

# SACRED EDIFICE FOR SLAVIC CATHOLICS



The New Church of the Nativity of Our Lord, to Be Built on  
Fell Street.

## A Handsome New Church to Be Built on Fell Street, Between Franklin and Gough, in the Near Future.

**T**HE Austrian Slavonians residing in San Francisco form an important element of the Catholic population of this city, but until recently they have been much scattered so far as means of worship are concerned. For several years, however, they have sought to group themselves, and, with the aid and encouragement of Archbishop Riordan, they have, in a great measure, succeeded. For twelve months the Slavic Catholics have had a pastor in the person of Rev. Hinks Bontempo, S. J., who, by his energy during the short period since his arrival from Austria, has been able to so bind together his compatriots and co-religionaries that his grace has given his approbation to the erection of a church building dedicated to the "Nativity of Our Lord."

This edifice will be erected on a lot, 55 by 120 feet, on the north side of Fell street, between Franklin and Gough, and will be on designs by Shea & Shea in the style of the Italian renaissance, with which the Catholic Slavs are familiar from their childhood. By the utilization of a gallery in connection with the organ loft the large seating capacity of 700 persons has been obtained by the architects. The interior will be in harmony with the exterior, and Rev. Father Bontempo has already secured some beautiful paintings from Europe to be placed in the church, and some of his friends in his native land have promised to send him costly and handsome vestments when the edifice shall be finished. The foundation will be of concrete and the superstructure of frame, the cost of the structure being estimated at \$15,000. The building will contain a hall in the basement for the accommodation of the children of the

parish and for entertainments. Eventually it is expected to build a parochial residence on the rear of the lot, facing Lilly avenue.

The committee which has in charge the raising of funds for the immediate erection of the Church of the "Nativity of Our Lord" is composed of Andrew Glover, president; M. Perich, first vice-president; A. Batchla, second vice-president; A. Scar, secretary; A. Sorlich, treasurer, and A. Conich, V. N. Bakulich, V. Mirks, M. V. Radovich and J. Turato.