interior of the house are sixteen rooms, all, with exception of two in the rear of the French roof, finished in hard wood. The finish in the first story is of black walnut throughout; in the second story it is Hungarian ash, and in the third white-wood. The basement trimmings are also of ash, and it is to this part of the house that the housekeeper would first turn in examining the qualities of the building. Here the front room is to be floored with alternate strips of walnut and ash, and is intended for a billiard-room. The rear room is the kitchen, fitted up with such appliances as would delight the eyes of any housewife. A closet as big as an ordinary room opens out from one side, lined with ample shelves and a row of little cupboards at the top, which suggest visions of preserves and fruit for winter days. On the other side is a range of Bramhall & Deane's manufacture, with its ample heater, from which hot water may be sent to every room in the house. This suggests the manner in which the water-pipes are laid. To avoid the effects of a possible leakage every pipe is run inside a leaden box, and every bath-tub is set over a leaden tank, from which other pipes lead to the outside, so that if any in the first series of pipes or if any bath-tub should leak, the water would be carried off by the second series without damage to the costly frescoes with which the principal rooms are to be ornamented. Communication from the kitchen is made to every room by means of speaking-tubes and bells. Between the kitchen and the billiard-room is the furnace, one of Chilson's largest, conveniently placed for operation, and the laundry-room, furnished with every convenience. Beyond the kitchen is a brick shed for coal and ashes, and beyond this a stable thirty feet square, with stalls for four horses, and a fine carriage-house, all finished in hard pine.

Ascending to the first story we enter first the vestibule, with its floor of marble tiles, and thence pass into the front hall, where the floor is laid of various woods in what is known as parquette work. The front room is the parlor, the rear a dining-room and in the middle a capacious library. The mantel in the parlor is of pure white marble, in the library it is of carved walnut corresponding to the finish of the room, and the dining-room mantel is of Grecian marble. In the second story are four fine chambers, of which the one upon the northern side, containing the great bay-window, is the most desirable, and is intended for use as a sitting-room. The upper story contains five rooms of good dimensions, and from those in the rear an excellent view may be obtained over the river and adjacent country. Besides the apartments described, there are bath-rooms and water closets upon each floor, roomy clothes-closets, with close wardrobes attached, in all the principal rooms, and many other devices of modern skill for increasing the comfort and convenience of the family. The house, we understand, will be completed about the last of February, and will then be offered for sale.

On the opposite corner of Fairfield street the foundations are laid for a block of two fine houses, the property of Mr. C. Eaton. These houses are to be of brick heavily trimmed with freestone, the fronts octagonal, and in width respectively thirty-three and twenty-seven feet. They will have a depth of sixty-seven feet exclusive of the bay windows at the front and rear. The southern house, being on the corner, is of course the finer for situation, but both are to be finished in first-class style. In the basement of the corner house are to be the kitchen in the rear, the laundry next, and in the front a very large room designed for use as a billiard or music room, and communicating with the drawing-room by an independent stairway of large dimensions. On the first floor are to be the drawing-room, library and dining-room. Four fine chambers are to be upon the second floor with dressing-rooms opening out from them and furnished with water-closets, wardrobes and other similar conveniences. The Mansard roof is to be divided into two stories, the lower containing six and the upper two chambers. Throughout the rooms, which number seventeen in all, the finish will be of hard wood with the exception of the drawing-room, which will be finished in some light colors, which will adapt it for use as a party room. The other house is similar in style and finish, everything being on a smaller scale, and is to be put in the market as soon as finished, while the corner house will be occupied by Mr. Eaton himself.