

height of about one hundred and fifty feet, and commands a perfect view of the city ; of the adjoining town of Hull ; the Chaudière Falls ; the cultivated fields and cosy farm-houses of the Townships of Nepean and Gloucester ; the rugged peaks of a branch of the Laurentian Mountains, shooting up heavenwards with such fantastic and pleasing irregularity along the whole range of the northwestern horizon, cradling in the intervening hollows picturesque little lakes in which stately pines and threatening rocks mirror themselves ; and a stretch of river scenery which for beauty and variety is perfectly enchanting. The buildings are divided into three blocks—the eastern, the western, and central, and form three sides of Parliament Square ; Wellington street, with its splendid array of offices, of banking, building, insurance, and other public corporations, forming the fourth. At the time they were

designed, and even after their construction, there were not a few who regarded these buildings, in respect of size and accommodation, as out of all proportion not only to the existing business of the country, but also to that likely to be transacted within them for hundreds of years to come. That opinion has been completely falsified long ago. Confederation had scarcely been accomplished when it was evident that considerable enlargement would at once become necessary. But Parliament had so often been led to believe that this, that, and the next appropriation for the "completion of the Public Buildings at Ottawa" would be the last, that every conceivable expedient to prevent the necessity of asking still more was resorted to, until, after the advent of the present Government, and the unfortunate destruction by fire of the wooden shanty called the Pacific Railway office, with all its valuable con-



SUSPENSION BRIDGE, SAW MILLS, ETC.