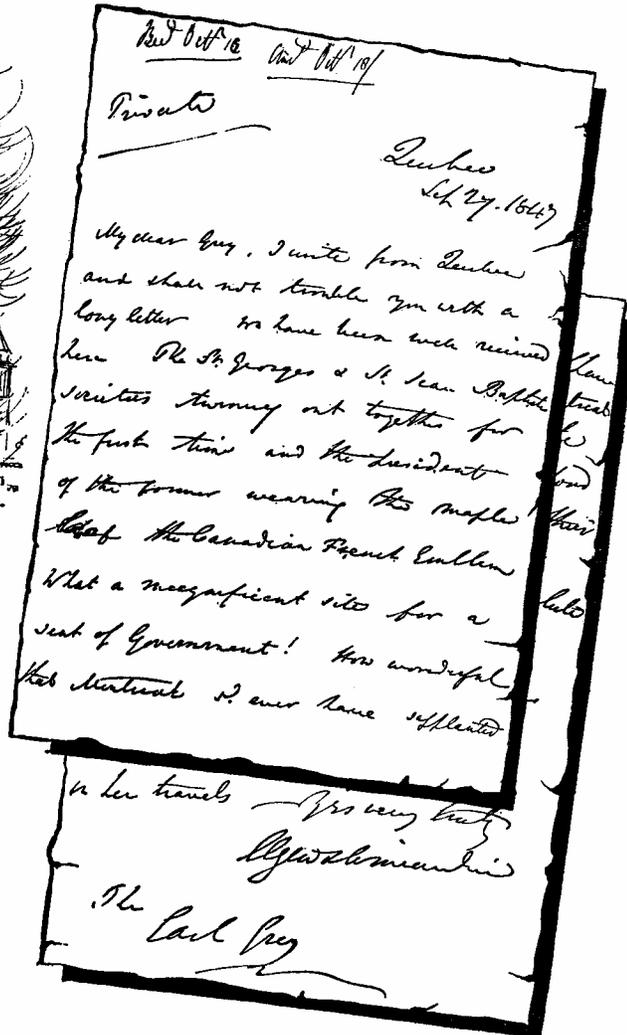
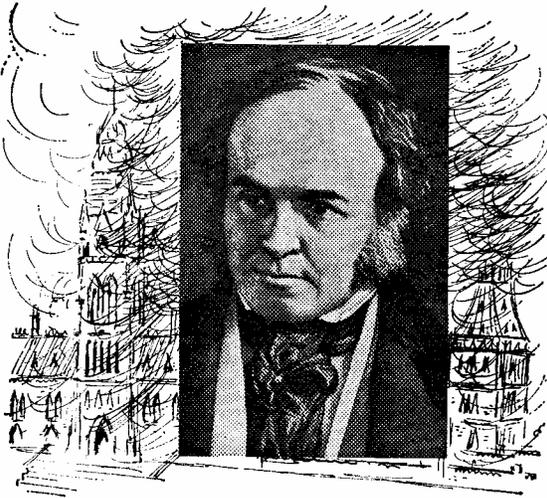


FAMOUS LETTERS IN CANADIAN HISTORY



## The Maple Leaf

Responsible Government was to come and Confederation was still 20 years off but Canadians were making it clear that they intended to run their own affairs.

This was one of the first discoveries which James Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, was to make after he arrived in Canada in 1847 to introduce the Responsible Government which had been recommended earlier by his father-in-law, Lord Durham.

In this letter to Earl Grey, Lord Elgin tells of the reception which greeted his arrival at Quebec and has something to say about the Maple Leaf as a Canadian symbol.

Two years later he was to see the bitter side of English-French relations when he

was stoned in the streets of Montreal and the Parliament Buildings were burned in protest when he signed the Rebellion Losses Bill.

### Lord Elgin Comments on Emblem

Quebec, September 27, 1847.

My Dear Grey:

I write from Quebec and shall not trouble you with a long letter. We have been well received here. The St. Georges and St. Jean Baptiste societies turning out together for the first time and the president of the former wearing the Maple Leaf, the Canadian French emblem . . . I send an article I have cut out from the

Pilot, the Montreal Liberal paper showing how little the people of this province are inclined to tolerate any interference with their local affairs. The states of the union enjoy each of them absolute freedom of action within its own sphere — that example has its effect here. Mary improves in her travels.

Yours very truly,

ELGIN and KINCARDINE