

cial material used in the building is a cream colored sandstone from the adjoining township of Nepean. It is soft in appearance, but really very hard and difficult to work. For carved work, the Ohio sandstone has been extensively used, and to give variety of coloring the red Potsdam sandstone has been adopted for the arches over the doors and windows. Passing through the main entrance, the visitor enters a lofty vestibule, supported in the centre by a colonade of handsome sandstone pillars. From this spacious antechamber stone stairways lead right and left, the former to the portion of the building occupied by the Senate and the latter to that used by the House of Commons. Following the right hand stairway, the Senate chamber is reached by means of the lobby. This is a wide corridor running round the entire chamber, and hung with the portraits of the former Speakers of the upper branch of the Legislature. The chamber itself is a handsome room eighty feet by forty-five feet, the same dimensions as the British House of Peers. The floor is surrounded by a capacious gallery thrown back over the lobbies, the roof, fifty feet in length, being supported on clustered columns of polished marble, taken from quarries not far from Ottawa. The principal light of the building is from the roof, which is open, of richly carved timber, with glass set in. Handsome mullioned windows, however, surround the galleries, which are filled with elaborate designs in stained glass. At the upper end is the vice regal throne, having on either side of it marble busts of the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra. At the lower end, facing the throne, is a full length statue of Her Majesty. At this lower end of the room is also a full length oil portrait of the Queen in her state robes. This picture has long hung in the Canadian Legislative Halls, and was with difficulty saved from destruction in 1849. In the basement

will be found the refreshment and dining-rooms, on the way to which may be seen the corner stone of the building which was laid in 1860 by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. The upper story is entirely devoted to offices and committee-rooms. The House of Commons, in dimensions and structure, is identical with the Senate Chamber. Since Confederation the number of representatives has so increased as to render a change necessary in the arrangement of the seats. The acoustic properties of the Hall were also found deficient, with a view to improve which the room has been lined with green cloth, and to facilitate the work of the reporters of the debates, a gallery for their special use has been erected just above the Speaker's chair." The House of Commons has also a series of portraits (in oil) adorning the walls of its lobbies. The picture gallery, jointly owned by the Senate and Commons, is situated between both houses and is equally accessible to both.

By far the most advantageous view to be had of the new library is from the Major's Hill, as it is called, which has lately been laid out and decorated as a public park, with carriage drives, fishponds, drinking-fountains, &c. It is in reality a continuation of the Barrack Hill, but they are separated by the deep gorge through which the Rideau Canal joins the Ottawa almost opposite the point where the spectator would require to stand in order to command the magnificent prospect represented in the engraving. The library, which was opened to the public just on the eve of the meeting of Parliament, and which is not yet quite completed, is circular inside, with a diameter of ninety feet. Externally it forms a polygon of sixteen sides, at each angle of which is a flying buttress, which joins the wall at a considerable height, with a view to resist the thrust of the vaulted roof. It was originally intended that the roof should be joined, the ribs to be of stones, and