

Though a British colony, Canada makes her own laws, and is working out her own destiny. The happy and contented condition to which self-government has given rise has cemented our union with England, and furnished all thinking men with an argument for Home Rule in Ireland. Hence Canada has always been a friend of Home Rule, and several resolutions to that effect have been passed through the Dominion House of Commons. We believe that, as self-government has preserved Canada's loyalty, so will it, besides bringing contentment to Ireland, be a means of uniting that oppressed country to England by a bond that would make her a source of untold strength to the British Empire, instead of a continual menace to it.

Canada has begun well. Those who have gone before us in the building up of this country have nobly fulfilled their duty. Besides doing their utmost for its commercial advancement, they have laid that solid foundation of religion and education upon which alone national greatness can be built up. We must continue the work that they have so well begun, striving to make our native land powerful and happy, and an influence for good throughout the world. And one of the directions in which that influence will be unquestionably exercised, will be in obtaining for Ireland, that has so much suffered in the cause of righteousness, the complete freedom for which, through centuries, she has so valiantly fought.

But Americans likewise entertain the kindest of feelings toward their Canadian neighbors, and they sincerely trust that, as time passes by, that feeling will be intensified, and that, on this northern continent, two great nations will grow up in prosperity and mutual friendship, without forgetting that island beyond the sea whence have come the ancestors of so many of us.

"Deep in Canadian woods we've met,
From once bright Ireland flown,
Great are the lands we tread, but yet
Our hearts are with our own."

Yes, gentlemen, while truly loyal to our respective flags, we must be able to say in all earnestness: God save Ireland! Erin-go-bragh!

In an eloquent manner, Mr. J. C. Conaghan replied to the toast proposed to the Irish Parliamentary Party:

As there has recently been some opposition to the policy of the