



Cabot Memorial, on Signal Hill.
(Photo, by James Vey.)

The Cabot Memorial.

One of the most interesting structures in St. Johns, Newfoundland, is the Cabot Memorial on Signal Hill, which was erected in 1897. It not only commemorated the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the island by the daring John Cabot, but also marked the sixtieth anniversary or Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign. In Christmas Bells a writer gives the following interesting account of the laying of the corner stone:

"For loyalty and enthusiasm the ceremony of laying the corner stone of this handsome building will live as long as memory shall last, and mark one of the grandest pages in our colonial history. On that memorable June morning (1897) the citizens of this old town turned out *en masse* to take part in this important function, and also to unite their voices in the 'pæan of praise' which all over the Empire, on that day, greeted the

completion of the twelfth lustre—"the longest reign of the noblest queen who has ever sat on England's throne." It was fitting that the occasion should be marked by some distinct tribute of honor and respect, and what more beautiful and lasting expression of our loyalty and devotion to queen and country could be handed on to future generations as a testimonial of our patriotism and nationality than this pre-eminent work of mercy. From its elevated position it will be a beacon of safety—a guiding star, which will save many a life from the cold embrace of a watery grave. The following inscription was placed in the capsule under the foundation stone:

In order
to transmit to future generations the memory
of two great events:

That
Our Noble Queen VICTORIA
Has this day completed the twelfth lustre
of her glorious reign
Thus surpassing the years of any one of her
predecessors; and has shown herself a most
wise and prudent ruler of the State, and model
of all womanly virtues, and

That
Four hundred years ago the Illustrious Navigator,
JOHN CABOT,
Ploughing the treacherous deep in a small bark,
and after many long and doubtful wanderings
over unknown seas
First struck these shores and gave Britain
a NEW WORLD,
The source of the future greatness and
wealth of the Empire,

WE,
Inhabitants of the Island of Newfoundland,
have erected this Monument, which shall at
one and the same time declare both our love of
country and our well-known loyalty towards
our Queen. It shall also be

For all time to come
A beacon of protection and safety to our hardy
fishermen buffeted by the waves
of the ocean.
A great crowd of citizens, our civic societies, and
the principal persons in authority have
attended rejoicing in this ceremony.
This foundation has been solidly and firmly laid
by the
Right Rev. Michael Francis Howley,
Bishop of St. John's, and born citizen of New-
foundland, on
This XXII, day of June, in the year of salvation,
MDCCCXCVII.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.