

colony by a final stroke; heroes, who by their bravery inspired awe and admiration, and struck terror into the breasts of the warlike indians, forcing them to retrace their steps; and that host of missionaries who ventured among the treacherous and cruel indians, through these immense regions, and so often found death at their hands.

We, the citizens of Montreal, nay, of the Dominion, to whatever race or religion we belong, have inherited this estate of land and glory which is common to us all. Maisonneuve and his illustrious companions are properly our forefathers; they have founded this city and laid the basis for a grand nation; for, according to the prophetic words of Father Vimont, the small grain of mustard seed has grown up and developed and is covering the whole land, and we enjoy in peace, abundance and contentment the possessions they have acquired for us. All things that we see standing accomplished around us are properly the practical realization, the embodiment of thoughts that were in them. Well may we be proud of our ancestry and grateful for our heritage. No people in the world possesses a fairer, nobler origin; none enjoys a larger sum of peace, plenty and liberty; true liberty, I say, founded on the respect of the rights of all and of each; preserved and safeguarded as much in the heart of the people as in the priceless and glorious constitution of Canada; rights of minorities, as minorities alone require protection in a democratic country like ours, where the majority rules and will always take care of itself; but where, considering the different races and religions of the people, the few might be oppressed in a moment of passion and blind prejudice. God forbid that injustice should prevail in the councils of the nation. Let us remember that injustice works disorder, and no nation is stable who disregards the rights of conscience, of a civil and political liberty. But my mind rests easy. The people of this land of ours are so imbued with the spirit of the true liberty that justice is sure to assert its rights and to prevail in the future as it has done in the past.

I will now invite His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, to unveil the statue of the founder of Montreal, the illustrious de Maisonneuve, whose company as that of all great men, is a profitable company; he will be for us the living light fountain, which it is good and pleasant to be near; the light which enlightened the darkness of this land and which will enlighten our steps forward.

Ce discours terminé, le Lieutenant-Gouverneur, accompagné du président et du secrétaire du comité, se rend au pied du monument et dévoile la statue aux grands applaudissements de la foule. La garde d'honneur présente les armes, et la musique fait entendre un refrain militaire français.

DISCOURS DE L'HONORABLE J. A. CHAPLEAU,

Lieutenant-Gouverneur de la Province de Québec.

Monsieur le Président,

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Vous me saurez gré, j'en suis sûr, de faire précéder les quelques paroles que me suggère cette belle et patriotique démonstration, par la lecture de la lettre que Son



L'HONORABLE J. A. CHAPLEAU,

Lieutenant-Gouverneur de la Province de Québec

Excellence le Gouverneur-Général m'adressait hier, à mon départ de Québec, comme son tribut d'éloges pour celui dont nous inaugurons aujourd'hui la statue.

Citadelle de Québec, le 29 juin 1895.

Mon cher lieutenant-gouverneur,

Diverses causes m'empêchent d'assister, comme je l'aurais voulu, au dévoilement de la statue de Maisonneuve; mais, je veux offrir mes cordiales félicitations à la population de Montréal qui va inaugurer ce monument en l'honneur de l'illustre fondateur de cette ville.

Maisonneuve est un de ces personnages dont le caractère