

OTTAWA.

Ottawa, the Capital City of British America, dates its origin from the commencement of the Rideau Canal, under Lieut.-Col. By, Royal Engineers, in the year 1826. Following the troops that accompanied By to the scene of operations came first the cluster of laborers' shanties which formed around the canal's eastern terminus at Entrance Bay, with the somewhat better dwellings in which the traders who furnished the necessaries of life were accommodated. Situated at the confluence of the



Glimpse at the Parliament Buildings; Post Office and Custom House to the left.

Rideau and Gatineau with the Grand River (now called the Ottawa), each of them draining districts rich in agricultural and timber resources, and just at the point where it became necessary to rearrange the rafts brought down from the immense timber regions of the Upper Ottawa on account of the impossibility of carrying them unbroken over the Chaudière Falls, the village grew rapidly to be a town of importance. In 1854, a population of 10,000 being attained, the town was transformed by Parliament into a city under the name it has since borne, the change taking place 1st of January, 1855,

In 1857, Her Majesty fixed upon it to be the permanent seat of government of United Canada, a decision