

Passing through the main entrance, which is reached by passing through either of three large archways in the bottom storey of the great tower, we are ushered into a lofty vestibule, supported in the centre by a colonnade of sandstone pillars. From the floor, which is of Portland cement, there arises a row of six sandstone columns with elaborately carved capitals forming seven moulded arches supporting the corridor wall above. That part of the vestibule beyond the row of pillars is elevated above the first part entered and is approached by three flights of stone steps between the alternate arches formed by the line of columns. Thence stone stairways to the right and left lead to the lobbies, thence to the various corridors and through them are approached the chambers and the many parliamentary offices of the Senate and House of Commons, the Senate being on the eastern and the Commons on the western side of the building. Of these offices the chief are the post offices, one each for the Senate and Commons. The two portions of the building east and west of the great tower are almost exactly similar throughout. One contains waiting rooms, reading rooms and smoking rooms, together with the offices of the many and various officials connected with the Senate. The other contains the same for the Commons.

The chambers of the two Houses of Parliament, the Senate and the Commons, are each eighty-two by forty-five feet, the same dimensions as the British House of Peers. They are also alike in design, finish and general appearance, the only difference being in the interior arrangement and relative positions of the Speaker and Senators in the one and the Speaker and members in the other. The Commons chamber is longest north and south. Its main entrance opens out of the north and south corridor, which runs along the eastern side. Immediately opposite this in the extreme west of the chamber and facing the east sits the Speaker. The open space between is what is called "the floor of the House." It is 16 feet in width, having on either side, facing each other, double rows of members' seats raised tier above tier.

By far the most interesting part of Parliament House to the stranger is the parliamentary library, which is situated in the rear of and connected with the main building by a covered archway of solid masonry. From the floor of this library to the crest of its tower is a distance of 124 feet. Its diameter is 126 feet, its walls being circular and its roof conical in shape. On the shelves which line the main and