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FOUNDER'S DAY ADDRESS.*

On occasions such as the present historical reminiscence is appropriate. About seventy years ago there emigrated from the Green Isle to Canada a vigorous and sagacious youth of about eighteen years of age, to push his fortune. Immediately he secured a situation in a respectable store in this city; not many years after he developed into a successful merchant; by and by he became the manager of one of our largest banks; then an honorable Senator in our central Parliament; then a millionaire. All this time he was a simple consistent Christian, belonging to the very small religious sect called the Baptists.

Successful business men are generally apt to have blemishes in their reputation which some people who have come into contact with them are disposed to retail; but concerning the man of whom I now speak, not once in thirty years did I ever hear an insinuation regarding the purity of his moral and commercial character. While I know he had a strong will and even could exhibit sometimes a little temper (what is any tool worth that has no temper?), the unanimous verdict of society seems to be that he was an honest, truthful man all his life long. This man was the venerated Founder of McMaster University. To this institution and its affiliated schools—not to say anything about what he gave to that church of which he was a member—his gifts and bequests must have amounted to \$1,100,000—princely beneficence!

* Delivered at McMaster Hall, December 21st, 1899.