

On the fourth floor is also located

THE MINERALOGICAL LABORATORY.

In this room fifty students may find working space, and each has before him apparatus, water, gas, reagents and all else necessary for blowpipe analysis. Every student also has shelves and a locker for the storage of articles used by him. Desk wall cases, conveniently placed, contain samples of a great variety of minerals. These are distributed amongst students for experimental work. The study of the mineral products of the Dominion, is facilitated by the large collection of Canadian minerals in the Museum.

The lecture room mentioned in connection with the Chemical Department, is of course available for lectures and demonstrations in Mineralogy. Likewise the Private Laboratory affords facilities for specialty work in this branch.

Up to the present, want of room has been a serious, though not the only obstacle to the establishment of special courses in the eminently practical sciences of Chemistry and Mineralogy. Very reluctantly have many young men in Ottawa and at a distance been informed that the Laboratories had to be reserved, almost exclusively, for the Classical Course of the University, and that consequently they could not find in the Capital the facilities they sought of qualifying for a calling in which a knowledge of one or both these sciences is essential—that of analyst or assayer, for instance. With the opening of the Science Hall the aspect of affairs changes. Special students, to a considerable number, may be allowed the use of the new Laboratories, and no great outlay would be required to here provide courses in Chemistry, Mineralogy and kindred subjects, and in Electricity too, second to none in the country.

It must be confessed, however, that the University of Ottawa, entirely dependent as it is on the fees of students, cannot be reasonably expected to very soon give full effect to the possibilities which the practical mind will see in the existence and present equipment of the new Science Hall. Yet it seems regrettable that these possibilities should not be at once turned to account in the Province of Ontario which spends ever-increasing sums in providing for instruction in Applied Science.