

OTTAWA RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

House of Commons,
March 28, 1870.
Mr. Wright (Ottawa) moved, seconded by Mr. Shanly, that the petition of Michael McLean and others, praying that the House will take such measures as to cause the obstructions of the navigation of the Ottawa River to be removed be now considered.

Mr. Wright said that in placing this motion before the House he trusted that it would take into consideration the circumstances attending it. The magnitude of the interests at stake, their importance, in his opinion, to the best interests of the Dominion, the gigantic nature of the enterprise, the sense of his own incompetency, all induced him to ask of the House that indulgence which had always been accorded him. A great French philosopher writes us that every country, every territory, necessarily represents an idea. He says: "Show me the map of a country, its configuration, its natural productions, its botany, its geology, its climate, its winds, its waters, and its physical geography, and I pledge myself to tell you what men will inhabit that country, and what place that country will occupy in history." A great soldier, the victor of Aroca and Marengo, a man who could not be accused of having been lost in philosophical reveries, in rendering an account to posterity of his real or simulated designs on that Italy which must have been dear to him for more reasons than one, commences by giving a description of the Italian territory, from which he deduces the past history of that country, and traces the only reasonable plan for its future glory and prosperity. He knew of few pages of history more beautiful than that. At the present time, when, so far as we can judge, the organization of the British Empire in North America nearly reaches its completion, at a time when the great scheme of Confederation must produce its natural and legitimate results, or must end in disastrous failure, it may be well for the representative men of British North America to pause for a moment and inquire what idea their country is likely to represent—what men will probably hold dominion over it, and what place it will occupy in history; whether it will be maintained by a bold and hardy British race, cherishing the traditions of the Motherland, and holding her institutions as a sacred heritage, or whether the other side of the line will obtain ascendancy. He was aware that there were a few individuals—and he was happy to believe that the class was a comparatively small one—who held that a great problem yet remained to be solved. The problem arose as to whether, after we have obtained this great territory, we are prepared to utilize and defend it; but he believed that if the statement on both sides of the House should manifest the same patriotism, and the same boldness and energy in the future which they have done in the past, the solution of the problem would not be of a difficult character. He was satisfied that if the bold policy foreshadowed during the last session in the speech of the then hon. Minister of Finance should be carried into effect; a policy of canals and railroads—a policy which would improve our internal communication; a policy which would prevent the exodus of our own people, and give labour and a home to the starving population of Europe; a policy which would cheapen breadstuffs in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and afford a market for the surplus products of these Provinces within the area of the Dominion. A policy which would fill up the vacant land of the great West, and give a back bone to the country; a policy which would make of Montreal and Quebec great centres of commerce. A policy which would strengthen the wants of our people, and make them self-reliant, and not teach them to shiver and shake at every chill word that blows from Washington. He was satisfied that if a policy like that should be initiated, the solution of the problem of the future could not be of a difficult character. But on the other hand, if such a policy be not initiated, he believed that the future would be dark and doubtful. Look, sir, at the map of our country. Look, sir, at the shores washed by the Atlantic; on the other we trust that soon the Pacific will form our boundary. We had a territory almost as large as that of Europe; we had almost every variety of soil; we had a climate favourable to all the conditions of health, and the development of vigorous manhood; we had a vast forest which would furnish an almost inexhaustible supply of valuable timber; we had great mineral treasures; we were a people descended from the great European races, which had ever been foremost in the march of civilization and progress; we had great inland seas, great rivers, which only required improvement, in order to carry the blessings of civilization and commerce throughout the whole length and breadth of our land; we had the theatre prepared, let us see whether the actors of the present day were prepared to play their parts boldly in the drama of the future, and here he would ask the members of the House to discard all local and sectional prejudices, and look at these matters from a Dominion point of view. Every member of the House, every man in this country, must be satisfied that after having once put our hands to the plough it was impossible to look back. Humanity and civilization never recoil. After having obtained this great country it was absolutely necessary that we should be prepared to utilize and develop it. And how can we utilize it? Only by filling up this vast territory with a happy, contented, and industrious population. We could only utilize it by affording to all its inhabitants the means of easy communication, or we can defend it by precisely the same means by which we develop its resources, and promote its natural advantages. The statesmen of the present day had a great mission before them; to fuse all the diverse elements of our people into one great whole, and to develop amongst them the ideas of the useful, the great, the good, the beautiful, and the true. Among the projects which commend themselves to the attention of this House, there are some

which are worthy of especial mention. There is the scheme for the construction of the Bay Verte Canal, which is of great importance not only to the people of Nova Scotia but also to the New Dominion. There is also the project for the improvement of the St. John River in New Brunswick; also the scheme for the improvement of the navigation of the river Ottawa, so that vessels either for peace or war might pass from Montreal to Lake Huron. Then there is the scheme for the construction of a railroad to the Red River, and ultimately to the Pacific. These are gigantic projects, but to his mind they are essential not only to the welfare but to the existence of the Dominion. The project for the improvement of the navigation of the River Ottawa had for many years engaged the attention of many of our most eminent and practical statesmen. It had been deemed of the utmost importance, from a political point of view. This route was for many years, and within his own recollection, the only one to the great North West. In the year 1615, Samuel Champlain first ascended the Ottawa River, and made his way to the shores of Lake Huron. He was followed by La Salle and many other adventurers, and that for many years was the only route to the North West. Every day some relic of the past makes its appearance; now a rapier once probably worn by some gallant Norman or Breton gentleman is found on a lonely portage; now some weapon of the chase or utensil of cookery is found on the track of the ancient voyagers. Suffice it to say that it is by this route, first discovered by Champlain in 1615, that it is proposed to improve the route to Lake Huron. He had said that this project had engaged the attention of many of our most eminent and practical statesmen. He heard the Minister of Justice advocate this great work as one of the greatest national importance. He had heard the Hon. Minister of Militia make a most eloquent speech in favour of opening up this route first discovered by his great countryman Champlain. He believed that the hon. member for Chateaugay was the first as President of the Montreal Board of Trade to draw up and present to His Excellency Sir Edmund Head, a petition praying for the improvement of this navigation, and he was aware that the hon. member for Lambton, with that breadth of new and thorough British spirit which always commended him to the leader of the House, notwithstanding the difference of their political opinions, was an earnest advocate of this route as soon as the state of the finances would permit it. And so on with many members of this House. It will be in the recollection of many members that in 1863 a deputation from the Board of Trade of Chicago visited Quebec to press upon the Government of the day the necessity of improving this navigation and constructing this great work as affording the shortest and easiest outlet for the products of the great West. Many members of the House would recollect a visit paid by many members to the waters of the Upper Ottawa. Our glorious river put on her gayest apparel as to welcome her distinguished visitors. At every point the bone and sinew of the country had welcomed them with that hospitality which is eminently characteristic of the Ottawa people. The hardy frontiersmen gave us a cheer as we passed them by, and the pioneer of civilization in his lonely hut in the wilderness fired his solitary shot in honour of the representatives of the people. Our guests were from the East and from the West, representing all the diverse shades of Canadian politics, and they were unanimously of opinion that it was the duty of the Government to open up that great commercial and military highway. He had said that this work is of the greatest importance from a political, commercial and military point of view. Politically it is of great importance that immigrants should be attracted to our shores, and that can only be done by affording them labour and a home. Politically it is of the greatest importance that all our own inhabitants should have the means of easy communication. Commercially it is of the greatest importance that the shortest and easiest route for the produce of the Great West to reach the sea-board should at once be opened up, and in a military point of view, it is of the utmost importance that this interior line should be utilized, inasmuch as in the event of a difficulty with the United States, that of the St. Lawrence would be closed. He would ask them to recollect the solemn warning of that eminent English soldier, Sir John Mitchell, that if we wished to be able to defend our country, it was absolutely essential that we should open up this great and interior line of communication.

The Ottawa River is a stream seven hundred and eighty miles in length, draining a country of 89,000 square miles, or one-fourth of the area of the late Province of Canada. Its course for three hundred and five miles above Montreal, is nearly due West, and a straight line drawn from that city to the Straits of Mackinac, connecting Lake Michigan and Huron, would pass along it for that distance. At this point the main river turns sharply to the Northward, but the direct course to Lake Huron is continued by a tributary which joins it from the Westward—the Matawan. This stream is forty and one-half miles in length, drains an area of one hundred and fifty square miles, has its source in a deep lake on the summit of the water shed between the St. Lawrence and Ottawa River systems, three miles from Lake Nipissing, whose effluent—the French River—passes into Lake Huron. The dividing ridge is nowhere more than ten feet above the level of Trout Lake (the head of the Matawan), and is not over thirty feet above Lake Nipissing. This lake stands six hundred and thirty-two feet above the level of tidal water; it is the second of two sheets of water which receive the drainage of an area of nine thousand square miles, the first known as Lake Tamangamingue, lies to the Northward, at a considerable elevation above Lake Nipissing; it has an area of six hundred and fifty square miles, and is connected with the latter lake by Sturgeon River. It has never been properly surveyed or explored, although it lies in the midst of a rich country in minerals and natural

products, at present practically inaccessible. The Atlantic and Pacific Railway must pass close to its Eastern shores, between it and the Ottawa; it is believed to send one affluent to that River, and the other to Lake Huron.

Lake Nipissing is sixty miles in its greatest length, and twenty in its greatest width. The French River leaves it (thirty-one miles from its eastern end and thirty-four from Trout Lake), at its South-Western extremity; it has a course of forty-nine miles, falling into Lake Huron four hundred and thirty miles West of Montreal, two hundred and seventy from the Straits of Mackinac, which connects that Lake and Lake Michigan, and five hundred miles from Chicago, thus making the distance between Montreal and that port nine hundred and thirty miles. By way of the St. Lawrence and Lakes the distance between these ports is thirteen hundred and forty-eight miles being four hundred and eighteen miles in favour of the Ottawa route.

He said that the opening up of this route was important from a commercial and military point of view, he trusted that we should have no difficulty with the people of the United States, and that our only rivalry might be that of civilization and progress. He could have no prejudice against the people, for his grandfather was born almost under the shadow of Bunker's Hill. He liked their institutions, and he believed that next to our own, they were calculated to produce the end of all good government, the greatest possible good to the greatest number. We had many Americans in our midst, and they were among the foremost in all our industrial, charitable, and social projects. What he particularly liked in the Americans was their energy and enterprise, and their wise encouragement of all great public undertakings. In the great struggle between the North and the South he had heartily sympathized with the North. To his mind the struggle was one between light and darkness—civilization and slavery. He had admired the pluck, the daring, and the gallantry of the South, but it had exhausted its idea and was forced to succumb. The dice were loaded in favour of civilization, progress, and humanity. In the great struggle between the North and the South he had heartily sympathized with the North. To his mind the struggle was one between light and darkness—civilization and slavery. He had admired the pluck, the daring, and the gallantry of the South, but it had exhausted its idea and was forced to succumb. The dice were loaded in favour of civilization, progress, and humanity. In the great struggle between the North and the South he had heartily sympathized with the North. To his mind the struggle was one between light and darkness—civilization and slavery. He had admired the pluck, the daring, and the gallantry of the South, but it had exhausted its idea and was forced to succumb. The dice were loaded in favour of civilization, progress, and humanity.

These in the robes of glory,
Those in the gloom of defeat,
Both with the battle blood gory
In the dusk of eternity meet.
Under the sod and the sod,
Waiting the judgment day;
Under the willow the gray.

He trusted that the armies of England and the United States would never be drawn up in battle line against each other, but if that emergency should arise, he trusted that the Englishmen, Irishmen, Scotchmen, Frenchmen, and Americans of Canada would not disgrace their noble ancestry. He heartily sympathized with the sentiment which had fallen from the lips of the hon. Minister of Finance the other night; that the connection between the mother land and Colonies might never cease, a connection fraught with such advantages to both. He trusted that the God of Terminus would withdraw from the boundaries of the British Empire, as a sign that the hour of its decadence was at hand. He hoped that the British flag would always be our nation's emblem. But if at some future time the British Empire should fling away the Colonies; if in the darkness of some night the glorious Standard should go down, he hoped that the stars of the Canadian flag would be the stars of the future. He hoped there would be energy, spirit and manliness enough in the Canadian people to fling the banner of Canadian nationality to the breeze.

THE ONTARIO MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

We publish in another portion of this week's RECORD the fourteenth Annual Report of this prosperous Company, and bespeak for a careful perusal by those interested readers who take an interest in the important subject of life assurance.

The Company began business in 1870, at Waterloo, Ont., without any capital to inspire public confidence, relying solely on the excellence of its plans for the assurance of life and on the established credit of a powerful and established firm, the "largest amount of assurance for the least possible outlay," and what have been the results? At the end of the first year's operations the Company had a cash income of something over \$9,000, with assets (deducting preliminary expenses) of \$6,216, while for the year ending December 31, 1883, its cash income reached the handsome sum of \$199,182.60, with gross assets aggregating the grand total of \$533,705.00, and the whole number of policies in force, Dec. 31, 1883, was 5,241, covering assurance for \$6,572,191.71—a result as remarkable in the experience of our Canadian Companies as it must be gratifying to the members of "The Ontario Mutual Life" whose interests in every respect are identical with those of the Company itself, all the realized profits being distributed among them annually on what is known as the "Contribution plan."

Without further entering into details, which our readers will find set forth with singular clearness in the report itself, we may here state that the business of this Company during the past year shows a rapid and most satisfactory increase in every department. There has been a marked gain in its membership, in the premium and interest receipts, in the number of policies and amount of assurance in force, in the net assets, in the surplus to the credit of policy holders, and in many other items the growth has been all that could be desired, while the ratio of expense to income has materially decreased.

As a journalist we are always pleased to note the steady and healthy development of our Savings Banks, Life Assurance Companies, and similar institutions,

as affording evidence of the increasing thrift and prudent forethought of our people, and in this connection it gives us more than ordinary pleasure to chronicle the rapid advancement "The Ontario Mutual Life" has made in popular favor and to wish it a measure of success in the years to come commensurate with its admirably high financial standing, its admirable plans of assurance, its attractive and convenient system of annual distribution of profits, and with the well-deserved reputation it enjoys for liberality and promptness in the settlement of its death claims.

Father Feron's Concert.

Albert Hall was literally packed Tuesday evening on the occasion of Father Feron's concert, the citizens turning out en masse, knowing full well that the excellent taste displayed by Father Feron at his former concerts would be equalled if not excelled on this occasion. In this they were not disappointed, for it was truly a musical treat, and although the expense of getting such excellent talent together must have been very great, we believe a snug balance will be left for the object for which it was instituted, namely, in aid of the R. C. Church of this town. It is almost impossible to particularize so well all that accompaniment, the singing of Miss Strong was much admired and encored, and she will leave Stratford as great a favorite as she did on her former visit. Her rendition of "Semiramide" was particularly sweet and pleasing and called forth an encore number. "Robin's Return," by Mrs. Hamilton took the hearts of the audience by storm on this her first appearance here. This lady possesses a sweet and clear soprano voice, which appeared to good advantage in the duet from Norma, in which she was assisted by Miss Strong. This was certainly the gem of the evening. Miss Reidy, an old favorite here, rendered her numbers in a pleasing manner, and was repeatedly encored. "So the folks say" and "Coming through the rye," were her best selections. The violin solos by Miss Lenora Clench, need no comment from us as she has been pronounced by competent critics as a musical prodigy on the violin. "Once Again" and "Alice where art thou" by Mr. L. H. Springers, were rendered in excellent voice and received well-merited applause. Mr. P. H. Matthews took his several parts well and was encored, while Master Charles Butler, by his comic songs, kept the audience in the highest good humor. Miss Hall and Miss Clench were acceptably fulfilled the duties of accompanists. This entertainment was unanimously pronounced the very best ever given in our town.—Stratford Age, April 24.

PRESENTATIONS AND WEDDING BELLS.

Ingersoll Tribune.
On Tuesday evening last a very pleasant event took place at the R. C. Parsonage, and one which will be long remembered both by the members of the R. C. choir and those who were made the recipients of handsome tributes of respect on the occasion of their entering a new sphere of life. The members of the choir wishing to show the esteem and appreciation in some tangible form in which they held Miss Emma Smith and Mr. Alex. Murdock, assembled at their parsonage and presented each of them with an address, together with a handsome silver cake basket. The following are the addresses:

DEAR MISS SMITH,—Your friends meet you to-night for a two-fold purpose, the less agreeable part of which is to bid you good-bye. It was scarcely just to mar the pleasure of this evening with regrets, yet we cannot refrain from expressing to you our sorrow at losing so amiable a companion, and so valuable an assistant. But we must not dwell on the painful portion of our task, but hasten to extend to you our hearts' best wishes for your happiness in the new sphere of life in which you will soon find yourself. We trust that your pathway through this world may be smooth, unobstructed only by such bars and crotchets as may be surmounted by singing a good song. In requesting you to accept of this little souvenir, we would ask that it may sometimes act as a reminder of the many pleasant days spent with the choir of Ingersoll.

DEAR MR. MURDOCK,—We, your pastor and the members of the choir of which you have been so long a prominent member, cannot let this opportunity pass without giving our expressions of esteem in which you are held by each of us in particular, and by all in general. Through the many changes which you have since you first attached yourself to the choir, you have always proved yourself agreeable, and willing to forward any scheme proposed for our mutual improvement and advancement. Therefore, it is with pleasure that we take this occasion to show our appreciation of your worth, and also to wish you every happiness in the step you are about to take. We would also assure you that although you are about to take sole charge of one lady, we shall still require your protecting wing in the gallery, and trust that you will continue to take your accustomed place as leader of our bass. Accept then, dear friend, with this little gift, our kindest wishes for your happiness, and trusting that our relations in the future may be as pleasant as those in the past. We subscribe ourselves
YOUR SINCERE FRIENDS.

The wedding ceremony of Miss Smith was performed in the Church of the Sacred Heart on Wednesday morning, Rev. Father Murphy officiating. The bride was tastefully attired in olive green plush and waited upon by Miss Josephine Smith and Miss O'Neil. The groom, Mr. James O'Neil, of Woodstock, was attended by Messrs. J. and P. O'Neil, of Woodstock. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the "Wedding March" was played by Mrs. Watson, and the leading solos were given by Miss Belle McDonald, a large number of guests were present, and the bride was made the recipient of many handsome gifts.

Mr. Alex. Murdock, our esteemed townsman, was united in the bands of wedlock to Miss Jennie Nicholson, of Hamilton, on Wednesday noon, at the R. C. Parsonage, by Rev. Father Carlin. The ceremony was of a quiet nature, but

none the less enjoyable. Many handsome presents were also given to the happy pair. Both couples left on the evening train for the west, accompanied by the congratulations and good wishes of a host of friends.

CLOSE OF A MOST SUCCESSFUL MISSION.

On Passion Sunday began a most successful mission in the pastoral charge of Rev. Father Watters, comprising the churches of Goderich and Hullett. The exercises of the holy mission were conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers Miller and Kantz, of Toronto, and lasted two weeks. The mission was brought to a termination on Good Friday night. Never before in this section of the country was there observed such an anxiety on the part of the people to partake of the benefits to be derived from the religious instructions given from day to day by the good priests. There were about seven hundred communicants. In a district where the Catholic people have heretofore been considered few and far between, this is indeed a grand exhibit of fervor and zeal on the part of the people, as well as speaking volumes for the great success accompanying the good work of the Redemptorists. The people will long remember the earnest exhortations delivered, and doubtless years hence the good seed sown will continue to bring forth an abundant harvest in the vineyard of the Lord.

We congratulate the good pastor, Rev. B. J. Watters, on the grand success attending the mission. It must be truly gratifying to see such a good disposition evinced by a people whose spiritual welfare he has nearest and dearest his heart.

BURNING OF LORETTO CONVENT, LINDSAY.

Lindsay, April 24.—Of the beautiful building known as the Loretto Convent at Lindsay nothing remains but the bare walls standing blackened and disfigured. The fire which worked the destruction started shortly after eleven o'clock yesterday morning. The building was heated by hot water throughout, and was supposed to be free from danger of fire. The alarm was given as soon as possible after the fire was noticed, and the brigade answered with promptness. How the fire originated is not yet definitely known. An invalid Sister occupied a room in the south-west corner of the upper storey, and in the room was a small stove, and from the connections between the stove and the chimney the fire may have started. Another story is that the chimney being on fire the heat fired some clothing hanging in a closet close to the chimney. For twenty minutes after the alarm was given no flames were visible, but a dense smoke poured from the top of the window and a crevice in the cornice. The children attending the convent school were fortunately in the basement, and were at once dismissed and taken outside. An effort was made to save the clothing and personal belongings of the young lady boarders, but the dormitories in the upper flat filled with smoke so rapidly that very little could be taken out of them. A large quantity of bedding was thrown from the window in the lower room. Ample time was allowed to remove nearly everything, and valuable books, paintings, furniture, and piano were removed. Owing to the distance from the nearest hydrant only one line of hose was laid and with one branch the men endeavoured to stay the progress of the fire. The roof was a mansard covered with slate. The fire worked its way alone the roof hidden by the slate. To get at axes were used, but the footing was so precarious that it took some time to make an opening. It was apparent that with only one branch little could be done to stay the fire. The water was carried in pails, but the height of the fire from the ground made this way of quenching it both labourous and almost useless. As the flames crept along inside the roof, the ceiling of the room below fell through and added to the fury of the fire. In a short time the tower over the front of the building was surrounded and after the wood work and roof had blazed fiercely for some time it fell inwards, carrying in its fall the floor of the second storey. A cry now arose that the church, distant only about fifty yards, was on fire. The alarm was rashly given, and under the impression that the church might be destroyed, a large number of valiant fellows climbed on the roof of the church and with water supplied them in pails, kept the shingles of the roof wet. In this work happy Jack Rogers distinguished himself by the agility with which he capered along the roof and blotted out many a dangerous spark and red hot cinder. At this juncture the old hand engine, the "Catact" No. 1, was brought from a well in the yard. Good service was given by the hand engine in saving the south wing. For two hours longer the work of destruction went on, the brigade fighting desperately as best they could with only one branch. Several narrow escapes from injury by falling portions of the roof were noted. By four o'clock the fire had somewhat weakened and it was practically under control. The building was insured to the amount of \$25,000, which was placed among three companies as follows:—Phoenix, of London, \$14,000; Royal, \$8,000; Western, \$3,000. Through the kindness of friends who threw open their houses ample accommodation was provided for the young lady boarders so suddenly rendered homeless. The news, "the convent is on fire," spread with lightning rapidity throughout the town. For a time the excitement was intense from the knowledge that little children from many of the families in town would be at the time crowded into school. From all directions building and fathers of pupils instantly forgot the business of the moment in their anxious haste to save their little ones. But the mothers were before them, and in most cases the latter could be seen issuing from the building with their offspring safe from all harm. No lives were lost, which is perhaps due chiefly to the gentle self-possession of the good Mother and Sisters of the convent and the careful foresight of the late Father

Stafford, who observed the proper precaution of having the doors open outward.

A PLEASING EVENT.

HANDSOME PRESENTATION TO MRS. J. J. CURRAN.

Last evening at 8 o'clock a deputation of about twenty friends of Mr. J. J. Curran, Q. C., M. P., met at his home for the purpose of presenting to Mrs. Curran, the accomplished wife of our popular city member, a valuable silver service and dinner set. Amongst those present we noticed Messrs. E. Murphy, Jas. O'Brien, P. J. Coyle, Ald. Tansey, J. Hoolahan, Dagald Macdonald, B. Connaughton, J. Slattery, W. Rafferty, J. O'Hara, W. Grenier, D. McLaughlan, J. Foley, etc., etc.

The presentation consisted of the following articles, which are of the finest quality: Breakfast service of plate, consisting of tea tray, tea and coffee pots, sugar basin, cream jug, spoons, toast rack and a large number of minor items. The dinner service consists of ivory handle table dessert cutlery, table and dessert forks and spoons, ladles, cruets, ice pitcher, &c., &c. This, we understand, is one of the largest and finest sets ever presented in this city, the cutlery is from Messrs. Rodgers & Sons, the plate is of Walker & Hall's best make, and was imported from England specially for this presentation by the firm of Messrs. Frothingham & Workman, of which Mr. Murphy is a member. On each article are the family initials, and the silver tray is the following inscription:—

THIS TRAY
And accompanying Service and Dinner
Set Presented to
MRS. J. J. CURRAN
By a few of her husband's friends.
Montreal, 23rd April, 1884.

Mr. EDWARD MURPHY read the following address:—
MRS. J. J. CURRAN:—
MADAME:—A few of Mr. Curran's friends conceived the idea of presenting you with some slight token of the high esteem which they entertain for you and your respected husband. Had any attempt been made to appeal to Mr. Curran's hosts of friends in this city, the subscription would have been so large as to necessitate the modification of the original intention.

Two years have scarcely elapsed since your husband entered the House of Commons as a representative of the place of his birth, and to-day we find that his many gifts of heart and mind have placed him in the first rank. This fact is a source of pride not only to his countrymen throughout the land and to his constituents, but to all those who anticipate with pleasure the brilliant future which he will carve for himself in this Canada of ours.

We are not unmindful of the cares and anxieties which necessarily accompany a life devoted to the interests of our vast country now making giant strides in national prosperity. Those cares and anxieties which beset the life of a public man necessarily throw more home responsibilities on her who is the partner of his joys and his sorrows. In recognizing this fact we desire this evening to present you with an expression of our feelings, which to some extent is materialized in the shape of the useful and ornamental articles before you.

We may state that these have been brought from across the seas for the purpose, and they will serve to remind you, Madam, and your family of the high esteem in which both you and your husband are held.

In conclusion, we wish yourself and your family a long and prosperous life in this world, and happiness in the next, and while earnestly praying for the same blessings for your devoted husband, we may express the hope that he may realize the anticipations of his friends, namely—A long, honourable, and useful career in the service of his country.

Signed on behalf of the subscribers.
EDWARD MURPHY,
Chairman.

DEGALD MACDONALD,
Secretary.

Mr. Murphy supplemented the address by stating that Mr. Curran's friends had experienced the greatest satisfaction at the marked success of his career in parliament. He had taken an active and leading part in the prominent debates since he entered the House of Commons, and had fully realized the expectations of his many friends, and he could add, the mercantile community of this city had assured him (Mr. Murphy) on many occasions that they appreciated how anxious and zealous Mr. Curran had ever been to serve their interests.

In responding on behalf of Mrs. Curran, Mr. J. J. Curran said it would be difficult adequately to express his feelings. He thanked them most sincerely for their costly gift. It was composed of objects beautiful in design and of considerable intrinsic value, but its beauty and its value were enhanced a hundred fold by the delicacy of the sentiment which had caused them to make the presentation to Mrs. Curran. He was so sincere in his feelings to be able to coin an appropriate phrase for the occasion, and then, if they looked back to history, sacred and profane, if they read the poets and the utterances of great men in every age, kings, potentates and poets had vied with each other in sounding the praises of a true wife. For his part, all he would say was that Mrs. Curran was a good little woman. Had she not been a woman of fashion, had she not practised self-denial and devoted herself to her home and the cherished ones in it, he never could have attained the position of member for the City of Montreal. (Applause.) Next to the pleasure he felt on account of their kind appreciation of his wife was that afforded him by the flattering testimony of Mr. Murphy as to his public career. He knew he had the people with him, and he was glad to think that the commercial men in this great metropolis were satisfied with his efforts to serve them.

The party then sat down to refreshments and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Several impromptu toasts were proposed and speeches and songs were the order of the evening.—Montreal Gazette, April 24.