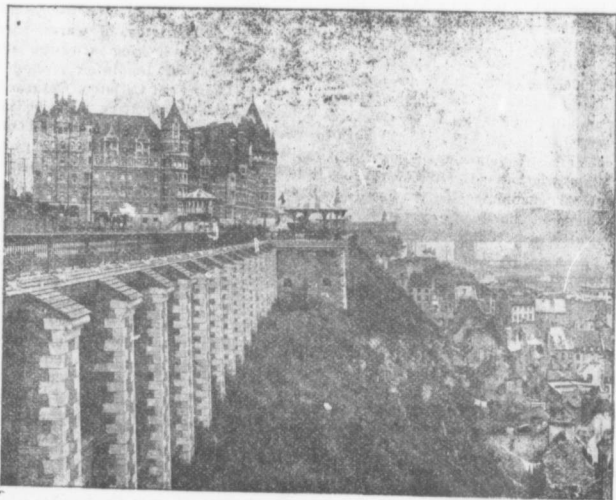


never been explained, and as soon as the Speaker vacated the Chair he exclaimed to some of the front bench Liberals — "I have been living in a nest of traitors". Last week in his speech Mr. Haggart showed that his animus against Sir Mackenzie Bowell is not quite dead, for he said:— "Like a sick girl hangs on to life Sir Mackenzie Bowell hung on to office. I am not sorry for anything I did. There was nothing else for us to do". Perhaps so, but these gentlemen do not seem to appreciate the fact that their chief mistakes were two, first as to the method adopted of carrying out the revolt, and by putting a pledge into the mouth of the Governor General which these seven ministers, rather than carry out, were prepared to sacrifice the political life of their chosen leader and jeopardize the prospects of their own party in the country. It was impossible for the premier to resign before the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was adopted by parliament. Lord Aberdeen informed Sir Mackenzie of this fact when he went to tender his resignation, and then

the premier attempted to reform his cabinet, with the result that a compromise was made by which the seven ministers came back upon Sir Mackenzie agreeing to resign at the end of the session, the seven agreeing on their part to "vote for the school bill which rather than have at New Years they were prepared to wreck the Conservative party. And that's what they did, Sir Mackenzie Bowell actually taking the stamp in the elections against Mr. Haggart.

In the discussion last week Mr. Foster stated that he did not come into parliament on a prohibitionist platform. Also that before the seven ministers left the government Sir Mackenzie Bowell "knew our views and intentions". Does Mr. Foster mean to say that the premier's amazement, anger and consternation on that famous Saturday evening when a departmental messenger brought up the seven resignations, was a piece of stage acting, with no audience? It's up to Sir Mackenzie Bowell to protect his reputation while there is time.



A view of Quebec