

Survey Camp at the Big Eddy of the Athabasca River, Alberta, beyond the Valley of Grande Prairie.

ed about as dry and snappy as air ought to be. "Gosh!" he said. "Up at Dunvegan we have air what is air. Yeh can eat the air it's so dry. This here blame stuff is so wet yeh have to drink it." He was from the highlands of Athabasca; a real climatic aristocrat who never would be happy

anywhere distant from his own hills of the north.

Of course there's a good deal more than mere air and scenery to contend with in that country. But those who go in ahead of the railway and put in a year or so as the trail-breakers of Grande Prairie or the Pouce Coupe will remember some

day that there was one glorious period in their lives when nothing was commonplace except natural hardship.

Just the other day a fox-skin came to Edmonton from Grande Prairie, which sold for \$1,075.00, the highest price paid for a silver fox skin this season.

A MONUMENT TO SELF GOVERNMENT

By NORMAN PATTERSON

FOR some time Sir Sandford Fleming and the Canadian Club of Halifax have been working on the project of a monument to colonial self-government. Originally the idea was to commemorate the fact that Nova Scotia was the first colony within the British Empire to inaugurate au-

tonomy. Now it is proposed that this symbolic memorial shall be made commemorative of the establishment of autonomy throughout the Empire. Instead of being a local movement it is to be an Imperial movement.

The monument is to take the form of a memorial tower, situated in a park of one hundred acres which was presented to the city of Halifax by Sir Sandford Fleming. The Canadian Club of Halifax undertook to provide funds for the erection of the tower, the foundation stone of which was formally laid by Lieut.-Gov. Fraser on Oct. 2nd, 1908. The Club received contribu-

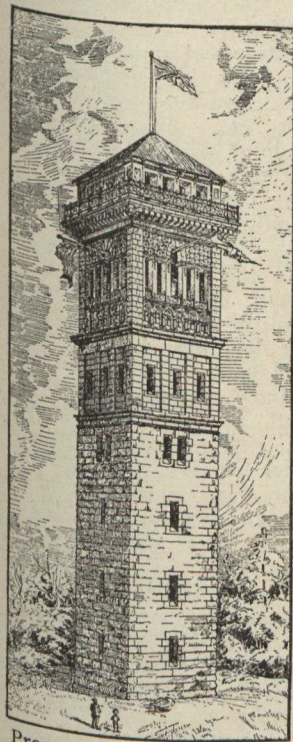
South Africa feels a sincere sympathy with the proposed memorial tower and will interest itself in the project. Sir Sandford and the Halifax Canadian Club do not desire that the other Colonial Governments contribute large sums, but simply that they will be represented either by public or private contribution so as to make the memorial tower a really Imperial movement.

In the pamphlet which has just been issued by His Honour, Judge Wallace, President of the Canadian Club of Halifax, the reasons for the broadening of this movement are well set forth as follows:

"It will be apparent, that there is nothing narrow or provincial in the earnest desire, to obtain the sympathy and co-operation of the sister states of the Empire, in the project of a Memorial Tower at Halifax. It will be obvious that we are simply taking advantage of an exceptional opportunity—an opportunity which should not be neglected, of enlisting our fellow-subjects beyond the seas, in a common sentiment and a common purpose. If nothing else resulted, the mere effort to bring them thus together, with the corresponding awakening of interest and sympathy, must have an important and highly beneficial effect on our mutual citizenship. The character of the building itself, its architectural design, or the amount of money to be expended upon it, are matters of comparatively minor importance. The vital consideration is, the spirit that lies behind the project. This building will commemorate one of the most significant events in history, it will tend towards a sympathetic union of the far-flung members of the British Empire, and thus enhance a thousand-fold the value of the memorial. In the Halifax Tower will centre memories, hopes and ambitions that will gain significance and importance as the years roll on. It will take its place, not as a merely local or provincial monument, or one whose appeal reaches only to the utmost boundaries of the Canadian Dominion, but as an embodiment of the spirit which animates the people of the Empire in both hemispheres.

There is no doubt that in undertaking the work which they have done, Sir Sandford Fleming and the Canadian Club of Halifax are performing a real Imperial service. The growth of autonomy throughout the British Colonies during the past century and a half is of great historical importance. Unless this bit of history is constantly kept before the minds of succeeding generations its importance is likely to be forgotten. It is well then that there should be continually and constantly a review of the great but peaceful struggles which have occurred in the development of Britain's colonial policy. The great boon of British Parliamentary institutions and of

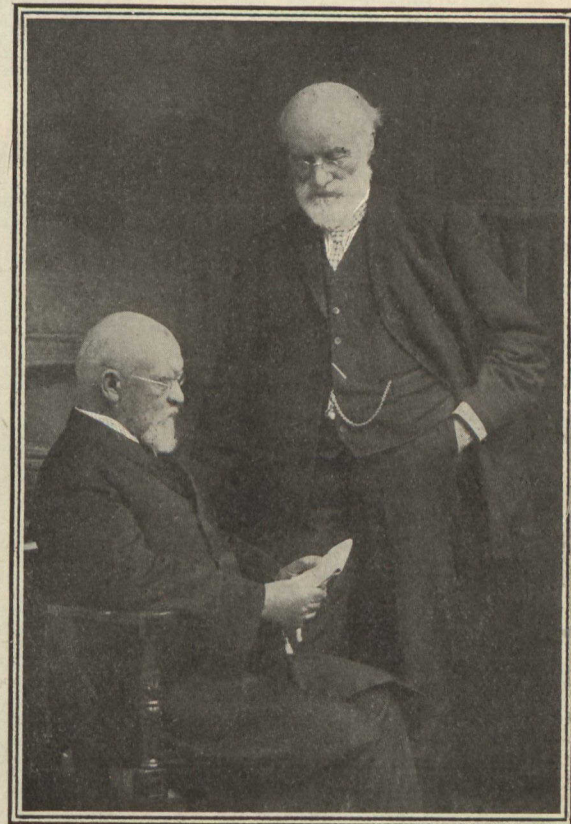
the British system of personal and national liberty has been extended to a tremendous number of people of different races scattered throughout five continents. What this has meant and what it will mean in the future to these widely scattered communities cannot be over-estimated. A memorial tower at Halifax which will commemorate this movement in general as well as in detail will form a worthy monument in granite and bronze. The lower part represents the period from 1758 to 1840, when representative government existed. The next and slightly more ornate portion represents the period from 1840 to 1867 when colonial responsible government was enjoyed. The upper and most ornate portion represents the period since Confederation. The interior will be suitably arranged and decorated to commemorate the great men and important events in the history of the Empire.



Proposed Historical Tower.

minion Government, from the various provincial governments, from the Government of Newfoundland, and from other Canadian Clubs throughout the Dominion. It is now proposed to ask the co-operation of the various colonies, chiefly of South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

Sir Sandford Fleming was a great friend of the late Honourable J. H. Hofmeyr, of South Africa. These two gentlemen met in London at the Colonial Conference some twenty-three years ago. They met again in Ottawa at the Conference in 1894. Last year they again met in London and this project was discussed. Mr. Hofmeyr's death broke off the correspondence, which has since been taken up with General Botha, Prime Minister of the Transvaal. General Botha has assured Sir Sandford that



The late Hon. J. H. Hofmeyr. Sir Sandford Fleming, K.C.M.G. Photograph at the Imperial Defence Conference last summer.