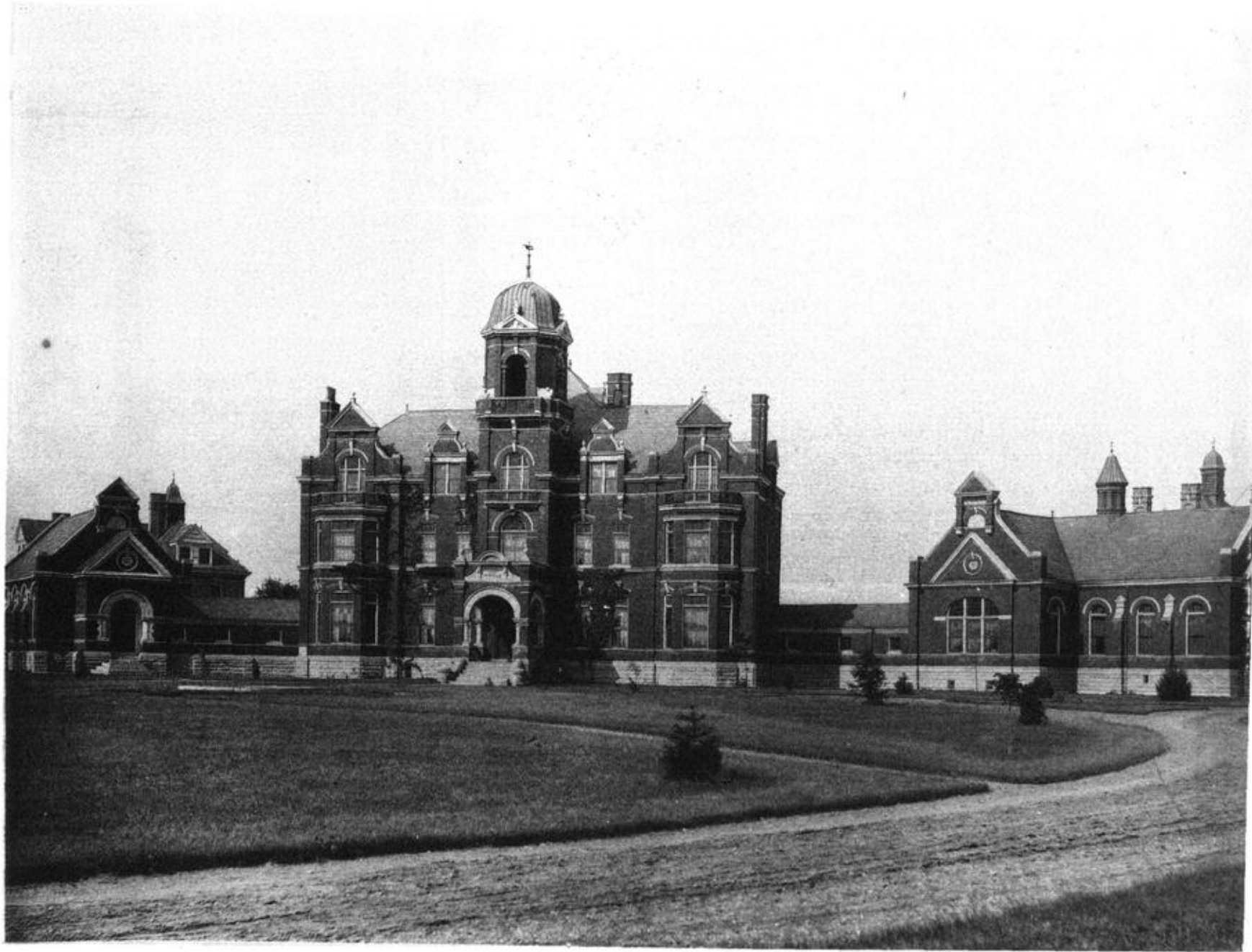




CLIFT, WILLIAMS & CO. WORKS.



NATIONAL HOUSE.



ROSE ORPHANS' HOME.

Mr. Lucius Ryce, but without much change from its old-time style. The house opposite, built by a Mr. Smith who mysteriously disappeared long years ago, was embellished and improved by the late Owen Tumor, without totally disguising an old landmark. Such instances could be repeated at great length.

Probably the most daring innovation on cherished custom was forced upon us by the fire which swept the old "spinning wheel corner" and adjacent lots and cleared the ground for the Opera House; and for the first really ornamental store room on Wabash avenue.

The opera house by its massive structure and great size was a notable addition to the city, and a great tax upon its builders who were most of the business men or real estate owners ambitious to improve the principal thoroughfare. It cost \$187,000, in the day of high prices, long before it passed to its present owner, Mr. Wilson Naylor. The store room, next to it, owned by H. Robinson, and McKean & Co.'s bank, both designed by Mr. Chas. Eppinghousen, are still the most ornate on Wabash avenue. The block, occupied by the National State Bank, W. H. Sage and Shryer Bros., at Fifth and Main, the Deming block at Sixth and Main, and the one built by Messrs. Rose, O'Boyle and Jeffers, for a long time were the best blocks, but the later improvements, the handsome McKean building, the ornamental front of the Bindley and Mack blocks, and the modernized style of other business property have made Wabash avenue, at last, a fine thoroughfare. The buildings of public interest, the court-house, the postoffice, normal school, high-school, Rose Orphan Home, Rose Polytechnic Institute, and St. Anthony's Hospital, are of great interest from their architectural finish or associations.

The Vigo County court-house occupies the site of the old-fashioned building, erected about 1818, when the seat of justice was transferred from Fort Harrison to Terre Haute. Its ancient timbers were sawed by Chauncey Rose at his little saw-mill works of Terre Haute. Lawyers of great renown had made at least part of their fame there when they rode circuit. One of the few survivors, the Hon. John P. Usher, after a long, honorable, unsullied career, died in 1889. The present temple of justice is one of the most perfect structures of the kind in the State, not surpassed for elegance of architecture and the solid, durable and faithful work expended in its construction. Built of oolitic limestone, granite and iron, with tile flooring and marble wainscoting, it is fire-proof. In the noble dome,