

age 55

Suggested Revision

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King's career and work have a peculiar family atmosphere. Perhaps because he has no children, he turns back not infrequently to thoughts of his parents and his past. Some years ago, he proved this to the King and Queen when, at the time of their Canadian tour, they visited Laurier House. He drew their attention to a framed document which hangs on the wall at the entrance to his library. It was a Royal Proclamation issued in 1837 - the year Queen Victoria came to the Throne - to obtain the arrest of all who had been guilty of "Rebellion, Murder and Robbery" and offered a reward of One Thousand Pounds to anyone who will apprehend and deliver up to justice William Lyon Mackenzie. The date is printed: "Thursday, 3 o'clock P.M. 7th Dec." but, in the rush, the year 1837 was forgotten, although time had been found to print below a hurried God Save the Queen.

Standing at the side of the King, the Prime Minister commented upon the change which a hundred years have brought in Canada in the relations of the Crown and its advisers, all a part of the agelong struggle for freedom. It must have been a moment of deep satisfaction to a heart burning for the ideals of Liberty and Justice.

When I visited King, he showed me the 1837 proclamation.