

“Bedford’s Latest Stone Office Building”
(the Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company)

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“Last month we spoke about the office buildings of cut stone contractors, pointing out the fact that in times past the great cutting sheds, which, in themselves, were apt to be of flimsy frame construction. Even when a separate office building was erected it might be of brick or concrete blocks. Attention was called to the fact that the trade was beginning to put up better buildings for its own use, both mills and offices, and that this afforded an excellent opportunity for the contractor to show his faith in stone construction and to offer a sample of his handiwork. An illustration was given of an artistic and attractive little stone office that has just been completed at Bridgeport, Conn.

“This month we are privileged to present a picture of another new office building for a cut stone contracting company, on a much larger scale. This is the office building of the Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company, at Bedford. The company is moving its general offices from Chicago to Bedford as rapidly as circumstances permit, and it is expected by the first of the year to have all the general office activities under way at the latter place.



NEW OFFICE BUILDING FOR A STONE COMPANY

General Offices for the Furst-Kerber Cut Stone Company, just completed at Bedford, Ind.

“The office structure, which is 35 by 100 feet, two stories and basement, stands about 100 feet south of the company’s No. 1 mill. It is built entirely of buff Bedford Indiana limestone, after plans and specifications by Architect Charles H. Prindiville, of Chicago. All partitions are of solid masonry, and the roof is of red tile. The heating system is from the Mill system, which is furnished by exhaust steam. The entrance portico is supported by columns, with a baluster rail above. Within the entrance is a vestibule, giving into a reception room, which in turn opens upon a corridor running almost the entire length of the building, with a stairway on the extreme right. On the left of the vestibule is an office for typists and the switchboard, and then two large rooms for those who take off quantities. On the right is a large private room for the head officials of the company. In the rear, at the left, are rooms for the secretary and his assistants and a large general office. At the right is a two-story vault for the storage of plans and papers.

“The second floor is given up to a large drafting room, which is entirely in the clear, giving unobstructed space 54 by 35 feet, less a small room partitioned off for estimating. The drafting room also opens into the vault.

“There is every convenience in the building, toilets for women on the first floor and for men on the second floor. The basement contains storerooms, and at the south end space for three automobiles.

“The red tile roof and the buff stone of the walls make a very pleasing color combination, and the entire building will long be one of the models of its kind in the Limestone Belt.”