



Mlle Hortense Cartier  
who came from France to witness the unveiling of her father's monument

Close upon forty years after Sir George's death a meeting was held in Montreal to consider the question of a public memorial such as has now been erected. A Cartier Centenary Committee was formed, Mr. E. W. Ville-neuve being made President. The successful consummation of the scheme

may be largely credited to him. He has worked enthusiastically and wholeheartedly and public thanks are due to him. Competition was thrown open to all who chose to submit plans, the prize being awarded to Mr. G.W. Hill. That gentleman has designed a monument bold and impressive in its conception and artistic in its execution. It is an effective synopsis in bronze and stone, of the history of Canada during the period in which Sir George Cartier laboured for her advancement "In erecting this monument"—said, in effect, Sir Charles Fitzpatrick on laying the corner-stone—"you trace a page of our national history, but instead of inscribing the story on the flying sheets reserved for the student, you engrave on marble and expose it for the perusal of all, old and young".

The memorial consists of a column one hundred feet in height with a base of grey marble. It is surmounted by a figure representing Renown, crowning the effigy of Sir George whose figure is exceedingly life-like. Around the central figure and base are four statues representing the first provinces which entered Confederation, Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. A scroll unites these with the inscription "*O Canada mon pays mes amours*", a song written by Sir George and first sung by him in 1835 at the inauguration of the St. John Baptiste Society, of which he was the secretary. He was a close friend of Duvernay the founder and others connected with it. It is a familiar story that he also sang it in the presence of King Edward VII., on a passage up the St. Lawrence, when he visited Canada as Prince of Wales in 1860. At the base of the monument, below the statues representing the banner provinces, is the following extract from a speech Sir George delivered at the time Confederation was looming large on the political horizon, and expressing his own deeply-rooted sentiments: "We are of different races not for strife, but to work together for the common welfare." This is a text which many in our own times