

## Eloquent Speeches Marked 50th Anniversary of St. Patrick's Society.

St. Patrick's Society, comprising the leading professional and business Irishmen of the city, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the formation of their society at the Windsor Hotel on Saturday evening by tendering a banquet to the most representative and influential gathering of Irishmen ever assembled in Montreal to do honor to the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick.

The hotel dining room was draped with flags of green and white, intermingled with the Union Jack, and the Canadian flag, and the overflow of guests presented a sight that will live in the memory of Irishmen for many years to come.

Around the festive board were noticed grey headed sons of Erin, who have outlived the exciting times of McGee and Devlin—middle-aged men, who had fought the political battles of later years, and young men full of the enthusiasm of youth ready and willing to take a hand in the battles of the present.

Mr. F. J. Curran, B.C.L., president of St. Patrick's Society, occupied the chair. To his right sat Senator Dandurand, Sir William Kingston, Justice Doherty, George V. McInerney, ex-M.P.; Father John E. Donnelly, Alderman White, K.C.; H. H. McGuigan, Dr. J. J. Guerin, Col. Gardner, St. Andrew's Society; Mr. E. Thomas, of St. David's Society.

On his left sat Mr. Thomas Gilday, representing the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society; Chief Justice Sir Alexander Lacoste, Sir Melbourne Tait, R. L. Borden, K.C., Daniel O'Connell, K.C., Peterboro; Father Martin Callaghan, Father Burke, of Prince Edward Island; Mr. Beauchamp, president of St. Jean Baptiste Society; Captain Clift, St. George's Society; Father McShane, M. Fitzgibbon, Father Harty, Ireland; Dr. E. J. Kennedy, Father O'Meara, P. Wright and W. McNab.

During the progress of the dinner a musical programme was rendered, among the principal numbers being the selections of Irish melody by the boys of St. Patrick's choir.

Letters of regret were read from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, Premier Gouin and Mayor Ekers.

A letter of congratulation was also read from the Irishmen of Halifax and other cities.

**MR. CURRAN'S REMARKS.**

The dinner finished, the chairman, Mr. Frank Curran, made the following remarks:

"Once more we are assembled to do honor to the memory of Ireland's patron Saint. In looking around this festive board this evening, with so many distinguished guests, such a large number of friends and so numerous a representation of the members of our organization itself, we cannot help being well pleased and assured that we have the sympathy of our fellow citizens in commemorating the virtues of that holy man whose name our society proudly bears.

"And more especially on this occasion do we feel a sense of pride and duty in holding this function for it was this month fifty years ago that our institution came into existence and hence we are putting forth an humble effort to worthily celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal.

"As many well known speakers are with us to-night, some of whom have travelled a great distance to address the gathering, I shall not attempt to make a long discourse on the objects for which the society was founded, but one observation will perhaps be appropriate.

"The St. Patrick's Society was formed with the object of helping our fellow countrymen in distress, of fostering harmony and good will amongst the Irish and their descendants, and of protecting the interests of the people of Irish origin in this district, and we who are here to-day, in looking back over the past fifty years, have nothing but praise and admiration to bestow upon the members of our society who have carried on this mission of charity and patriotism for half a century, and are still assisting us the active workers of the present generation; and we have the greatest love and respect for the memory of those who began and continued the work and have since passed from the scene.

"And we venture to hope that when the century of our organization shall have been reached, they who will then be occupying positions as officers and as members of St. Patrick's Society, will find us as deserving of the same honorable mention as Irishmen and as Irish Canadians that we are only too eager to

siege of Alexandria, was one of the fighting Beresfords of Waterford; and the three men who came out of the late Transvaal war with increased prestige were those three great Irishmen—Roberts, Kitchener and French.

"While speaking of this fight for Home Rule, in which Irishmen are seeking to enlist the opinion of the civilized world, it is false to consider the struggle as sectarian. Among the brightest names of Ireland's patriots we find Swift, Curran, Grattan, Emmet, Sheares, Lord Edward, Wolf Tone, Napper Tandy and John Mitchell, all Protestants. Isaac Butt was a Protestant, and that ideally courageous, prudent, skilful leader—Parnell—was the son of a Protestant clergyman. Grattan's Parliament was entirely Protestant, and Protestants composed exclusively the military convention of Dungannon. The grandfathers of the present Ulster Orangemen were the fiercest rebels of '98. Among the men I know I feel confident that I can count a large number of intelligent, fair-minded Protestants, who

**MR. MCINERNEY'S SPEECH.**

After the toast of the King had been duly honored, the chairman called on Mr. Geo. V. McInerney, ex-M.P., to propose the toast of Ireland.

The New Brunswick orator said in part:

"In seeking for the origin of the Celt, it is scarcely necessary to insist on the well established claim that, hard by the waters of the River of Life, Adam and Eve held sweet converse in mellifluous Gaelic. Somewhat later, from Scythia along the Mediterranean, came those Dacassian Clans, to whom tradition ascribes the founding of that proud Carthage, which should, one day, make Rome herself tremble. Through the Basque Provinces they ranged into Wales, Ireland and the Scotch Highlands. Their Hegira is enveloped in the mists that enshroud the dawn of history. The migratory instinct, which distinguished them, however, is still strong in their descendants, for, to-night in all the seven seas, from altars of Irish hearts, goes up the sweet incense of love for 'Banba of the waves.'

"Yes, love of country, patriotism, is a striking tribute of the Irish character. A man with a single drop of Irish blood in him is always an Irishman. Generations of his fathers may have lived and died in a strange land, the descendants writes himself down an Irishman, whether in the Senate of the country or in its workshops; and I deem it no bad sign of the race that you will find a goodly number of them in both places. Patriotism tempers

are honestly favorable to a generous measure of self-government for Ireland. The curse of Ireland has been landlordism, and we can confidently expect that the effects of the Wynd-

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their religion.

"Ireland has been fruitful in great events. She has a history that begins in the dark and misty past, a history which comes down to us in romance and story rather than in monuments and records. On reviewing this history, especially on the 17th of March, a thousand emotions seem to fill the human heart."

The speaker dwelt on Ireland's military greatness; her sorrows, her afflictions, and, again, her glorious victories. Through her history there seemed to permeate a strain of melody and sadness.

He traced the history of the country from the earliest times to the present day, and recounted the services that Irishmen have rendered the Empire, and he believed that the valor shown in the defence of that Empire should be sufficient to gain for the Irish that measure of self-government enjoyed by Canada and Australia, and soon to be enjoyed by the Transvaal (applause).

**TOAST OF CANADA.**

The toast of Canada was proposed by Rev. Father J. E. Donnelly, parish priest of St. Anthony's. He said in part:

"In proposing the toast of Canada I would say as did an eminent Canadian: 'The nineteenth century was the United States'; the twentieth will be Canada's."

"Canada is a land of promise, and it has been in reality a land of promise to our forefathers. After two centuries of evolution it is now coming into its own. May God speed it. When our forefathers left home those were indeed favorable breezes that guided them to the shores of this country, and I thank God for the day when my father came to Canada."

"Of course we all love Ireland, and if there was one point upon which even a clergyman's blood might rise to fighting point it would be if any slur were cast upon Ireland."

"We are not forgetful of the favors of the past received from the hands of Canadians of French origin."

"There is no barrier to our legitimate ambition in Canada. A man of my origin and religion need never say that they have been denied any gift of which the Canadian people have the giving."

"To those who wish to succeed,

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BELL TELEPHONE MAIN 1983

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### CHATHAM WORKS.

134 Chatham Street, MONTREAL

#### SIR ALEXANDER LACOSTE.

Sir Alexander Lacoste responded to this toast, and dwelt upon the necessity of all races and creeds forming a great family, and that all should work for the advancement of their common country, Canada.

He believed it would be the greatest treason if anything of a narrow or prejudiced character should interfere to prevent the growth of Canada into a nation strong and powerful.

He hoped Canadians would always be tolerant and lenient with one another, that they would walk hand in hand, and that under the goodness of God the work of our forefathers would not be in vain.

#### SIR MELBOURNE TAIT.

Sir Melbourne Tait also responded to this toast, saying in part:

"When I see, as I have seen exhibited to-night, the deep affection which the members of this society have for the island home of their forefathers, and for the traditions and memories which attach to it, I am not surprised that the Society should have continued to prosper during the fifty years that have passed since its formation. But I am sure I may say that however strong the affection of its members may be for the old land, however large a place these memories and traditions may fill in their hearts, they have at the same time been doing their part and their full share with all earnestness and loyalty towards the development and building up of this new land which also claims, and has, I have no doubt, a share in the affection. It must be, to many here present, the land of their birth and the probable home of their children.

"As to the toast which has been proposed, the cheers with which it has been received show that it went straight to your hearts. Hardly any more eloquent answer could be given. None ought to feel more proud of Canada than we Canadians ourselves, and have we not reason to do so as from day to day we read in the papers of its wonderful prosperity and development.

"To the man who is willing to do a good day's work it offers as good inducement as any other country in the world. There is no country, I believe, in which a young man determined to do the right thing can start under more favorable auspices or with greater assurance of success.

"I thank you, sir, and the other officers of this society for the honor you have done me in inviting me to join in this celebration. I trust the good and philanthropic work this society is doing may grow as years roll by, and that membership in it may be an inspiration to all Irishmen to be true to themselves, and to be devoted workers for the welfare of Canada, the country they have to-night so heartily toasted."

#### MR. R. L. BORDEN.

Mr. R. L. Borden, K.C., in responding to the same toast, said: "The chief toast of the evening is, of course, that of Ireland, which was so ably answered by my old friend, Mr. George McInerney, whom I hope to see once more sitting in the House of Commons, of which he has already been a brilliant member.

The lands from whence our forefathers sailed to come to this country were all great and renowned lands, England, Ireland, Scotland and France, but we had here in Canada just as great a country as any of these, and it was our duty to endeavor to foster a national spirit of devotion, patriotism and fair-dealing among our people, especially among the younger element who would be the men of to-morrow.

Undoubtedly there were differences of race and creed in this country, but we were all Canadians, all brothers, working together for the mutual advantage and greatness of the land, and all that was necessary was a better understanding of each other, and in a short time those prejudices which are sometimes brought to the fore would soon be things of the past.

Alderman White, K.C., proposed the toast of the 50th anniversary, and offered to St. Patrick's Society the congratulations of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society, and spoke of the St. Patrick's Society

formed in 1843.

The speaker reviewed the progress made in Montreal during the past fifty years and congratulated the St. Patrick's Society on its work for the past half century.

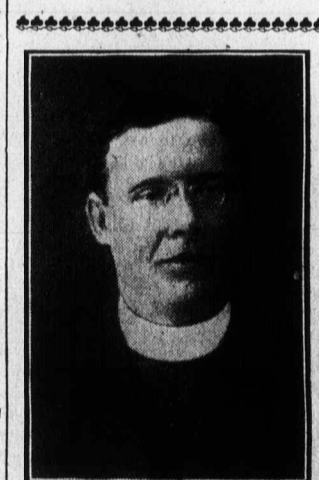
Mr. F. C. Lavery responded to this toast, also Dr. Guerin and Dr. Kennedy.

Mr. J. C. Walsh submitted "Our Guests," which was responded to by Mr. Thomas Gilday, Mr. J. J. Beauchamp, Lieut.-Col. Gardner, Captain Clift, Mr. William McNab and Mr. Robert Roberts, all of whom tendered the congratulations and good wishes of the societies they represented.

The remaining toasts were: "The Press," responded to by Mr. P. J. McDonagh, and "The Ladies," by Mr. W. H. Butler, B.C.

You cannot be happy while you have corns. Then do not delay in getting a bottle of Holloway's Corn Cure. It removes all kinds of corns without pain. Failure with it is unknown.

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REV. THOMAS HARTY,  
Killarney, Ireland.

The Rev. T. Harty, as is pretty generally known, is at present on a lecturing tour through Canada and the United States, in aid of the O'Connell Memorial Church, Cahirciveen. The hope is expressed that when he returns home he may take with him an offering from the loyal sons and daughters of Ireland worthy of their renowned generosity and love of the old home land.

#### DONATION FOR INDIAN MISSION.

We were asked by a reader of our paper to forward to an Indian Missionary the sum of one dollar, which we did, and received the following reply, which will be pleasing reading to the one who helped with the widow's mite:

St. Michael's Boarding School,  
Duck Lake, Sask., Mar. 13, 1906

Dear Sir:

Yours of March 6th, containing one dollar, "the widow's mite," has been received, and I feel it my duty to offer you my most sincere thanks for the double service you have rendered me. The article you so kindly published in your valuable journal is doing its good work, and I am happy to have this opportunity of expressing to you my deep gratitude for this great favor.

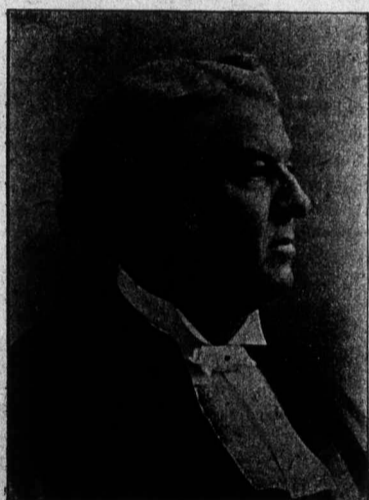
God will surely reward your charity and that of the good person who made the offering. Were it possible for you to do so, I would ask you to convey my gratitude to that lady, and assure her that many prayers will be united with mine for the one who has gone astray.

May God prosper your publication is the prayerful wish of

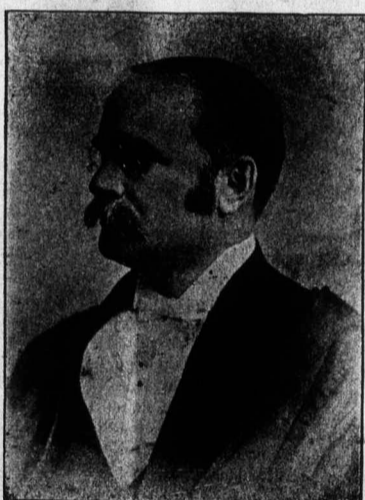
Yours with gratitude,

O. CHARLEBOIS, O.M.I.

"A Grand Medicine" is the encomium often passed on Bickie's Anti-Consumptive Syrup, and when the results from its use are considered, as borne out by many persons who have employed it in stopping coughs and eradicating colds, it is more than grand. Kept in the house it is always at hand and it has no equal as a ready remedy. If you have not tried it, do so at once.



HON. JUSTICE J. J. CURRAN.



HON. JUSTICE C. J. DOHERTY.

Past Presidents of St. Patrick's Society.

every action of the Celtic soul. It matters little where the body may be found, the mind delights in wandering back to where the ancient round-towers stand as sentinels of an entranced greatness to where the ivy mantled castles recall the days of freedom. He sees again the ruined Cromlech of other days, he climbs the mountain paths where in boyhood he loved to roam, and listens, by the fireside, to tales of the Banahoe and Leprechaun; he remembers the fairs of Donnybrook and joins in the excitement of the Curragh. No other skies are so bright, no other fields so green, as those of Erin, no other bells so sweet as 'The Bells of Shandon.'

"Ireland has been prolific in her gift of great men to other nations. To Spain, Blake and O'Donnell; to France, Sarsfield and McMahon; to the United States, Barry—their first Admiral—and later Sherman and Sheridan and Jackson; and to Canada McGee—our greatest orator, Thompson, our greatest Parliamentarian, and Blake, our greatest lawyer. Ireland gave birth to England's greatest general, the Duke of Wellington.

"It may also be remembered that when England had her late little unpleasantness in Egypt her plenipotentiary at Constantinople was Dufferin; the commander of her land forces was Wolseley; the Admiral of her Mediterranean fleet was Seymour—all Irishmen, while the man who had gained the greatest fame at the

ham Act, supplemented by such legislative liberty as the present Government is pledged to grant, may usher in a brighter era for the dear old land.

"On this night we heartily trust and fervently pray that peace, like the dove of the Prophet, may spread her white wings over Ireland, as a sign that the waters of discord have subsided; and join with men of good will the world over in wishing that prosperity and happiness may dwell in the dear old land forevermore."

**AN ONTARIO IRISHMAN.**

Mr. Daniel O'Connell, of Peterboro, in responding to this toast, thanked the society for their kindness in remembering their fellow-countrymen in Ontario by tendering him an invitation to be present on this occasion.

Speaking of present affairs in Ireland, Mr. O'Connell said: "There is no more encouraging feature in Irish history than to see in this part of the British Empire men still attached to the Old Land the same as our fathers, who were born and bred and reared in that part of the world."

"In addition to their attachment to their Old Land, they possessed probably to a greater degree the greatest attachment to their faith. In other countries, owing to stress of circumstances, the faith has been forgotten, but in the hearts of Irishmen their faith remained intact, whether at home or abroad, whether they be Catholic or Protestant, they held firmly to the tenets of

Canada offers every opportunity and the only limit to the preferment of a young man would be the limit of his capabilities.

"Economists tell us that Canada is the granary of the Empire, and should a famine come we could supply the Empire."

"Our mineral resources are almost unlimited, which augurs well for the industrial development of Canada, while we have water power to place in operation the entire machinery of the continent."

"There is something in the atmosphere of Canada that appeals to me, that is the spirit of liberty and religious freedom for which men have sacrificed all material advantage, even laid down their lives—all these we have at the asking in Canada."

"I will also say that under the British flag in this Canada of ours we have all religious liberty where God is adored by every man according to his faith and where our children are educated as we desire—where every man gets what he pays for and in the light of recent events we are not unmindful of past favors from our French-Canadian brethren, but we bless the day when that dying effort of Wolfe substituted the banner of St. George for the Fleur de Lys of France on the Gibraltar of Canada. Not forgetful of favors from France, nevertheless under the British flag we possess more religious liberty than we would if we had been a French colony."