

Pioneers in the Development of Canada

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group are Colin Robertson, John McLaughlin, John Stewart, Donald McKenzie, Alexander Christie, Sinclair, McLermott, Wish Forsyth, Leith, Duncan, Finlayson.

Other notable names are Dr. John Rae, who explored the west coast of Hudson's Bay and found the remains of Sir John Franklin's ill-fated expedition. Franklin had sailed from England in 1845 with two ships of the British navy, the Erebus and Terror, manned by 129 officers and seamen, not one of whom returned. They had sighted in July in Baffin's Bay and then they vanished. One expedition after another went in search of them, but in vain, until years after their disappearance John Rae, a chief factor of the Hudson Bay Company, took up the quest, which ended in finding the whole record of the tragedy how Franklin had died on board his ice-bound ship and all the rest had perished in the attempt to escape overland. A written record found in a stone carried down their history to the point when the survivors went out on foot to journey southward, then an old Eskimo woman told the tale. She had seen them fall down and die as they walked along.

This expedition also had failed, but the relief expeditions which followed had vastly increased our knowledge of the North and had filled in many blanks in the Arctic map. Incidentally the question of a Northern passage by sea from the Atlantic to the Pacific was solved by Captain McClure who passed from the Pacific to Melville Sound which had already been entered from the East; in making the discovery he also proved that the passage was of commercial value. It cost his own ship and three other relief ships before he was able again to find his way to the open sea. McClure and his men won \$50,000 long offered as a prize by the British government, and also proved how vain was the hope of countless explorers. Thirty years later the C.P.R. fulfilled in another way the disappointed hope of centuries to find a continuous passage from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. Out of the failures and the disaster of the Franklin expedition had come a further extension of the British possessions northward.

In the meantime the Pacific Province was being acquired and defined. Its early history as a British possession is inseparable from that of James Douglas of the same clan as the Earl of Selkirk.

He was the most prominent figure of the colonial period of British Columbia's history—remarkable among many remarkable men—born of Scottish parents in the West Indies in 1803. In his youth he enlisted with the North Western Company and rapidly rose to high position. Shortly after the union of the companies he became a factor or chief trader for the Hudson Bay Company on the north eastern part of what is now British Columbia, then known as New Caledonia. From stage to stage he advanced until he attained to a leading position in the Company then operating under lease from Britain over the whole territory which included the present province of British Columbia together with what is now comprised in Oregon, Idaho, Washington and parts of Montana and Wyoming.

The area then known as the Oregon country included the south western part of British Columbia, and extending south to California, was for years in the joint occupation of the British and American traders. Out of this joint occupation rose a serious dispute between these two countries, known as the "Oregon question." It was during this dispute that the American slogan "Fifty-four forty or fight!" became historic. They did not fight nor did they obtain within 400 miles of their claim in the final settlement. If the value of the country had been appreciated as it is today, the British claim might justly have been pressed to the boundary of California; but the Commission which dealt with the case, lacking prophetic vision, saw little in the land to make it desirable.

It is told that a brother of the then Prime Minister of Britain was sent out in 1845 on a British delegation to gather information to be used in settling the Oregon boundary question, and having found, by actual experiment, that salmon would not rise to a fly in the Columbia River, reported the whole country worthless. That story may not be true, for the fisherman was Gordon of Aberdeen.

The boundary dispute was settled, and it might have been worse. That it was not worse is owing chiefly to Douglas. From stage to stage he advanced in performance and power, laid the foundation of Victoria, became Governor of Vancouver Island in 1851, and Governor of the mainland of British Columbia in 1859, administering the two governments separately and simultaneously. The appointment of Douglass as Governor was not a day too soon. In 1858 the discovery of gold in the Cariboo district led to a stampede of miners and other adventurers into the newly established Colony, which in its suddenness and boundless hopes was comparable only to the days of the gold fever in California in the '49.

In one summer 25,000 men landed in the little town of Victoria while other hosts teemed in overland. Most of these were old California miners trained in the lawless mining camps to a reckless disregard of life. In seven years this Cariboo district, about 50 square miles, yielded twenty-five millions in gold.

All the factors that make for disorder and violence were present, but so firm and efficient was the control exercised by Governor Douglass that Bancroft the American historian testifies that never in the pacification and settlement of any section of America have there been so few disturbances, so few crimes against life and property, as in this British land.

By such men and such means has the British Empire been extended and preserved.

In 1857, near the close of Sir George Simpson's government, in connection with the application of the Company to renew the trading leases of the territory outside of Rupert's Land, the Imperial House of Commons held a minute inquiry into the whole operations of the Company and the state of the country. The inquiry resulted from a petition signed by the leading Colonists at Red River asking the government of Canada to take steps for the extension to the North West of its government and protection. Following this petition, in the same year, Chief Justice Draper of Upper Canada was sent to England to oppose the application of the Hudson Bay Company and to urge that steps be taken to open up the country for settlement.

The principal result of the inquiry was to establish publicly the fact long minimized or suppressed, that great areas of land outside of the Red River Colony were fit for settlement and that the policy of the Company was opposed to colonization. It was

also shown that in thirty-seven years of Simpson's government only nineteen capital crimes had been committed, though outsiders were filtering in to the country and the movements toward a change of conditions had given rise to considerable unrest.

The committee reported to the House of Commons that "it is important to meet the just and reasonable wishes of Canada to assume such territory as may be useful for settlement; that the districts of Red River and Saskatchewan seem the most available and that for the order and good government of the country arrangements should be made for their cession to Canada." Ten years were still to elapse before the confederation of Canada took place. Sir George did not live to see this. He died in 1860, still the "veteran Emperor of the traders."

British Columbia was at the same time urging upon the Imperial Government the need for roads through the North Western territories to Canada. This was strongly opposed by the Hudson Bay Company, but their opposition was overborne on the proposal of the Duke of Newcastle to cancel the charter of the Company. The Company then offered to sell out to the Government for £1,500,000, but owing to the opposition of Mr. Gladstone this was declined.

Following this an ominous change took place in the personnel and policy of the Company. In 1863 the merger was arranged with The Anglo International Financial Association, which included prominent American capitalists. Charles Nair, in his book "Through the McKenzie Basin," says: "The old name of the Company was retained but everything else was changed." The alien element inspired politicians of the United States with surprising hopes and ideas. An offer to purchase its territorial interests out and out was made in January, 1866, by American capitalists.

The corollary of the proposal was a bill introduced into the United States Congress in July, 1866, and read twice, providing for the admission of the States of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada East and Canada West, and for the organization of the territories of Selkirk, Saskatchewan and Columbia—the United States to pay off the Hudson Bay Company with ten million dollars.

The record of these days is growing dim and some incidents might with advantage be allowed to fade out completely, but we cannot afford to forget events that like danger posts stand out to mark the perilous places in our way to nationhood. It was during the settlement of the "Alabama Claims" that the distinguished American Senator, Sumner, said: "The greatest trouble if not the peril is from fanaticism which is excited by the British flag in Canada. The withdrawal should be from this hemisphere, including provinces and islands."

The dangers were real because the temptation of a rich and vacant land, practically inaccessible to its sovereign power, was too great for any ambitious neighbor long to withstand. It was either union of all the principal parts of British North America or else that the separate parts were liable as they ripened one by one to fall into the arms of the United States. The conditions of danger were overcome by the events which speedily followed, viz:—The assembling together of the members which now compose the Dominion of Canada, which began with the union of Upper and Lower Canada, henceforth known as the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1867. Next Manitoba was constituted as a Province in 1870. Rupert's Land was purchased from the Hudson Bay Company (with certain reservations) in 1869, and with the North West Territory was ceded to the Dominion of Canada in 1870. British Columbia joined the union in 1871 and Prince Edward Island in 1873, thus completing the territorial consolidation of the Dominion to include all the British dominions in the North American Continent.

But over the North Western lands hung like a dark cloud the Indian title. Until it should be removed not one acre of land in the present provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan was open for settlement.

In the year 1867 the Senate and House of Commons by a joint address to Her Majesty praying that both Rupert's Land and the North Western Territory should be admitted to the Union represented that upon the transference of the territories in question to the Canadian Government, "the claims of the Indian tribes to compensation for lands required for purposes of settlement would be considered and settled in conformity with the equitable principles which have uniformly governed the British Crown in its dealings with the aborigines." This proposal was accepted by the British Crown and incorporated in the Canadian Constitution by Imperial order-in-council dated 23rd June, 1870.

By the Dominion statute of 1873 a new branch of the Canadian service described as the Department of the Interior was given control and management of the affairs of the North West Territories which included under that name Rupert's Land. To this office a native of this Province, one of the members for Queen's, was appointed—the Hon. David Leard, who administered the office for three years when he was appointed as the First Lieutenant Governor and Indian Commissioner, 1876 to 1881. As Lieutenant Governor he was assisted by a Council appointed by the Crown, with powers equivalent to those conferred upon the Governor of a Crown Colony. The territory to be administered contained more than twice the area of all the Canadian provinces combined. The setting up and administration of a new government over a region so vast was a work of the first magnitude. The settlement with the various Indian tribes was successfully accomplished throughout all the region then required for colonization. In later years (1899-1900) during his second tenure of the office of Indian Commissioner, the last of the great treaties was concluded with the Indians of the territory known as the McKenzie Basin.

Thus the good will of the Indians had been won, and the most accessible parts of the prairie opened for settlement; but from Manitoba to the Rocky Mountains stretched a thousand miles of plain, unguarded and untenanted. The Hudson Bay Company had given up its governing power and the new ruler had not yet appeared. The throne was empty. It was the danger period of the West. Not only were the fires of Indian war still smouldering across the boundary line, but from the South marauding bands of white men threatened the peace and security of the new Canadian settlements. Two instances will suffice:—A party of whiskey smugglers from Montana crossed into Canada to a camp of Assinaboins, got all the property which the Indians would give in exchange for the liquor, and when the latter were sufficiently drunk, shot down forty of them in cold blood. A similar band of outlaws had crossed into Manitoba, plundered and burned a Hudson Bay post, and spread terror far and wide.

If an end were not speedily made to such things, settlement of the North West would be impossible. For remedy a force known as the Royal North West Mounted Police was organized. It comprised 300 men whose duty it was to keep order in a territory of two and a half million square miles, and they did it. They were commanded by Lieutenant Colonel McLeod, the most valued counsellor of the Governor in both constructive and administrative work.

At a great gathering of the Blackfeet and other Indian tribes the Governor told them that the Queen was much pleased with the way they had helped the police and obeyed the law. "The Great Spirit," he said, "had made the white men and the red men brothers, and we should take each other by the hand." The great Mother loves all her children, white men and red men alike. You will always find the Mounted Police on your side if you obey the Queen's laws.

The head chief Crow Foot, coming forward to sign the treaty, declared that the advice given to his people had proved to be good. "If the Police had not come," he said, "where would we all be now? Bad men and whiskey were killing us so fast that very few of us would be left today. The Mounted Police have protected us as the feathers of the bird protect it from the frosts of winter."

The Mounted Police, owing to the character of their commander, and of the men themselves, quickly won for the new administration the authority that the Hudson Bay Company form-

erly held. The uprising of 1885, known as the 2nd Riel Rebellion, four years after the close of Mr. Laird's term of office, indicates upon how slight a misunderstanding the Indians and Metis might have repeated in Canada the atrocities of Indian warfare which had added fear and torture to the hardships of frontier life in the United States.

When Governor Laird's term of office had expired there was established on a firm basis peace, order and good government throughout the territories which he had organized and governed for upwards of eight years.

In summing up his work I may quote the words of the representative of the London Morning Post of October 10, 1905, who was present at the celebration of the establishment of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, at which the first Governor was the guest of honor: "Mr. Laird's regime," he said, "was as full of romance as it was of hardship." "He well and truly laid the foundations of organized Government in the territories." "His life and work a model for those who have sat in or may occupy high places for earthly dominion."

We have now reached the time when the territory of the Dominion was acquired and assembled under one Central Government. The political organization was accomplished but physically it was an inert giant, with unconnected nerve centres and no general circulation. It first became a co-ordinated physical unit when on the 7th day of November, 1885, at Craigellachie, B.C., Donald Alexander Smith drove the last spike in the Canadian Pacific Railway. Who was this man and why was he chosen for this crowning act of the greatest enterprise ever accomplished by a people so few and of such limited wealth?

We find him first a Scotch lad in a dreary Hudson Bay post in Labrador (1838) where he served for thirteen years; then ten years in another post on the shore of Hudson Bay, where he rose to be a chief factor. Henceforth his promotion was rapid. Seven years later we find him in Montreal, resident Governor of the whole Hudson Bay service. In 1869 and 1870 he was appointed by the Government of Canada as a special commissioner with extensive powers to Manitoba to deal with the Riel Rebellion, where he played his part so well that when Lord Walsley arrived with the relief expedition there was no more fighting to be done. In the Dominion election which quickly followed he was elected as the first Member of Parliament for Winnipeg. In Winnipeg he came in contact with his cousin George Stephen, James J. Hill, and others who were engaged in Railway enterprises across the boundary line. By wise investment in the N. P. and St. P. M. & M. Rys. he greatly increased his fortune and thus equipped himself and his associates for the greater enterprise that awaited them.

The situation in Canada was then extremely critical. British Columbia had come into Confederation on the express contract that within ten years from the date of the union the Dominion should construct a Railway connecting the Railway system of Canada with the Pacific coast of British Columbia. Nine out of the ten years had expired and not more than 700 miles of railway had been laid in sections here and there. The scheme of a Government Railway was hopeless when Donald A. Smith, George Stephen, Duncan McIntyre and R. B. Angus undertook to promote the C. P. R. and to construct it in ten years. They did it in less than half the agreed time. It was an enterprise so gigantic that it is little wonder that many wise men of lesser courage and shorter vision regarded it either as impossible or possible only at such a cost as would bankrupt Canada. It did very nearly bankrupt the promoters. It is a matter of history that they used up all their private means in the undertaking, pledged their property to the last dollar, and then, one day, found themselves at the end of both means and credit. In despair they turned to the Government of Canada and succeeded by the narrowest margin in procuring a loan of \$30,000,000 which carried them safely through. Promptly all their obligations were met and the loan liquidated.

When the first train from the St. Lawrence reached the Pacific terminus, Vancouver was merely a small clearing in the forest scarcely three months old. Again a great crisis in the life of Canada was safely passed.

Engaged in the development of this great enterprise and at the same time Governor in Chief of the Hudson Bay Company, which was steadily adapting itself to the new conditions under which it operated since the surrender of its charter, his days were passed in nation building activities. In the fulness of time, his work accomplished, he closed his career as Lord of Strathcona, High Commissioner of Canada, crowned with riches and honor.

The foundation of the Dominion of Canada by the union of the two Canadas with New Brunswick and Nova Scotia may be said to be the greatest event in the history of Canada, just as the greatest event in any person's life may be said to be his birth.

With that event we are at once associate two names, John A. McDonald and George Etienne Cartier. Their heads were high above the crowd of able and wise men of different races who were moving towards the consolidation and maintenance of a British Nation on this continent within the Empire. These two men, dissimilar in all ways except in high aims, indomitable courage and patriotic zeal, will go down through history with their names firmly linked together as indispensable factors in the building of Canada.

For the present purpose we will consider Sir John McDonald apart. He was of Scottish birth, the son of Hugh McDonald and Helen Shaw. He had chosen law for his profession and opened his office in Kingston. In his first year of practice he took as a student a Scotch lad named Oliver Mowatt. Not long afterwards Alexander Campbell was articulated to him, and in time both students were admitted to the bar. Twenty-five years later all were members of the same administration, and after another twenty-five years all were knighted for distinguished services: the principal was Prime Minister of Canada, one of his students was Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and the other Premier of that Province with a reputation scarcely less than that of his Chief.

It may have been the result of a series of coincidences that all through his career Sir John McDonald was attended by able and public spirited colleagues; but it is a sounder inference that he was possessed to an unusual degree of the power to call forth the genius of his associates.

It is at once an attribute and a proof of greatness in a leader that the men associated with him are fired with the same spirit as their chief. Few great men have been so fortunate in their biographers as Sir John McDonald. Sir Joseph Pope knew him most intimately in his public and private life, loved him and had the capacity to understand and appreciate him. He thus sums up his wonderful gift of leadership. "He inspired not merely his followers with a devotion almost without parallel in political annals but drew to his side first one, and then another of his opponents until it could truly be said at the end of his days that he had the proud satisfaction of knowing that almost every leading man who had begun political life as his opponent ended by becoming his colleague and friend. No public man has ever in Canada won in an equal degree the sustained admiration of his fellow citizens and at the same time their affection as had Sir John McDonald at the time of his death."

Many names of the same kindred and race might be added to the role of builders of Canada, some whose deeds the world has known but many others "who lived anonymous lives and died in the wilderness unknown soldiers."

There is some advantage in regarding separately the work of the different races that have founded Canada. There is a pride of race (the reverse of vanity) that carries with it a sense of responsibility to maintain the best and highest traditions of the past, which is a priceless heritage. It may be best expressed in the words inscribed on a monument to nearly 1,000 sons of the University of Edinburgh who died in the Great War:—

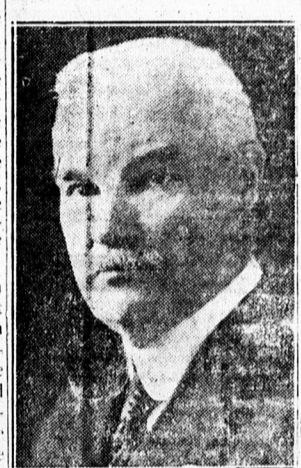
"All the earth is witness that they answered as befitted their ancestry."

Such is a measure of the responsibility that the sons of Scotland now bear in this land.

RED ROSE TEA "is good tea" TEA People who want the very best use Red Rose Orange Pekoe Tea

Billion Mark Passed By Sun Life

It is seldom that a financial institution is able to mark the completion of its year with two such happy announcements as those made at the annual meeting of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada. At the meeting in question, President Macaulay was able to announce that the assurance in force of the Sun Life Company is now considerably in excess of one billion dollars—a level never before reached by a Canadian company.



MR. T. B. MACAULAY President Sun Life of Canada

In the same address he stated that although, owing to the rapid expansion of business it had been found necessary to greatly extend the head office building accommodations, the formal opening of which followed the annual meeting itself, it was evident that still further space must at once be provided. This in spite of the fact that the new Sun Life Building is one of the finest and most commodious in Canada, is devoted exclusively to the use of the Company and houses about eleven hundred of a staff.

The fifty-fifth annual report which appears in another column, reflects the enterprise which has marked the Company's operations, future, as his capabilities were recognized and he was counted worthy to succeed in the line of Canada but throughout the world, noble men who have served in the medical profession in this community. Besides his mother and father, of the Dominion, but shares with Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Keir, there are one or two of the banks and transportation companies the honour of Miss Elizabeth; an aunt, Miss Anne F. Keir, and an uncle, Mr. John B. Keir. Mrs. D. P. McNutt is also an aunt, and Dr. Erskine Keir, Alberton, and Mr. Edgar Keir, Vancouver, B.C., are uncles.



MR. ARTHUR B. WOOD Vice-President and Actuary Sun Life of Canada

The assurance in force was increased last year by \$149,460,644, bringing the grand total up to \$1,021,097,101. In keeping with this the assets were increased by nearly \$29,000,000, making the total assets now \$303,056,145. Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries of \$25,441,582, brought the total amount so paid since the Company was organized to \$219,259,710. The total net income for the year was nearly \$70,000,000. Policyholders will share in another increase in profits—the sixth consecutive increase of this kind.

The profits of the year based on valuation of securities made by government officials has been \$21,666,284. From this amount it has been thought advisable to deduct \$3,000,000. During the year there was paid or allotted as profits to policyholders the sum of \$7,662,784. After deducting this sum and accretions to shareholders' account, allocating \$2,500,000 to contingency account, writing off \$750,000 on buildings and real estate, and setting aside \$350,000 to further strengthen the special reserve to provide for possible greater longevity among annuitants, the Company has added \$6,532,642 to its undivided profits. Its total surplus over all liabilities, contingencies and capital is now \$28,640,000. The mean invested assets of the Company have earned during the year 6.41 per cent—a remarkable showing in view of the downward tendencies in interest. One of the important factors in producing this gratifying result was an increase in the dividends paid by some of the corporations in which the Company has substantial stock holdings. The wise selection of investments which has marked the policy of the Company is also shown in the remarkable increase in the market value of its securities. For many years the Sun Life has specialized in long term bonds and preferred and common stocks of Canada and the United States. It is now reaping the reward of that policy. On actual sales of municipal debentures and other securities which had risen to high premiums, it realized a net profit of \$2,215,772, while the increase in the value of securities still held has been even greater. The Company has not only highly efficient management with Mr. T. B. Macaulay as president, but has a very strong board of directors including some of the leading financial and industrial figures to the Dominion. The board which has hitherto consisted of twelve is being increased to fifteen. Altogether the report of the Sun Life, establishing new and remarkable levels in business, makes very heartening reading for the people of Canada.

MALPEQUE NOTES

In the passing of Mr. David Keir this community was stirred to its very depths and saddened beyond measure, and the profound sympathy of all will be extended to the members of the grief-stricken home in their sorrow. David was the only son of the home, was a bright promising young man of twenty-two years, and was more than ordinarily beloved by all who knew him. It seemed as though if one thought of him, it was in kindness, and if his name was spoken, it was a synonym of love and sweetness. The deceased had been attending McGill for three years, with a view to studying medicine. He had not returned to his studies since the Christmas holidays, as it was necessary for him to undergo an operation. His passing is a severe shock to his parents, for in David he had centred the brightest hopes for the future, as his capabilities were recognized and he was counted worthy to succeed in the line of Canada but throughout the world, noble men who have served in the medical profession in this community. Besides his mother and father, of the Dominion, but shares with Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Keir, there are one or two of the banks and transportation companies the honour of Miss Elizabeth; an aunt, Miss Anne F. Keir, and an uncle, Mr. John B. Keir. Mrs. D. P. McNutt is also an aunt, and Dr. Erskine Keir, Alberton, and Mr. Edgar Keir, Vancouver, B.C., are uncles.

In the death of Mr. Colin Donald there has passed from our community one of our most highly respected citizens. Mr. Donald was born in Sea View fifty-eight years ago, and was the son of the late Wm. B. and Mrs. Donald. This community was very greatly saddened last autumn on learning that Mr. Donald was suffering from cancer of the stomach, and that his case was beyond medical skill. During those four months and even previous to that time he was laid aside from his active duties in connection with his farm life, and during the last few weeks he gradually weakened till at length he passed to the beyond on Monday night, Feb. 8. The deceased was a practical, successful farmer, an honorable citizen, and a consistent member of Princeton Presbyterian church (United.) He served on the managing board of this church about twenty-five years, and co-operated in every movement for its advancement. He will be greatly missed in the different activities of life in the community, but especially will his loss be felt in his home, where he leaves to mourn a devoted wife, formerly Miss Elizabeth Crozier, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Crozier, Malpeque; one daughter, Miss Mildred, and three sons, Messrs. William, Fred and Alden; Mrs. Charles Lockhart, of Spring Lake, is also a daughter, and Mr. Keith Donald, who is connected with a fax firm in Delaware Water Gap, Penn., and who is at present visiting his home, is a son. Mrs. Herbert Davison, of Kensington, is a sister of the deceased. To all of those the loving sympathy of the whole community is extended in their sorrow. The funeral service is to be conducted with Masonic honors, and will be held on Friday at 1.30 o'clock. This community was again saddened on learning of the passing of Mrs. George W. Wiggins, of Barrington. Mrs. Wiggins has resided lately in Charlottetown, but was a resident of Darnley, for about fifty years, where she was well and favorably known. The deceased will be remembered as a lady possessing many lovable qualities, and in very many respects worthily presented the type of womanhood which all revere, and speak of as belonging to "ye olden time." Much sympathy is extended to her daughter, Mrs. Fitzgerald of Charlottetown, and her son, Mr. Louis Wiggins, of Darnley.

Children Cry for Fletcher's CASTORIA. MOTHER:—Fletcher's Castoria is a pleasant, harmless Substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Teething Drops and Soothing Syrups, especially prepared for Infants in arms and Children all ages. To avoid imitations, always look for the signature of J. C. Fletcher. Proven directions on each package. Physicians everywhere recommend it.