

MR. PRESIDENT,—LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—In addressing you this evening, I shall omit all reference to those Irish matters with which you are as well acquainted as I am, and which can add nothing to your knowledge of the facts, or to your love of the old land ; but striking out into regions hitherto unexplored, I shall open up to your gaze some few pages of Canadian History shaped by Irish minds, illumined by Irish genius, or made famous by Irish valor. I shall begin the History of a now forgotten Irish Colony on the banks of the St. Lawrence, leaving to other hands the task of completing what I shall have begun.

It is not generally known, that long before Wolfe had scaled the Heights of Abraham, a large Irish element had settled down in Canada, intermarried with the French, and had become absorbed in the French population of this country ; and I almost fancy that I see some of my