



Mr. Mackenzie King on his way to plant a memorial Maple Tree in the grounds of Gordon House, Aberdeen, accompanied by Lord Aberdeen, Lord Portland and Rev. Matthew, The Bannock and Mrs. Bannock.

A Prime Minister in Quest of the Homes of His Ancestors.

By ISMAY, MANAGER OF ABERDEEN AND TRAVEL, G.P.O., L.L.D.

The visit of the Right Honourable W. E. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, to Scotland after he had completed his labours in connection with the Imperial Conference of 1927 was not a routine diplomatic tour. For many years he had desired to spend some time in Scotland in order to visit the districts which his family had lived in before going to Canada, but on every occasion when he came over to this country his time had been so fully occupied with public work in connection with Canada and Imperial relations, that he never had time to carry out his intention. And so the pressure made to Lord Aberdeen and his wife five years ago, when we first made his acquaintance, that he would come and visit us in our Scottish home, was never fulfilled.

But at last this year he went to the extent that he could set apart three days to fulfil his old promise, and that he was, moreover, greatly gratified that the city of Aberdeen had offered him the Freedom of Aberdeen, and that he had written to say he would come to Aberdeen to receive this much prized honour.

It will be perceived that, taking one day for the Aberdeen City ceremonies, there was not much time remaining for Mr. Mackenzie King to explore the haunts of his ancestors. Nevertheless, with the help of diligent enquiries made by kind friends, much was accomplished.

The Lord Provost of Dundee, personally took the Canadian Prime Minister a tour round Dundee before departing him of a fine luncheon, and he was also introduced to Dundee's industries, and to the old part of the city where the grandfather had lived with his family in much poverty, and under many privations, before the wreck of the new home on the other side of the Atlantic. Some kinship, too, existed too that to greet them abandoned relatives, and presented him with a Scottish and Aberdeen as a souvenir of his connection with Dundee.

The Canadian Premier was guided through the wilds of Glen Shee and Glen Isla by Mr. T. Mackay, a native of Glen Shee, who introduced Mr. King to various old landmarks of the place whose stories of the life and

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