## $=\frac{A T}{T H E A E A S D R}$

 2

 solly taken. Scarcely a trace of the great fre
now remaing, the only remaning, sigus of
being here and there a charred stump, or ait
ben space in the very heart of the town whit another winter will dountless close un. The The
pirit of improvement, however, has not been restricted to the burnt district, but has extended
in all diroecton, reaciultig in he erection during
the past winter ot ent buildings, the greater number of $w$
 losed up the gap between the main building nd the "Blue Plg" cotiake just on the edggo of
the beach. The oricinal Congress Hall was
rected ti the year 1819, by Thomas Hughes of it which comprsises thas dinuting-d than, portion
heretofore been the most timposing. Anew wing
 nereasing demand for more roon, however, at
ast made the improvement a necessity, and
when the eesason opens Congress Hall will prewhen the Beason opens Congress Hall will pre-
eent an entirir trangotrmation, which has been
ffected at an outlay of about $\$ 250,000$. That portion of the original bullding which
ronted on Perry street, aud contanted on the
frat floor the offices of the establishement, the reception parlora, and the main passage-way to
the dining-room, has entirely disappoared, and
n its place has risen an edifice decidedly more attractive. The entrance prosents a projecting
roof, ${ }^{\text {apported, at an elevation of fity feet, by }}$
graceful columns. On the first flloor of this raceful columns. On the frst flloor of this
portion is s artunda 115 by bo feet in dimensions, separated from an alcove 75 by 25 feet in
size meroly by a range of plllars which support
the celling, ta an elevation of 18 feet. On the

 black walnut, by which aceess is gained to the
upper stories. The whole spacious and elegant
apartuent is to be lighted by forty-eight gas jeta, in three groups of twelvo eech, and two ${ }^{\text {of }}$
six- the latter in the alcove already mentioned
 nd cigar stands. Immediately to the left of the
cotuna, and accessible from Perry street ae
ormerly, is the reeonstructed "funnel," that rrand windy thoroughare which has for
cears past enjoyed the reputation of being the
coolest spot for an afternoon lounge to be found on the island. From this point, at right angles is the new wing, 250 feet in length, 4 foet
in width, and threes sories in height, ot ot end
of which has been removed the greater portion of the old structure, 100 feet in length, 36 in
width, and two storics and a half in height.
The larger portion of this new wing is devoted monpoyed being for the reception-room, which
son the frst floor aud adjacent to the "funnel,",
and the pariror, on the second tloor, extending
over both "funnel" and recoption-room. The dimensions of the parlor are 55 by 40 feet, and the
height of the ceiling 22 fee.. Oa the Perry
street side is an alcove, separatod merely by street miac
the plat
he carpet from Ste wart's New York establishmentert
alone costing $\$ 1500$, snd the gas fixtures 8500 .
 material, Inlaid with gold, and upholstered with
variegated silk reps. On the occan front of the
new wing is a grand portico, over whilch the




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