

WEST MARKET HALL

Chicago Tribune (1860-1872); Mar 2, 1864; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Chicago Tribune
pg. 0_4

WEST MARKET HALL --The first step has been taken towards pulling down the West Market Hall. Yesterday men were at work in removing the sidewalks, in readiness for the final assault which lies *perdu* till the police authorities shall have secured a new station house. Then *presto!* the work of demolition will begin in earnest; the solid bricks will vanish and leave not a wreck behind to show the place where for so long a time policemen and rats did congregate; where the demoniac howlings of the drunkard mingled with the wail of lost children or the despairing plaint of the innocent one who arrested on some false charge fears a lasting stain on his character. There are in truth very few pleasant associations connected with that structure. In one portion have been confined the vilest of the vile, awaiting their transit to the Bridewell or Penitentiary, while not a few have been shut up in those cells for graver charges. In another part of the ground floor the chattering of fish mongers, green grocers and butchers has been heard, and the most nauseous of stench have come forth from those purlieus to greet the noses of passers by. Above they have given ghost of balls the great majority of which have been the reverse of complimentary, though generally dignified by that equivocal name. The old structure is going, and few will regret its departure. All are glad it is going out of the way. We are making our paths straight, preparing for the jubilee. *Sic itur ad astra*. The street itself will soon be graded, and a new bridge built over the river on its line. Randolph street will then be, through its whole extent, one of the straightest and best in the city. People must go elsewhere for their meat.