



## PLATE IX.

PUBLIC PARK, HARTFORD, CONN.

DESIGNED AND EXECUTED BY J. WEIDENMANN.

The annexed map represents the City Park of Hartford, Conn., which comprises thirty-nine acres. It is centrally located in the midst of the city, and bounded on three sides by a small river. It is the principal resort of the citizens for recreation, amusement, and open-air concerts.

The grounds when first begun were to a large extent a swamp and settled with rude shanties—an unhealthy, desolate place.

The first design, made by a surveyor, was partly carried out, when the general dissatisfaction with the arrangement and the incompetency of its managers to lay out such grounds demanded the organization of a Board of Park Commissioners, which board adopted the present new plan. The expenses for remodeling have been heavy.

The drainage of the grounds having been entirely neglected, this work was first systematically laid out and a map of all drains and underground and surface water was preserved. Expensive alterations on the east and west park, the correction of the river, the building of bridges, the construction of roads and walks, the grading, filling, and planting, progressed as the financial appropriations made by the City Council would allow.

The main portion of the park is undulating, a condition produced by artificial means. It is about ten feet above the level of the river, though the south-west part is a natural hill about sixty feet high, from which a pretty view can be obtained.

The following are the most prominent single specimens:

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| 1 and 13. White Oaks, which are seedlings from the famous Charter Oak, of Hartford, and presented to the Park Commissioners. | 16. European Linden.   |
| 2 and 20, are large and fine shaped American Elms.   | 17. Black Sugar Maple.   |
| 3. Deciduous Cypress.  | 18. <i>Quercus fastigiata</i> .  |
| 4. European Beech.   | 19. <i>Magnolia tripetala</i> .  |
| 5 and 11. Turkey Oak.  | 21. Group of Norway Spruce, Hemlock, and Deciduous Cypress in the rear of a mass-grouping of flowering shrubs. |
| 6. <i>Catalpa syringifolia</i> .   | 22, 23, 24, and 25. Large mass-grouping of flowering shrubs.   |
| 7 and 8. White Birch.  | 26. Austrian Pine, Swiss Stone Pine, and Corsican Pine.  |
| 9. English Oak.  | 27. Group of Hemlock, with Cucumber Magnolia in front.   |
| 10. Laurel-leaved Oak.   | 28. <i>Podocarpus Japonica</i> , <i>Quercus fastigiata</i> , Judas Tree, American Beech.                       |
| 12. Liquidambar or Sweet Gum.  | 29. Menzies' Spruce.   |
| 14. Lombardy Poplar.   | 30. <i>Catalpa</i> .   |
| 15. <i>Glyptostrobus Sinensis</i> , the Embossed Cypress.  | 31. Sugar Maple.   |

REFERENCES.—*A*, Stone terrace; *B*, Statue of Rev. Horace Bushnell, D.D., the founder of the Park; *C*, Wooden foot-bridge; *D*, Iron foot-bridge; *E*, Stone bridge; *F*, Stone dam and cascade; *G*, Western bridge with sidewalks; *H*, Gate and drive connecting with Trinity College ground.