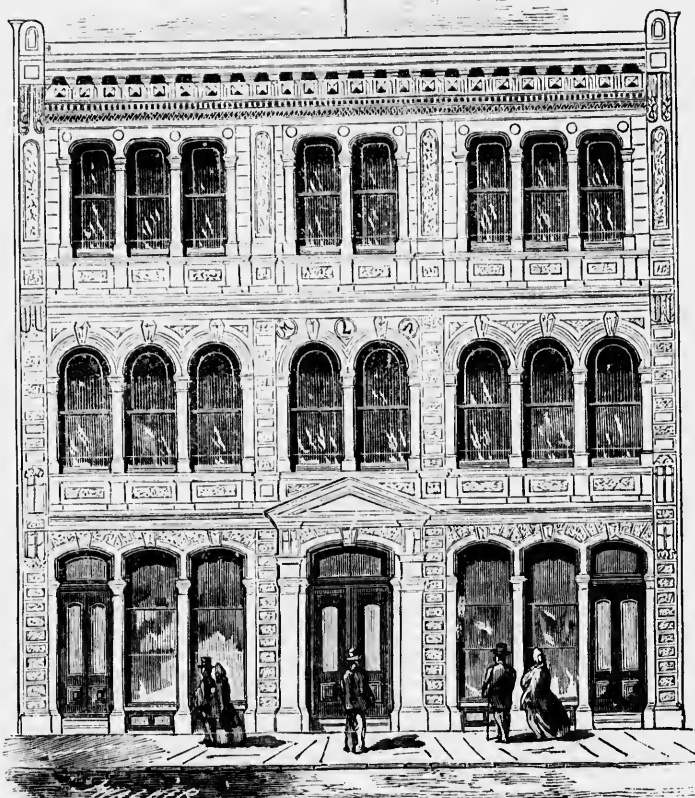


of limestone, from which springs a handsomely decorated front of Ohio sandstone, 58 feet high and 54 feet wide, divided into three stories of various designs, as to window openings and other details; the style being Italian, and applied with very good effect to street architecture.

The general plan of the building is that of an H, and consists of two main portions connected by a spacious hall going half way through the structure, and from a wide staircase on one side of the latter, access is given to the various rooms on each story. The entrance to this hall is in the centre of the facade, and 13 feet in width. On each side of the hall is a handsome shop, having good cellar accommodation; and in the rear portion of the building, on the ground floor, are three large rooms, consisting of a board room and two class rooms, the whole of which can be thrown into a fair sized lecture room, or place for holding meetings. Facing the staircase, in the centre of the building, is another fine room, well adapted for classes or offices. The height of this story is 14 feet 6 inches clear. On the first floor, fronting on St. Bonaventure Street, is the reading room, 50 feet long, 40 feet wide and 17 feet high, with an entrance from the front hall or landing. The library is immediately in rear of this fine room, and is 48 feet long by 28 ft. in width. Between these two rooms, and separated from them by glazed partitions, is the librarian's office, so disposed that he has entire supervision over the whole flat. The second, or upper story is laid out as a lecture room, and is of the same size and proportions as the reading room; while in the rear, over the library, is another, large and well proportioned and lighted, intended for a museum or a picture gallery. During the day time this room is lit up by six lights, and at night by gas burners, so arranged that an equal and good light falls upon the pictures or articles exhibited. The main staircase terminates on this level, and opposite to it, between the lecture room and the picture gallery, is a smaller room suitable for offices in connection with the gallery, or for quiet, studious, reading. This upper story is 17 feet high, and as well as the lower, handsomely laid out and finished. Lavatories and other conveniences are provided in the lofty and airy basement. The entire building is heated by steam. Architect, J. W. Hopkins.

JESUITS' CHURCH.

Some idea of this magnificent edifice, at least in its proportions, if not in its artistic decorations, may be found in the following slight sketch:—The church is 194 feet long, by a mean breadth of 56 feet, thus distributed: 1st, an interior vestibule of 17 feet, surmounted by a first gallery for the people; 2nd, a second for the organ; 3rd, from the foot of the church proper to the commencement of the grand nave of the transept, 85 feet, divided into five arches of 17 feet each; 3rd, from the transept to the balustrade of the choir, 40 feet; 4th, from the balustrade to the end of the sanctuary, 52 feet. Of the breadth, 40 feet is oc-



MERCANTILE LIBRARY.

Engraved by J. H. Walker for the Montreal Gazette.

cupied by the principal nave; on each side, 15 feet for the side aisles; 13 feet for side chapels; the transept is 144 feet from one extremity of the grand transverse nave to the other, and 120 feet in the side aisles. The two grand naves are 75 feet from floor to roof, and the side aisles 32 feet. The style is the later Greek, the interior columns, capitals, &c., being composite. The whole building throughout is beautifully decorated. We believe we are right in saying that the painting of this church is a poem, the key of which we must look for in its unity, the source of all true beauty. There is here for the eyes a mute but eloquent poetry, a permanent sermon. In chronological order, the first mystery is the nativity of the Saviour. In the transepts we find two episodes which appear to have allusion, the one to education the other to Apostolic life. At one side, above the chapel of St. Ignace, the children presented to him by their mothers; in the second medallion is the infant Jesus among the Doctors. Above the chapel of St. Francois Xavier is the touching scene of the resurrection of Lazarus. A number of other characteristic paintings fill up the other panels. Under the roof over the sanctuary is the representation of the four and twenty elders before the Throne of God and the Lamb. The other illustrations will be of a similar character. The tone is warm, yet subdued, and the colours used are suitable to the grave character of a building used for divine service.

morable day in the annals of the city, the Superior of the Company of Jesus in Canada, the Rev. Father Barthelemy Vimont consecrated the site selected and offered the first mass celebrated west of Three Rivers and Quebec. At the close of the mass a "hastily constructed chapel" was dedicated and in this the host was deposited. Some writers, Bouchette among others, say this ceremony took place on the site of the Indian village of Hochelaga. But this is open to question. The ceremony seems to have taken place at Pointe a Calliere, and the first building, "the hastily constructed chapel" alluded to, was erected on the same site, the one now occupied by the Royal Insurance Company's building. A more formal consecration of the ground took place on the Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, at which many French and Indians were present, and nothing was omitted by the pious founders "to give the natives a lofty idea of the Christian religion." Tradition says that after the ceremony M. de Maisonneuve ascended the mountain accompanied by "two old Indians," who told him that they belonged to the nation which had formerly occupied the beautiful country he then beheld. The poor old Sagahem then pathetically said, wincing with grief, but endeavoring with all the stoicism of the Indian and the warrior to maintain a stubborn composure. "We were a numerous people and all the hills which you see to the east and to the south (the country between the Richelieu and the St. Lawrence) were peopled by us. The

A brief description of the establishment of "the Company of Jesus" in Montreal may be of interest in connection with the above fine edifice—the St. Peter's of the Order in this Province; especially as their early history is intimately connected with the annals of the city, and they seem to have been the first to predict the advantages of its site, prophetically forecasting its future wealth and importance. Their arrival dates from 1626, the year in which Father Brebeuf landed at Hochelaga on his noble mission to the Indians of the Upper Country, and first noted the eligibility of its situation and its capabilities. Ten years later he again visited the forest-covered island, and again recognized its importance. Father Le Jeune, who was then established as a Missionary at Metaheronste, now the town of Three Rivers, came up the river to verify Father Brebeuf's observations, and was so impressed with their force that he communicated them to the Hundred Associates—a trading company chartered by the French Government; calling their attention to the puny Indian encampment as a site, "qui sera peut être un jour une grande ville." His representations had their due effect.—The Governor of the nascent colony, Mons. Montmagny, came up from Quebec to inspect it, and five years after, owing to his representations, M. de Maisonneuve, one of the Hundred Associates, as also the founder of the city, and the first Governor of the island, sailed from France with three or four families, and proceeded to settle it. He came up by water, and on the 17th May, 1642, a memorable day in the annals of the city, the Superior of the Company of Jesus in Canada, the Rev. Father Barthelemy Vimont consecrated the site selected and offered the first mass celebrated west of Three Rivers and Quebec. At the close of the mass a "hastily constructed chapel" was dedicated and in this the host was deposited. Some writers, Bouchette among others, say this ceremony took place on the site of the Indian village of Hochelaga. But this is open to question. The ceremony seems to have taken place at Pointe a Calliere, and the first building, "the hastily constructed chapel" alluded to, was erected on the same site, the one now occupied by the Royal Insurance Company's building. A more formal consecration of the ground took place on the Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, at which many French and Indians were present, and nothing was omitted by the pious founders "to give the natives a lofty idea of the Christian religion." Tradition says that after the ceremony M. de Maisonneuve ascended the mountain accompanied by "two old Indians," who told him that they belonged to the nation which had formerly occupied the beautiful country he then beheld. The poor old Sagahem then pathetically said, wincing with grief, but endeavoring with all the stoicism of the Indian and the warrior to maintain a stubborn composure. "We were a numerous people and all the hills which you see to the east and to the south (the country between the Richelieu and the St. Lawrence) were peopled by us. The

Hurons thence some of some w some w and som their co would t dians' s could r plough- and bel faced b in turn hunting trodden and the Ottawa involvin mination fate? F appears to infant se times af ment a burat at the loc which h all the heroism and the death too 16th of which t were fir In the s although missions Tribes of the great ready fou stitutions pastors t dity, a c lawed o Sulpician rival he 1657. The have left returning they settl the insto ing, perm built a c dence on t cupied b House and Mars. No able occu male in th until the next centu Society w and its est ed. Near years elap again can connection vince. I one year of the last order in O Oazot, Mo lic Bishop first visit impressed members General to labora. Th six member some proc LaPrairie, Bishop's P in LaPrairie ferred to c toine Street to the com years after terest in th the princip and althou to, severa fired to C lever and a sufficient constructed when begun was late in pleted. The company, i german Province f licious or the site, I was origin