

youth of our country, and to impart to them that instruction and information which are essential to the discharge of their duties as citizens, both in public and private life, according to the wants and usages of modern society. I say, Sir, that we may take the building in which we are assembled as the type of the duties standing before the University to discharge."

While the north or chief facade of the University is more regular and classical in its appearance, composed as it is of lofty structures, the others are of varied and picturesque aspects. The massive tower at the centre of the south facade is of a most imposing and at the same time of a most elegant structure; the several pavillions of the two facades, with their lofty roofs, contribute to inspire the mind with those reminiscences of mediæval times, so happily alluded to in His Excellency's speech. The walls are of a white and brilliant stone from the quarries of Ohio, while the

columns, capitals, candelamps, and other ornaments, are wrought from the rich stone from Caen, in France. The whole is in perfect harmony with the blue slate of the roofs, which are most elegantly ornamented with bronze indentings, and beautifully gilt arrows and weather-vanes.

The interior of the building is, we believe, without a precedent in Canada, if not on this continent. All the partitions are made with patent pressed bricks and cut stone dressings; the principal staircases are made of oak, the ceilings of beautifully carved timber, the floors of some of the rooms of encaustic tiles, and the windows are of rich stained or embossed glass.

The entrance hall, the convocation hall, the senate hall, the library, the museum and some of the lecture rooms, are spacious and richly decorated. The entrance hall is forty-three feet long, twenty-five feet wide and thirty feet high. It is lighted by five richly carved windows, and a gallery



with a dwarf wall runs along the south end. The convocation hall, in the east wing, is 85 feet in length by 38 feet in breadth, with an average height up to the beams of 45 feet. The stone carving of this hall and of the senate hall is of the greatest beauty. The museum is situated on the first principal floor in the west end of the building. It is seventy-five feet long by thirty-six feet high. The library is on the east side of the central hall and of the same dimensions as the museum. At the west end where a quaint looking turret is erected, the appearance of which is the only thing we can find fault with, in the whole plan, are placed the school of chemistry and the laboratory.

Such is a brief description of a building of which every admirer of architecture, and every friend of education in this country, may well be proud.

It was not, however, without many difficulties and many struggles that the University attained its present condition and succeeded in erecting this splendid monument.

Its history is inseparably connected with the political and social history of Upper Canada, and it is a fact worthy of notice that educational questions have always been the most prominent topics discussed by the press and the senate in that part of the country. This is due, of course, to the intimate connexion which such questions have with the religious feelings of the inhabitants belonging to various rival persuasions; but if the bitter and protracted strifes arising from that state of things are deplorable, they have on the other hand been most beneficent to the public mind, by calling its attention to the education of the rising generation, and by keeping that great subject permanently before the eyes of the whole people.

*(To be continued in our next.)*

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