

American continent and as the results of whose labors and the labors of their descendants there has been woven into the web of our national life those distinctive lines, which now adorn the whole pattern and which we would not, I am sure, remove even if we could. Let us never forget what Canada owes to men of French blood and of the French tongue (loud applause). We may even now show our appreciation of that fact by all, as Canadians, rallying to the support of that great institution which should be made by our united efforts one of the greatest seats of learning in the world — the Université de Montréal (applause). It is a pleasure to see here to-night a representative of the French Canadian community and of that great University — Mr. Victor Morin, the distinguished President of L'Association Saint-Jean Baptiste (applause).

The Irish, the Scotch and the English followed the French, all doing a great work for Canada, and to-day men of all races and of all creeds are working together to complete and embellish the mighty edifice of Confederation (loud applause).

SERVICE OF IRISHMEN TO CANADA

Among all the workers for Canada none have done more for its progress and development than have the Irish. Now it is not my desire to extol the Irishman in Canada at the expense of other races; did time permit I could mention equally great deeds and equally illustrious names from the other races all of whom, as I have said, have done great things for Canada. But I simply wish very briefly to emphasize some of the principal things for which we all, as Canadians, are indebted to Irish-Canadians. As that brilliant Irish-Canadian, Nicholas Flood Davin, once truly said "the Irishman has played so large a part in Canada that his history could not be written without to a large extent writing the history of the country." From the earliest days to the present Irishmen have, in fact, been conspicuous in service to our country. The man who safeguarded Canadian independence in 1776, one of the greatest governors that Canada has ever had, the man who as has well been said "proved himself the veritable savior of Canada and watched with greatest anxiety, care, efficiency and far sighted wisdom over her infant years" was an Irishman, the famous Guy Carleton, who was born in County Tyrone in the very year that the great Marlborough died. (applause).

And whilst Carleton was safeguarding Canadian independence threatened by the rising of the American colonies against Great Britain, Irishmen were penetrating to all portions of the country and helping to lay the foundations of its present greatness. Many of those who hewed out the virgin wilderness, who began what are to-day great and thriving centres and who now sleep in unknown graves were Irish. With truth has it been said by an Irish-Canadian historian —

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