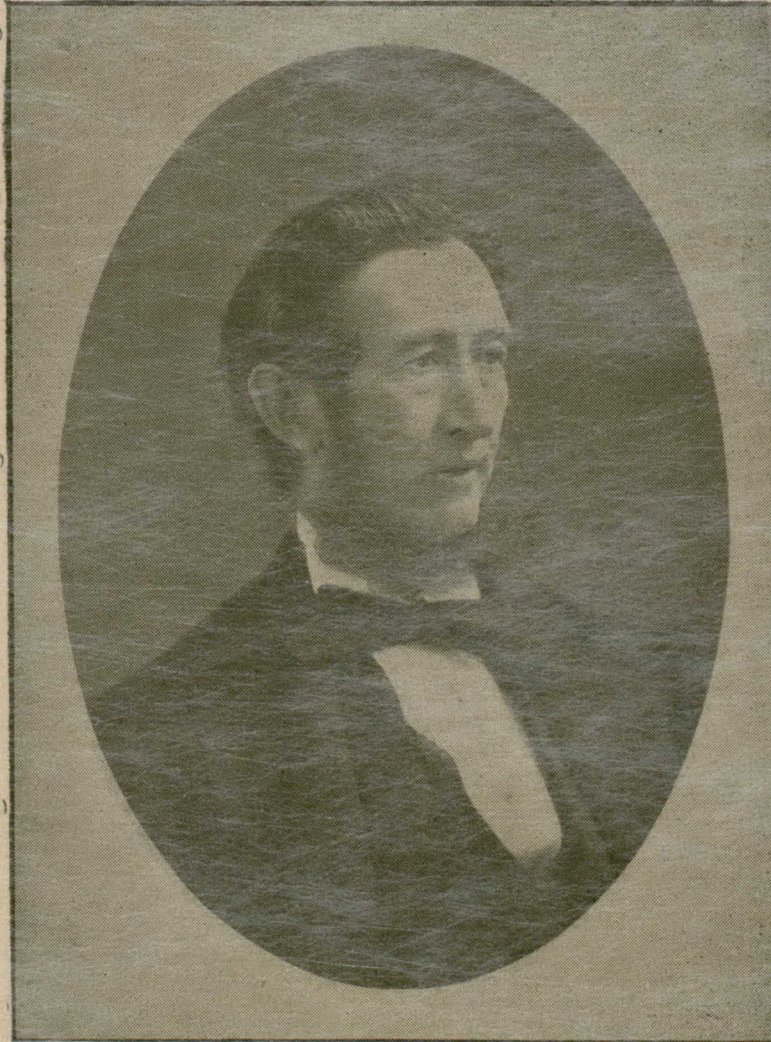


Mr. Michael Flanagan, City Clerk, Kingston,

Was born in Ireland seventy-five years ago, and came to Kingston when fifteen years of age. He was appointed clerk in 1843, and has held office continuously since that time. Fifty-four years continuous service by a municipal officer is, we believe, without a parallel in the history of the municipal institutions of Ontario, or any other country. The Kingston City Council are very proud of their clerk and of his services, and in 1893, when he had completed the fiftieth year of his official connection with that corporation, were unanimous in granting him six months' leave of absence and a substantial purse of \$500, which was largely supplemented by the citizens generally, who desired to express their appreciation of his valuable services. The following complimentary resolution, passed by the Council at that time, shows the feeling existing towards the venerable clerk, who is held in very high respect in Kingston:

At a special meeting of the council of the corporation of the city of Kingston, held in the council chamber, June 1, 1893, it was moved by Ald. McIntyre, seconded by Ald. Wilson, and unanimously resolved, that this council extends its heartiest congratulations to our esteemed city clerk, Michael Flanagan, Esq., on his completing the fiftieth year of his official connection with this corporation. A continuous service for so long a period of time is probably without a parallel in the history of Canada. Its length, however, is its least remarkable feature, when we consider the high qualities which Mr. Flanagan brought to the discharge of his duties and the admirable manner of their performance. His unvarying courtesy, unswerving fidelity to duty, tireless industry and incorruptible integrity, were a tradition current among our citizens when most of the present members of this council were children. A long succession of mayors, aldermen and councilmen, many of whom have passed away to their final account, have gladly testified in the most unequivocal terms to the invaluable aid which he rendered them in their several offices, while those who still survive revert with pleasure to the memory

of their official intercourse with him. Those of our citizens who have been privileged to meet him in private life will not soon forget the attraction of his genial society and the charm of his vivacious conversation, enlivened as it is by unfailing anecdote and suggestive reminiscence, brought forth from the treasury of a singularly retentive memory, and all pervaded by a spirit of kindest sympathy for his fellowmen. As a public official, as a citizen, as a man in all the varied relations of life, take him for all in all, we shall not soon look upon his like again. It is the



MR. MICHAEL FLANAGAN.

fervent prayer of this council that our respected clerk, Mr. Flanagan, may yet long be spared in health and vigor and with faculties unimpaired to serve his fellow citizens in the honorable office to which he has during half a century been a conspicuous ornament.

The Municipal Amendment Act, 1897, contains 85 sections, and makes many important changes in the present law, which come into force on 1st July. We refer to these in the present issue, and will explain the more important sections next month.

A Notable Conference.

The Twenty-Fourth Annual Conference of Charities and Correction of the United States and Canada will (D. V.) be held in Toronto, July 7 to 14, 1897. This conference has never met in Canada, and as it is one of the largest and most influential associations in the world, it is important that all classes of Canadians should unite in making it one of the most successful gatherings in its history. The scope of this National Conference is wide, including the following departments, viz.,

Charity organization, child-saving, juvenile reformatories, scientific study of social problems, merit systems in public institutions, municipal and public county charities, the care of the feeble-minded, the care of the insane poor, social settlements in cities.

As a result of this meeting, it is hoped it will lead to the formation of a Canadian organization on the same general plan, and give a new impetus to all our benevolent and philanthropic enterprises. The announcement is signed by S. H. Blake, chairman; A. M. Rosebrugh, and J. J. Kelso, secretaries. The devoted labors of these gentlemen to prison reform and kindred philanthropies will commend this conference to universal sympathy.

The Brantford *Expositor*, referring to the deficiencies in the accounts of the late county treasurer of Brant, says: The entire occurrence is mainly due to a faulty system of audit, in which the municipalities of Brant county have not been singular, and to improve which legislation is now being had. Already, with respect to the county and

township councils, safeguards have been provided that will make practically impossible a repetition of the recent unpleasant experience. It is to be hoped all public corporations will realize the necessity, not only for their own protection, but for the sake of their officials, of surrounding the handling of public funds with such combinations as will lessen individual responsibility and ensure their safe custody.

Concha—Now, there is a cigar that I can conscientiously recommend. Bouquet—If it's all the same to you, I'd rather have one you can conscientiously smoke.