

ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, P.C., G.C.M.G.

Before the Canadian Club of Ottawa at the Russell House, January 20th, 1906,
upon the subject of

"MEMORIES OF CONFEDERATION."

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

When you were good enough to propose to me, a little while ago, that I should address the Canadian Club on the subject of Confederation, I had some little hesitation about accepting your invitation. The subject was one which, to deal with adequately, much less exhaustively, would require not one address but a series of addresses; but on consideration it appeared to me that I might best meet your wishes and perhaps best answer the expectations which you might have formed by giving you as briefly as I could my own recollection of the state of things prior to Confederation, in 1863, together with a few remarks on the men, who, in my judgment, contributed most to bring about the Confederation of the Dominion of Canada. I had another reason, Mr. Chairman, for taking advantage of this opportunity, and that is that the other day, in looking over the list of the sixty-five members of Parliament who appeared at Quebec in the session of 1863, to represent the Province of Ontario, I find that, in so far as I can ascertain, there remain but three survivors—Sir John Carling, myself and Sir William Howland, now almost a centenarian.

Was Youngest Member.

I desire, in the first place, to mention to you that I speak exclusively in reference to the state of things in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. At the time to which I refer we knew almost nothing, I am