## OTTAWA CITY DIRECTORY.

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up with a quaint description of stone-work, composed of stones of irregular size, shape and colour, very neatly set together. These with the Potsdam red sandstone employed in forming the arches over the windows, afford a pleasant variety of colour and effect, and contrast with the general masses of light coloured sandstone, of which the body of the work is composed.

"This Building, as you approach from Wellington street, presents a very imposing appearance. The central of the seven towers, which is very rich in design, projects its width from the front of the Building, and when completed, will be about 180 ft. high. The body of the building in front is forty feet high, above which rises the slanting roofs of slate, surmounted by lines of ornamental iron cresting. The building is 472 feet long; and the depth from the front of the main tower to the rear of the library is 570 feet, covering an area of 82,896 superficial feet. It stands at a distance of 600 feet from Wellington street, so that the quadrangle formed on three sides by the buildings and on the fourth by the street, is 700 feet from east to west, and 600 feet from north to south; thus affording a very spacious square. The ground upon which the buildings stand varies somewhat in elevation, that forming the site of the Parliament Building being highest. The basement floor of the buildings is assumed to be 160 feet above the ordinary summer level of the river, while that of the Eastern and Western blocks is 135 and 142 feet respectively. The increased elevation, however, improves very much the general effect of the buildings.

"The main entrance is through the principal tower, the spacious arches of which admit of a carriage way under them. The piers which support the tower are ornamented with pillars of polished Arnprior marble. Passing through it, we enter a large hall, paved with tiles, and also surrounded with marble pillars. Ascending and moving towards the left we come to the Chambe r of Commons. The Room measures 82 by 45 feet, the ceiling being over 50 feet high, and formed of fine open work. The skylights above this intermediate ceiling, with the stained glass windows at the sides, throw a plentiful soft light over the whole place. The room is surrounded by large piers of a light greyish marble from Portage du Fort, surmounted just above the galleries by clusters of small pillars of the dark Arnprior; the arches supported by these pillars being again of the light colored marble. The galleries can accommodate about 1,000 persons. The Gallery for the Reporters is situated above the Speaker's chair.

"On the right of the main entrance, is the Senate Chamber, alike in every particular to that of the Commons. Along the corridors you see numerous Rooms for Committees, Clerks, Reading and Smoking.

"The library is situated in the rear of the Parliament Building, and the plan is of a polygon of sixteen sides, 90 feet in diameter; outside of the main room is an aisle of one story high,

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