

PREFACE

THIS volume concludes *The Picture Gallery of Canadian History* projected many years ago, and actually in the process of publication since 1942. Volume I covers the period from the Discovery to 1763; Volume II from 1763 to 1830; and Volume III from 1830 to 1900. Pictorial records available for the period covered in the final volume are so numerous, especially on-the-spot drawings and photographs, that a selection within reasonable limits is extremely difficult. In the earlier volumes there were many drawings of factual details the data for which were gathered from a wide variety of sources. It has seemed wise to continue this emphasis, for Time not only works its changes but carries much away. What is set down here seems to me to be of special significance in the record of our development as a nation and a North-American society. Much has been omitted, however, that is easily accessible everywhere. Because of the nearness to our own times, and the wealth of pictorial reporting, there has been less occasion for imaginative pictorial reconstructions as in the former volumes.

I have said in a former volume, that the history of a country is to be read not only in the printed records. While these are of the greatest importance they do not tell us all we need to know. Often pictorial records are of equal importance, and sometimes even of greater value, being more reliable. A tangible object cannot lie or equivocate so successfully as a word.

The prime importance of Canadian history as a whole is stressed by the immense quantity of pictorial material available for research. This serves to illustrate the possibilities of its greater use in the teaching and study of