

As chairman of the centennial committee, I have done my best in regulating the expenditure incurred at Niagara, in order to save what I could for the purpose of securing something permanent as a result, and we have managed in this way to pay for the bronze centennial medal, which I doubt not generations hereafter will examine with interest, as also for the laying down of a number of memorial boulder blocks marking historical sites in Niagara and its vicinity, as also, for a monumental drinking fountain in front of the Niagara Court House.

In regard to the expenditure here in Toronto I have been equally desirous of saving something for the purpose of securing at all events one visible enduring relic of our centennial commemoration. I desire to say something to form the nucleus of a fund for the erection of a statue in honour of the wise and far-seeing first Governor of our Province, this statue to be placed most appropriately (as I suppose all will agree) in front of this noble pile, the successor and representative of the modest edifice erected in 1793, eastward of Berkeley Street. I had hoped that the formal marking out of a distinct site for this monument at a certain distance immediately south of the main entrance might have formed a part of the ceremonies of this day, and I have reason to believe that this would have been the case had it been decided how the grounds around the Parliament Buildings were to be definitely laid out. In the meantime, I am anxious that a fund for the monument should be created, and carefully husbanded until some noble result shall be secured.

I look with envy, I must confess, on the good fortune of the city of Brantford in its possession of that magnificent monumental group, which has been erected there in honour of the Mohawk chieftain, Brant. I say that our first Governor, to whom posterity and Canada at large owes so much, deserves to