

[Texte]

[Interprétation]

Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. That is not precisely the name but it is the title, and the title of this country is the Dominion of Canada.

Grande-Bretagne et de l'Irlande du Nord. C'est le titre, ce n'est pas tellement le nom qui est en cause.

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The suggestion that this connotes something colonial does not seem to me to stand up at all in the light of history. It seems to me that at a time when we are talking so much about establishing our identity that it would be well for us to look at our history and not say that it is a matter of no importance. We should not follow in the footsteps of Mr. Henry Ford and say, "History is bunk."

Il ne me semble pas que le relent de colonialisme dont on parle soit vraiment évident, il est bon de se reporter à notre histoire et il ne faut pas dire comme Henry Ford que l'histoire c'est de la foutaise. Ce nom a été choisi pour remplacer le mot «royaume» que les Pères de la Confédération auraient voulu donner à notre pays. Le mot «royaume» n'a pas été choisi parce que Lord Derby, secrétaire des Affaires Étrangères de Grande-Bretagne, a eu peur de la réaction des Américains. Sir Leonard Tilley, comme on le sait, avait lu dans sa bible, ce matin-là, le psaume 72:

I think it might be useful to recall that the term "Dominion" was chosen as a substitute for the term "Kingdom", which the Fathers of Confederation wanted to apply to this country. The term "Kingdom" was not applied because the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Darby, got cold feet about possible objections by the Americans and said that it would not do. So, the matter was then referred back to the Fathers of Confederation and Sir Leonard Tilley, as I think it is well known, was reading the 72nd Psalm in his Bible one morning and he hit upon the term "Dominion":

8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

8 «Il dominera d'une mer à l'autre. Et du fleuve aux extrémités de la terre.»

This, of course, is still commemorated in our coat of arms and in the motto which appears on it, which you can see as you come in the door of the Centre Block, *a mari usque ad mare*, from sea to sea. I think it was a peculiarly happy choice because curiously enough the word "Dominion" is an old Anglo-French word with fell out of use in French but continued in English, and it was specifically put in there with the idea—and I will quote what Lord Carnarvon said at the time—of adding dignity and impressiveness to the new federation. I was, also put there, as he explained, at the unanimous wish of the North American delegates as a mark of their desire to maintain the monarchical principle. I can give you the exact quotation in a moment, if you like. You may also recall that in 1878 when Edward Blake was asserting the claims of this country to fuller self-government in his numerous and rather acid—and, I might add, most impressive—exchanges with the British government, one of the points he made was that Canada:

Cette citation se trouve sur nos armoiries: «*A mari usque ad mare*», d'une mer à l'autre. C'était un choix très heureux car le mot «Dominion» est un ancien mot anglo-français qui n'est plus utilisé en français mais qui existe toujours en anglais. C'est un mot qui a été employé et je vais vous citer les paroles de Lord Carnarvon:

«Ce mot a été choisi pour ajouter un certain élément de prestige et de dignité à la nouvelle fédération».

C'était là le désir unanime des délégués nord-américains qui voulaient exprimer ainsi leur désir de maintenir les principes de la monarchie. Sans doute, vous rappelez-vous, qu'en 1878, alors que Edward Blake affirmait le désir d'autodétermination de ce pays, lors des échanges impressionnants qu'il a eus avec le gouvernement britannique, il a dit:

... is not a colony or a province; she is a Dominion, under an Imperial charter ...

...«le Canada n'est pas une colonie ou une province, le Canada est une puissance aux termes d'une charte impériale.»

The French translation that was given to the word at the time, as Mr. St. Laurent pointed out some years ago, was "Souveraineté" or "Puissance". I cannot see by any stretch of the imagination how "Souveraineté"—"sovereignty" for those of you who are a little shaky on French or who find my pronunciation of it difficult to follow; "sovereignty", "Puissance" "power", which are the terms you use about the

La définition française, à l'époque, comme M. St-Laurent l'a signalé, c'était «souveraineté» ou «puissance». Je ne comprends pas comment le terme «souveraineté» ou «puissance» qui veut dire «pouvoir», terme que l'on attribue aux grandes puissances