B.S. Thesis

A Conservatory of Music
for a large city.

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The idea for this scheme was suggested to the author while reading an account of the movement begun for the establishment of a National Department of Fine Arts at Washington. This movement was initiated by a committee appointed by the Fine Arts Federation, The Society of Beaux Arts, and the American Institute of Architects, and bore for its purpose the creation of a system of national schools of fine arts in the various large cities of the United States, with a national academium at Washington. It was a part of the plan to create a National Conservatory of Music at Washington and branch conservatories in the other cities. A national orchestra was also proposed.

It was the author's first intention
to take the musical conservatory for the subject of a thesis, but as the time alloted for the completion of a thesis was not sufficient to permit a full treatment of this comprehensive project, the author had to abandon this idea, and the design of one of the secondary conservatories substituted.

This thesis, therefore, presents the design of a conservatory for music which might be erected in some such city as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia or Boston. The author's conception of the problem under these conditions was one of large and monumental character. As a part of a natural setting it should possess requisite dignity, scale, and aesthetic significance, as almost all natural undertakings.

Technically the problem resolves itself into one of equal importance regards
Planning our elevations. In the planning of elevations, it becomes necessary to associate several important or predominant features in a well-balanced composition. In external appearance it becomes necessary to create a monumental effect, aesthetic prominence, and characteristic expression of its purpose.

In a conservatory this importance in a large concert hall or theatre is a necessary and dominant feature. This should serve for the presentation of the public of musical performances of every sort. There should likewise be smaller halls for recitals by pupils and rehearsals with public or private. Thus would serve for performances of smaller impact. Associated with these there should be a library of significant size for the keeping of musical literature, scores, and other
classical literature. These are the four largest elements entering into the plan. There should be beside these an administration department, a large reception hall for the institution, and a supply department where all materials necessary in the work of the school may be obtained. As an extra element of interest and embellishment there should be an inuben or small museum for sculptures and musical instruments, arranged in historic classification. Connects with these and forming the working elements of the school there should be the various studies for instrumental and vocal instruction.

Aside from these characteristic requirements there should be monumental calculation between the public fortunay?
The plans, beginning with a large central hall, are the various requirements summarized in
the following form:

1. A large concert hall with stage.
2. Two recital halls with organs.
3. A library with alcoves, equally accessible from all parts of the building.
4. Reception rooms.
5. Small museum or exhibition rooms.
7. Administrative department.
8. Four more lecture rooms for classes.
9. Studios for the accommodation of 400 students.
10. Organ rooms for the practice and instruction on the organ.
11. Tuning rooms for the renovation and tuning of instruments.
12. Recreational rooms for students and instructors.
15. Store rooms, toilets, etc.
17. Staircases, elevators, etc.

The building should be two stories in height with one ample basement story. The first or main story should contain the various halls, Library, Administrative Reception and Supply Rooms, and the studios for instruments and Voice. The second story should contain the organ rooms, offices and galleries of the Halls, etc. The basement should contain the tuning rooms, lab rooms, gymnasium, etc.

An important point is the concentration to be regarded is the isolation of the studios as far as possible to prevent acoustical disturbance. This may be done by
placing the studios on the periphery of the building with double walls on the interior and deadened walls between adjoining studios. A further point that might be considered is the division of the vocal from the instrumental studios. They may be arranged on respective sides of the building. These considerations have been kept in view in the present design.

The setting of the building should be prominent and spacious. It should be surrounded by wide avenues and fenced by a park or square. An effective approach off-ramping an impressive setting is desirable.

It is hoped that the design hereafter submitted may fulfill the above requirements, logically and aesthetically.

The drawings presented are:

- An elevation of the main facade of the scale, one eighth scale to the foot.
a Plan of the main floor at the
\[ \text{scale of } \frac{3}{8} \text{ inch to the foot.} \]
A Longitudinal section at the
\[ \text{scale of } \frac{3}{32} \text{ inch to the foot.} \]