

returned to the battlefield, and since then what a history of political strife was his! Sir John Gladstone, father of the great statesman, left Leith as a young man and settled in Liverpool, where he became a partner in a leading firm of corn merchants. His shrewdness as a man of business was proverbial, and his sagacity in matters of commerce was almost prophetic. He seemed to take the whole map of the world into his mind at one glance, and almost by intuition to discover not only which were the best markets for to-day, but where there would be the best openings to-morrow. He rapidly became a rich man and a prominent political figure, represented several constituencies in Parliament and was knighted by Sir Robert Peel in the year 1845. In his early days Sir John Gladstone resided at 62 Rodney Street, Liverpool, where his distinguished son was born in 1809, and it was at this house where Canning—an intimate friend of Sir John Gladstone—used to stay when visiting Liverpool, a circumstance which produced a deep and lasting impression in the mind of the then youthful William Ewart Gladstone. By a curious coincidence another eminent man, Lord Cardwell, at one time a colleague of Mr. Gladstone's, was brought up, if not born, at 62 Rodney Street, yet, strange as it may appear, until recently at any rate, not more than one person in a hundred in Liverpool has had anything but a vague notion that Mr. Gladstone was born in the locality, and very few indeed could have identified the house. Remembering Mr. Gladstone's unrivalled genius, one would have thought that members of his party at least, would have gone to 62 Rodney Street, like pilgrims to a sacred shrine. I have closed my few observations, which I hope may not prove uninteresting to the readers of the always welcome *Sunshine*, with a reference to "family history," that subject so inevitable and so anxious for all good men and true in the insurance business. May the

family history of many who seek a policy with the Sun Life of Canada be as "unexceptionable" as was that of the great man who is now at peace among the noble dead in Westminster Abbey.

London, England.

L. W. Z.

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### THE FOUNTAIN ON DOMINION SQUARE.

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In view of the criticism which has been passed upon the lion which adorns the fountain presented by the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada to the City as a memorial of her Gracious Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, it would seem expedient to publish the following letter bearing upon the subject.

MONTREAL, March 21st, 1898.

T. B. MACAULAV, ESQ.,

MY DEAR SIR,

At Mr. Findlay's request I got Messrs. Harris, Brymner and Capper to go and look at the model of the lion proposed for Dominion Square, in conjunction with myself. The opinion of all was that the work was exceedingly good, boldly and strongly modelled, full of life and "go." Our slight criticism we were agreed upon and the sculptor promised to amend his work accordingly. It must always be borne in mind that for architectural purposes representations of animals, etc., must to a certain extent be *conventionalized*. We all thought that, if when completed in the granite, it is as good as it is now in the model, it will be the best thing of its kind in the city and a decided acquisition.

Yours very truly,

ANDREW. T. TAYLOR.

It may be further said that when a lion was decided upon the utmost care was taken to select as a model the sculptured lion most generally regarded by the authorities as the finest work extant, and after due deliberation the lion of Bartholdi of which all Paris is so proud, was decided upon, the copy, of course, being made upon a much reduced scale.