

time of his death at Quebec, 15th May, 1873. He was educated at Edinburgh, where he took his degree as a Physician and Surgeon.

Leaving his native country he settled in Nova Scotia, where he practised his profession, devoting a portion of his time to the study of the mining operations of that Province; and subsequently, when he took up his residence in this City. After removing to Quebec, he identified himself with the Literary and Historical Society. He was several times elected President of that body, and held that position at the time of his death. It was in connection with this Society that the peculiar talents of the late Doctor were brought into play.

The papers he published in the Transactions of the Society will be found of great use to the future historian of Canada. Dr. Anderson contributed a series of interesting articles to the *Quebec Gazette* on Mining, and his views on the subject are characterized by deep geological and technical knowledge, evidencing thorough conversance with the mineral wealth of the Country. He manifested no inconsiderable aptitude for journalism, and many excellent articles from his pen appeared in the columns of the *Morning Chronicle*.

#### BART. SIR GEORGE ETIENNE CARTIER,

The event which to day is mourned throughout the Dominion of Canada has all the effect of a sudden and totally unexpected calamity. Private advices for some time back had been hopeful in their tone. There was reason to look forward to the return with restored health of the great statesman whose career has been so intimately connected with the history of Canada during the past twenty years. No later than yesterday letters were received by steamer from Sir George, informing his family and friends that his health was improving and that he proposed to sail on the 29th May. His original intention had been to sail on the 22nd, but he had been led to defer his departure for another week in order to take passage by the *Prussian*. The hopes thus held out of a renewed career of honour and usefulness have been cruelly disappointed. Early yesterday morning (May 20) a cable dispatch from Sir John Rose was received by Mr. Justice Berthelot containing the intelligence that Sir George had a relapse on Tuesday, the 13th, and had died peacefully at six o'clock yesterday morning. The unlooked for intelligence that Sir George was no more was quickly disseminated in the city and in the Dominion, and the people at large mourned the loss as a personal bereavement.

To write the life of Sir George Cartier, the future biographer must write the history of Canada during an eventful and progressive period of its history. In the events of that time Sir George will be found a conspicuous actor, and for the progress of that time may be justly claimed for him no inconsiderable share of the honour and glory. George Etienne Cartier traced his descent to the sturdy navigator who first discovered the immense regions now peopled by busy millions and confederated under the name of the Dominion of Canada. Some of the nephews of Jacques Cartier became residents of the colony founded by their uncle in the new world, and from one of these nephews the illustrious deceased was descended. His grandfather Jacques Cartier, an enterprising and successful merchant, was one of the first representatives of the County of Verchères. George Etienne, for whom so brilliant a future was in store, was born on the 6th of September, 1814, at St. Antoine, in the above mentioned county, where the Cartier family had long resided. He was educated at the College of St. Sulpice, an institution founded by the Seminary of Montreal. After passing through a regular course of eight years, he adopted the law as his profession, and entered upon the study in the office of the late Mr. E. E. Rodier, then a prominent advocate. In 1835 Mr. Cartier was admitted to the bar, and chose this city (Montreal) for the practice of his profession. He seems to have met with considerable success from the outset of his career, and soon acquired a large and profitable practice. The political condition of the country at this time was such as to attract the attention of an able and energetic young man like Mr. Cartier, and he naturally found himself drawn into the political arena. The French Canadians of that day though very largely in the majority, enjoyed but a small share of the important offices in the Province. This and other grounds of complaint had led to the passing of the famous 92 Resolutions in the House of Assembly, and to an Imperial Commission of Inquiry into the grievances of the French speaking population. Lower Canada was much agitated by these dissensions of race and religion;

and when at length they culminated in open revolt against what was regarded by the majority of the inhabitants as tyrannical oppression, Mr. Cartier, then a very young man, followed the late Louis Joseph Papineau. These troublous times happily soon came to an end, the Provinces were united, and in 1841, Responsible Government was successfully introduced.

It was seven years after this that Mr. Cartier first entered the Parliament of Canada as the representative of the County of Verchères. He was now thirty-four years of age, and by his great energy and ability had won a front rank place at the bar. Mr. Justice Berthelot was for some years his business partner. His greatest triumphs, however, were to be achieved in other scenes than the courts. After continuing to represent Verchères for eight years, he accepted office for the first time in 1856, as Provincial Secretary in the McNab-Taché administration. A few months later he succeeded Mr. Drummond, on the 24th of May, 1856, as Attorney-General for Lower Canada in the Taché-Macdonald ministry. In November of the following year he became the leader of the Lower Canadian section of the government, under the premiership of the present first Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald. From that date Mr. Cartier continued to be the leader of the powerful Lower Canadian Conservative party, and, with a very brief interval, in office. The discontent which preceded the introduction of Responsible Government had died away. The French Canadian majority having their full influence in the country, were without a grievance; and when Mr. Papineau re-appeared in the Legislature, and sought to awaken the old jealousies and rivalries, he found himself without a following. To Mr. Lafontaine, afterwards Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, and to his successor in the leadership, Mr. Cartier, was this happy change in feeling largely due.

It is not easy in a hasty review of so busy a life to do justice to the prominent measures with which Sir George Cartier's name is intimately associated. But among the greatest and best of his legislative acts must be placed the noble project of a codification of the laws of this Province. These laws were based in great part on ancient customs and ordinances introduced before the cession of Canada to Britain. They were written in the French tongue and no authorized English version was extant. Upon this old law was piled a somewhat chaotic mass of provincial legislation and precedents of the English and Provincial Courts. The project of reducing this unwieldy volume to the orderly arrangement of a Code was espoused with ardour by Mr. Cartier. Commissioners were appointed to carry on the work of codification, and a task which the mother country has hesitated to encounter was brought to a successful conclusion.

Among other measures which Mr. Cartier assisted to carry, may be mentioned the abolition of the Seigniorial Tenure, the establishment of Normal Schools in Montreal and Quebec, the scheme for the decentralization of justice in this Province; and a great variety of other measures which are to be found in our statute book. At a later date, he was an active and zealous participator in the great work of Confederation, and as Minister of Militia, continued to lead the Government majority from his native province. Up to 1861, he represented his first constituency Verchères, but in that year he contested Montreal with Mr. Dorion, the leader of the opposition in Canada East, and after an exciting struggle won the victory. He was subsequently re-elected, and sat for the constituency of Montreal East until the general election of last year when he was defeated by Mr. Jette. At this time, however, he was already suffering seriously from the disease which finally proved fatal, and the condition of his health was such as to preclude him from appearing personally among the electors or taking an active part in the canvass. In search of the highest medical skill he visited England shortly after the elections, and resided there for several months. A prospect of recovery which raised the hopes of his friends was held out, but this, as the event proves, was not to be realized, and he was destined never again in life to revisit his native soil. In 1846 Mr. Cartier married a daughter of Mr. E. R. Fabre, of this city, of which union there are two daughters surviving. The family had their city residence in Montreal, with a country seat, "Limoulu", near Hochelaga.

It is time now to glance more particularly at the moral and intellectual qualities of the deceased Baronet. From his earliest years Mr. Cartier was characterized by immense energy and unflinching industry. Once engaged in an undertaking he devoted himself with the utmost assiduity to carry it out, and, almost invariably, with success. His manner was frank and open, and a large share of the gayety and versatility of the late Lord Palmerston was a prominent element in his disposition.