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THE LONDON TIMES  
DISCUSSES THE COMING  
CARTIER CELEBRATION

(From the London Times, Aug. 26, 1912.)

As we announce elsewhere, it is proposed to celebrate the centenary of the birth, in 1814, of Sir George Etienne Cartier, one of the chief fathers and founders of the Canadian Dominion, by the dedication of a monument erected to his memory on the slope of Mount Royal, overlooking the city of Montreal. The site is singularly well chosen for it has been associated with the name of Cartier ever since Canada has been known to mankind.

It was an earlier Cartier, Jacques by name, a man of the same race as the later Canadian statesman, who was the first European to set foot on Mount Royal, then overhanging, not the city of Montreal, but the Huron-Iroquois village of Hochelaga. He, too, had been gifted with the prophetic vision of his later namesake, might have felt "like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes he stared at the Pacific" as he gazed at the broad waters of the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa gleaming away to the westward.

The rapids of Lachine barred the further progress of his boats, but it was Jacques Cartier who first discovered the St. Lawrence and gave it its name (giving at the same time the name of Canada to the region it traversed and of Mount Royal to the hill on which he stood at the farthest point of his westward pilgrimage. The name Canada merely means a village in the Indian language from which he took it, and that again is significant in its symbolism.

It is reported of Themistocles that he pleaded that, though he "had no skill to tune a harp nor a viol, nor to play at a psalterion yet if they did put a city into his hands that was of small name, weak and little, he knew ways enough to make it noble, great and strong." This is just what George Etienne Cartier did. We know not if he was any more of a musician than Themistocles was, though in the estimation of his countrymen he was no mean poet in the tongue of his race. But he knew ways enough, and he followed them too, to make the "village" which Jacques Cartier had named into a Dominion noble, strong and great.

George Etienne Cartier was born on September 6, 1814, at St. Antoine, in the county of Vercheres, in the Province of Quebec. He was educated for the law and becoming a member of the Bar in Lower Canada, he soon acquired a lucrative practice in that profession. He took some part in Papineau's rebellion of 1837, and had for a time to leave the country. But he soon repented of his youthful aberration, and returned to Canada as a loyal and enthusiastic sub-

ject of the British Crown. From that time forward all his energies were devoted to the consolidation of all the Canadas and their development into one great self-governing Confederation destined to grow in freedom, concord, content, and tranquility under the British flag.

His attitude and sentiments in this regard are best expressed in a few words from a speech delivered in London in 1869 at a time when he was a member of the first Dominion Government. "The Canadian people desire to remain faithful to the 'old monarchical flag of Great Britain, that flag which waves over all seas, that flag which tyranny has never been able to overcome, that flag which symbolizes true liberty.'" If that was the universal sentiment of the Canadian people in 1869; it was largely owing to Cartier's personal influence over Canadians of his own race that it had become so.

This was the higher spiritual element of his work for Canada—a passionate aspiration combined with unceasing effort for the reconciliation of the two races which in his youth had been so bitterly estranged. But his prophetic vision also led him to work with no less enthusiasm, not only for all domestic legislation that might make for the concord and unity of the two races that dwell together in Canada, but also for the extension development, and the consolidation of that great Dominion that now stretches as John Bright once said of the United States, "from the wild billows of the Atlantic westward to the calmer waters of the Pacific main."

We need not enumerate the many measures both of internal organization and of external expansion and development with which his name is associated, the many Ministries of which he was neither a member or the chief, the many colleagues who shared his labors and contributed to their noble results. It suffices to quote Lord Dufferin's appreciation of them in a letter written in 1872, when he was governor-general of Canada and Cartier was within a few months of his death. "Your name is indissolubly incorporated with the most eventful and most glorious epoch of your country's history, commencing as it does with your entrance into political life, and culminating in that consolidation of the Provinces to which your genius, courage, and ability so materially contributed."

To such a man, who is justly held by his countrymen to have been one of the most honest, upright and far-seeing Ministers who have ever held office in the Dominion, it is eminently fitting

that a worthy monument should be dedicated on the hundredth anniversary of his birth. We commend the proposal to all who realize the greatness of Canada, her inspiring memories of the past, and her not less inspiring ambition to bear a part worthy of her mighty destiny in the fortunes and burdens of our common and United Empire in the future.

A committee has been formed for the purpose under the presidency of Mr. E. W. Villeneuve. It has received encouragement and support from men of light and leading citizens representing all shades of opinion in Canadian politics and public life and from others of like prominence in this country. To judge by the list of names we have received, some of the most prominent of which we mention elsewhere, the promoters of the memorial are, as is natural and fitting, well-nigh equally divided between French and English Canadians, and in particular both Mr. Orden, the present Prime Minister of Canada, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, his distinguished predecessor, are a smight he expected, united in its support.

The Prince of Wales has been invited to visit Canada in the year of the centenary and to preside at the dedication of the memorial, and, should His Royal Highness be able to accept the invitation, it will, we are sure, be felt that the occasion is eminently worthy of his presence and countenance. Invitations have also been sent to the Premiers of all the British colonies, thus the whole British Empire will in spirit be gathered to do the honor which is justly due to the memory of the man who, albeit not of British blood and race, was one of the first to comprehend the majesty and dignity of the Empire, and of the foremost to promote its dignity.

## French Army.

The most imposing and most extensive French army manoeuvres in years opened recently in Touraine and Poitou, when 120,000 soldiers and 50 aeroplanes and two dirigible balloons took the field for a week of mimic warfare.

## Life Saving Modified.

Modification of life saving regulations submitted by the federal supervising steamboat inspector to Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel, at Washington, for approval would permit the lesser life boat requirements of the summer season to remain in force until October 15th for all Atlantic and Pacific coastwise vessels.

## Son of Doctor.

Robert Gibson Larimer, for whose arrest a warrant was issued in Winnipeg, is a son of the late Dr. Larimer of Bellefonte, Pa. He left Bellefonte three or four years ago. Nothing is known of his present whereabouts or of his financial difficulties in Canada.

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