

PART
2

ART WORK

OF

HOUSTON,
TEXAS.

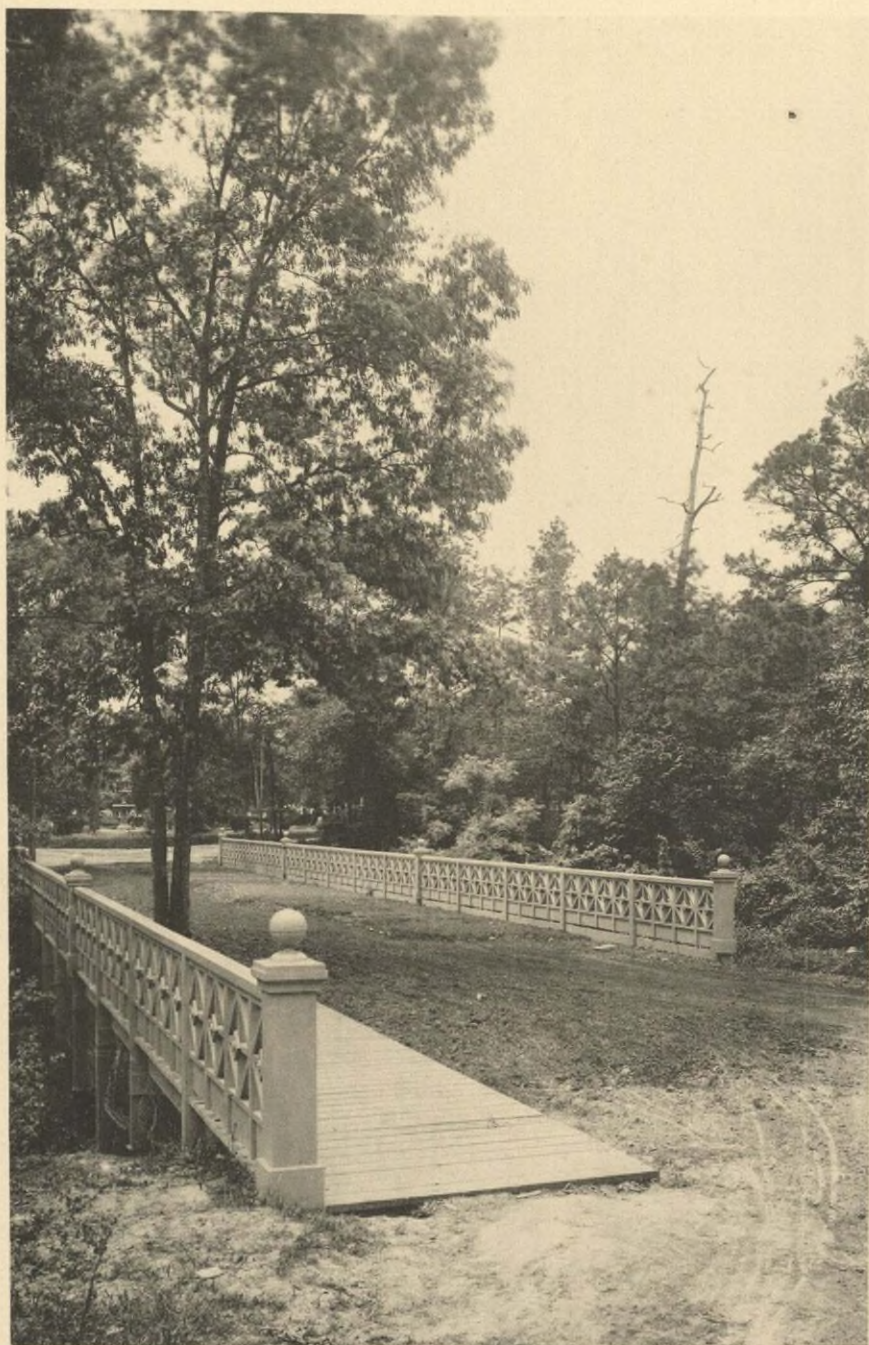
PUBLISHED IN TWELVE PARTS

THE GRAVURE ILLUSTRATION CO.

1904.



THE COURT HOUSE.



VIEW IN GLENWOOD CEMETERY.



SHEARN MEMORIAL M. E. CHURCH.



CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION.



RESIDENCE OF T. L. HACKNEY.



RESIDENCE OF HOWARD F. SMITH.



SCENE ON BUFFALO BAYOU.



RESIDENCE OF T. W. HOUSE.



RESIDENCE OF F. A. REICHARDT.

with the reckless prodigality of boundless resources this apparently inexhaustible light and energy producing agent has been permitted to go unharnessed and unchecked in the eager search for more immediately remunerative petroleum. It is believed the gas will prove to be not only a good illuminant but a fuel of great value in all lines of manufacturing, and especially in connection with the great supply of glass sand to be found in the neighborhood.

Necessarily a description of Houston must go beyond the city's limits for much of its material. The enterprise and energy of the great railway systems ending or centering in Houston, and other potent agencies, have helped to set before the world the wealth of the coast country to such an extent that the tide of immigration has now set strongly in this direction. Before the discovery of fuel oil the census of 1900 showed an increase of 141 per cent over the census of 1890 in the manufactures of Houston.

The special agents of the United States postoffice and treasury departments, and the department of justice, recently sent to Houston to investigate the situation in connection with the building of a Federal court house, customs house and postoffice, recommended that an appropriation of \$400,000 be made for the purpose. This has since been decided upon, and the block near the centre of the city bounded by Prairie and Rusk avenues and Caroline and San Jacinto streets has been selected and purchased by the Government, and on this site will soon be begun the erection of a magnificent state building. In their report the gentlemen sent to make this investigation devote considerable space to the remarkable commercial growth and prosperity of the city, and the increase in population between the eleventh and twelfth census, and call attention to the fact that the gross postoffice receipts increased from \$90,671 in 1898 to \$156,352.01 in 1902.

This report says further :

"The business interests of the city of Houston are every extensive, comparing favorably with cities three or four times its size. The aggregate deposits in the banks of the city are \$10,000,000, while business done through the clearing house last year is said to have been \$466,426,159.

"Houston cannot fail to increase rapidly, and in all probability the next census will show a population exceeding 100,000. In view of these conditions we are of the opinion that a liberal policy will prove ultimate economy in any building operations in that city that are projected at the present time."

Such a report coming from the heads of these three departments of the Government to the American Congress, based on a thorough investigation by official experts having no interest in Houston, definitely outlines the city's standing in the commercial world. It is not only a truthful exposition of the city's standing today, but is a prophecy figured out with mathematical certainty of her progress tomorrow.