



## OLD COUNCIL HOUSE CORNER.

(From a photograph taken by C. R. Savage in the early sixties.)

The Old Council House corner on which the handsome Hall of Relics is now being erected by the Semi-Centennial Commission is one of the most historic and interesting spots in this city. As shown in this picture it had on it in the early sixties the Council House, the building of which was commenced under the supervision of General Daniel H. Wells, February 26, 1849, and erected by titling labor. The first purpose to which it was put was of holding important Church meetings. But all the gatherings in it were not of an ecclesiastical character. The first Legislature of the Territory was held in it, beginning September 22, 1851. It was likewise the home of the DESERET NEWS for a considerable period, and in it the University of Deseret, now University of Utah, was given permanent impetus and life, with Dr. John R. Park as head of the institution. It also contained the public library for a time. The structure was built of red sandstone and was destroyed by fire and an explosion of powder, together with adjacent buildings, June 27, 1883. The loss was conservatively estimated at \$100,000. At present the property belongs to the Salt Lake Literary and Scientific Association.