

His Career

Born at St. Lin, Que., Nov. 20, 1841.

Son of Carolus and Marcelle (Martineau) Laurier.

Educated at parish school of St. Lin, Protestant elementary school of New Glasgow, and L'Assomption College.

Entered McGill in 1860, graduating with degree of B.C.L. and called to the bar in 1864.

Editor of *Le Defricheur* for brief period in 1867, returning to practice of law at Arthabaskaville.

Married, 1868, Zoe Lafontaine, daughter of Geo. N. R. Lafontaine Montreal.

Ensign in Arthabaskaville infantry until 1878. Fenian Raid veteran

Elected to Quebec Legislature, for Drummond and Arthabaska, in 1871.

Elected to House of Commons by same constituency in 1874. Became minister of inland revenue in Mackenzie government, on retirement of M. Cauchon, 1877.

Defeated at ensuing by-election, but afterwards returned for Quebec East.

Chosen leader of Liberal party, at age of 46, in succession to Hon. Edward Blake, 1887.

Prime Minister of Canada, July 13, 1896.

Attended Queen Victoria diamond jubilee, 1897; knighted and made member of British privy council; honorary degrees from Oxford and Cambridge universities; honorary membership in and gold medal of Cobden Club. Appointed grand officer of French Legion of Honor, by President Faure.

At Coronation of King Edward in 1902, also attended colonial conference and visited the Pope.

Returned to power in general elections of 1900, 1904 and 1908.

At coronation of King George and Queen Mary, 1911.

Laurier government defeated on reciprocity issue, Sept. 21, 1911.

Died at Ottawa, February 17, 1919.