SOUVENIR OF HOUSTON

BY THE

HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

PUBLISHED FOR THE BENEFIT
OF THE
FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND
HOUSTON, TEXAS
1897

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IS THE DIRECT LINE

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...ALSO...

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HOUSTON, TEXAS.

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Para Bldg., Church and Warren Sts., NEW YORK

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EVERY THREAD A STRAIN BEARING THREAD
MAXIMUM STRENGTH MINIMUM WEIGHT
CLOSEST REELING AND THE BEST COTTON
HOSE FOR HOSE WAGON SERVICE
IN THE WORLD

BRANCH HOUSES

CHICAGO
170 LAKE STREET

BOSTON
52 PEARL STREET

CINCINNATI
227 WEST FOURTH STREET

SAN FRANCISCO
32 FREMONT STREET

PORTLAND, ORE.
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4. H. Baldwin Rice, Mayor
5. J. McAughan
6. J. M. Heiser
7. L. Sonnen
8. E. M. Burke
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PROPRIETORS

OF THE

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..MODEL LAUNDRY..

The Largest and
Most Complete Plant
In Texas...

1011 Prairie Avenue
HOUSTON, TEXAS

CITY OFFICIALS.

1. Chas. Heim, City Marshal
2. A. R. Miller, Market Master
3. John S. Stewart, City Attorney.
4. A. A. Szabo, City Treasurer
5. Justin C. White, City Assessor and Collector
6. B. R. Warner, City Secretary.
7. A. R. Railey City Recorder.

come, anxiously awaited the time of definite trial, when the test of time might be applied and when the records of the work of the little array of fire fighters would show their efficiency or otherwise.

One of the first demands to be met under the new system, over which the chief of the old department, Mr. Tom. F. Ravell, had been continued as chief, with Mr. Fred Kersten as his assistant, was that the city should purchase the property of the old companies, consisting mostly of the furnishings of meeting halls and such like, but the solution came by the city paying for the belongings of all the companies and making use of so much of them as proved available. The employment of men for the various companies was another vexed question, and it was met by the employment of all the men formerly paid under the old system, and the establishing of a system of employment of other men as needed, after proper physical examination and on confirmation by the Council, a list of extra men being provided and all vacancies being filled from this list in the order in which they were confirmed. This and other methods of the Fire Chief and the Fire Committee of the Council verging closely upon a strict construction of civil service rules, as well as strictly enforced rules for the government of the men while on duty, has led to a perfect understanding of just what every man has to expect, and consequently the whole machinery of the fire department personnel moves as in a groove and with the least friction imaginable. No personal matters as between man and man are suffered to intervene to prevent the carrying out of the intention that so long as any member of the department is prompt and efficient in the discharge of his duty he is sure of retaining his position. No more wise proceeding has marked any department of the city government, and a recognition of the fact is seen in that section of the new city charter which provides for civil service in the fire department and other departments of the city.

Of course, all this was not done in a day, for the best men had to be selected for captains of companies and for other positions; the system of lay-off days had to be so arranged that each man could have at least two days in each month to call his own and at the same time leave each fire station fully supplied with men for service at all times, and the system of response to alarms in the various parts of the city so arranged that not more than the absolutely necessary force should respond to any one alarm. These things took time, but are so perfect in

their working that nothing need be added to them. The discipline of the department has been enforced at the cost of suspensions from time to time for various causes and by some discharges from the service, but the men took so kindly to the idea of rendering the department fully efficient in every respect, that their endeavors to come well up to the demands upon them rendered the task of getting the force into first-class shape a comparatively easy one.

Probably the greatest auxiliary of the fire department is the electric alarm system in use, which is so arranged that while the general public is given notice of the location of a fire through the medium of the bell in the tower of the market building, each of the fire stations is notified by its own gong and register, and so prompt are the men and so well trained the horses of the department that it is often the case that all is ready for a start before the last stroke of the alarm is given, and the men know from the full number of strokes where their services are needed. This system was put into operation in April, 1892, with a gravity battery and a four-circuit Gamewell repeater. The number of alarm boxes has been added to from time to time until some of the circuits are so heavily loaded as no longer to be thoroughly reliable, for which reason a contract has been made for placing in position a six-circuit repeater and a Gamewell switchboard of the pattern of 1897 — the very latest improvement — the whole to be operated by a storage battery, thus enlarging the alarm system by at least twenty-five per cent. An absolute necessity existed for this enlargement, and the Council, as is usual with it, promptly met the demand, and will have the satisfaction of seeing the finest improvements in operation in Houston before they are placed in more than a dozen other cities in the whole country, at a cost of only $1,700.

All the apparatus of the department is modern and in first-class condition. Nothing but the best is purchased, and everything is thoroughly tested before it goes into service, and must then stand the test of actual use before it is ultimately received. The apparatus and horses in use are cared for most jealously, and the best skill is commanded to keep both machines and animals in tip-top condition. There are now in service:

Fifty-three men, divided among the seven fire stations.

Thirty horses, all fine animals, and well trained for the use they are put to.

One city hook and ladder truck.

One aerial hook and ladder truck, with Cascade hose attachment and two hand chemical extinguishers.

One chemical engine, with two sixty-gallon tanks.

One second-class steamer.

Two third-class steamers.

Four hose carriages.

Two hose wagons.

Twelve thousand feet of first-class hose.

Two of the seven fire stations are of wood, the others being of brick, and all of them are fitted up with a view to the comfort and convenience of the men and the proper care of the horses and apparatus. All the horses are pictures of neatness, the furniture simple but good, pictures adorning the walls, the halls and dormitories lighted by gas and electricity, and the bathrooms and accessories as well ordered as are those of any private residence. The refined taste of the members of the department could not be more strikingly illustrated than by the flowers that surround each of the stations, and the display of good taste in the decorations and the eye to comfort and in great measure to elegance in the selection and arrangement of the furniture of the houses point unerringly to the character of men who go to make up the crews of the various machines. Everything about the stations is spotless, and if a visitor but chance to touch brass or disarrange a fixture, he may depend a second visit will not be very welcome. With the ladies (and there is no lack of lady visitors to the boys) of course, it is different, and their appreciation of the pretty things is one of the joys of the lives of the fire fighters.

Thus it will be seen that the equipment of the fire department, the quarters for men and horses and the personnel of the department have taken on a measure of importance little conceived of only two years ago, and an efficiency which was at that time a question of grave import, but which has been fully and satisfactorily answered. With the men in charge, the men and the machinery to do the work, and the system of waterworks upon which they have to depend, there is not a doubt in the mind of any man that Houston is measurably secure from the dangers of a conflagration and that losses by fire will be kept at the minimum. That what has been done is well done is a credit to all concerned in the conversion of the volunteer into a paid department, and as much a credit is the fine state of discipline that exists and in which the men at the various stations so willingly participate. Much praise is given by the community at

large to the men of the department for their care of the stations, their efficient service and their neat and tidy appearance and ever gentlemanly deportment.

The officers of the department are as follows:

Thomas F. Ravell, Chief Engineer.
Fred Kersten, Assistant Chief.
Joseph Raul, Captain Central Station.
J. P. Arto, Captain No. 1 Station.
Frank McGowan, Captain No. 3 Station.
Henry Donnelly, Captain No. 5 Station.
Herman Dissen, Captain No. 6 Station.
Henry Damuth, Captain No. 9 Station.
Frank Hayes, Captain No. 10 Station.

The Fire Committee of the City Council is composed of Aldermen W. J. Kohlhauff, J. M. Geiselman and W. J. Aubertin, and Mayor H. B. Rice is ex-officio a member of the Board.

Men's Fine Summer Suits

$7.50 $10.00 $12.50 $15.00

Crash Linen Suits, $5.00

ED. KIAM MAMMOTH CLOTHIER

Star Bottling Works

MANUFACTURERS OF

Soda Water, Sarsaparilla, Ginger Ale,

Sassafras Beer, Artificial Mineral Waters

AND

...SYRUPS OF ALL KINDS...

FACTORY AT CORNER OF SAN JACINTO AND COMMERCE STREETS,

Telephone 273 HOUSTON, TEXAS

Union Bottling Works

F. H. POTTHOFF & COMPANY, PROPRIETORS

MANUFACTURERS OF

SODA WATER, SARSAPARILLA, GINGER ALE,

And ARTIFICIAL MINERAL WATERS.

Also the CELEBRATED SASSAFRAS BEER

504 MILAM STREET. PHONE 366.

FIRE COMMITTEE.'

W. J. Aubertin W. J. Kohlhauft M. P. Geiselman

HOUSTON DRUG COMPANY

WHOLESALE DRUGGIST...

OPEN ORDERS

of the Trade Solicited

The LARGEST Importers

and Dealers in...

DRUGGIST

...SUNDRIES

In the South

Corner Travis and Commerce Streets...

HOUSTON, TEXAS

TOM F. RAVELL,
Chief Fire Department.

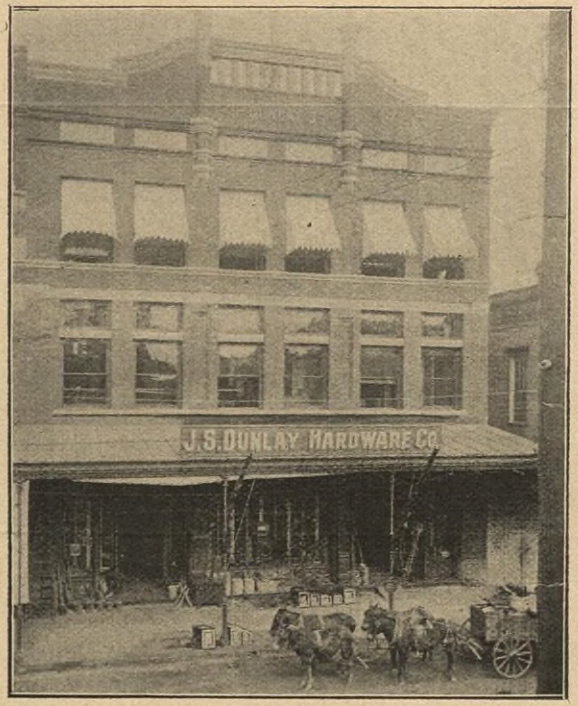
FRED KERSTEN,
Assistant Chief

J. S. DUNLAY HARDWARE CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL...

House Furnishing..... Goods

ESTABLISHED 1875



WHOLESALE AND RETAIL...

Hardware, Stoves and Tinware...

Charter Oak Stoves ...and Ranges

ESTABLISHED 1875

Nos. 410 and 412 TRAVIS STREET, Between Prairie and Preston Avenues

1. Joseph Raul, Captain Central Station
2. Frank McGowan, Captain No. 3 Station
3. J. P. Arto, Captain No. 1 Station
4. Herman Dissen, Captain No. 6 Station
5. Henry Damuth, Captain No. 8 Station
6. Frank Hays, Captain No. 10 Station
7. Henry Donnelly, Captain No. 5 Station

C. C. MAINGAY, MANAGER

KNOOP, FRERICHS & CO.

...COTTON...

OFFICE

OVER COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK

FRED. R. BOZANT — REECE R. ROFF

BOZANT & ROFF

ONLY EXCLUSIVE **Art Store** IN THE CITY

MASON BLOCK, 719 MAIN STREET

...ARTISTIC PICTURE FRAMES...

IN STOCK OR MADE TO ORDER

COMPLETE LINE OF ARTISTS' MATERIALS, PROOF ETCHING, ENGRAVINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS, WATER COLORS, PICTURES, PHOTO SUPPLIES, PASTELS. PASTEL FAC SIMILES, WATER COLOR FAC SIMILES, SCREENS, EASELS

RETOUCHING, PRINTING, MOUNTING AND DEVELOPING FOR AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

A DARK ROOM AT YOUR SERVICE

A. F. LINCOLN

DEALER IN

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AND

HOUSE . FURNISHING

...GOODS...

AGENT FOR THE DOMESTIC AND WHITE SEWING MACHINES

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PLAIN AND DECORATED

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GLASSWARE, LAMPS, CUTLERY, TOYS AND FANCY GOODS

JAS. F. DUMBLE, AGT.

Central Station.

OTTO F. SIEBENMANN. A. HELLBERG.

HOUSTON MANUFACTURING COMPANY

206 MILAM STREET

SPRING BEDS, MATTRESSES

UPHOLSTERING AND ALL KINDS OF REPAIRING

DOOR AND WINDOW DRAPERIES, ALL LATEST STYLES AND DESIGNS LACE CURTAINS, LACE CURTAIN CLEANING AND ALL KIND OF CARPET WORK PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO . .

ESTIMATES CHEERFULLY GIVEN.... ....SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

M. K. SACKS
MANAGER

H. P. McLAUGHLIN
COLLECTOR

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MANUFACTURER OF THE FINEST QUALITY OF **BRICK**

CAPACITY PER DAY, 60,000

HARD COMMON, SELECT PAVING REPRESSED BRICK AND PAVING AND DRAIN TILE

Orders from City or Country for any Quantity Promptly Filled.
Satisfaction Guaranteed in Quality and Price.

Yards immediately South of Southern Oil Mills. Phone 555

SPECIAL ATTENTION PAID TO JOBBING

STOVES REPAIRED

JAS. A. CUSHMAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY

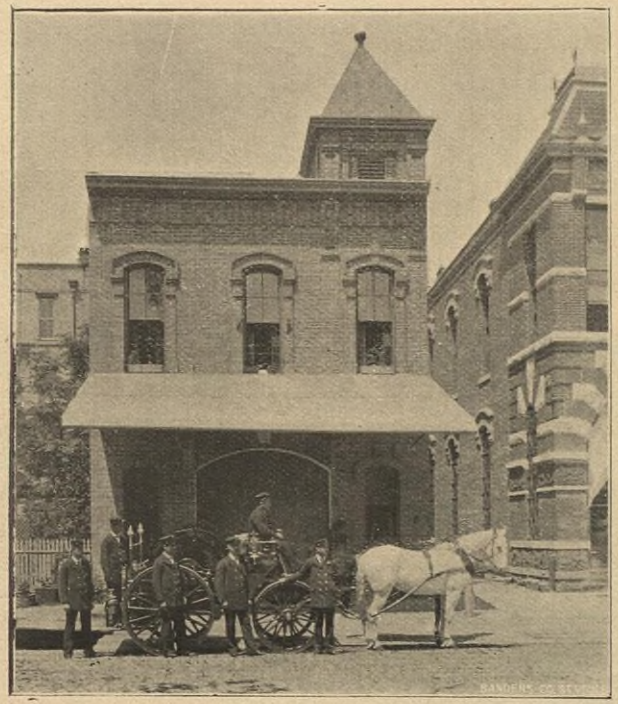
MANUFACTURERS OF

ENGINES, BOILERS

AND ALL KINDS OF

MACHINERY

BRASS AND IRON CASTINGS



Fire Station No. 1.

Miss M. A. Zwieb...

The Old Standard

MILLINER....

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Ave

Blackburn & Bailey...

THE LEADING

...Photographers

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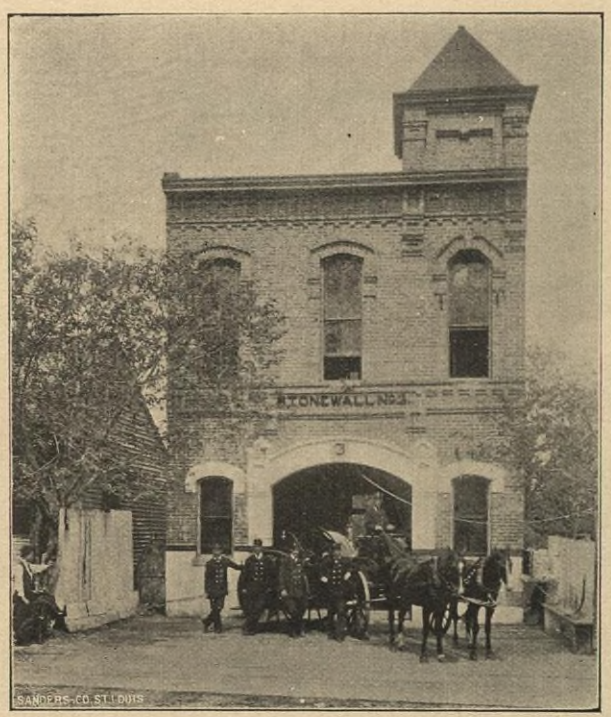
Prairie
Avenue



Fire Station No. 3.

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WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

Mattresses, Spring Beds,

Woven Wire Mattresses, Cots and Bedding,

...Iron Bedsteads...

Established 1878
Incorporated 1893

HOUSTON

Phoenix Plumbing Company

PLUMBING
GAS AND STEAM
FITTING

Jobbing Promptly Attended to...

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CRAWFORD STREET

Estimates Given and Contracts Taken in any Part of the State . . . Our Terms on all Jobbing are Cash

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A. BERGER, PROPRIETOR

MANUFACTURER OF

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TIN, IRON AND SLATE ROOFING, GUTTERING, HOT AIR FURNACES

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BAY SHORE LINE...

GALVESTON, LA PORTE & HOUSTON RAILWAY

...FOR...

....La Porte, Seabrook, Texas City and Galveston

THE SCENIC ROUTE

Skirting the Beautiful Shores of

GALVESTON BAY

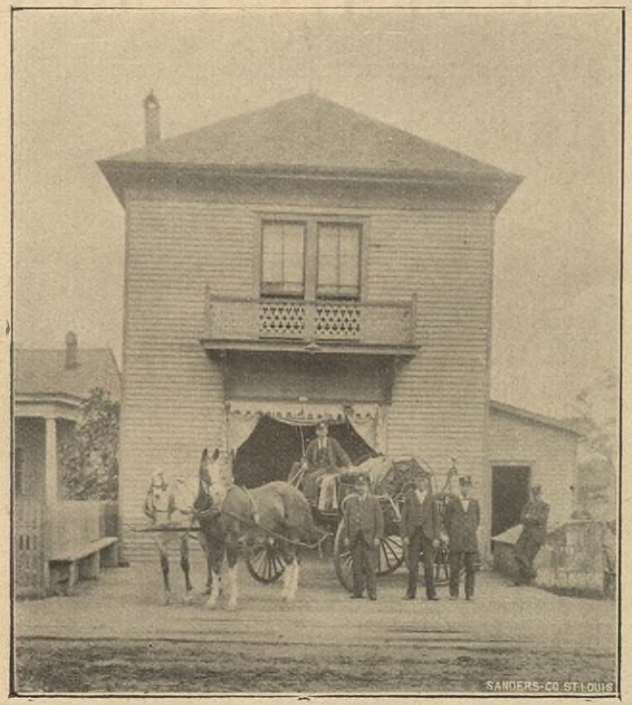
SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS

For Excursions and...

Summer Outing

C. W. NELSON,

General Passenger Agent



Fire Station No. 6.

CONRAD BERING, PRESIDENT.
F. C. BERING, SEC'Y AND TREASURER.

A. TEICHMAN, MANAGER.
A. C. BERING, ASSISTANT MANAGER.

THE BERING MANUFACTURING COMPANY

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN

WHITE . PINE . AND . CYPRESS . DOORS, . SASH, . BLINDS . AND . FRAMES

LUMBER

of Every Description

BUILDERS'

HARDWARE

EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR FINISH, BRACKETS, MANTELS, SCROLL AND BAND SAWING

ALL KINDS OF TURNING

...Telephone 394

Fire Station No. 8.

If You are Going North or East

It will Pay you to Remember the...

Through Pullman Buffet Sleeping Car Service

...OPERATED VIA

H. E. & W. T. R'y AND K. C. P. & G. R. R.

BETWEEN

Houston and Kansas City

WITHOUT CHANGE

THROUGH TICKETS...

Sold to All Points in the United States

This Route Affords the very Best Service in the Land . . . . . .

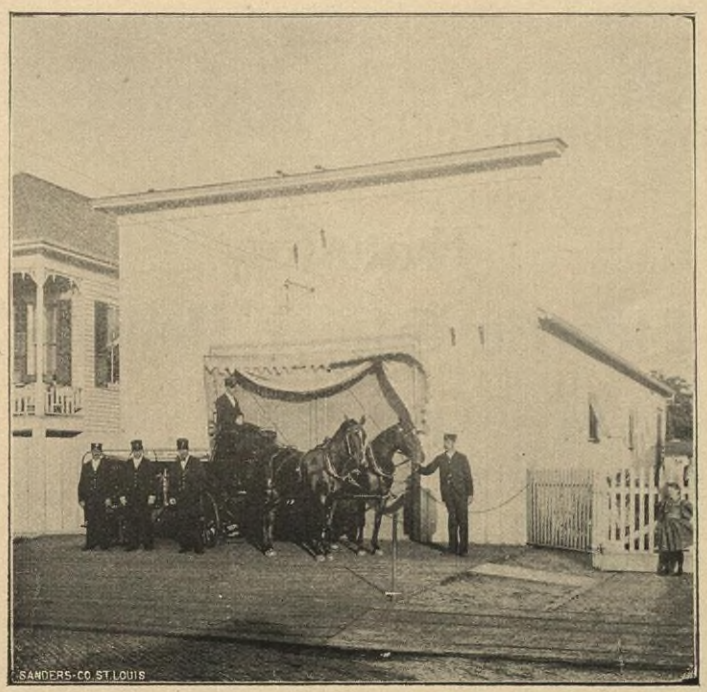
..The Pullman Sleepers are from Latest Models Vestibuled, Observation Ends, Pintsch Gas, Buffet, Drawing Rooms, &c and are NEW just from the manufactory . Dont forget this . It is something New and Good

R. D. YOAKUM,
Gen'l Freight and Passenger Agent

M. EVERETT,
Ass't Gen'l Passenger Agent

N. S. MELDRUM,
General Manager

HOUSTON, TEXAS



Fire Station No. 10.

...OFFICERS...

A. N. PARLIN, . . Boston, Mass.
President and Treasurer
AUSTIN CORBIN, . . New York
Vice President
H. C. CHASE, . . Houston, Texas
Secretary
A. H. HAYWARD, . Houston, Texas
General Manager
E. S. ELLS, . . Houston, Texas
Superintendent

OFFICE:

502 TRAVIS STREET

Houston Electric Street Railway Company

SPECIAL CARS can be chartered for Picnics and Trolley Parties at reasonable rates . . . . . .

...DIRECTORS..

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GEO. E. SMITH, . . Boston, Mass.
AUSTIN CORBIN, . . New York
T. W. HOUSE, . . Houston, Texas
W. D. CLEVELAND, . Houston, Texas
E. P. HILL, . . Houston, Texas
JNO. H. KIRBY, . Houston, Texas
A. H. HAYWARD, . . Houston, Texas
H. C. CHASE, . . Houston, Texas

HOUSTON OF TO-DAY

IT IS the Houston of to-day in which the people are interested. History has no charm, for this busy world has time only for the present. Fact and not fancy is desired, and the metropolis which stands at the head of navigation is pleased to meet the issue.

The pulse of commercial prosperity is best tested by cold official statistics, and bank clearances are the sort of argument looked for by thoroughly conservative business men. The Magnolia City meets the issue with bank clearances for the year 1896 of $249,656,713.

COTTON.

The pre-eminent crop of the South is cotton. Texas leads all other states; in fact, produces and brings into market one-third of the entire crop of the United States, and Houston steps to the front as the leading interior cotton market of the world, with a record of 1,803,592 bales for the twelve months ending September 1st, 1895. Stop and figure what this means. Almost one-fifth of the entire product of the United States. The curiously inclined can gain some amusement in estimating how many cars this would fill; how old Methuselah would have been had it been his life work to pick this cotton from the plant, and many other interesting deductions from this vast amount of the fleecy staple.

As the largest interior cotton market in the world and next to New Orleans the largest cotton market of any character in this country, Houston is the home of six enormous cotton compresses, one the largest in the world. Also four large cotton seed oil mills with an aggregate capital of $2,200,000.

A RAILROAD CENTER.

Houston is the center of fourteen lines of railroad and as a necessity there are enormous railroad machine shops located here, which employ in the neighborhood of three thousand five hundred men, with a pay roll averaging five hundred thousand dollars per month.

HOUSTON BANKS.

Houston is the only national bank reserve city in the Southwest. This means that this city is the reserve center for all of the territory bounded on the east by New Orleans, on the northeast by Kansas City and on the west by Denver. The city has eight banks, five of which are national. The bank clearances mentioned above show the volume of business handled.

SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

In these important features the City of Houston is especially strong, the Houston High School being the most magnificent edifice among all the public school buildings of the South. The ward schools for both white and colored children are superior. The churches are the pride of the city, among them being the finest church edifice in the South, and all denominations are represented.

CITY MARKET.

No institution in the State of Texas is better known than the Houston market. Not only the people of Houston, but all Texans are proud of this remarkable market, which has no superior in the United States. It occupies in building and grounds an entire block, and here are displayed every morning and Saturday afternoon an assortment of fruits, vegetables, fish, meats, game, etc., not to be excelled anywhere on the American continent.

GENERAL DATA.

The assessed valuation of the city for the year 1896 was $22,827,055. The population according to the last directory was 68,997. This estimate is based upon three persons to each name which appears in the directory. The city has a thoroughly equipped paid fire department, forty miles of electric street railway, theatres and places of amusement of especial merit, waterworks which serve pure artesian water to patrons, many miles of paved streets, the only underground wire telephone system in the State, a professional base ball team which stands at the head of the Texas League, and other attractions and improvements which go to make up a thoroughly equipped up-to-date metropolitan city.

There are eighty-six manufacturing industries in the city, employing a capital of $5,920,000, and there is a determination upon the part of the people of Houston to make this city the manufacturing center of the great Southwest.

HOUSTON AND DEEP WATER.

As was stated above, Houston stands at the head of navigation and expects within the next few years to secure a deep water channel to the sea, which will accommodate the largest ocean-going vessels. Buffalo Bayou is one of the most important outlets for the products of Texas and the West to the markets of the world. The Houston Direct Navigation Company carried over this stream during the year ending August 31, 1895, products which amounted in value to $23,140,733.

WHOLESALE INTERESTS.

Houston is one of the most important wholesale centers in the western half of the country, and her traveling men visit every portion of this great State. Her immense grocery, dry goods, hardware, and establishments in other lines are the pride of the State. The

brewing interests here are simply enormous, while the fruits, produce and packing house products handled reach into the millions of dollars.

A RETAIL CENTER.

Houston is pre-eminently a retail city. The stocks carried here equal those in other cities of one hundred and fifty thousand people. Houston has always been the most popular city in Texas with the people of the State, and they are always pleased when an opportunity is presented to be guests of the Magnolia City. Every line known to commerce is embraced among the great retail establishments, and ladies from other cities are always pleased to do their shopping in Houston.

BEAUTIFUL HOMES.

Houston is justly proud of many magnificent homes surrounded by shade trees which add to the beauty, pleasure and value of property along the lines of the prominent residence streets. In Houston there are thousands of laboring people who own their own homes, and it is for that reason the home city of Texas.

Closing this brief review of a few important facts connected with the City of Houston, it is sufficient to say that the city has no rival for first place in Texas, and it is now the universal opinion of Texas people that Houston in the future will be acknowledged by all as the great metropolis and business center of the Lone Star State.

BEN WILBUSH

PRESCRIPTION DRUGGIST....

813 Congress Ave.
OPPOSITE MARKET

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ONLY DRUG STORE IN THE CITY OPEN ALL NIGHT

With every 25-cent purchase of Drugs we are giving away free a 10-cent cake of Toilet Soap.

Office: Phone:

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Successor to GOEBEL & LENK

Manufacturer of

Office, Bank, Saloon and Store Fixtures

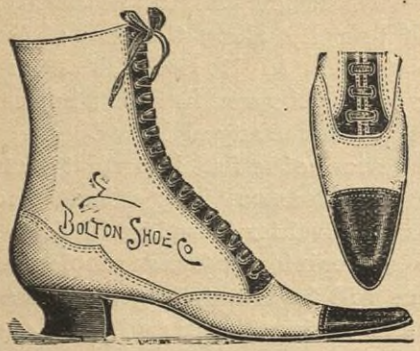
SCREEN DOORS AND WINDOWS

Beer Coolers and Refrigerators a Specialty

Also Agent for JOS. KNITTLE SHOW CASE CO., Quincy, Ill.

RESIDENCE AND SHOP:
Pierce Street, Between Chenevert and Hamilton, Houston, Tex.

For Good, Serviceable Shoes



Men's, Ladies,' Misses' and Children's Full Line of each—Guaranteed to wear well, go to the

DeMERITT SHOE CO.

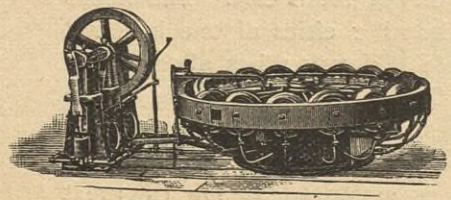
503 Main Street,
HOUSTON, TEXAS.

Send for Catalogue—Free.

B. A. RIESNER,

Manufacturer of and Dealer in

Carriages, Phaetons, Spring Wagons, Drays, Log Wagons, Carry Logs, Etc.



Repairing Neatly Done on Short Notice and at Low Prices.

13 & 15
..COMMERCE STREET..

Set Your Tires while You Wait.

TERMS CASH.

...PHONE..
430

.1013.
PRESTON AVENUE

CRYSTAL ICE AND FUEL CO.

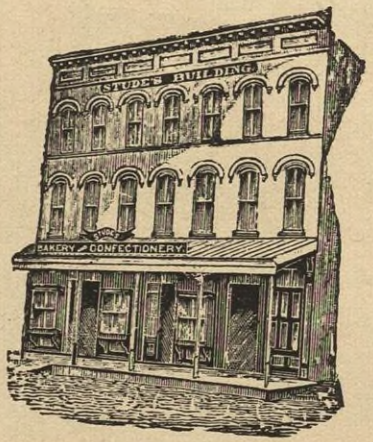
Dealers in

ICE AND COAL

Country Orders Promptly Filled

N. L. CASPERSEN
Secretary and Treasurer

HOUSTON
TEXAS..



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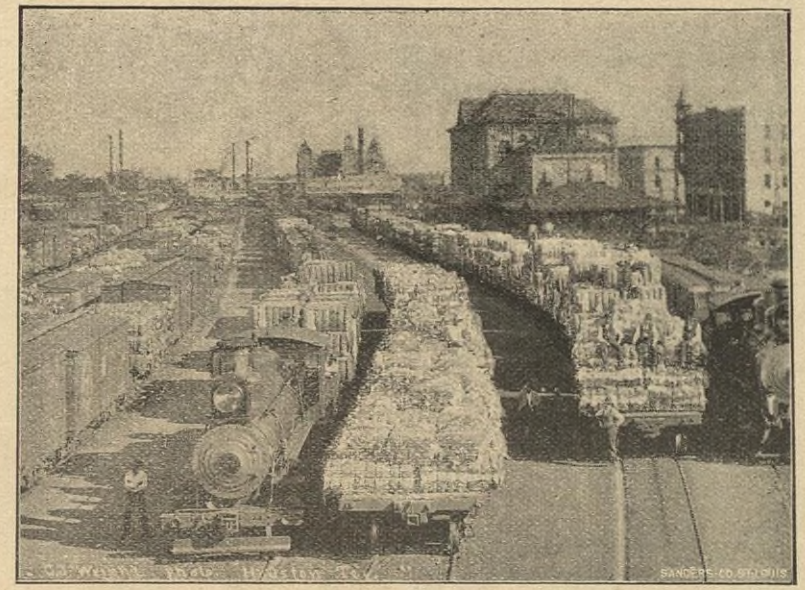
STUDE BUILDING, PRESTON AVE.
Opposite the Market

Wholesale and Retail
...CONFECTIONERY

Staple and Fancy
...GROCERIES



Cotton Scene in Central Depot Yard.

CELEBRATED AMERICAN
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DIXIE PALE

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Dixie Pale

$1.50 per doz. Qts.

$1.00 per doz. Pts.

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$1.80 per doz. Qts.

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35 Cents per 100 lbs.

ON OUR OWN PLATFORM

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AMERICAN BREWING ASSOCIATION, HOUSTON

Scene on Buffalo Bayou.

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ESTABLISHED 1891

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BUTTER, CHEESE AND

...EGGS...

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

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202 Milam St.

HAL P. NOLAND'S PHARMACY

A COMPLETE STOCK OF

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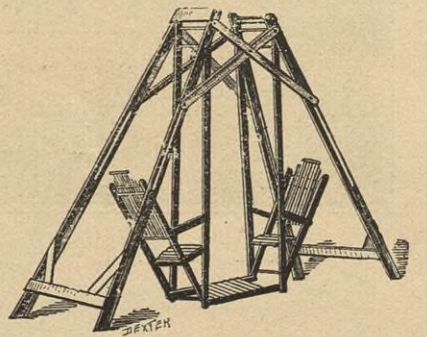
FAIRFIELD LAWN SWING



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A FIVE YEAR OLD CHILD CAN OPERATE IT WITH EASE AND SAFETY...

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H. D. TAYLOR & SONS

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Established 1848

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Confectionery and
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STEAM BAKERY

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THE LEADING BAKERY OF HOUSTON

MY QUAKER AND SNOW FLAKE
BREAD
IS OF UNSURPASSED QUALITY AND FLAVOR
TRY IT

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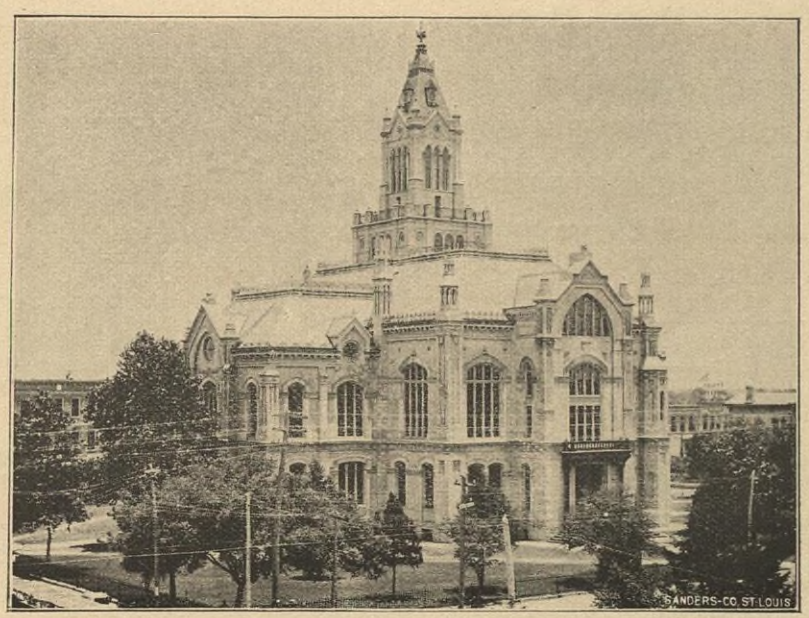

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More than 100 Departments supplied and over $3,000,000 saved by the use of the Helmet during the first year

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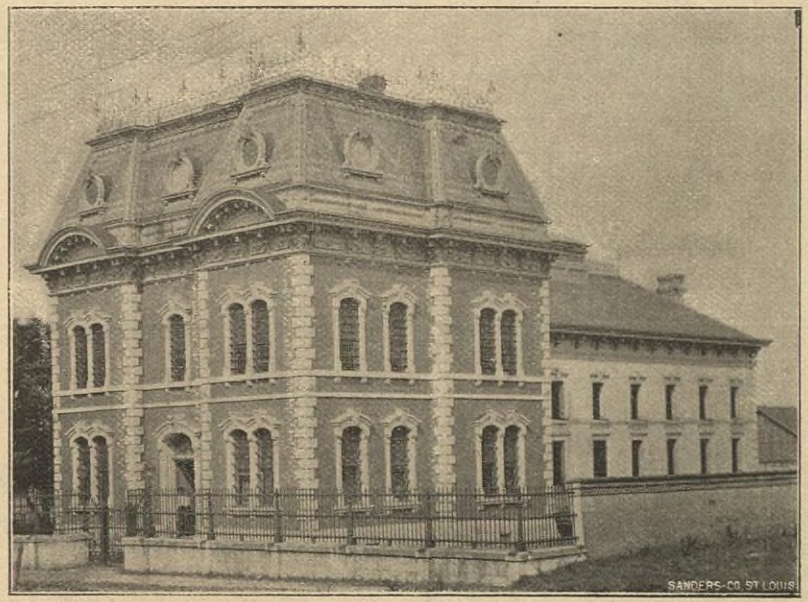

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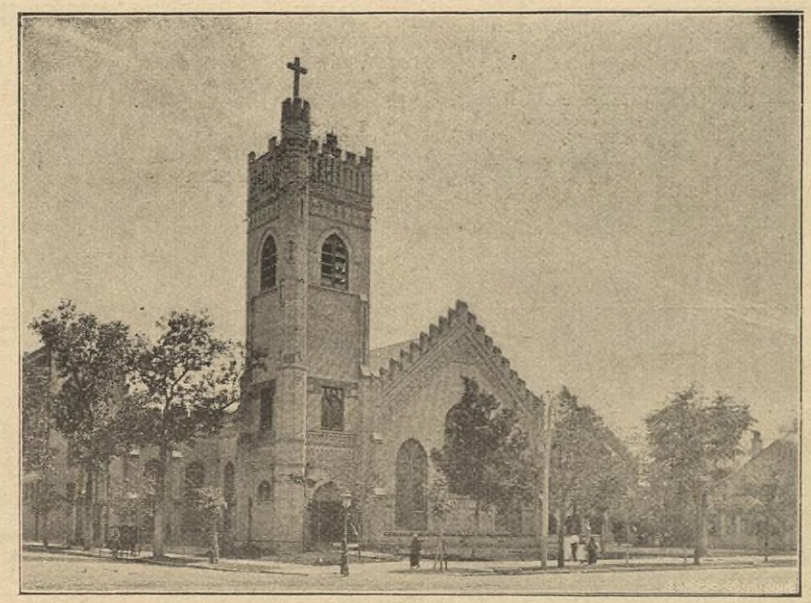

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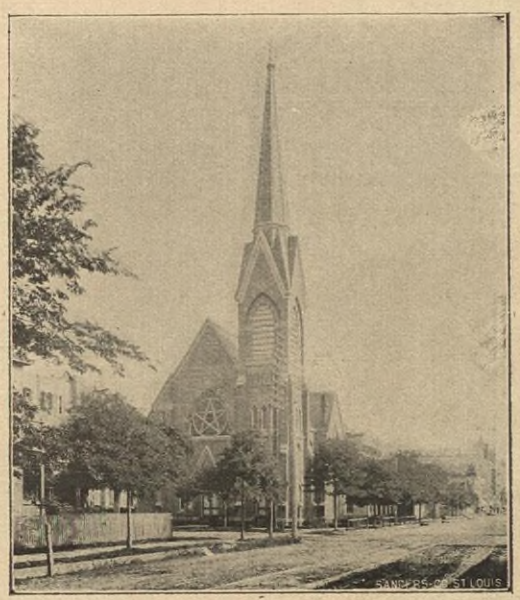

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Dealers are invited to give me a call and examine my stock and prices

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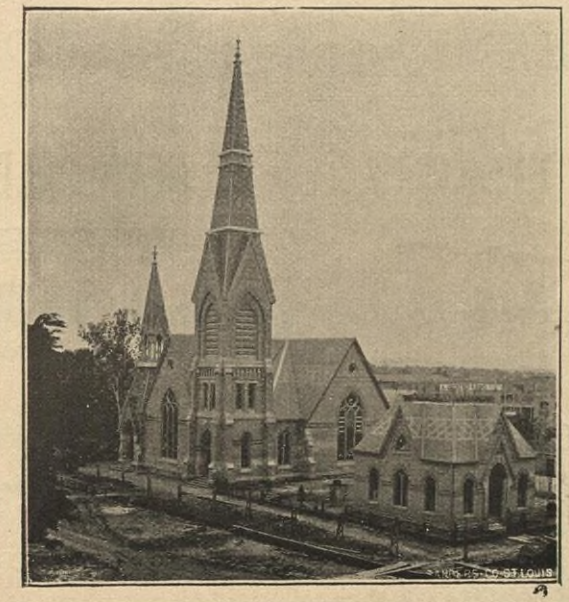
WRITE FOR OUR MONTHLY PRICE... LIST



Shearn Methodist Church.

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Don't overlook the fact that the Galveston, Houston & Henderson Railroad expended two thousand dollars in improving and beautifying the Dickinson Picnic Grounds on our line between Houston and Galveston, and that we run Sunday Excursions during the spring and summer months between Houston and Galveston at rate of $1.00 for round trip from either end

The Texas Coast Fair Grounds..

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....IS THE SHORT

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...Through Sleepers...

TO FORT WORTH, DENVER, DALLAS, DENISON AND AUSTIN

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Making the Best Route for all Travelers and Especially for Commercial Men

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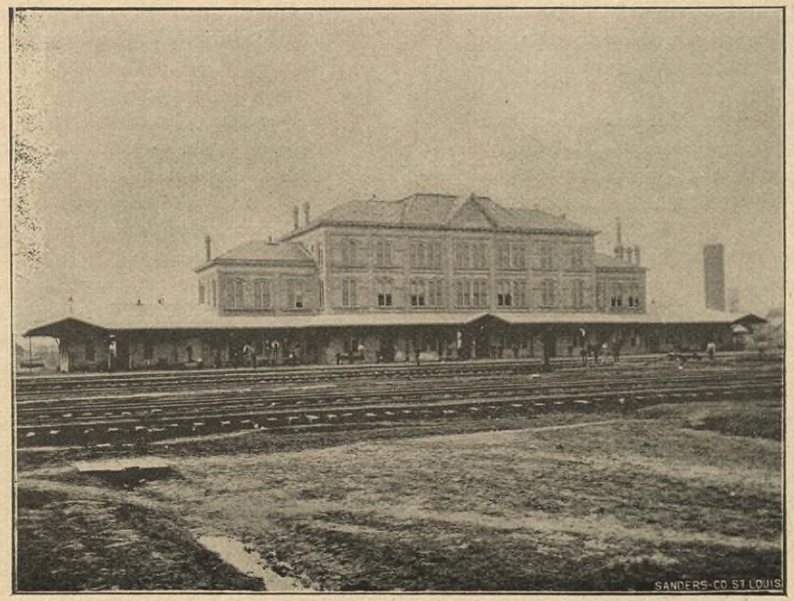


Grand Central Depot.

OUR WATER SUPPLY

A fluid that is the most abundant and most necessary for living beings of any nature, except air, is water, for without it man could not exist. As we pass along the street we seldom realize that we are walking above iron tunnels but a few feet below the surface of the streets in every direction that furnish the blessed fluid that quenches the thirst, and the means to extinguish the conflagrations that often threaten lives and property.

The Houston Water Works Company supplies Houston with a water system that is second to none in the South. Their mains branch out in all directions, and have been put down at a great expense. Constantly are they making improvements and there is hardly a section of Houston that is not within reach of their system. The works are situated in the Sixth Ward, a short distance from the Preston Avenue bridge. The Company has an admirable tract of land of fifteen acres, which, for the purposes it is being used, is desirably located.

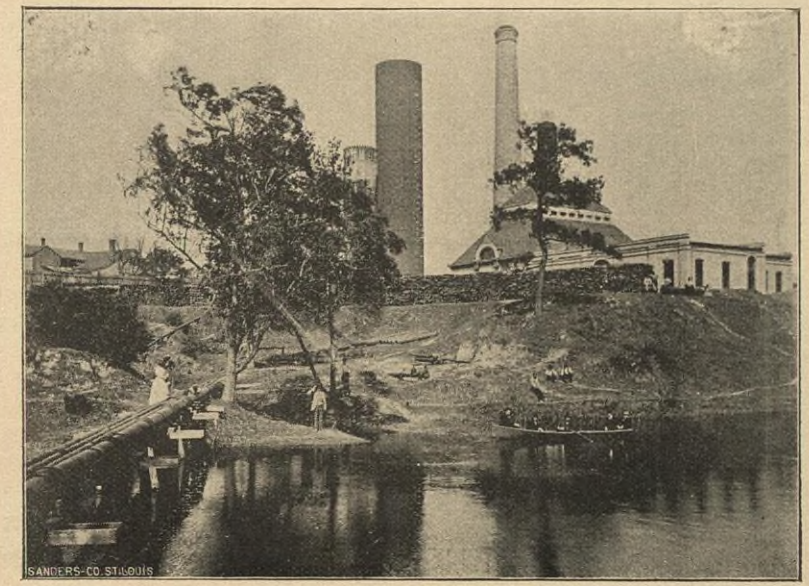
In order to present to the public the exact condition of affairs at the waterworks, an attache of The Post was detailed to visit the works and see what their customers are paying for. The pump house interior is a model of beauty. The walls are nicely whitewashed and a gallery around the entire interior enables one to lean on the railing and watch the slow but measured working of the immense pumps. There are four of these pumps, the first two of which were put in use in 1879, having a capacity of one and two million gallons; the third has a capacity of six million gallons and was placed in the engine house in 1886.

The fourth, which has a capacity of nine million gallons in twenty-four hours, will pump more water with less fuel, is in service at all times and was placed there in 1893. The H. R. Worthington Hydraulic Works of New York are the makers of these immense machines. The pumps are run by four Heine safety boilers, especially built for the Company, which are at all times steamed up, so that any one of them can be used in an emergency. Combined they have a five hundred horse-power. In the engine room there is a complete set of auxiliary pumps to feed the boilers. There is a connection in this room with the fire alarm system, and in case of fire the alarm locates the trouble and increased pressure and water is given.

There are thirty-nine artesian wells of 4 1-2 to 15 inches in diameter, and ranging from 140 to 1200 feet in depth. These wells have an aggregate flow of 7,000,000 gallons daily. The daily consumption at present is 4,500,000 gallons and later it will reach 6,000,000 gallons. All the wells are under one manifold suction pipe. In order to store the surplus water, which is the overflow from that pumped into the mains, there are two standpipes, one 30 feet in diameter and standing 150 feet high, the other 20 feet in diameter and 81 feet high.

There are sixty-six miles of mains in Houston, which consist of pipe from six to twenty inches in diameter. These mains are all tapped by fire hydrants, the number now in use being five hundred. Although the Company has a contract with the city to furnish water from Buffalo bayou above the dam, yet they went to an additional expense of $125,000 to procure pure artesian well water, which is the water we are using for any purpose, as they have abandoned the bayou supply entirely. Even in case of a large conflagration they would not have to resort to the bayou for their supply, for the thirty-nine wells with their flow of 7,000,000 gallons, would be fully sufficient for any such demand. They have a derrick that bores 3,000 feet and which can be used for any emergency if so desired. Their entire works are illuminated by one hundred incandescent lamps furnished by ther electric light plant.

The present company has been organized since 1878, and its officers are: T. H. Scanlan, president and general manager; T. W. House, vice president and treasurer; C. H. Sprong, secretary; F. J. Smith, superintendent; T. H. Scanlan, T. W. House, M. G. Howe, J. A. Baker, Jr., C. G. Pillot, Houston; J. Richardson, New York; E. Hawley, New York; C. Hawley, Connecticut, directors.



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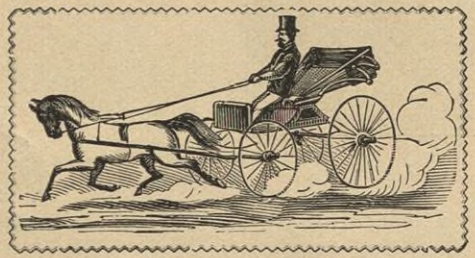
At all hours



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THIMBLES, SAN JACINTO SAND, BRICK

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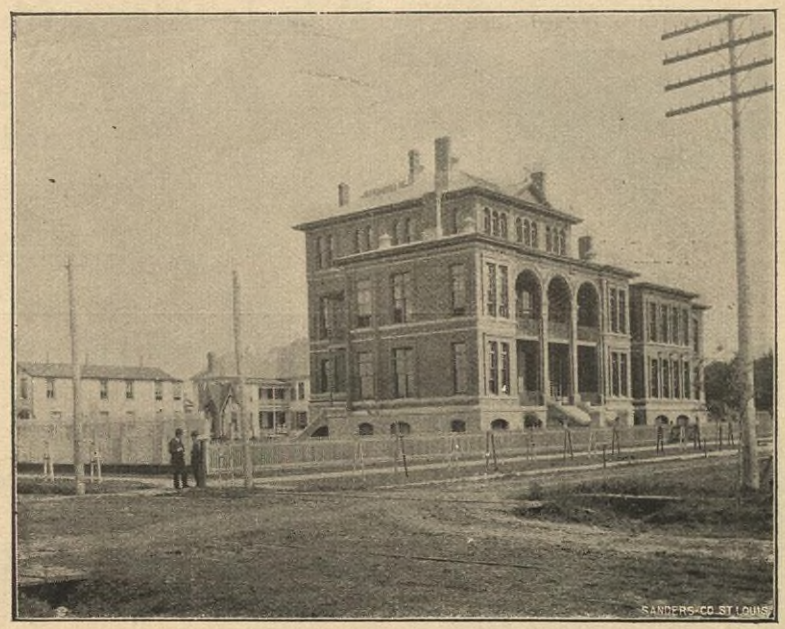

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...OF...
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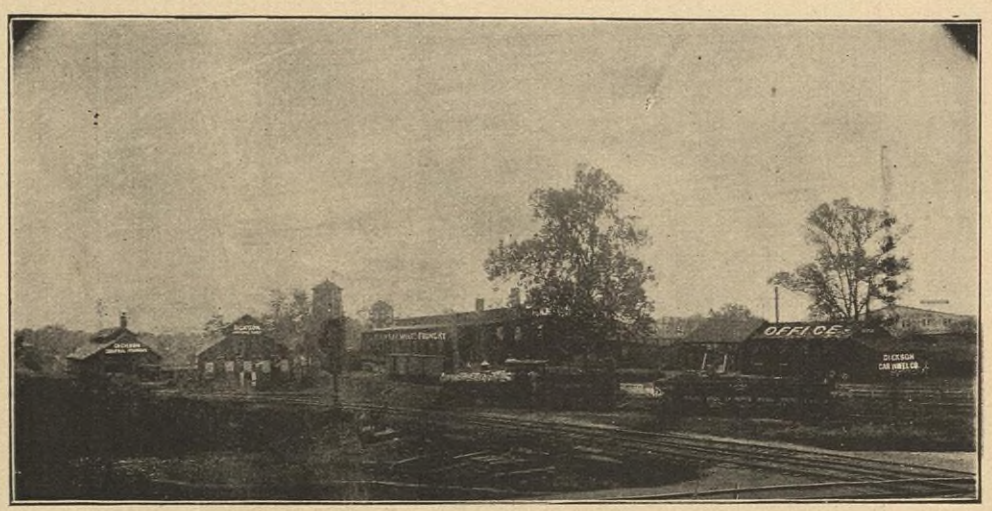

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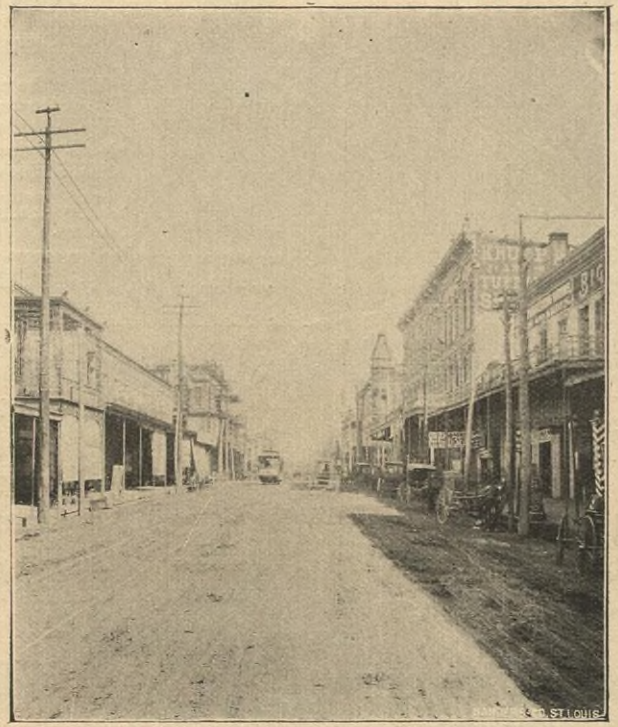

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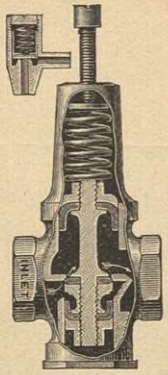

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SUSTAINS FIRE PRESSURE

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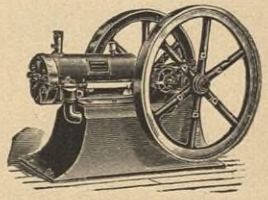

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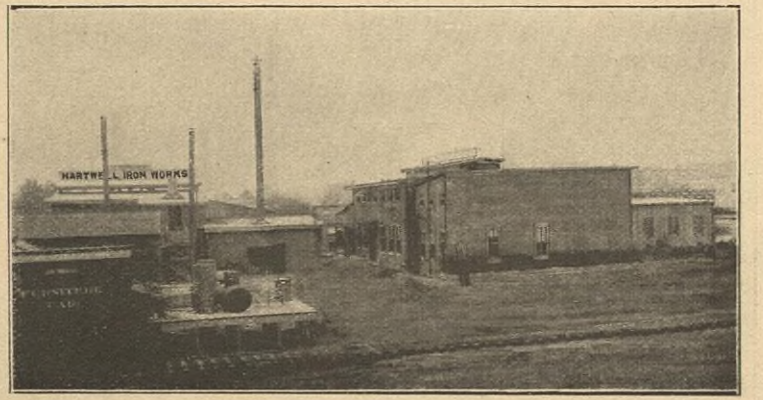


MACHINE SHOP

AND

BOILER WORK

MANUFACTURERS OF

PLAIN . SLIDE . VALVE . STEAM . ENGINES, . FEED . WATER . HEATERS

LIME . EXTRACTORS

THE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

ON THE first Monday in October, 1877, the public school system of Houston was inaugurated. At that time, Hon. Jas. T. D. Wilson was Mayor, and Prof. H. H. Smith was Superintendent of Schools. The members of the first school board were Capt. E. W. Taylor, President, and Messrs. B. C. Simpson and R. Cotter. Dr. Barnas Sears, the honored agent of the Trustees of the Peabody Fund, gave valuable aid in planting the public school system in Houston.

On April 12, 1878, provision was made for establishing a high school department, and in June of the following year Miss Lucy Williams Brown received the first diploma issued to a Houston high school graduate. Since that time one hundred and fifty-eight young ladies and gentlemen have graduated.

The curriculum consists of a Classical and a Modern Language Course, to which is added a Normal Course for pupils of the Senior year. The Classical Course includes the study of Latin, with the other branches, while the Modern Language Course includes the study of German, with the other branches. Pupils are required to select one of the courses at the beginning of each scholastic year, but are not permitted to discontinue any subject during the year. The same rule governs those who select the Normal Course. Graduates are admitted without examination to the University of Texas, and are prepared for entrance into the Freshman class of Yale or Harvard.

The High School Alumni Association, of which Dr. Robt. C. Smallwood is President, is a flourishing association.

The course of study prescribed by the Board of Trustees for the primary and intermediate grades consists of reading and literature, penmanship, spelling, geography, arithmetic, language lessons, English grammar, Texas history, United States history, civics, physiology, drawing, and vocal music. The study of German may be pursued by pupils in grades above the third.

No feature of the work done in the Houston schools is more systematic and fruitful of good results than that done in the several teachers' meetings held regularly throughout the school session. The following schedule shows the meetings held during the current session :

TEACHERS' MEETINGS.

Institutes.—The fourth Saturday in each scholastic month, 10:00 a. m.

Principals' Meetings.—The first Monday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Schoolmasters' Round Table.—The second Friday in each scholastic month, at 8:00 p. m.

GRADE MEETINGS.

First Grade.—The second Thursday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Second Grade.—The second Thursday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Third Grade.—The second Wednesday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Fourth Grade.—The second Wednesday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Fifth Grade.—The second Thursday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Sixth Grade.—The second Wednesday in each scholastic month, at 3.45 p. m.

Seventh Grade.—The third Monday in each scholastic month, at 3:20 p. m.

Supernumeraries.—The second Tuesday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Special Teachers.—The third Tuesday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

High School Teachers.—The third Friday in each scholastic month, at 3:15 p. m.

MEETINGS FOR COLORED TEACHERS.

Institutes.—The fourth Monday in each scholastic month, at 4:15 p. m.

Principals' Meetings.—The first Tuesday in each scholastic month, at 4:00 p. m.

Grade Meetings.—The first Friday in each scholastic month, at 4:15 p.m.

The paragraphs given below are taken from the last annual report of the Superintendent, and set forth the fundamental notions governing the management of the schools:

"Effective, successful school management depends upon the active, willing co-operation of teacher and pupil. The art of school managing consists in so arranging the conditions for learning, in so adapting the materials and methods of instruction to the learner's needs as to develop perfect harmony between teacher and pupil with respect to the purpose for which the school exists. He is the most successful pedagogical manager who searches for what his pupils need. A failure in management is he whose chief business is to give orders and have them obeyed. As G. Stanley Hall expresses it, 'The glory of the teacher is unity with childhood.' Whatever hinders this union, whether it be a material or a spiritual hindrance, necessarily impairs the efficiency of the teacher's work. Whatever tends to weaken the common interest of teacher and pupil in the exercise in which both are engaged must be eliminated before satisfactory results can be achieved. A comprehensive doctrine of school management may be stated thus: All things in the vast machinery of education — school boards, buildings, laws, supervisors, apparatus, courses of study, etc., etc. — exist that there may be brought into unity of mind and purpose a teachable child and a teaching teacher."

Another principle of school management which the modern teacher is recognizing is, that the freedom of the individual is not to be infringed by his teacher. In a very significant sense the school, which is founded to develop the powers, and thereby the freedom of the human spirit, must adopt no arbitrary, autocratic, despotic method of management. Inasmuch as a man is worth only as much as his will is worth, it follows, that the one great function in the management of children is to cultivate the continuous, free expression of human wills along right lines of conduct. The political significance of this doctrine was thus emphasized by Minister Bayard in a speech delivered before the Edin-

burgh Philosophical Society last November: "The freedom of its individual members is the essential basis of the freedom of the State. The individual freedom of man's mind and soul is the instrumentality by which the world, under the very laws of its origin and progress, has been raised from brutality and barbarism to its present state of civilization." This idea of democracy in the school is, however, by no means inconsistent with the idea of the school's being at all times subject to just law and righteous authority. The late Wm. E. Russell, of Massachusetts, expressed the essential principle of the school when he said of the State: "The State protects and develops individual freedom as the very essence of its own strength and safety, and to this end vigorously maintains the sovereignty of law." Law is as necessary in a republic as in a monarchy, and obedience to law should be as prompt in America as in Russia. The officer of the law in America should enforce it at all hazards, for he is but executing the will of the rulers of the nation — the people themselves. He is a disciplinarian, rather a teacher, of the highest rank who firmly, courageously enforces every law, the justice of which he first teaches to his pupils, who makes training for future conduct rather than government for the moment his chief aim in the management of his school."

The following table shows the valuation of school property at this time, the total valuation in 1887 being $79,000:

SCHOOL HOUSES AND SCHOOL PROPERTY.

For the Use of White Pupils.		
High School	$155,000	
Longfellow	16,000	
Fannin Street	1,200	
Taylor	15,000	
Dow	15,000	
Houston Avenue	28,000	
Hamilton Street	23,000	
Elysian Street	26,000	
Cascara	30,000	
		$309,200
For the Use of Colored Pupils.		
First Ward	$ 3,600	
Second Ward	5,000	
Douglass	9,200	
Sixth Ward	3,500	
Fifth Ward	3,500	
Colored High School	30,150	
		$ 54,450
Total valuation		$363,650

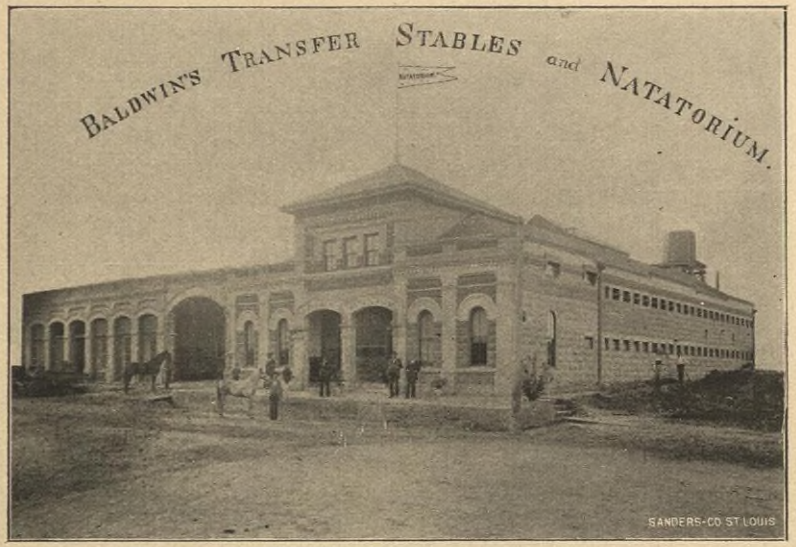
The Board of School Trustees consists of the following gentlemen:

H. B. RICE, President	Term expires	May,	1898
CHAS. P. SHEARN, Secretary	"	"	1897
C. LOMBARDI	"	"	1898
J. O. CARR	"	"	1898
F. A. REICHARDT	"	"	1898
RUFUS CAGE	"	"	1897
J. R. CADE	"	"	1897

During the current year about 6,000 pupils have been enrolled, 4,000 in the white schools and 2,000 in the colored. These pupils have been taught by 115 teachers.

TRANSFER STABLES...

J. C. BALDWIN, Proprietor.



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TELEPHONE 56.

OFFICE, 512 MAIN STREET.
TELEPHONE 208.

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Artesian Water...
81 Degrees F.

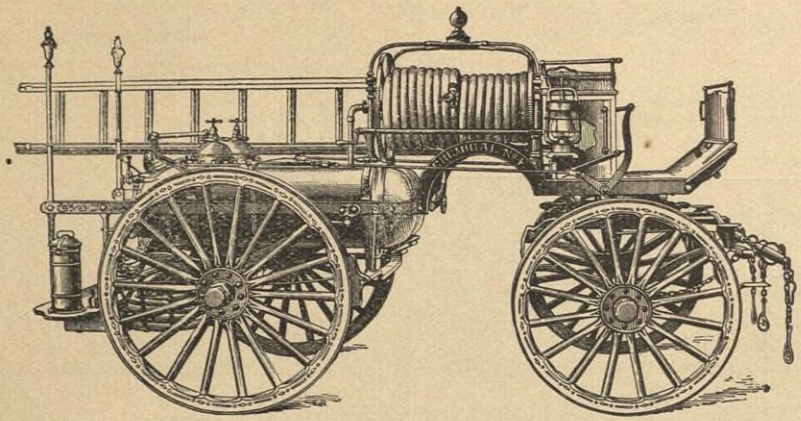
OPEN
FROM 7:00 A. M. TO 10:00 P. M.

The Pool has a Constant Flow of Pure Artesian Water. Come and Enjoy a Swim.

Corner
Louisiana and Congress
Avenue

HOUSTON, TEXAS

High School Building.



Hand Fire Extinguishers..

Hook and Ladder Trucks

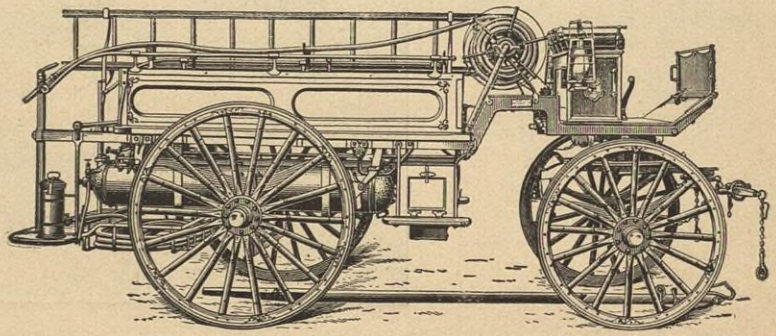
Combination Chemical Engine and Hose Wagon....

HOLLOWAY

Chemical Fire Engines

ALL SIZES

For Cities, Towns and Villages



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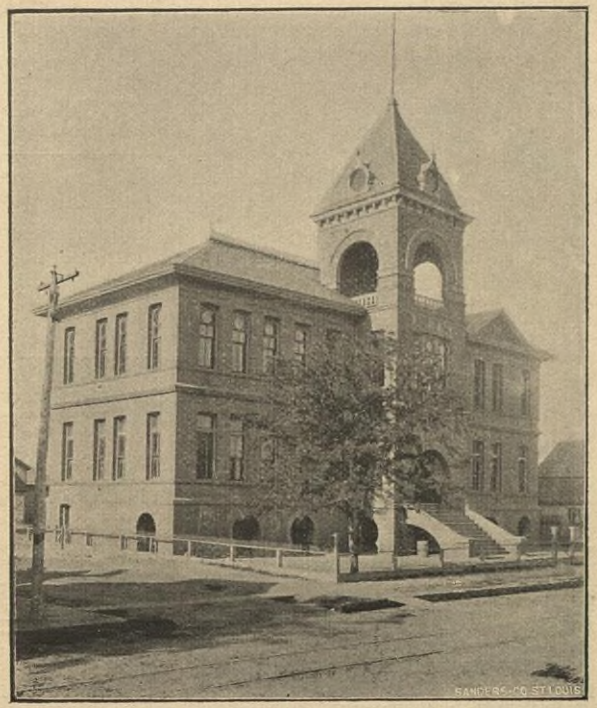

Colored High School.

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H. PRINCE, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

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Corner Prairie Avenue and Fannin Street

HOUSTON, TEXAS

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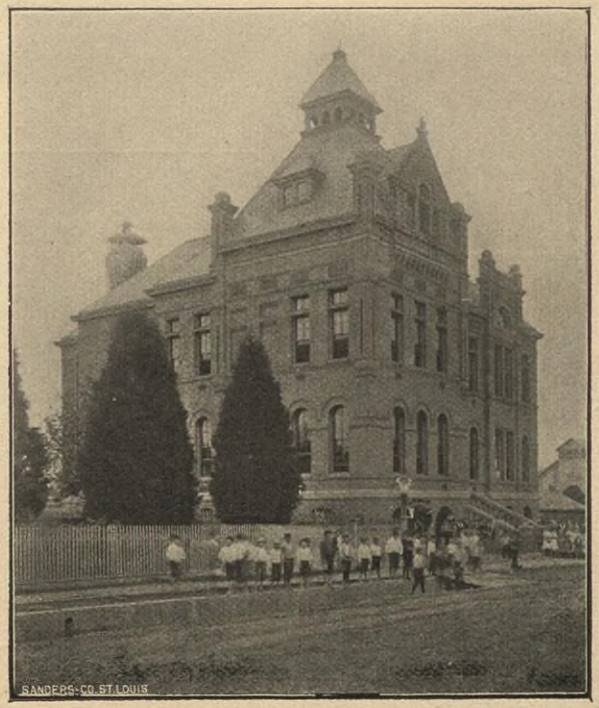

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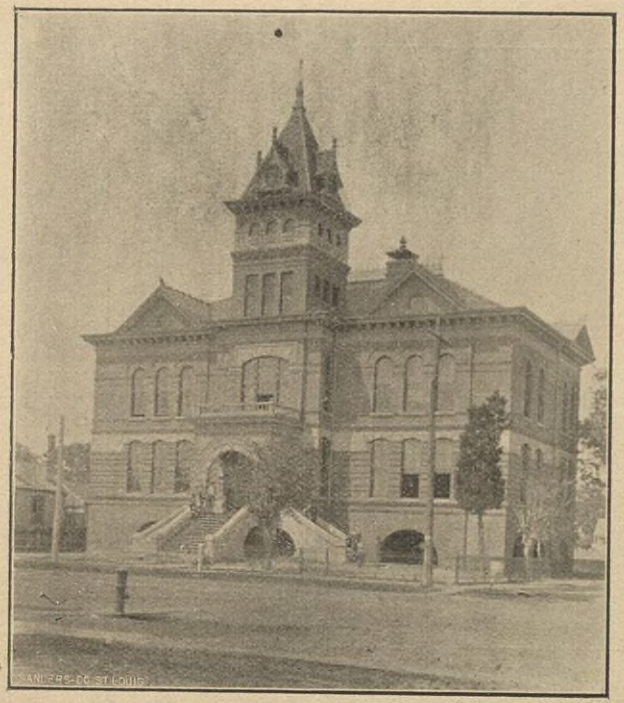

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