

McGILL UNIVERSITY

Office of the Principal
and Vice Chancellor.

May 29, 1931.

Sir Arthur W. Currie

Principal and

G.C.M.G. K.C.B. LL.D.

~~Principal~~ Vice Chancellor of McGill University

Your Excellency, Mrs Henry, Ladies and Gentlemen

We are assembled here this afternoon for an interesting and important function, the acceptance, on behalf of the University, by His Excellency the Governor-General, Visitor to McGill, of a gift which expresses in enduring stone the deep and lasting friendship and mutual high regard of the people of the United States and the Dominion of Canada. This gift - the fountain about to be unveiled - is the work of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, whose fame as a sculptress is known to the world. The design and the work are here; the magnanimous idea underlying the gift is here, and I am sure we all look upon this sacred idea of friendship and peace with enthusiasm and sympathy. This fountain was to have been unveiled and dedicated many months ago, but

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events intervened to delay the ceremony. We are all mindful today of the circumstances which resulted in postponement and in all our hearts there is deep regret that he who in life was the companion of the distinguished sculptress is not here to-day to see the unveiling of the child of her brain. He is with us in spirit to speak to us words of peace and goodwill.

This splendid memorial of the friendship of two great nations - children of the same stem - is sponsored by a committee of representative American citizens who are proud of our past record of harmony and who have faith in our future of peace. Time will not permit me to call the roll of these illustrious names. There is, however, one member of that committee - the spokesman of the group - whom it is my privilege and pleasure to present to you. I refer to Dr. John H. Finley.