

T. D. SULLIVAN, M. P.

A BRILLIANT AND ENTERTAINING LECTURE.

Appropriation for Gladstone and Blake  
—A Magnificent Reception to the Patriot, Poet, Orator and Leading Irishman in Toronto.

A tall, slightly built, nervous Irish gentleman, eloquent, logical, earnest, and brimming over with that quaint humor which is the birthright of the Irish race, Mr. T. D. Sullivan is well qualified to address an audience largely Irish on Home Rule for Ireland. The audience who filled the Massey Music Hall one evening the week before last heard from him a lecture which, as Hon. G. W. Ross said at its close, was of such breadth of statesmanship, toleration of thought and beauty of form as it has seldom been the privilege of a Canadian audience to hear.

The lecture was under the auspices of the St. Alphonsus Catholic Association of Toronto, the President of this society, Mr. L. V. McBrady, occupying the chair. The audience included many prominent people, and was essentially Irish in its sympathies, as was shown by the frequent and hearty bursts of applause which greeted complimentary references to the land of the shamrock.

From the time of his arrival in the city to the minute before taking his place on the platform Mr. Sullivan was kept busy in meeting the vast numbers of people eager to receive a personal introduction, and the privilege of even a momentary conversation with the popular Irish member of Parliament.

Shortly after eight o'clock Mr. L. V. McBrady, President of the St. Alphonsus Catholic Association, and chairman for the evening, introduced Dr. Thomas O'Hagan, who read a poetical welcome of his own composition. On the platform were His Grace the Archbishop, Sir Oliver Mowat, Hon. G. W. Ross, Hon. J. J. Curran, Sir Frank Smith, Mr. Justice McMahon, Hon. John O'Donoghue, Hon. T. W. Anglin, Rev. Fathers McCann, Bergin, Teely, Brennan, Ryan, Walsh, Carberry, Grogan, Hayden, Lynch, Lamarche, of Toronto; O'Reilly, of Hamilton; Burke, of Oakville; Crimmon, of Dunnville; Kilcullen, of Adjala; Egan, of Barrie; and Jeffcott, of Oshawa; Drs. Cassidy, Clark, McMahon, McKeown, Rev. Dr. Burns, of Hamilton, Wm. Mullock, M. P., J. J. Foy, Q. C., R. Emsley, Hugh Ryan, Patrick Boyle, Thomas Long, Eugene O'Keefe, Thomas Mulvey, John Woods, D. J. O'Donoghue, F. P. Lee, Peter Ryan, E. Hassard, Peter Small, Wm. Burns, J. E. Day, C. J. McCabe, J. C. Walsh; T. J. Day, T. C. Heffernan, and T. P. Coffey, of Guelph.

The Chairman, after a few appropriate words, introduced Mr. Sullivan to the audience, and called on Mr. Thomas O'Hagan to recite an original ode, composed by him for the occasion. As Mr. O'Hagan read the ode, which breathed a spirit of the kindest welcome to Mr. Sullivan, he was interrupted by frequent applause, and at its conclusion Mr. Sullivan heartily grasped the author's hand.

THE LECTURE.

The speaker of the evening was accorded a standing reception of a warmth altogether unusual. His heart must, he said, be harder than the hearts of Irishmen were generally supposed to be if it was not touched by the warm, the brilliant, reception which they had given him. The only fault he saw in the poem was that it was too good for the subject. Of parliaments in general, he would like to say that they were precious possessions for those who had them, and they should on no account surrender them. A parliament voiced the opinion of the community, the will of the people. It might be more or less perfect; and at some periods of the world's history Parliaments had been poor things enough, but they could be improved, altered or purified. In any case, they were for any people a precious possession. In order to be all that it should be a Parliament should be local, of the country and in the country for which it was to legislate. (Applause.) Tom Moore once, in referring to a Parliament, compared it to the head put on a clown at a circus. He said that the head was no great ornament on the clown, but "you can't imagine how awkward he looked without it." Ireland had once had a Parliament, one nearly as old as that of England. It was not representative any more than the Eng-

lish Parliament then was, but it was being improved and was becoming more representative. It was not until 1800 that it was taken from Ireland, torn from the people against their will and in spite of their strongest protests. The people of the great and free country of Canada would sympathize with the desire and resolve of the Irish people to get their Parliament back again. (Applause.) In Canada there were many Parliaments, some of them for only 200,000 people; but Ireland contained 4,500,000 people, divided from the rest of the world; an old nation, an historic people, with a language and customs of their own. Surely this people, after having a Parliament for 500 years, might be trusted to have one again. In asking and demanding an Irish Parliament they asked it on conditions which would secure the continuance of the solidarity of the empire. He was happy to say, with joy and gratitude, that a better understanding of the Irish claims was now rife and widespread among the people of England. A large measure of home rule had been carried through the House of Commons by a triumphant majority. This would be made a great measure of truth and reconciliation. The day that the doors of an Irish Parliament were opened to the Irish people there would be union, affection and good-will between the Irish and English people, a union that would not require bayonets or rifles or artillery to enforce it.

KIND WORDS FOR MR. BLAKE.

Between the people of this great City of Toronto and the Irish Parliamentary party there was a connecting link, one of which that party were proud, an illustrious gentleman—Here Mr. Sullivan was interrupted by a burst of applause which prevented his completing the sentence. Continuing, he said:—"Of course I see that you know to whom I refer. We have in Hon. Edward Blake—(loud applause)—a tower of strength to the Irish party and the Irish cause, a gentleman of experience, no 'prentice hand,' a gentleman of years, of high attainments and noble character. No man need say that he would, at his time of life, sacrifice his home, his profession and his family, and cross the Atlantic to give support to the cause of bigotted, fanatical or unwise people." This eulogy of Mr. Blake evoked tremendous applause. Mr. Sullivan, continuing, said that the Irish cause had still to contend with much opposition, both in the House of Commons and in the country, but he wished to testify, and not for the first time, that he believed the English to be a fair-minded people. It was on the working classes that they based their sure hope. The argument that it would be unsafe for the 35,000,000 of England to allow the 4,500,000 of Ireland to govern themselves Mr. Sullivan refuted humorously and effectively. It would be quite impossible for the Irish to "dismember the Empire," as it had never been proposed that Ireland should ever manage anything in connection with the armed forces. He believed that if the choice were left to Ireland her people would prefer to leave such matters in the control of the Imperial Parliament.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Mr. Sullivan attacked the House of Lords, who had stopped the Home Rule bill, thereby crossing the path of the people of England. This time, he believed, they had stirred up the workmen of England, so that they would take from the Lords the privileges to which they were not entitled. While approving of a second Chamber, Mr. Sullivan heaped ridicule on the hereditary principle in legislation, and the methods in which the Lords conducted their business. He reviewed some of the measures which they opposed, but which were carried against their will. The proposals which have been made to force the home rule bill through the Lords was also touched upon. Mr. Sullivan gave a graphic description of the "gilded hall" in which the Lords sit, which, he said, was for Irish reforms a gilded abattoir.

The tactics adopted by the Irish party in the English House in the earlier part of their career there were sketched with wit and an occasional appearance of the relish of an old fighter for the recollection of former battles. All-night sessions and other obstructionist means adopted by the party were described, and though they were familiar to the vast majority of the audience, still to hear them told by one who had taken part in them,

and who spoke of them with the light of battle and of mischief in his eyes, afforded his hearers unqualified delight. But during all these struggles, he said, the Irish cause was growing in strength. "The Irish cause," he said, "will go on, and baffled it will never be." He also gave some amusing aspects of the agrarian troubles and the measures of repression adopted in connection with them, though the injustice of these measures was constantly kept in the foreground.

To Mr. Gladstone, whose name was received with tremendous applause, the lecturer paid a high tribute. As long as Ireland lasted, he said, the name of Gladstone would be grateful to the Irish people. He was a great, kindhearted and liberal statesman, and had fought a noble battle for Ireland. He also sketched the characters of some of the other members of parliament. Concerning Mr. Chamberlain he was almost bitter in his remarks. The riot that occurred in the House of Commons during the home rule debates, he said, was entirely due to Chamberlain's action, and that action was the result of a conspiracy. Mr. Sullivan closed by affirming the unity of interests of the Irish and labor parties.

THE VOTE OF THANKS PROPOSED BY HON. J. J. CURRAN.

At the conclusion of the lecture Hon. J. J. Curran, Solicitor-General, rose to move a vote of thanks to Mr. Sullivan, and in his remarks paid a high tribute to the quality of the address and referred to the favorable impression such an exposition was sure to leave on the public mind. He had a message from the people of Canada, especially from the descendants of the Irish race, which he hoped Mr. Sullivan would carry to the present representatives of the Old Land in the Imperial parliament. They should remember that they were not mere representatives of the local conscriptions that sent them to Westminster. They were the guardians of Irish rights and the exponents of the views of the race throughout the world. They could send their names to posterity as the patriotic band who had done battle nobly for the grand old cause or sink into contempt for having sacrificed their country's opportunity. Their petty personal bickerings must cease, they must rise to the level of the sacred mission they had been sent to fulfill. They must realize that the eyes of the world were upon them. Ireland, her character, her fitness for Home Rule, everything that most nearly and dearly concerned her were all in their keeping. With a united Irish party the last dollar of Irish Canadian or Irish American money would be cheerfully shared to further the cause of fatherland.

Rev. Dr. Burns of Hamilton seconded the address, and short speeches were made by Sir Oliver Mowat, Sir Frank Smith and Hon. G. W. Ross, all expressing satisfaction at the tone of Mr. Sullivan's remarks.

Letters of regret were received from the Lieut.-Governor, Bishop O'Connor, Bishop Dowling, Bishop Sweatman, Hon. Wilfred Laurier, Hon. A. S. Hardy, Mr. G. F. Marter, M.P.P., Mr. J. F. Middleton, M. P. P. (Hamilton), Mr. E. Coatsworth, M. P., Hon. S. H. Blake, Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, Rev. Dr. Potts, Rev. Brother Tobias, Rev. E. B. Lawlor, Rev. J. M. McGuckan, (Ottawa), Rev. Father McEvoy, (Hamilton), Rev. Dr. Kilroy, (Stratford), Rev. W. R. Har-

ris (St. Catharines), Hon. John A. Boyd, Prof. London, Rev. Prof. Clark, B. E. Walker, J. S. Willison, Dr. Sullivan (Kingston), John D. Grace (Ottawa), John Foy, C. R. Devlin (Aylmer), Thos. Coffey (London), James Mason, C. Donovan (Hamilton), John O'Reilly (Ottawa), W. H. Withrow, W. J. Alexander, R. S. Baird, J. R. Dundas, P. W. Falvey.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MR. W. P. CROWE

It is with deep regret that we learned of the somewhat unexpected and early death of a former Montreal young man, Mr. W. P. Crowe. The deceased passed away in Boston, on Saturday, the 8th instant. The cause of Mr. Crowe's demise was a severe attack of pneumonia. When the close of his life came he was cashier of a club in the city of Boston. It is only a few months ago that we were called upon to record the death of Mr. T. P. Crowe, a brother of the young man whose loss we now lament. Both these were cousins of our esteemed fellow-citizen, Mr. T. Crowe, the actual president of the Shamrock Lacrosse Club. The deceased was in his twenty-seventh year and was apparently destined to many more years of usefulness and work. But Providence willed it otherwise, and the sad result is the object of this humble tribute. To his relatives and friends we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and we express the fervent prayer of the Church, "May his soul rest in peace."

THE LATE MRS. A. HIGGINS.

For over half a century, the lady whose death we record had been one of the prominent workers in the East End of Montreal. Although constantly, and during a long period of life engaged in the excitement of business, she was possessed of a most amiable disposition, ever going about doing good to all. She was of a kindly open heart and beloved by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. A touching tribute to Mrs. Higgins' memory has been penned by a life-long friend of hers, and from it we extract the following: "Truly it may be said that the Angel of Death, in sweeping over the East portion of our city, uprooted an old landmark. Certainly a great many will join me in the prayer that this same landmark may be planted in the sacred soil of heaven, to be recognized by her parents and friends forever more, where her soul may enjoy a much happier Christmas than this earth could afford." On Friday next the Rosary Sodality, to which deceased belonged, will have a Requiem Mass chanted for the repose of her soul.—R.I.P.

Sister Mary Xavier, of the Grey Nunnery, has returned to Montreal after an absence of 44 years, which she passed in the Manitoba missions without having paid a single visit to this province during that period.

A new assortment of the "Pratte" pianos, which have elicited such praise from connoisseurs, are being exhibited in the piano warehouses, 1,676 Notre Dame Street, and also at the up-town branch, at Sheppard's music store, 2,274 St. Catherine street. Lovers of the beautiful, whether they are intending purchasers or not, should not miss the pleasure of inspecting these instruments, which cannot fail to surprise them. It is unnecessary to speak of their musical qualities, which have been the subject of such high praises from the profession, in addition to which the extraordinary beauty of the woods employed, the elegance of design, and perfection of finish, surpass anything which has ever been in Montreal or even in New York itself. As several of these instruments are the only ones of the kind, those who wish to examine them should not delay, as many of them have already been sold, and will be on view for a few days more.

He—"They say you are something of a mind reader." She—"Do they?" He—"I am going to test you. What am I thinking about?" She (looking at the clock)—"You are thinking of going home."

Mrs. Pancake (suspiciously)—"Why are you hanging around my back window so long?" Tramp—"Ma'am, those apple pies are as purty as pictures, an' I'd like to be the frame o' one o' them."

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Yours truly, Mrs. M. J. LOYD.

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