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## suelph Evening Mercury CANADA HOUSE CALEDONIA SPRINGS,

PFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.

FRIDAY EV'NG, MAY 15, 1868.

D'ARCY MeGEE'S LAST LETTER. HIS OPINION OF THE FENIANS.

The Dublin Nation publishes the fol-wing letter from the Hon. Thomas D'-roy McGee, M. P. for Montreal, to the ight Hon. the Earl of Mayo. It was ritten on the Sunday evening preceding

the assassination:—
House of Commons, Ottawa, Canada,
April 4th, 1868.

My Lord,—During the Irish debate in
the Imperial Parliament, on the 10th day
of last month, the report of which has
just reached us, you did me the high
honor to refer to my public position in
this country, and to point your testimony
to the loyalty of the Irish inhabitants of
Canada, by the use of my humble name.
I am, my lord, deeply assable of the

I am, my lord, deeply sensible of the very handsome manner in which you then spoke of myself personally; and of the just tribute you paid to the class of colonists to which I have the honor to belong; and I trust your lordship will not feel that I take an ill way of showing my gratitude by inflicting on you this letter.

letter.

It has forced itself on my mind that I owe it to your lordship, as an eminent Irishman in the Imperial service, as well as to dear old Ireland, and in some degree to Canada also, to explain in a few sentences the sense in which alone I could receive the high personal compliment you have paid me, with unmixed satisfaction.

Our countrymen, my lord, in the Dominion of Canada, with their descendants, are a full third of the four millions of her Majesty's North American subjects. In religion they are nearly half and half, Protestant and Catholic. Though few can be called wealthy, the majority of both creeds are proprietors in town or country. In the city I represent (Montrea); their aggregate property, acquired mostly in this generation, is valued at many millions of dollars. In the rural parts there are literally thousands of them who possess their holdings in fee, and unincumbered. The best specimens of both classes are among the most meritorious members of Canadian society. Property has made them conservative in the truest sense—conservative of character, and zealous to uphold the law. The generous national temperament, shrivelled and cankered by hopeless penury at home, has renewed its youth with us, and keeps putting forth fruits of public and private good, to the great satisfaction of every lover o' this country. Without having acquired the feverish thirst for riches, the love of empty show, or the illumderstood democratic notions of so many of the Irish in the neighboring republic, our settlers here will be admitted by all who know equally well both sides of the boundary line to be as warmly interested in the good repute and good government of their beloved fatherland as any set of men can be, at home or abroad.

As a general rule—an almost unexceptional rule—both classes, in town and country, while ardently and unmistakeably Irish, are, at the same time, as loyal to British American institutions, as thoroughly content with the government of this country for some years past, I have felt it to be my first duty to strengthen and extend this patriotic spirit, for their own good and the good of our adopted country; and in doing so I felt bound necessarily to resist and combat the invidious and incessant efforts to the contrary of the secret Irish societies established during the civil war at New York. When those societies have giv

Our countrymen in Canada, my lord, o not so much regard the American aders as the enemies of England, but leaders as the enemics of England, but rather as enemies of Canada and enemies of Ireland. We see in them not so much regulators of Irish wrongs, as impediments to Ireland's reconstruction Those of us, who are Catholics, living in and by our holy faith, add to this political hostility towards Fenianism, a rooted horror to all secret societies, so frequently condemned and anathematised by the Knowing moreover, what manner of men the American organizers usually are—seeing the wanton misery they have caued their dupes 'at home—and the dishonor they have brought on the Irish name everywhere—the sound of Fenianism is detested with us, save and except by a few characterless desperadoes among the floating population of our principal cities.

the Irish name everywhere—the sound of Fenianism is detested with us, save and except by a few characterless desperadoes among the floating population of our principal cities.

But I cannot conceal from your lordship that no lay advocacy, and no ecclesiastical influence, could have kept our countymen here loyal and at peace, if this country were governed as Ireland has been for the sixy-eight years of her legislative union with Great Britain. Everything our emigrants find in Canada is very unlike everything they left behind them in Ireland. We have here no Established Church, no system of tenancy at will, no Poor Laws, nor any need of them. We have instead a complete religious equality among all our churches, a general acquisition of property as the reward of well directed industry, the fullest local control of our own resources and revenues: our collegiate and primary education; our public works; our militia, marine and courts of justice. Therefore, it is my lord, we are all loyal to the Queen in Canada, and well content, as well we may be, with the government of this country.

It is not for me, at this distanc from Ireland, and in the absence of recent Irish experience, to make the application of this example, or so much of it as can be applied to the very different condition of Ireland. I but state the facts of the Irish position in these provinces, for your lordship's meditation as an Imperial adviser of the Crown, as I have already had the honor to do more fully, last year while in London, to your illustrious late leader, the Earl of Derby; and in 1865 when in Dublin, to Lord Kimberley—then Lord-Lieutenant.

I must not, however, assume that the passing notice with which your lordship honored me in the late debate, can justify farther intrusion on your valuable time but I fe't; on all the grounds above stated, a strong prompting to explain frankly to your lordship the true secret of Irish-Canadian loyalty. We are loyal because our equal civil, social and religious rights are respected by this government, in

THOS. D'ARCY McGEE.

BY A. M.F. GIANELLI.

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