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THE NEW CENTRAL SCHOOL, BRANTFORD.

WE give in this number a cut of the new Central School building, in Brantford, reproduced from the *Expositor* of that city. From that journal also, the following description of the building is condensed.

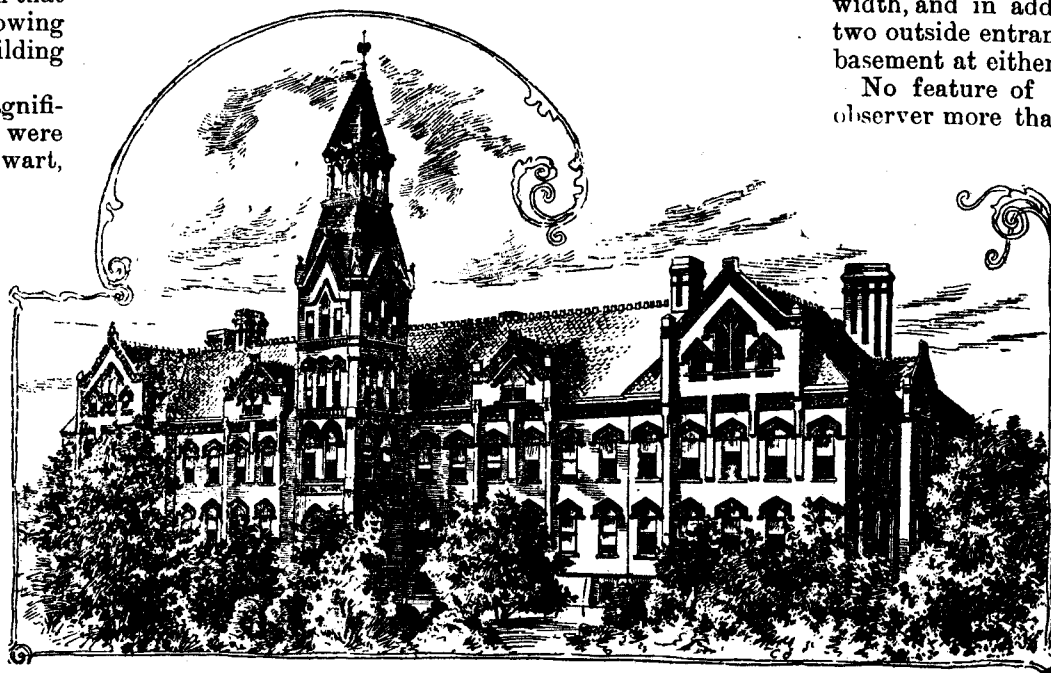
The plans of this magnificent school building were prepared by Wm. Stewart, architect, of Hamilton. The style of architecture adopted is a type of collegiate gothic, modernized and adapted for the special purposes for which it is intended. The building presents a chaste simplicity, which characterizes it throughout the whole of its interior. The general plan is that of a quadrangle, having at the rear or north side an open court. The building is two stories in height,

with the ground floor six feet above the ground. A nine-foot basement story extends underneath the whole structure. The school building contains seventeen classrooms, a board-room, recitation-room, a library-room, an office, and a teachers sitting-room, or altogether, twenty-two rooms upon the two floors. The ceilings of all these rooms are 13 feet and 9 inches in height. Eighteen of these class-rooms are 25 feet by 33 feet. The model class-room is 25 feet by 36 feet, with an annex the full size of the tower. The kindergarten room is 33 feet by 35 feet, and the class-room over the kindergarten is of a similar size. Both of these rooms are well-lighted on three sides. Attached to each class-room is a large and well-fitted-up cloak or wardrobe room, well lighted; and all the class-

rooms are well provided with book and map closets; with ample apparatus closets, and floor ring to the Kindergarten room.

Each and every room throughout the building is well and amply lighted by means of large windows. The floors throughout are of hard maple, well-oiled and hand-polished; and the wainscotting throughout all the rooms and corridors is of white pine and black ash, varnished and polished. The doors and trimmings, capping, and base to wainscotting, and all similar woodwork throughout the entire building are of natural pine, cherry stained, varnished and polished. The white pine with the black ash presents a very pleasing contrast.

Each of the twenty-one class-rooms and recitation-rooms is well provided with slate blackboards, there being two to each room.



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These boards are three and a half feet in width, and twenty feet in length, surrounded with cherry-stained borders with chalk troughs complete. Each is also provided with four-inch nickel-plated electric gong bells, and these twenty-one bells or more are rung separately or simultaneously by means of a five-inch switch-board placed on top of the headmaster's desk. In the basement corridors are electric gongs, for calling the caretaker, these being operated from the main front entrance and the headmaster's desk, also an electric call bell from the office to the headmaster's class-room. The office adjoins, and is connected with the headmaster's class-room upon the ground floor. This office is thirteen feet in width, and twenty-five feet in length, handsomely carpeted and fitted up. The library room

is fitted up with a handsome bookcase and the board-room is appropriately furnished. The corridors upon both floors are wide, spacious, and well-lighted and well ventilated. They are 10, 12, and 15 feet in width. All the class-room windows are furnished with spring-roller blinds.

Two main staircases at either end of the building lead up to the upper class-rooms and down to the basement storey. These staircases are 10 feet in width, with landings half way up each staircase 10 feet wide and 21 feet in length, giving ample room for the pupils in case of fire or panic. These staircases are of oak, enclosed on all sides, with solid brick walls.

The building is amply provided with wide and spacious entrances from the ground floor, there being five, one main front entrance, an east and west entrance, and two rear entrances, each 6½ feet in width, and in addition to these there are two outside entrances leading down to the basement at either end of the building.

No feature of the building pleases the observer more than does the tower, which projects out from the main wall the full width of itself. It is placed in the centre of the front, and rises to a height of 130 feet. Although plain, and not overloaded with ornamentation, its beautiful proportions give it a very handsome appearance.

For five feet or so above the ground the building is constructed with Hagersville blue limestone, neatly pointed with blue cement, and the superstructure is of Brantford white brick, with red brick window and door trimmings, etc., with black slate roofs, in cornices and gutters, the gutters being put up with wrought iron cradle brackets, two feet apart, and built into the brickwork.

The total frontage from east to west, is 215 feet, and has a depth of 88 feet. The building has a southern exposure. The stair-cases present a very fine appearance, having turned and moulded oak columns, extending up to the ceilings, with handsome arches springing from these columns.

The whole building is furnished and fitted up with the Smead-Dowd system of heating and ventilating, and the basement is also fitted up with their system of dry closets, etc.

The building will accommodate from 1,300 to 1,500 children.