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THE HONOURABLE ALEXANDER MORRIS: THE MAN; HIS WORK

By Lila Staples

The Scots furnish a unique example of a fighting, thinking, praying folk. From humble cottages on bleak Scottish moors have emanated warriors, poets, preachers, as every reader knows. Perhaps then something came to Alexander Morris with his blood.

His grandfather, whose namesake he was, was born in Paisley. There, too, his father, William Morris, was born in 1786. Emigrating to Canada while still a lad in his teens, the latter served with distinction in the War of 1812 and upon its close settled in the county of Lanark. In 1820 he was elected to the Assembly of Upper Canada and until his death, in 1857, was prominently associated with the political life of his province. Intensely Presbyterian, William Morris signalized his third parliamentary session by moving and carrying an address to the King, asserting the claims of the Presbyterian church in Canada to a share in the Clergy Reserves, from which time he was its recognized champion—its Beverley Robinson or its Egerton Ryerson!

It is interesting to find that William Morris' younger brother, James Morris, also made a place for himself in the public life of Canada, representing the county of Leeds in the Assembly and later becoming a member—and then Speaker—of the Legislative Council. Whether scholarship and political genius came to Alexander Morris from his Scottish forebears, or were gifts from the gods, may be mere conjecture. Certain it is he possessed both.

Alexander Morris was born in Perth, Ontario, March 17, 1826, and received his early education in his native town; then, crossing to Scotland, he attended in turn Madras College, St. Andrews, and the University of Glasgow. On returning to Canada he entered the firm of Heward and Thorne, commission merchants of Montreal, but foresaking the commercial world within two years, he became articled as a student-at-law in the office of John A. Macdonald in Kingston.

Associations unique and noteworthy in the extreme cluster about that Kingston office. From its precincts issued four men destined to play large part in the history of the Dominion. These were the great Chief himself—by common consent first of the Fathers of Confederation—and of the others, Oliver Mowat, Alexander Campbell and Alexander Morris, all three held portfolios in the Dominion Cabinet, achieved prominence in the politics of Ontario, and were in their day representatives of the Crown as lieutenant-governors. A record one fancies as unparalled as it is extraordinary.

From Kingston, Morris entered McGill University where he had the distinction of being its first graduate in Arts, and of proceeding successively to its M.A., B.C.L., and D.C.L. degrees. In 1851 he entered upon the practice of his profession in Montreal, "where his resolute industry, the soundness and extent of his legal attainments, and above all his natural brilliancy, soon gave him a conspicuous place."

Ten years later he was, without solicitation on his part, returned to represent his father's old constituency of South Lanark, in the Canadian Assembly. In 1869 he entered the Dominion Cabinet as Minister of Inland Revenue, which office he held until May, 1872. In July of the latter year he became first Chief Justice of Manitoba, and within a few months her second lieutenant governor.

The year following the expiration of his lieutenant-governorship, 1878, found him again in Manitoba. On that occasion he contested with Donald A. Smith, the representation of Selkirk in the Dominion Parliament, but in that trial of strength he sustained defeat by the narrow margin of ten votes. Ontario next claimed him and he was elected to fill the vacancy in the Ontario Legislature caused by the elevation of Matthew Crooks Cameron to a Queen's Bench judgeship. In the provincial elections of the following year he defeated the Honourable Oliver Mowat, in East Toronto, by a majority of fifty-seven. This constituency he continued to represent till ill health forced his retirement in 1886. He died in Toronto, October 28, 1889.

The actual number of responsible positions filled by Alexander Morris must have been equalled by but few Canadians. Aside from his profession, in which he occupied no unenviable place, he was Governor of McGill College, member—and later chairman—of the Board of Trustees of Queen's College, member of the Assembly of Upper Canada and of the first Dominion Parliament, Queen's Privy Councillor and Cabinet Minister, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and Governor, ex-officio, of the Northwest Territories and of Keewatin, Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the Northwest, member of the Ontario Legislature, Commissioner for codifying the statutes of Ontario, director of the Toronto General Trusts Company, the North American Insurance Company, and the Imperial Bank. Surely one who in his time played many parts.

It was in the summer of 1849, at the meeting of the British American League in Kingston, when he was but twenty-three years of age, that Alexander Morris first actively identified himself with the Confederation movement. As is well known, the members of the League were mostly young and ardent Conservatives who were already beginning to see the expediency of repudiating the somewhat barren policy of Sir Allan MacNab and of rallying round the banner of John A. Macdonald, and among the one hundred and thirty delegates present at the Kingston meeting Morris appears to have been one of the youngest. Dent records him as being "busily engaged" in "stirring up" interest in the debate on the Federal Union of the British American Provinces, a debate which occupied the entire afternoon and evening sessions of Saturday, July 28. Nor can his support of the Confederation cause at this time be in any way connected with his association with Macdonald, for the most ordinary student of the movement knows Macdonald as a comparatively late convert to it. At twenty-three, Alexander Morris had seen a vision, and from that time both voice and pen were directed toward its realization.

In 1855 appeared his afterwards very well known essay, *"Canada and her Resources,"* which was awarded second prize by the Paris Exhibition Committee of Canada, after the committee, unable to come to a decision among themselves, had called in the services of Sir Edmund Walker Head. Then followed *Nova Britannia*, a daring picture—*in 1858*—and no less thrilling, of the day when the Pacific should break on Canadian

shores. Dent again records that *Nova Britannia,* read before the Mercantile Association of Montreal, March 18, 1858, was so well received "as to render its publication in pamphlet form almost a necessity," and that within ten days of the appearance of the first edition not a single copy was obtainable. One also notes with interest that this lecture, so strongly advocative of a federated "new Britain" in the northern half of America, was a full six months earlier than the famous Resolutions upon which the reputation of Alexander Galt so soundly rests.

A Nova Britannia comprising the northern half of the American continent Morris boldly declared "no fanciful dream of an enthusiast" but a vision founded rather on well defined argument. From discussion of "the triple cord" which made out of English, Irish and Scottish one great people, he passed, in orderly fashion, to detailed consideration of the various sections of British America—Nova Scotia, Cape Breton Island, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Anticosti and finally to "that great undeveloped North West and Pacific region, including the Red River country, the Saskatchewan and Peace River Territories, British Columbia, and Vancouver Island." In every case he showed surprising knowledge, in its richness and its exactness, of the origin, topography and development of the area in question. One cannot refrain from quoting him in regard to that great Middle West over which he was destined in another decade and a half to preside in official capacity. "This great country cannot long remain unoccupied and if we do not proceed to settle it, the Americans will appropriate it as they did Oregon. Without entering upon the question of the alleged vices in the Charter by which that powerful Company holds its possessions, and the mode of adjudicating thereon, there are certain measures which should be at once adopted. A means of communication by road and water, for summer and winter use, should be opened between Lake Superior and the Red River Settlement . . . . and though there is not here opportunity to enter upon the subject at length, yet, while not going so far as those who would paint all that territory,—some of it bleak and inhospitable enough—I hesitate not to assert there are millions of acres richly arable . . . . Should such a 'Paradise of Fertility' as this remain locked up? Will the gathering of a few peltries more or less compensate for the withdrawal of such a region from the industry of our race?"

The closing sentences, nobly eloquent, hold up the mirror to their speaker. We quote but in part: "And to those young British Americans who are within my hearing I say: Be no loiterers or laggards by the way. Here you have a princely heritage before you. Here steady industry and unflinching integrity will secure the rise of any man. . . . Be your position what it may, your own conduct may dignify and elevate it. You live in a country before which lies a brilliant and a dazzling future. Be equal to the emergencies of your position, and recollect you will have some greater or smaller influence in the shaping of its destinies. Be then true to yourselves and you cannot help rising with your country. Cherish and promote the spread of national sentiment . . . . and henceforth feel you have a country of which any people might well be proud."

Perhaps scarcely so well known as it deserves is a second lecture, "The Hudson's Bay and Pacific Territories," delivered also in Montreal in 1858. In a word its aim was to bring before the public mind the importance and the possibilities of those vast regions comprised by the lecture title,

and to recommend that steps be taken without delay to incorporate them into British America. While Morris made no apologia for his plea, he did not fail to realize that such a recommendation would be received with a good deal of incredulity by the general public. "Some keen utilitarian or some plodding man of business may point the finger of scorn at us and call this but the fleeting fantasy of a dreamer. Be it so. Time is a worker of miracles, aye, and of sober realities too."

At this time Alexander Morris was but thirty-two years of age and so still in the flush of early manhood. His words mark him as a clear and logical thinker, a true Canadian and an ardent Britisher, able to bring to bear at once the exuberance of youth and the wisdom of age upon possibly the most momentous problem which has ever agitated the minds of Canadian public men. He was an early, and he remained a late advocate of Confederation, until he was at last accused of having "Canada on the brain." Back of that phrase lies perhaps both unintentional compliment and truism. Patriot statesmen have always had their country " on the brain." Italia or Canada it matters but little which!

But, while Alexander Morris did yeoman service with his pen in the cause of Confederation, it is in another and very special sense that he deserves the title "Father of Confederation" despite the fact he was not one of those who sat in solemn conference in Quebec in October, 1864.

The breakdown of party government is commonly recognized as one of the most distressing pre-Confederation problems. It may be that of all the difficulties pressing for settlement after 1860 it was the one which, most of all, made Confederation a matter of sheer practicability.

Between 1854 and 1858 there were four administrations and deadlock appeared well above the political horizon. Between then and the epoch-making 1864, ministry followed ministry in quick succession. The game of Ins and Outs was fiercely played on both sides. Constructive legislation became well-nigh impossible, for party leaders were almost wholly concerned with following the line of action best calculated to prolong their span of life. Departments of government were in a state approaching chaos owing to frequent changes of heads and of policies. The fate of an administration hung often on the vote of a hidebound or a capricious member of the Assembly. D'Arcy McGee recalled that period in his own fashion. "Constitutional government had reached its lowest ebb among us when it depended on the successful hunt of a messenger or a page after a member willingly or unwillingly absent from his seat. Anyone in those days might have been the saviour of his country!"

Finally in 1864—to use once again the timeworn metaphor—the old coach came to a dead stop. Its last efforts to ride the ruts was marked by a series of dramatic incidents so well known as to require but barest mention. The Report of the Select Committee to consider federal union on the basis of the Galt Resolutions of 1858 declared that enough unanimity existed among its members to warrant discussion of Confederation coming up at the next session. The Dorion motion condemning a financial transaction under a former government, when Alexander Galt had been Minister of Finance, produced the resignation of the second Taché-Macdonald ministry. Deadlock, long on the way, had arrived at last! The morning following the defeat of the government, Taché called upon Lord Monck and counselled dissolution of the House, but some others of Taché's associates advised delay while an attempt was made toward coalition, and to this latter course the Governor General himself was inclined.

The events which immediately follow demand that one proceed slowly and with care. Upon the resignation of the government, George Brown lost little time in discussing the situation with some of his supporters, and in urging that the existing crisis presented an opportunity of "settling forever" the constitutional difficulty then uppermost. *Nor did he address himself to his supporters alone. In the choice of those Liberal-Conservatives with whom he conferred we believe lies deep significance.* Those were John Henry Pope, member for Compton, and Alexander Morris, member for South Lanark. They, grasping alike the strategy of the hour and their own responsibilities in the matter, obtained Brown's permission to convey the import of their conversation with him to Macdonald and Galt. Out of that message-bearing came the Great Coalition.

Morris's part in making the arrangements between deep-dyed political opponents seems, curiously enough, to have been generally regarded as mere incident—or accident. Those who incline to this view of the case say "whether with or without Alexander Morris, coalition was bound to come." Yet in this very connection, it is at least interesting to find Alexander Mackenzie giving full credit "for value received" in connection with the speedy formation of the coalition ministry, to Morris. In his *"Life and Speeches of the Honourable George Brown,"* Mackenzie says, "The first use made of the victory by Mr. Brown as the western leader, was to consider how to turn the defeat to account in securing the constitutional changes required. He consulted some of his most intimate friends and supporters with a view to ascertaining whether they would be disposed to abate the ordinary party privileges now in their grasp, in order to achieve a more signal triumph in securing such constitutional changes as would effectually do justice to Upper Canada. Finding a general disposition to adopt this view *he next addressed himself to some government supporters—notably Mr. Morris of Lanark*—suggesting that they press on their leaders the wisdom of trying to come to some agreement which could be accepted by both East and West."

The phraseology is illuminating. We note *"he addressed himself to some government supporters—notably Mr. Morris of Lanark."* How significant that "he addressed himself"! This then was no chance meeting, no casual conversation. The Honourable George Brown chose his man. And for what purpose? We quote again. *"To press on their leaders the wisdom of trying to come to some agreement."* The occasion demanded no messenger of the House service but someone in whom the Opposition had confidence, someone whose personality and speech alike had influence within the confines of his own party, someone *"to press on the leaders the wisdom of trying to come to some agreement."* Coalition brought Confederation. Coalition became fact because someone stood between to bridge the gap, or to complete the circuit. Schoolboy reasoning can do the rest.

The debates on Confederation often touch high levels of political thinking. Morris's Confederation speech in the Canadian Assembly was delivered February 23, 1865. The imperial note so clearly evident in his earlier pamphlets is now dominant. " I support the proposal under consideration because in my honest and deliberate judgment I believe this union is calculated in its practical effects to bind us more closely to Britain than any other system . . . . I say the reason this scheme has taken the hold it has upon the public men of this province is that they

see in it an earnest desire to perpetuate British connection." Careful analysis will show it to be, throughout, a speech whose sound logic and finished phrases render it well fit to rank beside the best of those delivered in that most prophetic sitting of the House.

During the session—on February 4, 1865—D'Arcy McGee made explicit reference to Morris's services to the Confederation cause. Said Mr. McGee: "There is another little book to which I must refer. It is a pamphlet which met with extraordinary success, entitled Nova Britannia, by my honourable friend the Member for South Lanark; and as he has been one of the principal agents in bringing into existence this present government, which is now carrying out the idea embodied in his book, I trust he will forgive me if I take the opportunity, although he is here present, of reading a single sentence to show how far he was in advance of, and how true to the coming event we are now considering. Says Mr. Morris, 'The dealing with the destinies of a future Britannic Empire, the shaping its course, the laying its foundations broad and deep, and the erecting thereon a noble superstructure are indeed duties that will nerve the arms and give power and enthusiasm to all true patriots. The very magnitude of the interests involved will I doubt not, elevate many among us above the demands of sectionalism and enable them to evince sufficient comprehension of mind to deal in the spirit of real statesmanship, with issues so momentous, and to originate a national line of commercial and general policy adapted to the exigencies of our position.' There are many such excellent passages in the work but the spirit which animates the whole will be seen from the extract I have read."

It would seem, then, that Alexander Morris occupies his own—and no inconspicuous—niche, in the Confederation movement. "Many men," it has been said, "brought gifts to the minting of Confederation," and many are the discriminating summaries which have been made, of those gifts. Macdonald laid there his supreme skill as a tactician and manager of men; Brown gave his all in a single act of self-abnegation; Galt, first of them all brought Confederation within the range of practical politics, and quite as important, he won Cartier; Cartier battled down the racial opposition of his own people, and then stood on guard to protect their interests; Tupper dealt to the cause its first concrete impetus, then bided his time and used his sagacity; McGee gave his Celtic fervor and finally his lifeblood. We attempt to make no case for Morris. *He speaks for himself.* We simply state that as early as 1849 his was "a Voice crying in the wilderness." To those practical, occasion-ridden Fathers who made Confederation fact we are unquestioned debtors. To those less practical men, perhaps, the McGees and the Morrises of the movement, do we not owe another type of debt? Ideals must ever be made vocal or "the people perish."

In Alexander Morris's connection with the West we of the West will always find particular interest. In 1870 the Manitoba Act created the province of Manitoba as the first westward stretching link in the Confederation chain, and in July, 1872, Morris became its new Chief Justice. With the transfer of Rupert's Land to the British Crown the old judicature had passed away, so that a great task, that of establishing British rules and precedents for the guidance of the Courts of Law, awaited him. One of his earliest duties was to organize the Supreme Court, as provided for in the Act of the previous year. His charge to the first Grand Jury, one

of singular clearness and precision as to the functions of that body, and one which reflects, too, a deep sense of his own responsibilities, would amply bear quotation in full. He says, in part, ... "It shall be my anxious desire to know neither race, creed nor party, but to administer the law without fear, favour and partiality . . . . But to secure that rapid development . . . . and to secure that great influx of population which the natural resources of this great country fit it for, there must be confidence that British law and justice will be found in full and entire force . . . . I trust that henceforth British subjects in this province will remember that free men are freest when they yield a ready obedience to the law." Manitoba's first Chief Justice was something of a philosopher.

In December, 1872, an Order in Council appointing him Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and Governor, ex-officio, of the Northwest Territories, to succeed the Hon. A. G. Archibald, bestowed new duties and honours upon him—duties and honours which Begg states Morris "hesitated long" in accepting. In truth no man need have envied the representative of the Crown in the middle West in 1872! Mr. Archibald's term of office had been short and particularly trying, and in the newborn province conditions remained dangerous and chaotic in the extreme. Much had been done but much was still to do.

But of all the duties devolving upon the second Lieutenant Governor none was more exacting than the conclusion of the Indian treaties. The great Company which had long held the land in sway had sedulously discouraged settlement. Its primary object was trade and well it knew that the beaver and the buffalo shunned the haunts of the white man. The coming of the Selkirk settlers was in a sense a first, formal recognition of both the possibility and the probability of future settlements, while from 1870 onward there was a steady influx of immigrants who saw in the western prairies treasure trove. The task of securing title from the Indians for their lands was therefore imperative; this, well begun by Governor Archibald, was carried forward by his successor in the completion of Treaties Three, Four, Five and Six, in the revision of Treaties One and Two, and in the conclusion of an especially difficult treaty with those bands of wandering Sioux who had come in from United States. The work of the Lieutenant Governor was multiplied many times through the impossibility of getting together at any one time and place all the Indians concerned in a particular treaty and the consequent necessity to secure, often, some two or three separate adherences. The sheer physical strain of covering the thousands of miles involved must have been tremendous. One must add to this the excessive demands upon tact, patience and resolution which dealing with the Indian mind entailed. To Alexander Morris, aided by such able assistants as the Hon. David Laird, Mr. W. J. Christie and Mr. Peter McKay and others, must go the credit of securing title to the major portion of that vast area extending from the northwest angle of the Lake of the Woods to the foothills country—a work fittingly concluded by Mr. Laird in Treaty Number Seven, after he had become Lieutenant Governor of the Northwest Territories. It is a tribute which needs no comment that not a single treaty from Number Three to Number Seven has ever required revision, while Treaties One and Two were revised on a technicality only.

But among Governor Morris's accomplishments none is more signal (nor more peculiarly his own) than the bill for the establishment of a provincial university, for there is much to incline one to believe that the

drafting of An Act to Create a Provincial University was his personal work. Neither in 1877, nor since, has the credit for this, one of the highest services ever performed for the province of Manitoba, been claimed for any other person, nor has any record ever come to light to show that any legal firm ever received a fee for such services. "Perhaps," says Robert Machray, "the measure was in part the result of conversations Mr. Morris had with the heads of the three incorporated colleges, St. Boniface, St. John's and Manitoba, but none of them had anything to do with its being brought before the local Parliament." The Hon. Joseph Royal in introducing the measure into the Legislature did not claim government sponsorship for the bill. In fact he gave an exactly opposite impression, intimating that the government looked upon the bill as "somewhat premature," but that this step had been "urged" on them "now for two years past." The reasonable conclusion must be that the "urging" had come from above, that is from the Lieutenant Governor. Archbishop Taché, writing to Edmund Morris in January, 1893, spoke of "the great service rendered by your father in his exertion and success with regard to the establishment of a provincial university," and in this same connection Robert Machray also wrote Edmund Morris, "I believe he was largely responsible for pushing it on through his ministers." There can be no doubt that Alexander Morris was thoroughly well fitted to father such a bill. He had knowledge of the framework of other universities, having been Governor of McGill University and chairman of the Board of Trustees of Queen's College, Kingston. To this experience he added thorough legal knowledge rendered effective through the channel of a peculiarly bright mind. This contribution to the cause of higher education in Manitoba was (to quote Mr. Machray again) "in every way remarkable, for it may be said without hesitation that no other country ever had such an institution provided for it so early in its history."

Of Morris's multitudinous duties as representative of the Crown in Manitoba one cannot attempt to refer. The position of Lieutenant Governor in 1877 must have been very different to that position, say, in 1927. The Governor then was an executive head with many of the details of administration devolving upon him which now devolve upon the Premier. The disposition of the Riel-Lepine affair, the early formation of the Mounted Police, the conclusion of the Indian treaties, the Presidency of the Northwest Council, the drafting of the University bill, the measure to preserve the buffalo from extinction, the handling of the smallpox outbreak among the Keewatin Indians, and the making of suitable arrangements for the vice-regal visit of the Earl and Countess of Dufferin are but some of his better known accomplishments and must obscure—though fittingly—the unnumbered smaller matters incident to the administration of an office, which having covered the full five year period, expired December 3, 1877.

The next year found him again in Manitoba. The Conservative party was in 1878 attempting to sweep the country on the strength of its National Policy, and Morris returned to the province to oppose the redoubtable Donald A. Smith as a contestant for parliamentary honours in Selkirk. That he failed to carry the seat by but ten votes is indirect testimony to the strength and influence of both candidates. What more formidable opposition to Smith could the great Conservative chief with all his sagacity for "the Party" have sent to Manitoba—had the power to do so rested

with him alone—than the former Lieutenant Governor? Who but Donald A. Smith himself could have defeated a former representative of the Queen in Manitoba, in 1878?

The last seven years of Alexander Morris's career as a public servant were spent in the Ontario Legislature. In the late autumn of 1878 he was elected to fill a vacancy in the local House caused by the appointment of Matthew Crooks Cameron to a judgeship in the Queen's Bench, and in the provincial elections of the following year he defeated the Honourable Oliver Mowat, lion of Ontario Liberals, in East Toronto, by a majority of fifty-seven. In the Ontario Legislative Assembly his position as deputy to William Ralph Meredith, Conservative leader, gave Morris both standing and influence, and reference to the Journals shows his activity both in committee and in debate. He continued to represent East Toronto until failing health forced his retirement in 1886. Death claimed him in Toronto October 28, 1889.

The life of Alexander Morris offers still an interesting field for study on the part of the student of Canadian history. Viewed from one angle it would almost seem that a career which began in outstanding brilliancy ends in anti-climax. In other words it is unusual to find one who has been Cabinet Minister, Chief Justice and Lieutenant Governor accepting a seat in a local legislature. The explanation of this "descending action"—to borrow a phrase from the literary critics—now begins to appear. Ill health alone is said to provide the reason for Morris' entrance into Ontario politics. As a young man his law studies in Kingston were temporarily interrupted by loss of health. His retirement from the Dominion Cabinet in 1869 was "on the advice of his physician." Members of his family give it as their opinion—and such opinion must carry great weight—that even at fifty-two he felt physical infirmity stealing upon him and deliberately chose the less troubled waters of provincial politics.

Nor can the suggestion that the relations between Morris and Macdonald were strained following the former's defeat at the polls in 1878 be fully substantiated. Of their personal relationship in later years one may speak with certainty and satisfaction. On February 24, 1887, Morris wrote Sir John thus: "I write to congratulate you most heartily on your signal victory. It is the crowning of your career and carries me back to the days when in old Quebec the lion and the lamb lay down together on the citadel, and Confederation was founded. . . . I still believe in a Northern British nationality, and I wish as you said to me when we last met, that we could put back ten years of our lives. But *you* will live as a power in the future as in the present."

Alexander Morris was throughout his life an ardent supporter of the church of his choice. He strongly advocated the union of the Presbyterian Church in Canada with the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, and although such union was not consummated until 1875 his letters to the press on this topic date back to 1858—the year of *Nova Britannia.* He may thus fairly be said to have been something of a seer in religion as in politics. For more than a score of years his name appears among those present at the meetings of Synod or General Assembly. He rendered valuable legal assistance in cases of litigation over the ownership of church properties following the Union, notably in that of the St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal. His services, not only in relation

to Presbyterianism in Canada, but to Presbyterianism in its relations to higher education in Canada, would form material for another theme.

This, in closing, one may safely hazard. The voice of Alexander Morris was heard, alike, pleading in solemn law courts and in stately Houses of Parliament, counselling in anxious cabinet caucus, explaining and exhorting in lone Indian camp. Nor did that inaudible voice of his —his pen—fail to do its part in the cause of Canadian nationality, for Morris was no mean writer. Of his wisdom the Indians of Canada reap the benefit in perpetuity. With prophetic instinct he provided for a provincial university. He "dipt into the Future" to render service to the youth of a great new land and he looked into the Past to discover the key to that service,—"As a man thinketh in his hearth so is he." In the light of such evidence may it not be said that Alexander Morris did a good day's work? We think most men would be content to leave it at that.