

them. In his youth he was sent to Montreal, and there under the guidance of the Sulpicians he received the education which was the foundation of his future career.

About the time of his approaching manhood, the political state of affairs in Lower Canada began to look threatening. The people were entirely displeased with the method of government. Discontent was rife among all classes, agitation followed, and finally, the colony was in the throes of a rebellion led by Louis Papineau. With this leader, Cartier with all his fiery temper and hatred of oppression cast his lot. We need not dilate upon what was the result of the uprising. Suffice it to say that Cartier had his share of the sufferings which followed the suppression. Yet he with the others had the satisfaction of knowing that they had not suffered in vain.

When shortly after an amnesty was proclaimed, Cartier made his first appearance in public life by contesting a seat with Mr. Viger, for the legislative assembly. He defeated his opponent and entered heart and soul into politics. This was when he was thirty-four years of age. All the while he had been following the legal profession and with many years' experience he was well equipped for a brilliant parliamentary career. He was not long in the assembly before his utmost resources and tact were called upon to cope with the evils, resulting from the ultra-rationalistic spirit that then pervaded the Liberal ranks. George Brown in Upper Canada made it his sole purpose to advance the cause of Protestantism to the detriment of Catholics. Not satisfied with doing this in his own province, he tried to extend his influence to Lower Canada and in fact actually succeeded in drawing the French Liberals to his side. The enemy in the camp was more difficult to combat than the mighty host outside, but Cartier conquered both, and gained for himself a lasting prestige.

His power gradually increased. In 1855, just six years after he entered politics, he was prevailed upon by Lord Elgin to accept a portfolio in the Cabinet. This he did only to employ his new position as a means to accomplish vaster and grander deeds. The Judiciary of Lower Canada was to be improved. He set his hand to the work. The remnants of the old disagreeable seigniorial system were to be abolished. Thanks to him they existed no