

Crown advanced the theory that a transcontinental railway would only result in two streaks of rust across the continent and would not pay for the grease for its axle trees. The first and last speeches in Parliament delivered by Cartier were in support of a vigorous railway policy. He appreciated the importance of the subject as it bore on the issues of national development commercially, and settlement. It has been also suggested that yet another sentence would not be inappropriate. At the time Sir George met defeat in East Montreal in 1872 he was the recipient of a very sympathetic letter from the Earl of Dufferin, then Governor-General, a statesman of experience and acumen enough to fully appreciate the worth, patriotism and Imperial instinct of his minister and friend. In the course of that letter the following sentence occurs,

"The distinction you have won has not been merely personal for your name is indissolubly incorporated with the most eventful and most glorious epoch of your country's history, commencing as it does with your entrance into political life and culminating in that consolidation of the Provinces to which your genius, courage and great ability so materially contributed."

The unveiling of the monument was

one of impressive nature. The unseen action of the King lent a species of weirdness to the proceedings while the presence of his Viceroy and those best qualified to constitute a representative national meeting added a grandeur and pomp to the spectacle. The greatest in the land did honour to the memory of the statesman. It was more than a Dominion demonstration. It was an Empire tribute. From the heart of the Empire Lloyd George sent his homage and from South Africa, Australia, New Zealand came messages from General Smuts, Messrs. Hughes and Massey, statesmen all of the Imperial type of which Cartier was so grand an example. The voice of Church and State where they exist beneath the British flag was heard in unison.

And deeply touching was the presence of the surviving daughter of Sir George, who had travelled from her home in France to be present on the occasion, and the words she spoke, though few, reflected deep feeling: "When I see the ever-increasing prosperity of Canada I feel proud and happy to think it is largely due to my father's great abilities and untiring activity. This prosperity of Canada, *"son pays ses amours"*, we all know he clearly foresaw. Heaven be praised for having spared me and enabling me to witness this event."

