

## RESTS ON HIS LAURELS.

Tribute to Mr. Henry Morton

A VERY enjoyable evening was spent in the large dining-room known as Alexander's Cafe, Montreal, on Saturday evening, April 22, where Morton, Phillips & Co. had invited all their employes to meet their late partner and employer, Henry Morton, who, after a long and honorable career of 30 years, had retired from active business and was now about to enjoy a well-earned rest.

The repast was all that could be desired and was done justice to by all present. When the menu had been thoroughly discussed, the chairman, C. S. J. Phillips, proposed the time-honored toast "The Queen," which was drunk with enthusiasm, the next toast was that of "Our Guest."

Mr. Phillips, in rising to propose it, went briefly over the past 30 years of business with his late partner and friend, and referred to many interesting events during that time. This was the toast of the evening, and if the cheering that followed was any indication of the appreciation of one who has always been a friend as well as employer, Mr. Morton must have felt how he would be missed as those 85 throats sang "He's a Jolly Good Fellow" and gave three ringing cheers and a tiger that would have done justice to three times their number.

Mr. Morton replied very feelingly, speaking of his starting the business in 1869 with five hands, whom he had had the pleasure of seeing steadily increase, but not without some exertion, to about 75 employes. Nearly all those who had learned the business under their guidance had gone out into the world with a thorough knowledge of the special branch they had undertaken, and were in good positions to-day. He gave some good advice to all, especially to the boys, which, if heeded, should one day place them in positions not to be despised by all their fellowmen.

On behalf of the employes, Mr. Cruley (the oldest employe) presented Mr. Morton with a handsome pigskin traveling case and illuminated address signed by each employe, and Fred Gorman (the youngest employe) presented Mrs. Morton with a beautiful basket of flowers.

The next toast was "The New Firm," proposed by Mr. Morton and ably responded to by Mr. Phillips, who is now senior partner.

"The Ladies" was then proposed by Mr. Gibson and responded to by Mr. Ryder.

During the evening a splendid musical programme was executed, consisting of songs by Messrs. Venables, Luckwell and Ryder; recitations by Messrs. C. Phillips, jr., and Shepherd; London cries by Mr. Martin; stump speech by Mr. Holt; trombone solo by Mr. Cullette, cartoons by Mr. Muggat; magic by Mr. Lauskail.

The enjoyable affair was closed at 11.15 by singing "The National Anthem" and "Auld Lang Syne," all joining hands around the festive board, according to ancient custom. The whole evening was a great success, and the firm deserve the thanks of all the employes. The firm themselves (at present consisting of C. S. J. Phillips, R. J. Gibson and H. Cameron), feel satisfied that bringing the employes in contact with the employers will be beneficial to all concerned, and increase the good feeling which already exists. Mr. Morton left for the Northwest Territories on May 16, for a visit to friends, to be absent until October next.



Mr. Henry Morton

The old firm of Morton, Phillips & Co. may be regarded as either a very old or as a modern house, according to the point of view, for, by succession, it dates from 1828 or 1829, when it originated with Robert Graham, who had been, successively, journeyman and partner with Mr. Nickless in a bindery east of St. Lambert street; but they separated in 1828 (the year the present senior partner was born). Mr. Graham was so successful that, in 1842, he had a second shop, one being on St. Francois Xavier street, opposite Hospital street, and the other at the upper end of the site of the British Empire Assurance building.

In 1869, Mr. Graham being in difficulties, the stock and good-will of his business were transferred to the new firm of Morton, Phillips & Co., who opened business on Notre Dame street, Montreal, on November 5, 1869. The new firm was constituted of Henry Morton, son of William, who served in the Peninsular War under Wellington,

and only by 24 hours missed being in the battle of Waterloo, in the 20th Regiment of Light Dragoons, was pensioned and lived, late in life, in the historic barracks of Isle au Noix, Que. Henry, who was born in London, England, on March 26, 1828, and was brought to Canada in 1832, was educated in Mr. Maxwell's private school, on the site of H. Shorey & Co.'s store.

The second partner, Chas. S. J. Phillips, born at Quebec on October 13, 1844, son of Thomas O. Phillips, accountant, and grandson of John Phillips, who, under Lord Durham's Administration, repaired the walls of Quebec, and had other contracts under Government.

Mr. Phillips, after instruction under, among other teachers, Dr. Howe, Mr. Gibson, and Herzekiah Arnold, was employed successively by Geo. Dowker & Co., Robert Graham (founder of the house), and, at Ottawa, as manager for Horne & Hope, now James Hope & Sons, and traveled to represent Richard Worthington until, in 1869, the firm of Morton, Phillips & Co. was formed.

The firm name was changed on July 1, 1872, to Morton, Phillips & Bulmer, and on July 1, 1879, they added printing to the other branches.

The next change was by Thomas Campbell Bulmer's withdrawal on July 16, 1890, since when he has served as councillor of Westmount, and the firm has been styled Morton, Phillips & Co.

In 1869, eight persons did all the work in all departments of the business, which was confined to one building; but now there are over 100 employes, and the premises extend to the adjoining building in the upper storeys.

Of the two other partners, Hugh Cameron, native of Glasgow, born on January 6, 1835, and Robert James Gibson, born July 26, 1858, in Montreal, educated under H. Arnold, entered the store in 1870, and had worked up to a partnership in 1890.

This important business, carried on at Nos. 1755 and 1757 Notre Dame street, Montreal, has patrons in every part of Canada.

Owing to the excellence and variety of their blank books, stationery and office supplies, drawn from every country in Europe, the firm annually or oftener receive large orders from governments, city, town, county and local corporations, from banks, insurance offices, registrars, notaries, lawyers, merchants and manufacturers.

To honor these orders they necessarily carry a much larger stock than most of the wholesale stationers and a greater variety than any wholesale house in Montreal.