

new and original characteristics. In its earliest phases during which the labour of erection was done by the unskilled inhabitants of England, we find the masonry rather crude, the walls very thick and heavy, the carving on the stonework coarse and simple; and, as the baronial castles partook as much or more of the nature of a fortress as of a residence, we find the openings small. The structural forms were all simple, the labourers having neither the knowledge nor the skill to erect any such daring structural features as became so common in the later Gothic. The columns, but little used in the first stages of the style, were very heavy and massive, and the capitals crowning them were simply cubes, or square plinthes with the corners rounded off, and sometimes carved geometrically in such simple forms as may be seen in the small arcade of the western entrance to the University building.

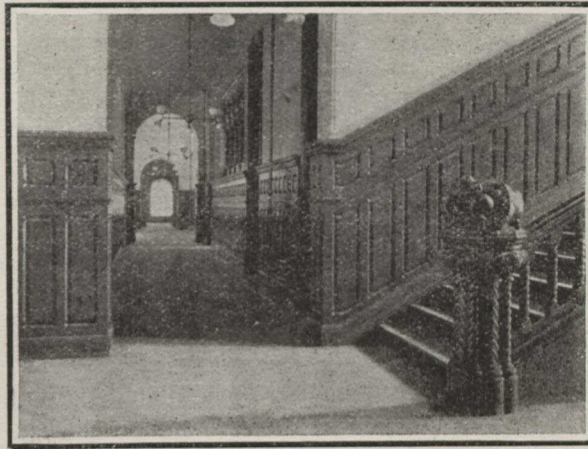
The arch was used to span all openings and the vault was very largely used to cover buildings. These characteristics gave to this style of architecture a sense of repose and stability possessed by no other since the days of the great Egyptian temples. In the later development of the style, as the workmen became more proficient more decoration was applied. The exterior of the walls had rows of arcades built on them, as may be seen on the part of wall just to the west of the University main entrance. Windows were placed in these arcades, the wall space of every second, third and fourth arch being pierced for that purpose. The walls and columns were not so massive. The ornamentation of doorways and windows became much richer. This ornamentation consisted of simple zigzag forms, triangular

projections which lend themselves very readily to this form of ornamentation. And this was the universal practice whether in as elaborate a piece of carving as in the main doorway of the University or in the simpler forms as may be seen in some of the University windows. Capitals be-

came much more ornate. Conventional flower forms deeply undercut and animal and bird forms were extensively used. Corbel tables under cornices and other projecting members, stone water-drip terminals over windows, and gargoyles were carved into wonderfully grotesque animal forms, such as may be seen on many parts of the building under consideration.

The feeling that the main building of the University conveys to one on first seeing it is the impression of quiet repose that it possesses, a characteristic quite essential to the architectural success of any building. Although the build-

ing is not large, the different parts have been so well proportioned in their relation to each other and to the whole that it is possible to get what one so often fails in doing on seeing a building for the first time, a proper conception of its size. It is to this correct proportion, and to the excellent arrangement of the different features of the building that the feeling of repose is due. The main tower occupies a central position in the front facades. The two wings are about equal in mass and possess the same general characteristics of form, giving symmetry of mass with a good variety of detail. Each extension increases in interest as it approaches the tower. The eastern wing has two small towers marking entrance at two different points along the wing, the nearer tower of the two being the more interesting in design. The wing



EAST CORRIDOR AS REBUILT. THE NEWEL POST OF STAIRS IS AN EXCELLENT BIT OF WOOD CARVING.



TWO CORBELS SUPPORTING CEILING OF THE MAIN HALL—FOLIAGE AND GEOMETRICAL CARVINGS

projections or dog-tooth forms cut on the corners of each ring of the arch, the arch being built up of several successive arches each one larger than the one behind, and each resting on its own column. Thus a cross-section of an arch will show a series of right-angled recesses and

terminates in a gable of simple and pleasing proportions that forms the final feature of the front facade. Between this gable and the main tower is an area of wall containing many characteristic Norman features—corbel tables, wall arcades containing windows and window groups.