

SIR ETIENNE TACHÉ, K.C.B.

On a visit to London in November, 1858, I had the pleasure of meeting several celebrated Canadians, among others the late Hon. George E. Cartier (afterwards Sir George, Baronet), the Hon. Alexander T. Galt, (afterwards Sir Alexander, Knight), the late Hon. Etienne Taché (afterwards Sir Etienne, Knight) and the late Hon. Mr. Justice Day. The title "Honorable" in virtue of their official status in Canada as "of right" is, I believe, a "moot" point without Canada, but the title or prefix is always used by courtesy. Sir George Cartier and Sir Alexander Galt had been presented at "Windsor" immediately before Sir Etienne Taché was summoned to be knighted. I had been living in the same quarters in London with Sir Etienne Taché and Judge Day and having visited France with Sir Etienne, he mentioned to me in the course of conversation the ordeal he had just passed through at Windsor and the result.

"You see, so he put it, I had been summoned to "Windsor" and Cartier told me that I must be dressed *en règle de la Cour*, that when brought into the presence of the Queen, I was to make so many steps, and when just near enough, was to kneel before Her Majesty, who would touch me on the shoulder with a sword and then tell me to rise as "Sir Etienne Taché." I went to "Windsor" determined to do my *devoir*, but not very sure that I might not forget my lesson.

Well, listen. I went to "Windsor," was received and guided by gentlemen-ushers who knew where to pass me along this grand old fortress of William the Conqueror.

They took me to a small room where the door was open, and to my joy Prince Albert was there, standing with his back to the fire and holding by the hand one of his younger sons, Prince Alfred.

So soon as he saw me he came forward and took me by