

THE NEW CITY BUILDING ON BULFINCH STREET.

Accommodations for Barnicoat Engine Company and the National Lancers.

The new city building on the site of the old Mansion House in Bulfinch street, which has been in process of erection since last March, is now nearly completed and ready for occupancy. The building is designed to accommodate the fire brigade of this city, with all its appurtenances, and also to furnish an armory for the National Lancers. Both these purposes are fulfilled in a most satisfactory manner by the new edifice now so near completion, and much credit is properly due to architect and contractors for the manner in which the work has been performed. The edifice is three stories in height, and surmounted by a slated Mansard roof. The lower story is constructed of granite, while the upper two stories are built with the best quality of "face" brick. The window caps and sills are also of granite. The front of the building, nearly opposite Howard street, is about seventy feet long, and in depth about ninety feet. On the ground floor, there are five entrances. One, entirely separate from others, opens upon a broad staircase, leading to the Lancers' armory. Next to this armory stairway is the room, or rather hall, of steam engine Barnicoat, No. 4, in the rear of which is a capacious and well-arranged stable. The engine-room is connected by folding-doors with three other rooms, which are to serve for the accommodation of wagons, and horses of the chief engineer, of extra steamer and extinguisher wagon. In the second story, immediately above, are bathing rooms, a large sleeping room and a very pretty little parlor, nicely carpeted and fitted up in every respect. The entire arrangements for the accommodation of the fire department are made with a view to the comfort and convenience of those for whom they were designed, and reflect credit upon the committee in charge of the work.

Over the entrance to the Lancers' armory, which, as has been said, is entirely distinct from those which open into the quarters of the fire department, is the inscription, "National Lancers," in raised granite letters. The staircase is very broad and easy of ascent, with banisters of moulded black walnut. At the head of the stairs, on the right, is to be found the armory room, an apartment of irregular shape, affording ample facilities for disposing of the company's equipments, which are hung upon very neat bronze supports. It is proposed to have the company meetings held in this room, and a large fund has been raised among the members for the purpose of suitably furnishing this room, as well as the others occupied by the company. On the next floor is the drill-hall, which will admirably serve also as a ball-room. This hall occupies almost the entire length and breadth of the building and is two stories high. In the rear are two retiring rooms, and two galleries for the accommodation of musicians and spectators on festival occasions. Around the walls of this drill-room are hung portraits of old company commanders, and many ancient paintings, which are brought from the old armory, more for memory's sake, probably, than on account of any intrinsic merit possessed by them.

In the highest story, that covered by the "Mansard," is a fine room, which will be used as a banqueting hall and place of general storage. The deck roof is supported by a peculiar arrangement of trusses, so that not only is an unusually lofty room obtained, but the stability of the entire structure is assured beyond a doubt. A kitchen, well furnished with culinary appliances, opens off from this hall, and everything that may conduce to the gustatory enjoyment of the Lancers and their friends has been provided.

This evening, the Lancers propose to formally dedicate their new quarters by a grand ball and supper. The drill-room is being very handsomely festooned and decorated with bright-colored bunting, and the preparations for the entertainment were vigorously prosecuted yesterday. The inauguration festival will, it is expected, be an occasion long to be remembered by the National Lancers, and those of their friends who may be fortunate enough to be present.