

problematical whether it has reached a sedentary population of twenty-five thousand souls.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

**GOVERNMENT HOUSE.**—This edifice, constructed of dark brown free-stone, not too highly polished, occupies a site towards the South end of the City. Its exterior, calculated to impress one with a notion of solidity, and, what an Englishman usually values more, of comfort, conveys no impression of architectural beauty; nevertheless, taking into account the small pecuniary means of the Province at the time its erection was undertaken, the wonder of the stranger is that a building so commodious and every way so respectable, should have been ventured upon at all. The handsome furniture with which its halls and chambers are well filled, is supplied at the public expense.

**THE PROVINCE BUILDING,**—one of the handsomest edifices in British North America,—is composed of the same material as Government House. It stands on a square (the larger part of the area of which it covers,) in the very heart of the City, enclosed by a handsome railing of iron, and nearly embosomed in the luxuriant foliage of lofty spreading trees; and having a tastefully, though elaborately, ornamented frontage on two of the principal streets of the City. Its dimensions are as follow: Length, 140 ft.; width, 70 ft.; height, 42 ft. Within its walls are all the various Provincial Offices, the Halls of the Legislative Council and Assembly, and apartments for the temporary accommodation of the Supreme Court of Judicature.

**DALHOUSIE COLLEGE,** constructed of free-stone, occupies the entire Northern extremity of the Grand Parade, the Eastern end of the basement story being appropriated to the use of the Post Office Department. Viewed from the North, it is a dingy, unsightly edifice—its face towards the South is rather handsome. With a liberality worthy of all praise, the Governors of the College have long permitted the **Halifax MECHANIC'S INSTITUTE** to use a portion of the second story of the building for the purposes of that valuable Institution,—or, rather, Institution which might be made valuable were it