

is a students' entrance, giving direct access to the study rooms, of which there are five. These are intended for studies in special subjects, and will be fitted up with book-cases, tables and chairs. The remainder of this floor is occupied by the heating furnaces, coal places, etc.

We will now ascend to the main floor, and starting from the main entrance we find ourselves in a vestibule lined with a marble dado and having an ornamental marble mosaic floor; from this through oak swinging doors we enter the Entrance Hall, which has also a marble mosaic floor and a high niche in the angle for a statue to be placed. From here a few marble steps lead up to the staircase hall in the tower. This is so arranged that the attendant at the counter can see everyone that comes in to the reading room or that goes up or down the stairs. We now enter the great Reading room, which is 110 feet long, 43 feet wide and 44 feet high, to the top of inner roof, and has an open timber roof having the hammer beams ornamented by carved heads of grotesque animals. At each corner of the further end of this Reading room is an octagonal bay; in the centre of the south side is a recessed inglenook or fireplace with a stone mantel inside having the following inscription cut in the stone: "Cease not to learn until thou cease to live"; at the entrance to the inglenook is a large massive carved oak mantelpiece with the following inscription cut in the frieze: "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom and the man that getteth understanding."

Round the walls are arranged oak book-cases for reference books convenient of access to the readers, and in another spot, the exact location of which I dare not divulge, is a monument vault for the safe keeping of specially precious and costly books. At the end near the entrance is placed the Librarian's room ready of access to same, and communicating with the cataloguing room. To the right of the entrance is the men's coat room and lavatory, and beyond is the periodical room. From behind the distributing counter access is obtained to the stackroom already referred to, which is four storeys in height and capable of holding from 130,000 to 140,000 books.

We will now go up the staircase in the Tower, and on the way take note of the quotations from various authors in various languages painted on the panels of the windows. It is the intention to have other quotations painted on all the windows of the Reading room in the panels reserved for same, but the task of selection proved so stupendous both as to quality and quantity that these had to be left for the present, but suggestions for same from the readers of this Magazine will be thankfully received.

On the upper floor we enter a gallery which may be used as a Ladies' Reading room, or for cases of rare books, etc., and affords a good vantage ground for visitors to see the Reading room without disturbing the readers. From this gallery entering by two doors, access is obtained to a large room over the stackroom which is allocated as an architectural cast and sculpture room. Over the periodical room is a room of similar size, which

will probably be used as a Professors' Reading room.

We have reserved to the last notice of the beautiful stained glass windows at each end of the Reading room, which attract immediate attention from the visitor. They are the loving gift of Mrs. Peter Redpath, who thus wishes to be associated with her husband in this expression of affection to dear old McGill. A lavish expenditure of time and thought have been spent upon them by Mr. and Mrs. Redpath and by the artists, Messrs. Clayton & Bell, and by others.

The centre window of the three light windows facing the campus is devoted to Poesy—and has portrait figures of the leading poets and writers of all ages.

The side windows are respectively devoted to Art and Music, with carefully painted figures of representative men in each department.

The five light window at the other end of the Reading room embraces the following subjects—Philosophy, Law, Medicine, Astronomy and History.

This window was purposely kept in a lighter key than the other windows, in order to diminish the light in the gallery as little as possible.

Having thus hastily gone over the interior of the building, in leaving we may just glance at the exterior. After careful consideration I decided to adopt a phase of the Romanesque style as being dignified, and at the same time picturesque, and elastic enough to suit the necessarily irregular plan.

The wisdom of the choice and the measure of success with which it has been carried out I must leave to the judgment of others.

My task is done, and I would only now like in closing to be permitted to congratulate all the graduates and undergraduates on the increased opportunity this new Library building affords for study and research; and to say that I am sure you can best shew your gratitude to the generous donor, and in the way he will most appreciate, by taking fullest advantage of your privileges.

ANDREW T. TAYLOR.

#### THE NEW LIBRARY.

"Shall my little bark, attendant sail,  
Pursue the triumph, and partake the gale."

POPE.

As the ceremony of opening the new library has been described elsewhere, it is unnecessary to do more than express my admiration of the building and its surroundings, its mile and a quarter of shelf accommodation, and its magnificent reading-room; but it may be expected that I might add a few lines to the general praise of the event. As the occasion of opening any new place of public entertainment is frequently celebrated in verse, I may be pardoned for thus following the fashion:—

Ladies and gentlemen, I will confess,  
The notion of preparing an address  
On this occasion, when it was suggested,  
With difficulty seemed to be invested.  
"No rhyme can speak my feelings," I declared,  
"No set oration, carefully prepared"—