

## SIR GEORGE CARTIER—RECENT ENGLISH DECISIONS.

When in 1857 he succeeded Dr. Taché as leader of the Conservatives of Lower Canada, Cartier, breaking through the narrow limits of party, took two Liberals, M. Sicotte and M. Belleau, into the Cabinet, and made overtures to M. Dorion which the Liberal Chief was not able to accept. On the Lysons Militia Bill his immediate followers, yielding to vague fears among their constituents of the conscription not less than the great increase of expense, deserted in numbers, leaving him with only a small minority at his back. A good Catholic, he had yet the courage to defend the rights of the State against the encroachments of Bishop Bourget, at a time when the Bishop's influence was omnipotent: an act of duty which cost him his seat in Montreal. He saw the beginning and the end of the Legislative union which he cordially accepted and assisted in working, and which when it had served its purpose he was among the first to assist in superseding by the Confederation. Whatever success he attained was due in a large measure to hard labour and perseverance; for the first fifteen years of his public life he was, when not disturbed, as he was often, chained to his desk fifteen hours a day; and for thirty years fancied that to get through his task he must labour seven days a week.

Whilst agreeing in the main with the sentiments above expressed we do not think there was any glory attaching to the efforts of this eminent man in favour of decentralisation as it has proved most injurious to the bench of his own Province, a fact of which some of our radical reformers (using these words in a literal and not in a political sense) in Ontario would do well to take note; nor is working seven days a week anything but utter folly, even from the lowest point of view, as the wreck of many brilliant intellects and busy hands scattered along life's legal pathway abundantly proves.

The other article appeared as a letter in an Ottawa paper some weeks since:—

Two Ministers, who had been his colleagues and knew him well, spoke at the unveiling of the statue of the late Sir George Cartier, and eloquently and lovingly eulogized his qualities as a statesman and the great services he rendered to our country; and he deserved their praise, for no man ever worked more earnestly and impartially for the welfare of Canada and of Canadians of every race and creed. Here in Ottawa he will be

long remembered for his kindly geniality; and very many of our citizens and visitors will recollect the pleasant evenings spent at his house on Metcalfe street, when arranging his guests in make-believe canoes, with make-believe paddles in their hands, he would sing and make them join in his favourite boat song, with the *refrain* of which Sir John, in concluding his speech, so happily apostrophised his old friend and colleague. I feel sure that they, and all who knew Sir George, will join Sir John in saying from their hearts as I do—

"Il'y a longtemps que je t'aime,  
Jamais je ne t'oublierai."

Not through the statue which his country's love  
Hath to his honour raised, but through the deeds  
And qualities which won that love, shall he,  
The patriot whom we mourn, forever live  
In true Canadian hearts of every race.  
And chiefly through his strong and steadfast will  
That difference of race, or creed, or tongue,  
Should not divide Canadians, but that all  
Should be one people striving for one end,  
The common good of all. His country stretched  
From Louisbourg to far Vancouver's Isle  
And claimed and had his patriot love and care.  
And thus he won a high and honoured place  
Among the worthiest of his name and race.

## RECENT ENGLISH DECISIONS.

THE only remaining case in the February number of the Law Reports for the Queen's Bench Division to which we think it necessary to refer is an important one on the subject of privileged communication to legal advisers, viz., that of *The Queen v. Cox and Railton* (14 Q. B. D. 153), in which the Court ruled that when a client applies to a legal adviser for advice intended to facilitate, or to guide the client in the commission of a crime or fraud (the legal adviser being ignorant of the purposes for which his advice is wanted), the communication is not protected on the score of privilege, but on the contrary is admissible in evidence in a criminal proceeding against the client, arising out of the fraud contemplated by him, at the time of making the communication, although the solicitor himself may have been no party to the fraud. In this case the defendants applied to a solicitor for information to enable them to dispose