

every Irishman, in whatever latitude or longitude the day may dawn, or the stars look down, upon his political destinies, or his private enjoyment. (Loud cheers.)

APPENDIX B.

"THE TRUE SECRET OF IRISH-CANADIAN LOYALTY."

Letter from the Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, M.P. for Montreal, to the Right Hon. the Earl of Mayo, &c., &c.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Ottawa, Canada, }
April 4th, 1868. }

MY LORD:—During the Irish debate, in the Imperial Parliament, on the 10th day of last month, the report of which has just reached us, you did me the high honor to refer to my public position in this country, and to point your testimony to the loyalty of the Irish inhabitants of Canada, by the use of my humble name.

I am, my Lord, deeply sensible of the very handsome manner in which you then spoke of myself personally; and of the just tribute you paid to the class of colonists to which I have the honor to belong; and I trust your Lordship will not feel that I take an ill way of showing my gratitude by inflicting on you this letter.

It has forced itself on my mind that I owe it to your Lordship, as an eminent Irishman in the Imperial service, as well as to dear old Ireland, and in some degree to Canada also, to explain in a few sentences the sense in which alone I could receive the high personal compliment you have paid me, with unmixed satisfaction.

Our countrymen, my Lord, in the Dominion of Canada, with their descendants, are a full third of the four millions of her Majesty's North American subjects. In religion they are nearly half and half Protestant and Catholic. Though few can be called wealthy, the majority of both creeds are proprietors in town or country. In the city I represent (Montreal) their aggregate property, acquired mostly in this generation, is valued at many millions of dollars. In the rural parts there are literally thousands of them who possess their holdings in fee, and unencumbered. The best specimens of both classes are among the most meritorious members of Canadian society. Property has made them conservative in the truest sense—conservative of character, and zealous to uphold the law. The generous national temperament, shrivelled and cankered by hopeless penury at home, has renewed its youth with us, and keeps putting forth fruits of public and private good, to the great satisfaction of every lover of this country. Without having acquired the feverish thirst for riches, the love of empty show, or the ill-understood democratic notions of so many of the Irish in the neighboring republic, our settlers here will be admitted by all who know equally well both sides of the boundary line, to be as warmly interested in the good repute and good government of their beloved fatherland as any set of men can be, at home or abroad.