

GOING INTO A NEW HOME.

PREPARATIONS FOR OPENING THE GREAT PRODUCE EXCHANGE BUILDING.

"A big time in a big room in a big building" are the words used by a Produce Exchange member yesterday in describing his anticipations of the social reception to be held in the Exchange's new home to-morrow evening from 8 to 12 o'clock. The great size of the building will undoubtedly prevent an uncomfortable crush upon this festive occasion, but the crowd will be very large. Each one of the 3,000 members of the Exchange is entitled to three tickets, and the Committee of Arrangements have dealt generously with the outside public. The members are naturally proud of their new building, and they want their wives, mothers, sisters, and friends to inspect it under the most favorable circumstances. There will be flowers in abundance and music all the while to-morrow night.

The brokers' trading-room, in which the reception will occur, is a room of magnificent proportions. It is 215 feet long, 134 feet wide, and 60 feet high in the centre. Its smooth, white walls are agreeably relieved by the cherry wainscoting and door casings. The huge skylight overhead is of bright colored glasses and the 23 well proportioned windows which give light and air to the apartment are in graceful harmony with both the interior and exterior decoration. Along the north wall of the room runs a massive gallery with ornamental facing. This is to be free to visitors during business hours. Doors open upon it from a cozy reception-room, a well appointed library, and the executive offices. Beneath the gallery are the telegraph offices, Superintendent's desk, &c. It is stated that there is more floor room in this great apartment than on the three floors of the old building.

The formal opening of the new Exchange will occur on Tuesday. All of the members of the institution have been invited to meet at the old building at 9:30 A. M. on that day. James McGee will make a short farewell address and the song, "Good Bye, Dear Halls of Old," will be sung by the Exchange Glee Club. According to the programme, the gentlemen under 45 years of age will then ascend to the upper floor and get themselves in readiness to follow the veterans to the new building. Those persons who admit that they are more than 45 years of age will form in line on the lower floor and under the direction of Grand Marshal C. B. Lockwood the procession will start a little before 12 o'clock. The gentlemen will march either two or four abreast and will proceed through Pearl, Broad, and Beaver streets, and will enter the Beaver-street door of the new building. The opening exercises will be held in the large trading room. After music by Cappa's Band and prayer by the Rev. Arthur Brooks Mayor Edson, Chairman of the Building Committee, will present the new structure to President Herrick, who will receive it in behalf of the Exchange. An ode, "Hail! this Temple Grand," will be sung by the Glee Club. The President will make a short address, and Chauncey M. Depew will deliver an oration. A congratulatory address will be spoken by Algernon S. Sullivan, and a few brief speeches are expected from officers of sister Exchanges. President Hatch, of the Stock Exchange, has been invited, and in response to a formal invitation the following delegation has been appointed to represent the Chamber of Commerce: James A. Brown, A. A. Low, Samuel D. Babcock, James P. Wallace, James S. T. Stranahan, George T. Hope, William H. Webb, Charles M. Fry, D. Willis James, Charles Watrous, S. B. Chittenden, Henry F. Spaulding, D. O. Mills, John T. Agnew, George Wilson.

The Chairmen of the Produce Exchange committees for the opening day are as follows: Executive, D. A. Lindley; Reception, E. S. Whitman; Floor, E. C. Rice; Procession, Alfred Romer; Entertainment, C. A. Burke; Printing, Richard Arnold; Ways and Means, T. A. McIntyre; Orations, C. M. Vail; Decorations, C. A. Pool; Invitations, A. Pagenstecher; Music, J. A. Tobey; Badges, J. W. Parker. A large number of prominent public men have written that they will be present at the exercises on Tuesday.

Tenants have been crowding into the new building rapidly during the past week, and the nine smoothly running passenger elevators have been kept busily employed. There are about 300 offices in the four upper stories, and nearly all of them have been rented. The large offices on the first floor are also spoken for, and nearly all of them are occupied. The principal tenants are the Maritime Exchange, the Produce Exchange Bank, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, the Postal Telegraph, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. There are massive porch entrances to the building on Broadway, Stone and Beaver streets. The general dimensions of the great structure are as follows: Frontage on Broadway and Whitehall-street, 307½ feet; frontage on Beaver-street, 150½ feet, and on Stone-street, 149 feet. The walls rise to an average height of 125 feet. The clock tower at the east end of the Stone-street front covers a plot of ground 40 by 75 feet and is about 200 feet high. This ungainly feature certainly adds nothing to the appearance of the main building, but is said to have been built for convenience. Four of the passenger elevators are in it, and special pains are to be taken to make the clock an accurate time-piece.