shaking-hand distance—and totally excluding all modern ideas of comfort and domestic privacy—we see springing up in every quarter of our city what are called "three-quarter," and, in many instances, "double houses," utterly ignoring the old style, which we may venture to say is now fast getting out of favor. We hail with delight this change, as both an indication and a natural result of the rapid and ever increasing advance in refinement belonging to the age wherein we live; and, as far as we, ourselves, are concerned, we shall assuredly improve every opportunity to extend a helping hand.

THE WEST SPRUCE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

AT THE

NORTHWEST CORNER OF BROAD AND SPRUCE STREETS, PHILADELPHIA.

STYLE: VENETIAN-GOTHIC.

WE give a view and plan, in our present number, of this church, now building at the northwest corner of Broad and Spruce streets, in this city

In this edifice the architect says, in effect, "he has not confined himself to the rules of any particular period, or the special development of the style in any region;" but the church has been designed "in the spirit of early Gothic," with a tendency towards the Venetian, the latter evinced mainly in the use of different kinds and colors of stone in the exterior walls.

The walls are of stone, that used for the facing being serpentine, from Chester county, Pennsylvania, with Ohio "Clough" stone dressings.

The church will have a high-pitched open-timbered roof, slated, and finished with an ornamental iron cresting, as can be seen in our illustration.

The plan is cruciform, consisting of a nave and transepts, with aisles; and a tower and spire. The nave is parallel to Broad street, and the full length of the lot, 120 feet. The width of the church at the transept is 70 feet.

The principal entrance is through the tower, which stands on the Broad street side of the church; and, in connection with the transept gable, will make that the principal façade; although the fronts on each street are to be equally well finished.

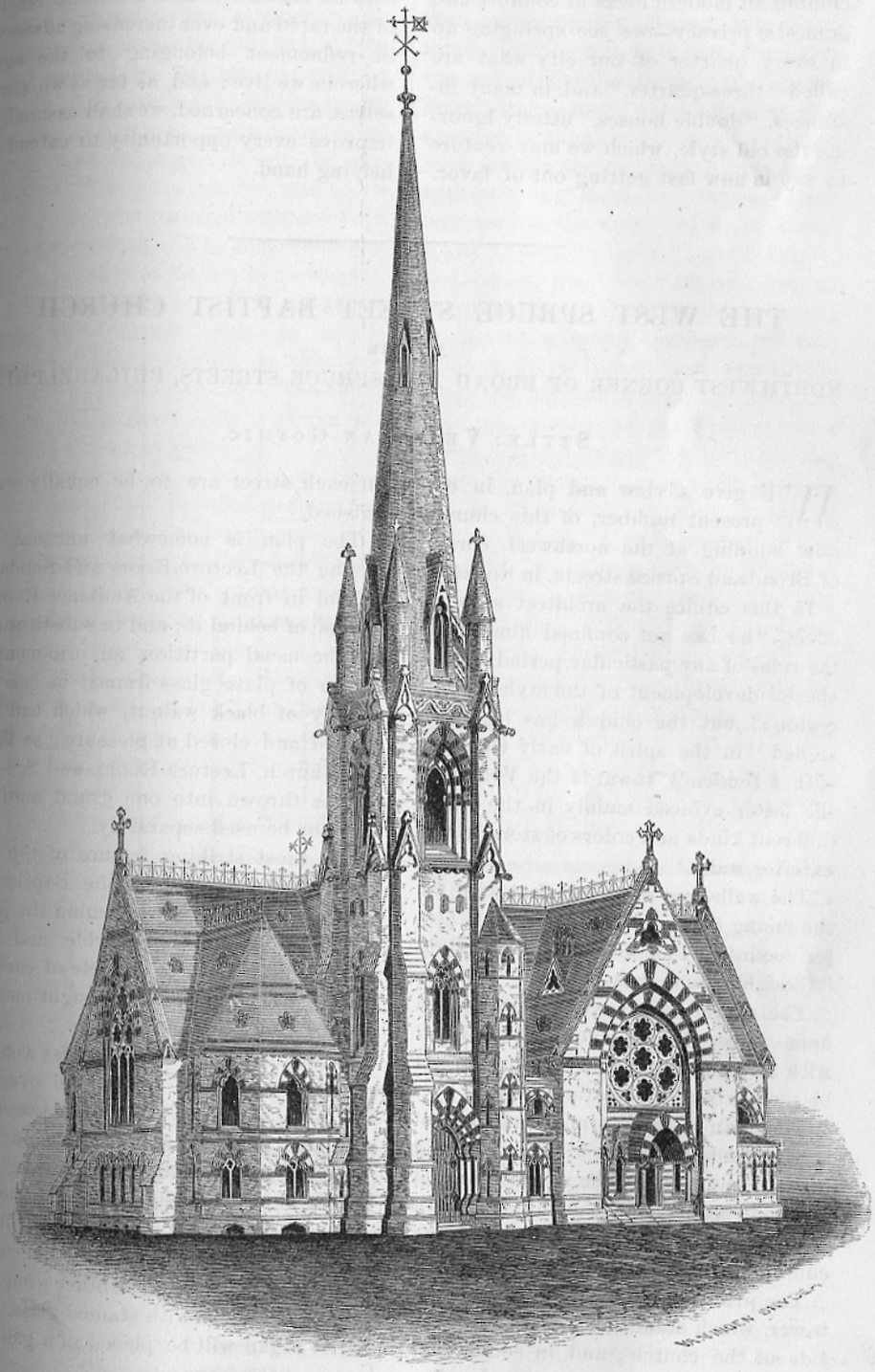
The plan is somewhat unusual, in having the Lecture-Room and Sunday-School in front of the Audience-Room, instead of behind it; and in substituting for the usual partition an ornamental screen of plate glass framed in carved tracery of black walnut, which can be opened and closed at pleasure; so that the Church, Lecture-Room, and School can be thrown into one grand auditorium, or be used separately.

The most striking feature of the interior, however, will be the Baptistry, at the head of the nave, behind the pulpit, built of polished marble, and enclosed with a lofty tabernacle of carved walnut, having gates of wrought metal-work, richly illuminated.

Behind the Baptistry, will rise a chancel window, 19 feet broad, and over 36 feet high, enriched with stone tracery; and filled with stained glass, to be imported from the celebrated Stained-glass Works, at Munich, Germany. The leading subject of the painted glass will be the Baptism of our Saviour, in the river Jordan, by St. John. The other windows will also be filled with stained-glass.

The organ will be placed in a gallery in one of the transepts.

The church has sittings on the main



WEST SPRUCE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.

floor for over six hundred persons, and with the lecture-room, school and galleries, about double that number.

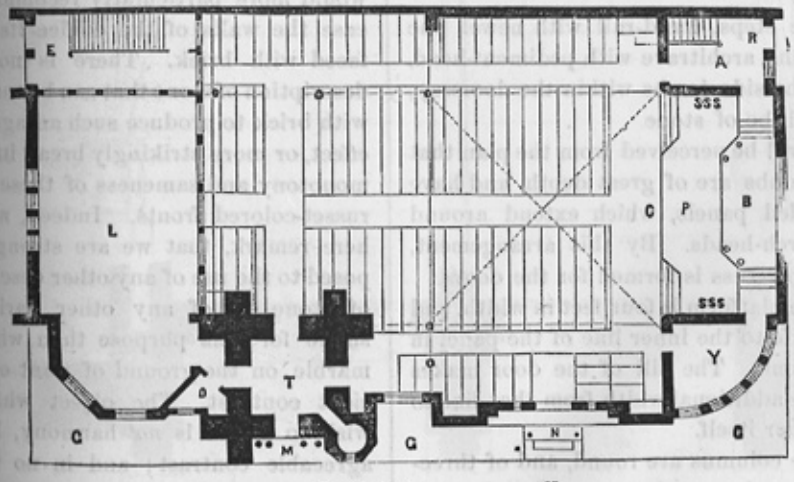
The tower measures 30 feet at the base, across the buttresses; will be finished with crocketed gablets in its four faces; and have angle turrets, enriched with carvings. It will be surmounted by a spire banded with color, its upper portion enriched with crockets. The highest point will be somewhat over two hundred feet from the pavement. A turret staircase is carried up at one angle, and finished with an arcade having polished granite shaftlets surmounted by a stone coping. The belfry arches will be left open. Above the belfry is a clock-chamber.

The lower entrance will be enriched with four shafts of polished granite, red and black, placed alternately.

Their capitals to be carved with the daffodils of spring, the bending grain of summer, the fruits of autumn, and the ice-laden branches of winter. Above their foliage, this text: "While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night, shall not cease."

The exterior of various points is enriched with carvings, all different—but all appropriate. Those, for example, on the transept-gable, facing the East, though like the rest, in themselves different, are all identical in their symbolism. Beneath a cross which finishes the apex of this gable, is carved, enriched with foliage, the words, "Agnus Dei;" and following them, at intervals, similarly carved, the words, "Lux," "Dux," "Lex," "Rex," "Alpha," and "Omega;" and, below, the text, "Blessed are all they that trust in Him;" while around the great arch, spanning the porch and rose window above it, are seen carved the rose, the lily, the wheat, the vine, the lion, the crown, and the star, symbols which need no translation to those who know the blessings of a trust in Him, who is "The Lamb of God, the Light of the World," "Our Leader," "Our King," "The Alpha and the Omega," "The Rose of Sharon," and "The Lily of the Valley," "The Bread of Life," "The True Vine," "The Lion of the tribe of Judah," "The Crown of Glory," and "The bright and Morning Star."

Below the window, a band of foliage is carried across the archway, and bears the text, "He shall feed His flock like a shepherd." Below, it again, on each



M, Main entrance.
T, Tower.
C, Communion table.
P, Pulpit.
B, Baptistry.
S S S, Sedilia.
Y, Pastor's study.
A, Anteroom.
E, Entrance to school and lecture-room.
L, Lecture-room, (schools above.)
R, Rear entrance.
D, Closet.
N, Transept porch.
G G G, Grass and shrubbery.

side of the porch, are carved, on gablets bearing the symbols of the four Evangelists, the words, "We are his Witnesses;" while the porch itself, adorned with polished pillars of porphyry, whose capitals are carved with olives and palm-branches, shelters—under the overhanging arch of its door—a group in relief—a "Christus Consolator," and the enclosing text:

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden; and I will give you rest."

The architect is Mr. Edward Tuckerman Potter, 56 Wall street, New York. The stone work is under the charge of Messrs. Struthers & Son, 1022 Market street; and the carpenter work in the hands of Mr. Catanach, 1345 Lombard street, all of Philadelphia.

PRACTICAL CARPENTRY & JOINERY.

DETAILS OF DOUBLE DOORS.

THE accompanying PLATE OF DETAILS shows the finish for a pair of FRONT DOORS, intended for adjoining dwelling-houses, adapted for either a city, suburban, or other locality. Where they are erected so combined, they are meant for distinct entrance doors to each dwelling, although, in outward appearance, they present but a single feature.

We confine ourselves, in this plate, chiefly to a description of details for the stone work of these doors and their finish.

The steps, hand-rail with newel, the columns, architrave with pediment-head, and the side jambs within the doorway, will all be of stone.

It will be perceived from the plan that the jambs are of great depth, and have moulded panels, which extend around the arch-heads. By this arrangement, a deep recess is formed for the doors.

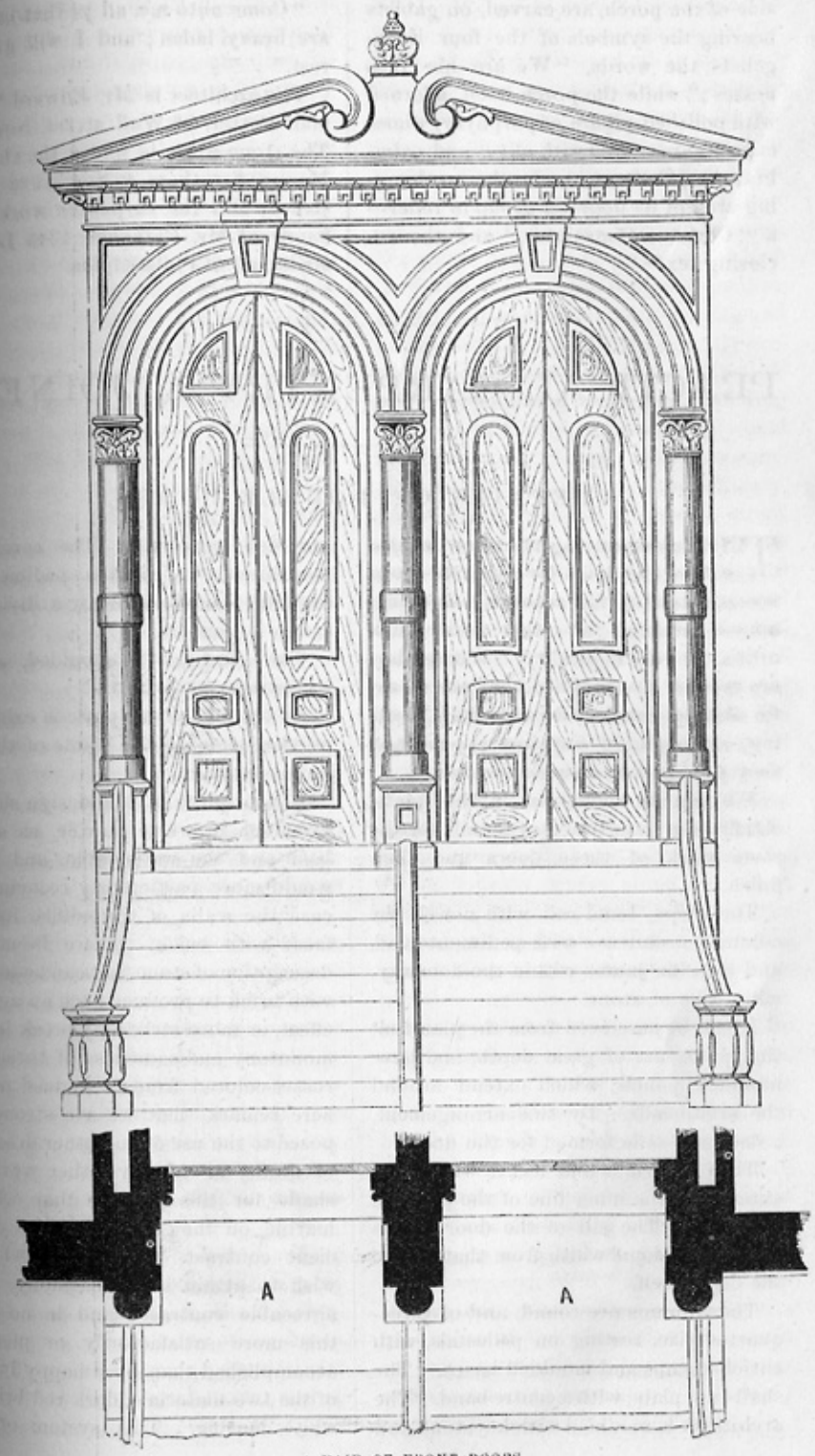
The platform is four feet in width, and extends to the inner line of the panel in the jamb. The sill of the door makes up the additional width from that line to the door itself.

The columns are round, and of three-quarter size, resting on pedestals, with enriched caps and moulded bases. The shafts are plain, with a centre band. The architrave is moulded with keystone and moulded spandrels. The cornice has modillions. A broken pediment surmounts the whole, with a dividing or centre ornament.

The hand-rail is moulded, and the balustrade perforated.

At the side of the plate is exhibited a section, showing the whole of these different details.

A door-piece of this design should be executed in white marble, as also the base and the water-table, and this we would more particularly recommend in case the walls of the edifice itself are faced with brick. There is no other description of stone that can be combined with brick to produce such an agreeable effect, or more strikingly break in on the monotony and sameness of these bright russet-colored fronts. Indeed, we may here remark, that we are strongly opposed to the use of any other description of stone, or of any other variety of shade for this purpose than white, in marble, on the ground of want of sufficient contrast. The object which we wish to attain is *not* harmony, but an agreeable contrast; and in no way is this more satisfactorily or pleasingly accomplished than by a happy blending of the two materials, dark red brick and white marble. This system of using



A PAIR OF FRONT DOORS.