

“When the war drum beats no longer,
When the battle flag is furled
In the parliament of man,
The federation of the world.”

Happily for us the ravages of war have been, so far, remote from our borders, but, with the declaration of war on the fourth of August, the possibility of the realization of the dream of the poet has again become remote, and our plans for a peace celebration of the Anglo-Saxon communities have been shattered; not, indeed, I am glad to say, by any disturbance of that century of peace, but because our thoughts are necessarily engrossed with the conflict, the greatest that history records.

The theme of our war lyric strangely enough lays stress upon the exploits of love rather than of war, and if “Tipperary” stands for the pursuit of happiness rather than the pomp and pageantry of war, then, indeed, may we say just at this moment, “It’s a long way to Tipperary, It’s a long way to go.” However, as with Tennyson in his “Vision” and Ex-President Mikel in his prophecy, so I am sure each of us will say, “My heart’s right there.”

So much by way of assurance to our distinguished guests from across the border, whose disappointment is doubtless as keen as ours, that the celebration of the century of peace between us must be postponed; not, indeed, as I have intimated, because of any rupture of those good relations which we have striven to maintain and value so highly, but because of a little matter of more pressing concern engaging our particular attention just now.

In case the stranger within our gates on this occasion, seeing us here assembled as of yore, may entertain a doubt as to what is foremost in the work of this Association, I might recall the fact that in this very hall the call to arms was answered by even a greater rally of the Toronto Bar than we have present this morning. Then was formed the Osgoode Hall Rifle Association, in which I am proud to have been enrolled as a full private. In this very building, indeed, an indoor rifle range has been installed and regular rifle practice takes place. This military organization has been signally honoured by the Court, over which the Honour-