

## D'ARCY MCGEE ON THE FENIANS.

The Dublin *Nation* published the following letter from the late Hon. Thos. D'Arcy McGee 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 unincumbered. 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.

"As a general rule—an almost unexceptional rule—both classes, in town and country, while ardently and unmistakably Irish, are, at the same time, as loyal to British American institutions, as thoroughly content with the government under which they live—the Imperial connection included—as any other portion of our population of whatever faith or origin. Being one of the members of the Parliament and Government of this country for some years past, I have felt it to be my first duty to strengthen and extend this patriotic spirit, for their own good and the good of our adopted country; and in doing so I felt bound necessarily to resist and combat the invidious and incessant efforts to the contrary of the secret Irish societies established during the civil

war at New York. When those societies have given you so much trouble even on your side of the Atlantic, your lordship may imagine what efforts they must have put forth in these British Provinces, one-third Irish, and within one day's reach of their headquarters.

"Our countrymen in Canada, my lord, do not so much regard the American leaders as enemies of England, but rather its enemies of Canada and enemies of Ireland. We see in them not so much regulators of Irish wrongs, as impediments to Ireland's reconstruction. Those of us who are Catholics, living in and by our holy faith, add to this political hostility towards Fenianism, a rooted horror of all secret societies, so frequently condemned and anathematised by the Church. Knowing, moreover, what manner of men the American organisers are—seeing the wanton misery they have caused their dupes 'at home'—and the dishonor they have brought on the Irish name everywhere—the very sound of Fenianism is detested with us, save and except by a few characterless desperadoes among the floating population of our principal cities.

"But I cannot conceal from your lordship that no lay advocacy, and no ecclesiastical influence, could have kept our countrymen here loyal and at peace, if this country were governed as Ireland has been during the sixty-eight years of her legislative union with Great Britain. Everything our emigrants find in Canada is very unlike everything they left behind them in Ireland. We have here no Established Church, no system of tenancy at will, no Poor Laws, nor any need for them. We have, instead, complete religious equality among all our churches, a general acquisition of property as the reward of well directed industry, the fullest local control of our own resources and revenues; our collegiate and primary education; our public works; our militia, marine, and courts of justice. Therefore, it is, my lord, we are loyal to the Queen in Canada, and well content, as well we may be, with the government of this country.

"It is not for me, at this distance from Ireland, and in the absence of recent Irish experience, to make the application of this example, or so much of it as can be applied, to the very different condition of Ireland. I but state the facts of the Irish position in these Provinces, for your lordship's meditation as an Imperial adviser of the Crown, as I have already had the honor to do more fully, last year, while in London, to your illustrious late leader, the Earl of Derby, and in 1865, when in Dublin, to Lord Kimberley—then Lord Lieutenant.

"I must not, however, assume that the passing notice with which your lordship honored me in the late debate, can justify further intrusion on your valuable time, but I felt, on all the grounds above stated, a strong prompting to explain frankly to your lordship the true secret of Irish-Canadian loyalty. We are loyal because our equal, civil, social, and religious rights are respected by this Government, in theory and in practice. Were it otherwise, we would be otherwise—I have the honor to be, your lordship's obliged and obedient servant,

"THOS. D'ARCY MCGEE,

"One of the Members for the city of Montreal in the Canadian Parliament.

"To the Right Hon. the Earl of Mayo, &c., &c., Chief Secretary for Ireland, Dublin."

England derives a revenue of \$360,000 for licenses of dogs.

DEATH OF A HERO.—A veteran of Trafalgar, Commander John Pollard, R.N., died on the 23d instant, after a long and severe illness, at his residence in Greenwich Hospital. Deceased was born on the 27th July, 1787, and entered the navy on the 1st of November, 1797, as first class volunteer on board the *Havick*, 16, in which sloop, after having chased a large convoy and three armed vessels under the batteries of St. Malo, and been for some time warmly engaged with the enemy, he was wrecked on the 9th of November, 1860, in St. Aubin's Bay, Jersey. He afterwards, served in the *Victory*, 100, bearing the flag of Lord Nelson. On the return of the fleet from its pursuit of the combined fleets to the West Indies, Mr Pollard was afforded, as signal midshipman, an opportunity of participating in the action off Cape Trafalgar. On that occasion, while standing on the poop, he was struck by a splinter on the right arm, and chanced to be the first officer who was there hit. A musket ball next passed through the shell of his spy-glass and a second one shattered the watch in his pocket. Some time after the *Victory* had been in action with the French 74 gun ship *Redoubtable*, the officers and men around him beginning to fall fast, the attention of Mr. Pollard was arrested by a number of riflemen crouching in the tops of the *Redoubtable*, and directing a destructive fire on the poop and quarter deck of the *Victory*. He immediately seized a musket, and, being supplied by the signal quarter master with ammunition left by the Marines (who from being picked off so fearfully were ordered by Nelson himself from the poop to the starboard gangway), continued firing at the men in the enemy's tops till not one was to be seen. In the act of handing the last parcel of ball cartridges the quarter master was killed on the spot, leaving Mr. Pollard when the action terminated the only officer alive of those who had been originally stationed on the poop, and thus originated the belief that it was he who gave the fatal blow to the man who shot Lord Nelson, and this fact was shortly after the action confirmed by his Captain, Sir Thomas Hardy, who sent for him into the ward room, and in the presence of the officers congratulated him upon having avenged the death of their immortal chief. On leaving the *Victory* the following month he served successively in the *Queen*, 98, *Dreadnought*, 98, and *Hibernia*, 110, bearing the respective flags of Lords Collingwood, Northesk, and St. Vincent, and was made lieutenant November 14, 1806, and continued serving, with only an intermission of sixteen months, until 1814, during which time he saw much war service, and was engaged in many cutting out expeditions, until September of that year, when he had to return home sick. From 1836 to 1850 he served in the Coastguard, and the latter year, as a tardy recognition of his long services both in war and peace, was, as a lieutenant, appointed to Greenwich Hospital.—*Globe*.

INSULTING VOLUNTEERS.—We are informed on good authority, that the volunteers employed in the rolling mills, in this city, are almost daily insulted by such of the Fenian sympathizing portion of their fellow workmen as are employed there when they enter the mills, and that the obnoxious conduct is continually kept up during the hours of work. We feel confident that we have only to call the attention of the proprietors of that extensive establishment to the cir