

John A. Macdonald, George Etienne Cartier and the other great Fathers of Confederation in their speeches on the proposed union of the Canadian Provinces foreshadowed with almost prophetic insight the great future before the Dominion. Delivered fifty years after the establishment of the Dominion when the results of the mighty labors of the founders can be adequately appreciated Sir Lomer Gouin's address is entitled to be ranked with the great speeches of the Fathers as a masterly defence and justification of Confederation. As such it must naturally appeal to all Canadians.

Since its delivery the demand from all parts of the Dominion for a complete English version of the speech has been so insistent that it has been deemed advisable by a number of those who are interested in the promotion of a better understanding between the other Provinces and Quebec to issue the English text in convenient form in order that it may be available for English speaking Canadians. It is generally recognized that attacks upon the French Canadians, emanate from a comparatively small section and that the great majority of English speaking Canadians, as Sir Lomer Gouin emphasized in his speech, are fair people. From such the Quebec Premier's utterances will undoubtedly receive the attention they deserve and even those who are more or less hostile to Quebec may be lead to entertain a different view after reading the speech.

The text herewith given is the one which has been personally approved by Sir Lomer Gouin.

JOHN BOYD.