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THE NEW SCIENCE HALL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA.



ONE bright morning in the early fall of 1856, a few dozen lads gathered for the first formalities of an academic year's work in the new stone building which to most of them, as to most of the people of Bytown, seemed a stately college home. The new building was not indeed palatial, but compared with the humble quarters provided for faculty and students in the College of Bytown, since its inception, eight years before, the five-storied structure, 84 by 40 feet, on Wilbrod street, looked charmingly imposing.

Bytown became Ottawa; the College of Bytown became the University of Ottawa; the new capital grew, and its leading educational institution more than kept pace with it. The stone building, began thirty years previously, had by 1885 been enlarged to more than seven times its original size, and in that year the theological students who could no longer find room in the main edifice, moved into a new building on the banks of the Rideau, truly splendid in dimensions, style and surroundings. Before ten years more had rolled by, another colony, this time collegiate students attending the Apostolic School of the Oblate Fathers, went to occupy the fine modern annex on Theodore street, opposite to the College Block.

These extensions and annexes, however, failed to permanently supply ample room for all departments of the University. Great inconvenience has been occasioned, of late years, by the insufficiency of space allotted to the Laboratories and Museum, and by the fact that this space was very much needed for class rooms. There was but one remedy for the inconvenience, and the application of the remedy brought into existence the subject of the present sketch, the new Science Hall.