

## THE NEW COUNTY BUILDINGS.

### Handsomest and Best Appointed Court House in Canada.

The new court-house and county buildings are at last nearing completion, and, with the single exception of Hamilton perhaps, Perth will have the finest county buildings in the Province, both as to architecture and internal finish and equipment. The finishing touches are being put to the outside, with the placing of the terra cotta figures in their places.

In the basement are a number of fire-proof vaults for public documents; the janitor's rooms, well lighted and comfortably finished; the heating apparatus, consisting of two large boilers for distributing hot water, and closets and urinals fitted up in the most modern style.

Internally the building is a model of elegance, the finishing being in white pine and the stairway and furniture of oak, all highly finished.

#### THE FIRST FLOOR

will be occupied by the various officials, legal and municipal, each office having a private room and vault for the safe keeping of documents. This floor contains the offices of the sheriff, county clerk, county treasurer, local registrar, with the county judge's, and county attorney's rooms. On the

#### SECOND FLOOR

are the court-house, council and grand jury room, petit jury rooms, law library and barristers' rooms. In the court-room itself, from the judge's chair to the dock for the prisoner, everything is on a costly and magnificent scale. The floor from the recess for the judge's seat to the windows on the other side of the room, commanding a fine view east on Ontario-st, is on a gentle rise, and is traversed by a series of wide steps. The centre chandelier is a beautiful and noteworthy object, and will contain about fifty lights. The chandelier for the grand jury room is also a beautiful thing, made up of four branches of three lights each, in imitation of wax candles.

Just inside of the

#### MAIN ENTRANCE,

to the right, is a fine slab of Tennessee marble, on which are inscribed the names of the present county council, the building committee and of the architect, Mr G. F. Durand; the sculptor, Mr John Matheson; and the contractors, Messrs Scrimgeour Bros. This slab will be framed in a massive ornamental border of terra cotta. At the first landing of the main staircase is a grand stained glass window, the various panes in which are symbolical of the arts, &c. The top pane is taken up with the Canadian coat of arms. The floor of the tower room and first floor hall are laid with English tile.

#### VIEWED EXTERNALLY

the building is plain, but, aided by the trimmings, which are of Credit Valley red stone, and the various panels in terra cotta, it presents a pleasing look and is a pile of which

#### PERTH MAY WELL FEEL PROUD.

In the centre pediment is a panel with three figures, that in the centre representing Lex, and the cherubs on either side bearing respectively the Scales and Sword of Justice. Under each of the three centre windows are two panels, representing Justice with the Sword and Scales; Architecture, Mechanics, Agriculture and Art. In the centre pediment are also two medallions, with heads representing Manufactures and Agriculture, and crowning the pediment will be a lion holding a shield.

Over the main entrance is a panel bearing the Perth coat of arms, with the inscription

#### COUNTY OF PERTH COURT-HOUSE.

In the front of the tower are inserted two fine medallions in the design of a rosette. Two such medallions appear also on the south side of the building, which with the north side, is rather scant of ornamentation.

The inside is nearly finished, except the putting in of the furniture, which is being manufactured in a neighboring city. The work on the outside is keeping pace with that of the inside, with a view to, if possible, holding the next assizes in the new building, which will be formally opened in June.

#### A HANDSOME MONUMENT.

The supervision of the work has been in the hands of Mr J. R. Kilburn, architect, and over the whole Mr Wm. Davidson, the county clerk, has exercised a watchful care, and it need not be said that he has had a keen eye to the public interests.

The building, with its surroundings, will, when finished, be another monument to the skill of Mr G. F. Durand, the rising architect, to whom the design was entrusted.