

THE STRATHALBYN JUBILEE

"Oh Scotia! my dear, my native soil,
For whom my warmest wish to Heaven
is sent,

Long may thy hardy sons of rustic toil,
Be blest with health, and peace, and
sweet content;

And Oh! may Heaven, their simple lives
prevent,

From Luxury's contagion, weak and
vile,

Then, however, Crowns and Coronets be
rent,

A virtuous populace may rise the
while,

And stand a wall of fire,

Around their much loved Isle.

When he had concluded, at the re-
quest of the chairman, he read the
following beautiful and appropriate
lines:—

STRATHALBYN'S JUBILEE.

Respectfully dedicated to Rev. M. Campbell,
Strathalbyn, P. E. I.

By John Imrie, Toronto, Ont., July, 1895.

Hail to the Pioneers! Strathalbyn's men!
On whom, and their descendants God doth
smile;

Who left old Scotland's shores to plant again
Free homes and hearts on lone Prince
Edward Isle!

They braved the dangers of the mighty deep—
For months they sailed Atlantic's misty
way—

But well they knew their God His watch
would keep.

Their Polar Star by night, their guide Ly
day!

Such names as these are sacred to our ears—
Martins, Mathiesons and Stewarts—the
Chans

Macdonald, Mackenzie and Macleod—whose
years
Of faithful service future success plans!

All honor to those noble pioneers!
Whose sons and daughters are now
gather'd here,

To give three hearty loyal British cheers
For names they hold in memory ever dear
"Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!

Be ours to emulate our father's name,
And build the superstructure still more
fair—

Prince Edward Isle is not unknown to fame,
Her sons their country's honor duly share!

God bless the church our fathers lov'd so well,
And shed their blood to keep intact and
pure;

Be it a Bethel, where our children dwell
In freedom, love and harmony secure!

"Excelsior! Our watchword ever be!

"In God we trust!—and crave his blessed
smile,

Thus shall our sons be ever brave and free!
God bless Strathalbyn and Prince Edward
Isle!

The Religious Progress During the
Last Fifty Years.

This subject was spoken to by Rev. A. B. McLeod, a native of Strathalbyn, now pastor of the Coldstream congrega-
tion, Nova Scotia. He said many
thought there had been little religious
progress during the last 50 years. But
when facts were examined a great im-
provement could be seen. In regard to
the use of strong drink alone there was
a vast change for the better. There was
also a marked improvement in church
buildings; instead of the barn-like
place of half a century ago, this settle-
ment had now two fine churches, the
one close by costing over \$3,500. Now
they had service every Sabbath, where
formerly it was only about once a month.
Fifty years ago they had no Sabbath
schools, now they had five. Then they
could pay only a few hundred dollars
for a portion of a minister's time; now
they raise \$1400 for religious pur-
poses, the contribution to the schemes
of the church last year being \$184.
Now they had 139 communicants, half
of whom had been received since the
present pastor was settled five years
ago. All these facts showed progress
for which we should be thankful to the
Great Head of the Church.

Progress in Education During the Last
Fifty Years

In the absence of Mr. D. J. McLeod,
Superintendent of Education, Hon. D.
Laird briefly dealt with this subject.
He referred to Mr. McLeod's unavoid-
able absence owing to departmental
work, and said it was a credit to this
settlement that a native thereof filled
the high and responsible position of
Superintendent of Education, the duties
of which he performed satisfactorily.
The fact as instanced by Mr. A. B. Mc-
Kenzie, that there were ten schools with-
in the area of this settlement where
there was only one fifty years ago showed
the progress that had been made.
Each one of the ten, too, was a better
school than the pioneer school. The
population of the Island had only
doubled in fifty years, but our schools
had increased from about 100 to 450,
and our teachers to 553. Fifty years
ago, there was no free education—the
Government only paying \$48 to