

and warmest sympathy of all classes, in their new field of labor, and after trials and troubles, ups and downs of life, gradually forced their way to the platform of the world, securing encouragement on all sides, the outcome of genius with poetic power, undaunted by trials and cares, which usually cross the path to fame.

First efforts often fail, but such was not the experience of Thomson, who, when in the first part of his poem, "The Seasons," "Winter" achieved a reputation. He was then only 27 years old. Campbell at the age of 21 left London, the centre of commercial as well as literary activity. The appearance of "The Pleasures of Hope," a poem doubtless written from the surrounding circumstances, at once captured the public mind and stamped his poetic ability. To the people who know well how to appreciate talent, of which we have had an array in the lines of thought from the Emerald isle, such as any country might justly cherish, the name of Campbell as a household word.

Campbell is well known by his masterly poem, "The Exile of Erin." He was one of those men who could always see a good thing and appreciate it, no matter what country it came from. He possessed that nobleness of heart and warmth of feeling that imparted to him the true spirit such as characterized his life's work, like the meteoric light which flits across the zenith illuminating its path and then passing away.

Those three poets made their mark on Scottish literature, and passed from life's scenes, their remains finding a resting place—Smollet at Leg Horne, Thomson at Richmond on the upper Thames, and Campbell in Westminster Abbey, surrounded by many of the illustrious dead of Britain.

#### SPEAKS OF BURNS.

Of the last poet I wish to say a word. Burns' life history is well known to you all. The very name of Burns is magnetic in its power. It has but one audience, the wide world. That has made him so great a man? There have been greater than he to whom no such honors were tendered. It is because he so thoroughly identified himself, and his proud heart with the proud hearts of his people. It is because he poured forth on every possible occasion the spirit of manhood, and brought the honest sons of labor to value and appre-

ciate their personal independence. He was a democrat in feeling, but not disposed to lower the aristocracy, but rather to uplift and elevate the people by their virtues. His song, "A Man's a Man," is the keynote of his fame, or the love and attachment of his people and of his appreciation by the world at large.

To meet here on this happy occasion so many sons of dear old Scotland is certainly cheering. But why are we here? To take part in forwarding the best interest of this great country and truly great people. On the North American continent there is room for two nations to stimulate and to encourage each other in the works of peace and good fellowship. We, in the majority of cases come from the same forefathers, and while your forefathers landed on Plymouth Rock ours paddled their own canoe up the majestic St. Lawrence, and formed with the assistance of our French com-patriots a true and grand Canadian nation, as a part of the British empire, to which we delight to belong.

At the same time we desire to present a most friendly relation with our neighbors in this great republic, whose progress and great prosperity are to us a great source of encouragement. We should much like a little more friendship in our relation and a wider margin in reciprocity than at present exists. When we learn to know each other better, which cannot fail to be the work of such gatherings as the present, wider lines will gradually be developed, so as to promote additional increased prosperity all along the base of that Chinese wall.

Canadians as a rule adhere closely to their country. We love our queen, and feel proud to be a part of her majesty's great empire. We rejoice with you in your prosperity, and we sympathize with you in your troubles. During your late war our sons fought and fell to accomplish the great object you had in view—the abolition of slavery and advancement of civilization.

We desire peace, friendship and prosperity in the widest sense of the terms. And in conclusion let me congratulate the Sons of St. Andrew on the marked success of this charitable association up to the fiftieth anniversary, and to wish them continued prosperity in the same line of charity and benevolence for many a year to come.