

PRESERVING HISTORIC SCENES

Count not the cost of honor to the dead! The tribute that a mighty nation pays To those who loved her well in former days, Means more than gratitude for glory fed, For every noble man that she hath bred, Immortalized by art's immortal praise, Lives in the bronze and marble that we raise. —Henry Van Dyke.

Five years ago a national movement was inaugurated by the Dominion government for the preservation of historic shrines in Canada. The necessity for such a movement was presented to the government by various organizations whose members had taken practical steps to preserve local historic remains, or had erected by private subscription monuments to the great dead who had counted life not dear unto themselves. It was pointed out that unless immediate action were taken many sites of historic significance would be obliterated before the march of industrial progress and that already stones hewn from the quarries in the old world and brought across the Atlantic to build fortifications for the defence of Canada had been carried away by the shipload for the construction of modern buildings. Entrenchments where great deeds were wrought, which should have been held sacred for all time, had been levelled by the plough and their valuable contributions to the history of the country lost beyond recovery. It is safe to say that few movements ever received more general approbation. The beautiful words of Joseph Howe were accepted as the sentiment of the nation: "A wise nation preserves its records, gathers up its monuments, decorates the tombs of its illustrious dead, repairs its great structures, and fosters national pride and love of country, by perpetual reference to the sacrifices and glories of the past."

In June, 1919, there was created an honorary Historic Sites and Monuments Board to advise the government concerning such sites as might be considered of national importance. The board was re-organized and reconstituted by Order-in-Council on March 27th, 1923, and now consists of the following personnel: Brig-General E. A. Cruikshank, L.L.D., Ottawa, representing Ontario; Dr. James H. Coyne, St. Thomas, representing Ontario; J. Pimmsoll Edwards, Halifax, N.S., representing Nova Scotia; Dr. J. Clarence Webster, Shediac, N.B., representing New Brunswick; Judge F. W. Howay, New Westminster, B.C., representing Western Canada; Dr. Victor Morin, Montreal, Que., representing Quebec; J. B. Harkin, commissioner Canadian national parks, Department of the Interior, administrative officer; Arthur A. Pinard, officer of the Canadian national parks branch, secretary.

The administration of the movement was placed under the control of the national parks branch of the Department of the Interior. The board, which serves without remuneration, is composed of some of the most distinguished historians in Canada and its personnel stretches from coast to coast. Each member of it is a specialist in some section of Canadian history and brings to the service of Canadian sites the ripe knowledge of many years' extensive study. General Cruikshank, the chairman, has written extensively on historic matters for many years and the remaining members have all done original and authoritative work in their respective provinces.

During the past five years more than 800 sites have been considered by the board and out of these 126 have been judged to be of national importance and have been recommended as worthy of preservation by the Dominion government. The survey is still under way and when completed an historic sites map of the Dominion will be published. Sixty-one sites, recommended by the board, have been secured by the department for the purpose of commemoration either by transfer from other departments, deed of gift, or lease of occupation. On sites where there are no historic remains but where it is desired to commemorate historic occurrences, a shaft, cairn or boulder is erected to carry a standard bronze tablet. The central panel of the tablet is occupied with a suitable inscription and historic data and around its border phases of Canadian history are symbolically represented.

The following twenty-one sites have been marked by the department and the unveiling and dedication of the memorials carried out:

New Brunswick. Fort Cumberland, about four miles from Amherst, formerly the old French Fort Beauséjour, captured in 1755 by the British and named Fort Cumberland, and Fort Monckton, about one and one-half miles from Fort Elgin, formerly old Fort Gaspareaux, erected by the French in 1750 to command the defence of the isthmus of Chignecto and captured in 1755 by the British; Fort St. Lawrence, about three miles from Amherst, erected in 1750 at Misagouche by Major Charles Lawrence and the scene of fierce struggles between the French and English during the eighteenth century. At St. John a site was provided by

the city authorities in Market Square and a large granite boulder, to which is affixed a standard tablet, has been erected to commemorate the landing of the United Empire Loyalists, May 18th, 1783, who left their homes and their possessions in the United States and migrated to Canada.

Nova Scotia. Shelburne, as the home of the first fleet of Loyalist settlers, who arrived on May 4th, 1783, has been commemorated by the erection of a large boulder and tablet at the intersection of King and Dock streets, facing the harbor. Fort Edward, at Windsor, formerly the French Fort Pisiquid, which came into possession of the British soon after their establishment of Halifax in 1649, and was used for many years for defensive purposes against the Indians and Acadians, has also been set aside as a national historic site and will be preserved. Fort Anne, at Annapolis Royal, one of the most notable sites on the North American continent, dating back to 1604, when de Monts, Champlain and kindred brave spirits were sent out from France to found a colony in the new world, is now an historic park covering an area of twenty acres. From the time of its founding until the capitulation in 1710, Fort Royal, as it was then known, changed hands six times between the French and the English. In 1713 it was renamed Fort Anne.

Most of the land comprising the famous French Fort of Louisbourg, Cape Breton, erected in 1720-40 at a cost of about six million dollars and the scene of great struggles between the English and French, has been secured for memorial purposes. The final capture of Louisbourg by the British on July 26th, 1758, was the first of a series of events which culminated in the possession of Canada by the British crown. The complete destruction of the noble fortress by the British was one of the great tragedies which war brings in its train.

Quebec. Much attention has naturally been directed to the province of Quebec, where many of the great historic events in the history of Canada have been enacted. One of the most venerable and picturesque ruins on the American continent is Fort Chamblay, situated twenty miles southwest of Montreal, on a conspicuous headland of the Richelieu river. This fort was built by the French in 1685, of wood construction and after many vicissitudes was rebuilt of solid stone by the French in 1709-11. In 1760 it was surrendered to the British and was held by them with a small armed force until 1775, when it was captured by the Americans, who burned everything that was combustible, leaving only the walls standing. Later it was repaired and garrisoned by Governor Carleton, but was completely abandoned in 1851. Steps have been taken to arrest the disintegration of the massive walls and to redeem the cemetery from neglect and decay. Another fortress on the Richelieu river, situated about ten miles from the American border, is Fort Lennox, Ile-aux-Noix, a massive fortress built in 1822 by the Imperial authorities, at immense cost, to be later practically abandoned when the American menace came to an end. This fort has also been placed under the care of the Canadian national parks branch and will remain for all time a romantic memorial of the defence of the Richelieu gateway. At St. Maurice Forges on the St. Lawrence river, about seven miles from Three Rivers, a cairn, tablet and fence have been erected to commemorate the first forges established in Canada in 1730, which supplied the early settlers with stoves, axes, nails, hoes, hammers, spades and other utensils. During the American invasion of 1766, guns were manufac-

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tured there for the defence of Canada. At Three Rivers a boulder, tablet and fence have been erected to commemorate the military operations that took place there during the American invasion of 1776. At Laprairie, a memorial has been erected on the site of the old fort which served as a refuge for the settlers during a quarter of a century of wars from 1687 to 1713. About four miles from Laprairie a cairn and tablet have been erected to commemorate the victory of St. Cir on August 11th, 1691.

Certain historic monuments already erected in Quebec have been transferred to the control of the Canadian national parks branch for future care and maintenance. They include Chateaugay, erected by the Dominion government in 1895 to commemorate the battle of Chateaugay, October 26th, 1813, when the American army invading Lower Canada and marching on Montreal was repulsed by the militia of the province; Madeleine de Vercheres, situated on the banks of the St. Lawrence at Vercheres, erected by the Dominion government in the year 1913 to the memory of Madeleine de Vercheres whose heroic defence against the attacks of the Iroquois in 1692 is one of the most romantic episodes of Canadian history; Eccles Hill, constructed in 1902 by the Dominion government to celebrate the defence of the Canadian volunteers in 1870 against the Fenian raiders.

Ontario. In Ontario a number of important historic sites have been commemorated. Four miles east of Cornwall and near to the Montreal-Toronto provincial highway a cairn and tablet have been erected to mark the site of Glangarry House, the residence of Colonel John Macdonnell, and later an important military post during the war of 1812-14. It is said to be the first stone building erected in Upper Canada. At Kingston a tablet was placed on the walls of the British Whig Publishing Company, which stands on the site of old St. George's Anglican Church, where Lord Simcoe held the first meeting of the Executive Council of the Province of Upper Canada, July 8th, 1792. The Battle of the Windmill, November 13th, 1838, which occurred during the Mackenzie Rebellion, has been commemorated on the north bank of the St. Lawrence river, two miles east of Prescott. A tablet has been placed on the existing monument which marks the Battle of Chrysler's Farm, November 11th, 1813. On Christian Island, near Penetanguishene, a boulder and tablet enclosed by a fence, have been erected to commemorate the Jesuit Fort, Ste. Marie II. Here, in the winter of 1649-50, the Huron nation, under the protection of a band of Jesuit missionaries and their staff, fled for refuge from the Iroquois and built a stone fort 72 feet square, near Bridgeburg. A tablet was placed on a monument erected by the Niagara Falls Park Commission to commemorate the action of Frenchman's Creek, November 28th, 1812, between the Canadian troops and the American invaders. Four miles east of the town of Welland, the battle of Cook's Mills, October 19th, 1814, was commemorated. At Niagara-on-the-Lake the Battle of Fort George, May 27th, 1813, was also marked. On the Mountain Road near Thorold, the Battle of Beechwoods or Beaver Dams, June 28th, 1813, was also commemorated. At Sault Ste. Marie a cairn and tablet were erected to mark the first Sault Ste. Marie Canal, surveyed by the Northwest Fur Company in 1797. Fort Wellington, Prescott, constructed in 1812-13 as the main post for defence between Kingston and Montreal, has also been taken over for preservation. The interesting Glangarry Cairn, situated on Monument Island, in the St. Lawrence river, opposite the village of South Lancaster, and erected by members of the Glangarry Militia, who took part in the suppression of the Rebellion of 1837, in honor of Sir John Colborne, commander of His Majesty's forces in Canada at that time, has received necessary repairs.

Parke Branch for care and preservation. Saskatchewan. Fort Livingstone, covering an area of 860 acres, has been reserved with a view to the creation of a national historic park at a subsequent date. Fort Livingstone was the first capital of the Northwest Territories in 1876-77, and there the first session of the Northwest Council was held. Many other sites are receiving consideration and it is hoped that eventually every historic site of national importance and interest in the Dominion will be preserved from oblivion and become an object of the nation's care.

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SLAG AND GOLD.

By Phil. H. Moore, Thomas Allen, Publisher Toronto. Price, \$2.00. A vivid story of the gold camps of northern Ontario.

The hero, a product of the picturesque underworld of the old time west; he struggles upward, the heir of two tendencies; those of his sire, who was a famous card-sharp, and those of his mother, who was an idealist. The heroine, an alluring girl of high society, full of pep, and a love of adventure—intensely human and bewitching. The villain, strongly characterized as an oily and slick mining stock-broker and the rival of the hero. A cohort of minor villains, crooked lawyers, gamblers, bullies, boot-leggers and those that encourage them. Intertwined is a splendid dog story; and the picture of the forest fire is authentic. The author knows his subject, the atmosphere of the mining camp is patently genuine, and the deal in mining shares an enthralling, object lesson to the investor. "Slag and Gold" is a thrilling Canadian novel; a story of fierce emotions, fights, love, adventure and treasure trove. It will be conducive to late hours for discriminating readers.

In Manitoba, Fort Prince of Wales, situated at Churchill, the most northerly fortress on the American continent, built by the Hudson's Bay Company from 1733 to 1747 has been placed under the general protection of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and steps have been taken to protect the relics from further damage and decay.

Situated about two miles from the City Hall, Winnipeg, directly north of Main street, a monument was erected in 1891 by the Manitoba Historical Society on the site of the encounter at Seven Oaks between the men of the Northwest Fur Company and the Selkirk settlers in 1816, when Governor Robert Semple and twenty of his men were killed. This monument has been taken over by the Canadian National

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