

Twelve life size figures comprise the principal group, which illustrates "the union of Commerce and Industry." In the main central panel are two figures, one a female, typifying "Commerce," wearing a civic crown, the Canadian ensign occupying her left hand, while her right is clasped in that of the other figure, "Industry," which is symbolized by a stone carver, standing on the steps of a dais. Behind him are his brother workmen, carpenter, iron-worker, laborer, etc. The figures in the left panel represent Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia, each having a distinguishing trophy, and further exemplifying the extent of Toronto's commercial intercourse. Building and shipping industries are shown by views of the Old and New City Halls, and distant vessels, while across a broad expanse of sea the sun (Prosperity) bursts forth with its far reaching rays of light and hope. The City Arms occupy the upper central panel, on either side of which are figures indicative of Peace and Honor. The Romanesque ornamental details are conspicuously well-designed and being painted in monotone, the higher coloring of the figure portion of the work is harmoniously accentuated. The window is one of the largest stain glass windows on this continent.

The staircases leading from this corridor are wide, easy structures of handsome wrought iron with marble treads and brass and nickel-plated finishing. The corridor on the second floor is of the same general design as that described above, but less elaborate in finishing and decoration. The city council chamber is located on the second floor. It is forty by fifty feet in size, and at one end there is a commodious gallery. The ceiling is in one span, richly finished in moulded cornice, cantilever blocks and architrave mouldings. The dais on which is the mayor's chair is backed by a tripanelled canopy of richly carved oak.

The building contains the civic offices, the county offices, the police court and offices, the county and high court rooms—spacious chambers—with their necessary offices, the public, separate and high school board rooms and offices—in short, the entire civic and county staff of officials is housed here.

The corner stone was laid by Mayor Clarke on the 21st Nov., 1891, and on the 27th of May, 1899, Mayor Shaw took up his official quarters in the building, being the first to enter upon its occupancy.

The Seat of Government—The Parliament Building comes first in order among the government institutions. It occupies one