

the Puritans left the land of their birth to seek a land where they might better their fortunes. Being now thrown side by side in a country, though not, perhaps, possessing the same activity of the money getting and trading spirit as the New Englanders, yet they might pride themselves upon qualities as valuable. It must be remembered, that if others had designed schemes of public improvement, it was yet the strong arms and busy hands of the Irish laborer, which had laid the rails and placed the stones for the benefit of all. All should unite heartily, with all striving earnestly for the good of all, and that of their common country. He thanked them on behalf of the St. Patrick's Society for the honor done it. And ere he sat down, he might be permitted to say that he felt not a little proud that the orator of the day was a son of old Ireland. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT called upon the Secretary to read letters of excuse from some of the parties invited to be present.

Letters were accordingly read from Colonel Stone, of Plattsburgh, N.Y.; Recorder Smith, of New York; Hon. Geo. Ashmun, of Springfield, Mass.; and Josiah S. Little, Esq., of Portland Me., expressing their regret at their inability to be present. From the Hon. G. S. Hillard, Boston, with the following sentiment:—

“Old England and New England, — Sisters of the same blood, speaking the same tongue, reading the same books, with a common religion and kindred laws, with the electric energy of freedom in their veins, — May there be no other strife between them than as to which shall surpass the other in subduing the wilderness, educating the ignorant, christianizing the heather, and scattering the darkness of despotism with the dayspring of liberty.”

From Dr. W. O. Holmes, Boston, with the following:—

“The Pilgrim's Progress — not of English allegory — but of American history; may its path keep, in full faith, to the national highway, and avoid the local barrier on which our “Christian” and “Hopeful” fathers have written, “over this stile is the way to Doubting Castle, which is kept by Giant Despair.”

From Governor Ciarke, of New York, a letter concluding thus:—

“It is the toast of Old England that the sun never sets on her dominions: New England may claim with almost equal certainty that the sun rises upon no state or nation within whose borders her own sons have not made a home. Your Society is certainly an evidence that Canada is no exception to this expression. May its members ever cherish the virtues of their country, and suffer no blemish to dim the escutcheon of their national renown.”

From H. Slocum, Esq., Mayor of Troy, with the following:—

“The Pilgrims that landed on Plymouth Rock, — may their remembrance be cherished by their descendants in all lands: may their prin-