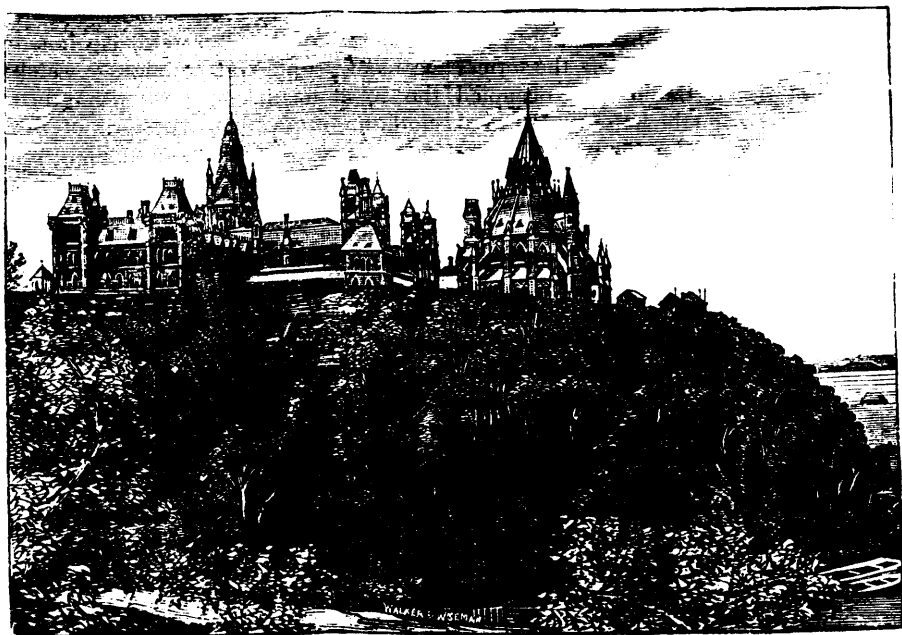


and the offices of the Receiver-General and the President of the Privy Council, are also situated in this block. Official descriptions of this, as of all the public buildings, which are easily accessible, might be quoted with some advantage to professional architects, to whom such matters have a special interest; but to the general reader the engraved illustration given will convey a much more accurate and intelligible idea of their

bers of the two Houses of Parliament, the Supreme Court, and the Library. One of the best and briefest descriptions of it ever published was compiled by Mr. Alexander Robertson, one of the most polished writers in the Dominion, from official plans, for the *Exhibition Annual* of 1875, from which the following extracts are made:—

The main façade presents a centre and two wings, its long lines broken by



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appearance and style than any word picture which could be drawn. If a departure from this rule were permissible or pardonable, it would be in favor of the Council Chamber, with its richly frescoed walls, lofty, moulded ceilings, and handsome carved furniture, expressly made for it at the time of Confederation.

But the Central Block is that around which the greatest public interest centres, containing, as it does, the cham-

seven towers with truncated roofs surmounted with iron work. The central tower, which is very richly finished, has an altitude of 220 feet, and projects its own width from the building. The body of the building is two stories, forty feet high, crowned with truncated roofs with iron ornamental finishings. The main entrance is beneath the central tower, the lower portion of which is arched, forming a portico sufficient to admit the largest carriage. The prin-