

re-marrying. In regard to the case now before the House, I have done my duty as a citizen of this country and as a senator to direct attention to the wholly inadequate evidence on which we are asked to grant this divorce. Without consulting any one, if I can find a seconder, I move that this Bill be not now read the third time, but that it be read the third time this day six months.

Hon. Mr. KIRCHHOFFER—In my young days there was a class of entertainers who used to go around the country giving recitations and readings from prominent authors. With them we used to have 'an evening wi Scott,' or 'a Nicht wi Burns.' Now, it is not often we have opportunities for amusement or relaxation of this staid old Senate of ours, but when we have, it seems to degenerate into what we might call 'an afternoon wi Cloran.' It is not often I take any notice of the persistent and periodical attacks which the hon. gentleman makes upon the divorce tribunal of the Senate. He considers that he has a mission, and that mission is the abolition of the Divorce Committee of the Senate.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—No.

Hon. Mr. KIRCHHOFFER—Or the doing away with divorce altogether. He is obsessed with that idea. It pervades what the hon. gentleman is pleased to call his mind, and the report of the committee has on him the same sort of effect that a red rag has on a mad bull. It is to this that we are indebted for the frequent flights of oratory and bursts of eloquence with which the hon. gentleman entertains us on these occasions, and I do not wonder at the reports we hear from him of the wonderful impression which he makes upon his constituents and friends in Griffintown, or whatever the classic suburb is that he is accustomed to hold forth in, and the impression he makes and the way in which he influences the Horans and the Dorans and the Clorans, and as the old Irish song says:

The Kelleys, the Reillys, the O'Shaughnessys,
The Caseys and Mary Maguire
Bow down to him low, as walking they go.

because they are being impressed by what they so often hear of him, that he runs the Senate. That we hear in a great many cases, but it generally comes back to the

hon. gentleman himself. His people revere him as he dilates on the smashing he gives to the Divorce Committee in speeches such as we have listened to this afternoon—the same speech to which we have listened on many occasions, and as the poet says:

And still they gazed, and still their wonder
grew
That one small head could carry all he knew.

It is a marvel to them, but hon. gentlemen, the man with a mission or a hobby, while often no doubt a very deserving and estimable creature frequently degenerates into a most unmitigated bore when he is so constantly obtruding it on people who are not anxious to hear him on the subject. Now, to judge by the hon. gentleman's attacks on the Divorce Committee, one would imagine that that committee was a collection of innocent and very imbecile old gentlemen who are quite unable to judge of the value of the evidence put before them; that they revel so much in the granting divorces, so anxious to do it, that they grant divorces just for the fun of the thing, and without taking any notice of the evidence put before them. I should like to say it, and I am sure I will not be contradicted by the members of this House, that this Divorce Committee is a very fair representation of the average ability and intelligence that there is in this House. We are no orators, as Brutus is, whose tongue drops manna, and can make the worse appear the better reason, but three senators on our committee are members of the legal profession, and the rest of them have attained to a high degree of success and elevation in other professions or in business in the country and are highly respected wherever they go, and are as capable of intelligent appreciation of evidence as our friend whom Thackeray might have referred to as 'The Cicero of the Shannon shore.' I think it is an outrage for any member of this House to try to throw such a slur upon the Divorce Committee as the hon. gentleman from Victoria is so constantly in the habit of doing. That he impresses some members of this House I am absolutely certain, because the last time he delivered his eloquent speech he succeeded in converting my hon. friend beside me (Hon. Mr. Perley) to such an extent that he voted with him on that occasion. My hon. friend