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PROVINCE HOUSE.

THE plate presents a view of the Province House. The first stone of this beautiful structure was laid on the 12th August, 1811; during the administration of Lieutenant General Sir George Provost. At this early period of the history of Nova-Scotia, this undertaking was thought by many, to be far too great for the limited state of the Provincial Revenue; but its utility and convenience have been found to make full amends for the outlay. It is placed in the most central part of the town, on the scite where formerly stood the Government House; facing Hollis-street to the East. It is surrounded by a neat Iron railing. The green plats at the ends and the open space in front, are ornamented with young trees, which give it an airy and healthy appearance. The principal entrance is to the East, over which is a pediment, bearing the British Arms cut in free stone, supported by six round pillars, of the Ionic order.

The back entrance is from Granville-street, on to the second floor of the building. Its length is 140 feet, and breadth 70 feet. The principal suite of rooms are on the first floor, and are appropriated to the following offices, namely—Provincial Secretary's, Treasurer's, Surveyor General's, Excise Office, Porthonotary of the Supreme Court and Registrar of the Court of Chancery. On the second floor at the South end, is the Council Chamber, an elegant oblong room, 64 feet by 32; beautifully ornamented with stucco work, with a vaulted ceiling, and containing the portraits of His late Majesty and his Queen, King George the second and Queen Caroline, Chief Justice Strange, and our present worthy and respected Chief Justice, the Honorable S. S. Blowers. At the North end is a room of the same dimensions, for the setting of the Provincial Assembly. The other rooms on this floor are used as Committee rooms, for the convenience of the members of both branches of the Legislature, and for robing rooms for the Judges and Barristers of the Supreme Court. On the third floor is the entrance to the lobby of the House of Assembly, the Law Library, and two rooms yet unappropriated.

It was completed in the year 1818, and cost £52,000.

The names of the Commissioners appointed by the Act of the Legislature to conduct and superintend the erection of this building, were George Grassie, Winckworth Allan, and John Merrick, Esquires. The Architect was Richard Scott, Esquire.

An uniformity and neatness pervades the outside of the building, and it is said by strangers, in correctness of proportion, to exceed any edifice in America. It forms a beautiful model of Architecture for future imitation. The quality of the stone, which was procured at Ramsheg, in the County of Cumberland, and the excellence of the work will, we trust, ensure its durability for ages.

VOL. I.