

think the idea of stopping short of completion is out of the question. I go in for tower, rotunda, fountains and every conceivable embellishment. If we are to be laughed at for our folly, at least let us not be ridiculed for a half finished pile. I go in for making it a superb folly that will bring visitors from all countries to see a work they can't see elsewhere. To say the truth, there is nothing in London, Paris or Washington approaching to it." (Pope's Life of Sir John Macdonald, Vol 1, p. 266)

The original Parliamentary and Departmental Buildings in Ottawa were first occupied in 1866, and within 20 years, not 500, another Departmental building had been completed at a cost to the country of \$1,000,000. To-day the three Departmental buildings are crowded, a new wing costing \$300,000 has been added to the Parliament Buildings, and there are haphazard of the Public service scattered in over 20 rented buildings in Ottawa. So much for lack of foresight. Had the fathers of Confederation appropriated a strip of land 150 feet wide, with its centre opposite the tower of the Parliament Buildings and running south to the Canal, Ottawa would to-day have possessed a Dominion Avenue to which Pennsylvania Avenue at Washington would have had to take second place.

THE PROPOSED PARK RESERVES

One of the suggestions of Mr. Todd was for the setting apart of two or three forest reserves within easy distance of the capital. One location proposed was in the Gatineau Valley, between Wright's Bridge and Chelsea; another, the land surrounding Meach's Lake. Fifty years hence, he points out, Ottawa and Hull will, at the present rate of growth of the two cities, have a combined population of 300,000. Land values are increasing rapidly and unless a forest area is secured now, it will be difficult half a century hence to secure, at a reasonable figure, a large "area of untamed forest which can be set aside forever for the enjoyment of people who wish to get away for a day from the crowded city," where "nature's mossy carpet is still luxuriant and unworn." In support of this recommendation, Mr. Todd cites the action of London with regard to Epping Forest, and Boston's expenditure of \$10,000,000 in park and forest reserves within the last ten or twelve years which, if purchased fifty years ago, could have been acquired for about one twentieth of this amount.

The Meach's Lake reservation is impracticable; since Mr. Todd wrote his report a prominent citizen of Ottawa has acquired the major portion of the land surrounding the lake, and the opportunity to create there a resort for the people of the Ottawa Valley is lost forever. But it is still not too late to take action upon the other suggestion, and we may reasonably express the hope that