The Historic Landmarks Association of Canada

Guide To Historical Societies
Established in Canada

Annual Report
1918
JUBILEE OF CONFEDERATION

UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL COLUMN BY THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA

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Durnford, Mrs. A. D., 9 Simpson St., Montreal.

Durnford, E. C., P.O. Box 68, Fairville, N.B.

Durnford, Miss M. G., 660 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.

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Gilkison, Miss Isabelle Grant, 37 Alfred St., Brantford, Ont.


Graham, Baron, of Athelstan & Huntingdon, and Edinburgh, Scotland, 533 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.

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Hamilton, Basil C., Columbia Valley Fruit Lands Ltd., Invermere, B.C.
Hamilton, John, Union Bank Bldg., Quebec.
Hampson, Robert, 1 St. John St., Montreal.
Harkin, J. B., Commissioner, Dominion Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, Ottawa.
Hastings, Geo. V., 55 Donald St., Winnipeg.
Hebden, E. F., 445 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.
Hendrie, Lady, Government House, Toronto.
Hemming, H. K. S., 274 Beaver Hall Hill, Montreal.
Herlot, J. C. A. 628 Union Ave., Montreal.
Hill, H. P., 110 Wellington St., Ottawa.
Hingston, Lady, 460 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.
Hodgson, H. A., 4316 Montrose Ave., Westmount.
Holmes, Jas. G., 4610 St. Catherine St., Montreal.
Horetsky, Mrs. C. G. Stansilaua, 213 Laurier Ave., Ottawa.
Hope, Jas., 147 Dufferin Road, Ottawa.
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Howay, His Honour Judge, LL.D., F.R.S.C., Law Courts, New Westminster, B.C.
Howell, Arch R., 572 Victoria Ave., Westmount.
Houston, H. C., Mgr. Imperial Bank of Canada, King and Spadina Ave., Toronto.
Hudson, T. S., 596 Grosvenor Ave., Westmount.
Hughes, Miss Katherine, 684 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.
James, Major R. H., (Overseas).
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Kennedy, Sir John, 57 Common St., Montreal.
Killan, Herbert, Provincial Library, Victoria, B.C.
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Labatt, Theodore, 804 Dominion Express Bldg., Montreal.
Lacoste, Sir Alex., K.C., 7 Place d'Armes, Montreal.
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Livingston, Miss J. C., 303 May St. South, Fort William, Ontario.
Locke, Geo. H., Chief Librarian, Public Library, Toronto.

Longley, The Hon. Mr. Justice, F.R.S.C., 18 Green St., Halifax, N.S.

*LeSueur, W. D., LL.D., F.R.S.C., 326 Waverley St., Ottawa,

Machar, Mis A. M., 25 Sydenham St., Kingston, Ont.

Mair, Chas. P.O. Box 10, Fort Steele, B.C.

Magor, J. H., 47 Rosemount Ave., Westmount.

Malloch, Dr. A. E., 28 Duke St., Hamilton, Ont.

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Meredith, Chas., P.O. Box 1556, Montreal.

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The Annual Fee for a Corresponding Society is Five Dollars.

The Annual Fee for an Individual Member is One Dollar.

Remit with instructions to the Treasurer, George Durnford, Esq., F.C.A., Room 58, Canada Life Building, Montreal.
To the members of the
Historic Landmarks Association of Canada.

We have again to report a busy year and a voluminous correspondence.

It is but fair to state that your officers had under very serious consideration this spring the possibility of "closing down" until after the end of the war. But, having given the matter very careful thought, we concluded it would be impracticable: that our duties are not such as can be laid aside and taken up again at any future date, and that, should we attempt so to do, we would lose, for Canada, the benefit of a great volume of painstaking work and many valuable records which are now in our hands, and in the hands of our members all over the Dominion. We have, therefore, decided to carry on, but to curtail all unnecessary expense.

As you are aware we have been publishing details of Historic Sites in the Dominion. In the "Review of Historical Publications" issued by the University of Toronto, they say:—

"The Annual Report for 1916 of The Historic Landmarks Association of Canada contains an interesting list of the historic sites in Canada and Newfoundland already marked. It is more extensive than most people would have imagined. The Report is a most creditable production and shows a real growth of historic feeling in Canada."

In spite of the fact that our first edition appears to the reviewers surprisingly extensive, we have on hand authentic matter to make an even larger Second Edition. But, owing to increased printing costs, we will postpone such publication till after the end of the war.

We have a Dominion wide responsibility; and since we cannot stop, there is nothing to do but go on. We have no Government or Federal aid, and our necessary expenses in war time will have to be met from the annual subscriptions of our members, and I sincerely trust our own members will stick by us, and not follow the plan, which I regret to say has been adopted by two individual subscribers, who have written asking to resign because they are stopping all subscriptions for the duration of the war. I hope our members will consider, as we do, that our work is not only necessary but patriotic; finding, if they will, cause to rejoice in the fact that our subscriptions are so small as to be almost nominal.

PEMBERTON SMITH,
12 President.
Memorial Column of Parliament Building

On the fiftieth anniversary of the Confederation of the British Colonies in North America as the Dominion of Canada the Parliament and People dedicate this Building in process of reconstruction after damage by fire as a memorial of the deeds of their forefathers and of the valour of the Canadians in the Great War fought for the Liberties of Canada of the Empire and of Humanity.
REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

The Historic Landmarks Association of Canada still continues a Dominion-wide effort to preserve and record its historic sites: the growing interest in its past history does not fail even in the heart-rending anxieties of the present. This is evidenced in the large amount of data received since our last Annual Meeting and faithfully recorded for Section II.

While marking the past, memorials to our fallen heroes have been noted from the first "War Shrine" in Esquimault, B.C.—to Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. where in its Centenary year; a chair of government and political science has been founded in Memory of Capt. Eric Dennis. A baptismal Font placed in St. Peter's Church, Cobourg, in Memory of Lieut Wilgress, is another of many instances in which the memorial has taken the form of lasting benefit to posterity. It has been said:—"The first Canadian Division made a new landmark in Canadian history and brought imperishable glory to Canada." Many are following in their footsteps and wherever action is taken to preserve their names and memories, a strong desire is expressed that these memorials shall be appropriate and of permanent value rather than purely decorative.

The outstanding historic event of the past year took place at Ottawa, when the Duke of Devonshire, Governor General of Canada and "Visitor" of our Association unveiled the axial column of the new Parliament Building inscribed with the following inspiring message to every Canadian:—"July 1867-1917. On the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Commemoration of the Confederation of British Colonies in North America as the Dominion of Canada. The Parliament and People dedicate this Building, in process of reconstruction after damage by fire, as a Memorial of the deeds of their Fathers and of the valor of those Canadians who in the great war fought for the liberties of Canada, of the Empire and of Humanity."—to quote the Chairman of Committee, Sir Geo. E. Foster:—"When another fifty years have run their course and an immeasurably greater Canada shall celebrate her Centenary, it may be of interest to those then living to turn over the pages of this simple memorial record and give a thought to those who in July, 1917, amid the throes of a world war, recognized with grateful pride the imperishable work of the immortal Fathers of Confederation."

Some instances in which permanent memorials are postponed until history making needs have been adequately met:—in Saskatchewan, the site of the first Capital of the North West Terri-
tories, near Fort Pelly, where wooden boards record:—"On this Spot the first session of the North West Council was held, March 8th, 1877, presided over by the Hon. David Laird, etc." While in Nova Scotia, the town of Amherst celebrated the Jubilee year of the birth of the Dominion by placing temporary wooden tablets to mark the birthplace of four of the Fathers of Confederation born within its limits. From the site in East Amherst where the late Sir Charles Tupper, Bart, first saw the light 96 years ago, to West Amherst the birthplace of the Hon. Senator R. B. Dickie. At the section now termed the Experimental Farm, the birthplace of the Hon. Jonathan McCully, to the residence on Victoria St. where the Hon. E. B. Chandler was born, each (with change of name and date) was marked successively by a tablet similar to the latter:—"Birthplace of the Honorable E. B. Chandler. One of the Fathers of Confederation. Born August 22nd, 1800. Died February 6th, 1880. Permanent Tablet to be Erected Here Later." These great leaders kept but one view steadily before their minds—the danger of disunion and the possibility of a great nation being born in Canada.

Among fresh data received of sites marked and unmarked, a few might be mentioned in passing, from the farthest north Cairn, erected by Capt. J. E. Bernier, on Key Point, Bathurst Island, in the Arctic Archipelago. The sites in New Westminster, British Columbia of Fort Langly, the first Mint in Canada, and the Simon Fraser Monument. In Victoria, the monument erected by the People of British Columbia to the memory of their first Governor and Commander-in-Chief. Through the "Great Divide" between that province and Alberta where a monument is erected to Sir James Hector, Geologist and Explorer to the Palliser Expedition of 1857-60. To Lower Fort Garry, Winnipeg, Manitoba, the first and last residential stone fortress, where never a shot was fired. The old fort is a "sermon in stone" of the traditions and spirit of the Hudson's Bay Company: the starting point of journeys of discovery and scientific tours for four decades.

In Ontario an event of world-wide importance was commemorated, Oct. 24th, 1917, at Brantford, the home city of Alexander Graham Bell, when an ideal memorial was unveiled by the Duke of Devonshire, to him whose inventive genius has brought mankind into closer touch than any invention of modern times. The sculptor (W. S. Allward) sought to bring out as the dominant note the discovery by man of his power to transmit sound through space.
BELL TELEPHONE MEMORIAL

Page 14
Above the reclining figure of Man is Inspiration, urging him on to greater endeavor, while at the end of the panel are the floating figures of Knowledge, Joy and Sorrow, brought to man by the telephone. On either side of the main portion of the monument are two heroic female figures in bronze on granite, representing Humanity, the one depicted in the act of sending the other of receiving a message, some distance apart, telling in stone the power of the telephone to travel great distances.

An event unique in the annals of shipbuilding took place in Toronto last June at the ways of the Polson Iron Works—the fourfold launching of the Canadian Fishery Protection vessels bearing respectively the historic names of "Ypres," "Vimy," "Messines," and "St. Julien," memorizing famous Canadian victories. The event also marked a record for shipbuilding on this continent.

To Dr. James Coyne we are indebted for an account of the Celebration of the Talbot Settlement Centenary, which was observed by the erection of a Cairn at which representatives of twenty-eight townships placed the stones inscribed in the order of settlement from Dunwich to Zone.

In the Province of Quebec a chapter from the history of Canada is written on the gateway of the Fort of Chambly, here on the massive doorway are chiselled the great names of early Canada, already recorded on the more enduring scroll of history. Its old flagstaff has borne in turn the Lily of France, the Cross of England and the Stars and Stripes.

While gathering material for the Archives, one of our landmarkers made the discovery at the Record Office in London that the first post office in Canada was established in Halifax in 1755, antedating Quebec by eight years.

A fitting tribute was paid to the wife of our Royal "Patron" in November last, when a tablet was unveiled by His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire in St. Bartholomew's Church, bearing the inscription:—"To the Glory of God and in Memory of Louise Margaret, wife of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General of Canada, 1911-1916. Died March 14th, 1917." This Tablet was erected by Canadian Women friends, in affectionate and grateful remembrance of Her Royal Highness' untiring effort in all good works and self sacrificing devotion to Canada." Among those present on that occasion was the late British Ambassador at Washington, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice whose sudden call came three months later at Rideau Hall and whose funeral was
held at the same Church, attended by the chosen envoys of Britain, France, the United States, Belgium and Japan with Canada's leading representatives. We record a few memorable words from his last address, delivered before the Canadian Club on the 21st of January. "We fight under the Sign of the Cross, and under that sign we shall conquer. . . . The Cross is a sign of patience under suffering, not patience under wrong. . . . All of us are subjects of the Prince of Peace who fought the greatest of all fights and won the greatest of victories with His blood."

The passing of our first distinguished "Visitor" the late Earl Grey was marked by a special memorial service in Christ Church Cathedral, September 1st, 1917. His words in 1909 when Governor General of Canada are fittingly recalled:—"Confederation has put a soul into the Dominion—has put a national spirit into the people of Canada, whose lustre and growth are at once the hope and glory of the British Empire."

In the last member of the first Parliament at Confederation, the late Senator Sir Mackenzie Bowell, we lost an enthusiastic landmarker, though in his 94th year he took an active interest in the work of our Association. We also record with sorrow the loss during the past season of two highly esteemed Charter members, W. D. LeSueur, LL.D., F.R.S.C. and Wilfred Campbell, LL.D., F.R.S.C.—the latter's words live on—his poems continue to inspire us with the abiding faith that the cause of truth and justice cannot die:

"The fight goes on, though slower than men thought;
But still it goes; and Britain works her way,
With her great-hearted allies; unsullied, unbought;
Toward that true dawn which ushers freedom's day."
Respectfully submitted,

J. RUSSELL SIMPSON,
General Secretary.

NOTE—We are specially indebted for original data to:—Mrs. Chas. L. Shaw, Toronto, Miss Janey Livingstone, author of "Historic Silver Islet," Fort William, Ont., Miss Catherine Welland Merritt, St. Catharines, Ont., notes, plan, etc., 're Centenary of the Welland Canal, 28th September, 1918.

His Honor, Mr. Justice W. F. Howay, New Westminster, British Columbia data, Mr. H. W. LeMessurrier, C.M.G., St. Johns, Newfoundland, for further data 're its historic sites.

Mr. Fred Cook, Asst. King's Printer, special notes on the
boundary post, presented during his Mayoralty, by the late Dr. W. F. King, C.M.G., H.B.M. Boundary Commissioner. And Mr. Thomas Ritchie, Belleville, 're Restoration of Old Sun Dial, erected on Barrack (now Parliament) Hill, on the N.E. corner, above entrance Lock of Rideau Canal by the Royal Sappers and Miners under Colonel By.—J.R.S.

NOTE—Re Memorials, P. 13—In some instances example might be taken from the California miner, James Lick, who wished to devote his fortune to the erection of a monument which would make his name long remembered by his fellow citizens, and at the same time be of real value in the future, he decided on an Observatory, his body rests under the foundation of his great telescope.—A noble Monument!—J.R.S.
Je ne parlerai dans ce rapport que de la province de Québec parce que c'est la seule qui m'a occupé durant les derniers douze mois. À l'occasion des conférences que j'ai données dans les villes, j'ai vu avec plaisir que l'on est plus porté que jamais à étudier l'histoire au point de vue local et par là même on est amené à connaitre et à remettre en évidence des souvenirs qui se perdraient et dont un bon nombre sont déjà oubliés. J'ai prêché cette doctrine qui est la nôtre: le patriotisme commence autour de nous et quand on a su apprendre l'histoire de notre paroisse avec ses principaux personnages on est tout préparé à voir clairement dans les annales de la grande patrie ce qu'il y faut admirer et proposer comme modèle. Ceci est une branche de l'éducation nationale et non pas la moindre. Plus on y réfléchi, plus elle paraît essentielle à l'intelligence patriotique. À mesure qu'un certain groupe de personnes acquiert des connaissances nouvelles sur les choses du passé, il en résulte immédiatement un désir de les rendre publiques par quelque monument visible aux yeux de tous et qui comporte un sens moral propre à élever l'esprit des citoyens en rattachant leur existence à la vie des ancêtres. Combien de fois n'ai-je pas songé durant ses conférences à une époque que j'ai connue et où de pareilles propositions auraient parues étranges, tandis qu'à présent elles sont dans la bouche d'un grand nombre d'orateurs zélés dans leur propagande, et j'ose dire comprenant mieux l'idée nationale que la génération qui les a précédés. Tout cela promet pour l'avenir. Déjà notre tâche est devenue plus légère et bientôt ces choses marcheront d'elles-mêmes.

Respectueusement soumis,

BENJAMIN SULTE,
Secrétaire français.
REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

To the President and Members of the
Historic Landmarks Association of Canada.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:
I have again the honour of presenting to you the Financial Statement of the Association for the year ending the 30th April, 1918.

The total Receipts have been $354.05
Bank Balance, 30th April, 1917 305.53

$659.58

Working Expense for year 401.95
Bank Balance, 30th April, 1918 257.63

659.58

There are a few subscriptions overdue by members, which it is hoped will come in during the present season.

Owing to the frightful war waged by the German nation, having in view the enslavement of the world, expenses have greatly increased; and this year the disbursements exceed the revenue by $47.90. I would again express the hope that members will try to increase our membership; and even assist by additional donations.

During the year the Life Members have been added to, bringing the number up to eighteen—which represents a capital of $450.00; all of which had to be used to carry on the work, and should be looked upon as a loan, to be replaced hereafter.

The sincere thanks of the Association are due to our capable energetic and zealous General Secretary, Mrs. J. B. Simpson, whose remuneration is absurdly inadequate to the duties of her office and the time she gives in the interest of the Association.

The Association has accomplished a great deal of valuable work dealing with the history of Canada, which cannot be allowed to drop; and your Board looks for the support of all the members, and others interested in the preservation of Canadian Landmarks, to assist them.

Respectfully submitted,

G. DURNFORD,
Honourary Treasurer.
THE HISTORIC LANDMARKS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.
CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For Year ended 30th April, 1918.

RECEIPTS.

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DISBURSEMENTS.

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G. DURNFORD,
Honorary Treasurer.

Audited and found correct:
Riddell, Stead, Graham & Hutchison,
Chartered Accountants.
Montreal, 8th May, 1918.