

# Irish Canadians.

## His Grace John Joseph Lynch.

### I.



HE life and labors of the first Archbishop of Toronto, as told by the Rev. H. C. McKeown of St. Catharines, Ont., and as well known by nearly all of us, who have enjoyed the light since the Sixties, more than suffices to prove, if further proof were needed, that the Irishman's success in America is of the permanent kind. One is reminded of Macaulay and his say on Celtic incapacity for self-government. Goldwin Smith is not the only one who has given or who is willing still to give the lie to this assertion of the Whig historian and fine talker. It is not the purpose of this sketch to enter into controversy either with British Philistines or Canadian Ultras of any hue. It is comfortable to believe that each country knows what is best for itself. Those who ever heard the late Archbishop of Toronto on the burning question of Ireland's real greatness and power, know how eloquent he could wax, when speaking of the Providential mission of the irrepressible ubiquitous and cheery race. He loved to trace in their successful career, everywhere outside of Ireland, this great design, which makes of them bearers of the faith to the remotest parts of the world. His pastoral for St. Patrick's day, 1875, may be considered as a full confession of this Irishman's faith in the lofty mission of the Irish. Though born in Ireland, educated both in Ireland and in France, sent at his own request, on the forlorn mission of Texas, in the wild days of that State, when Providence brought him to Canada, he became and remained loyally devoted to all that could be upheld and cherished by every Canadian. He spoke frequently and well of the "sacred duty of loyalty," and he frequently declared that Ireland would be unworthy of her existence, if she were contented with less than Canada enjoys. He did not seem to think she needed more.

John Joseph Lynch was born on the sixth of February, 1816, at Clones, Co. Monaghan. He, like many another man of note, could