Incidents in the Life of the late Chief Justice Archibald McLean

Seven Years President of St. Andrew's Society, Toronto

By A. McLean Macdonell, K.C.

The Hon, Archibald McLean, the subject of my remarks this evening, was a Highland Scotsman by descent but a native of our own province of Ontario. His parents immigrated to this country, from Scotland. not long after the Battle of Culloden, in 1746, where their sturdy ancestors had wielded the sword in the cause of the Stuarts and in support of the principles of the Jacobites. It is only natural, then, that it should frequently have been said of the late Chief Justice that he had in him all the characteristics of a Highland Scotsman. He would certainly, in the present day, be considered as having had an eventful career. The conditions of life in Canada the latter part of the eighteenth century and in the early years of the nineteenth, the war of 1812, and the rebellion of 1837, were well calculated to furnish a suitable background for a man of so much character, individuality, and loyalty to this country.

Archibald McLean was the son of Colonel, the Hon. Neil McLean, of St. Andrews, Upper Canada, a little village situated about four miles north of Cornwall, not far from the confines of the County of Glengarry. The father, Neil McLean, was born at Mingarry in the Island of Mull, Scotland. At an early age Neil McLean obtained a Lieutenancy in the Royal Highland Emigrants (84th Regiment), which was embodied in