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TORONTO, THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1903

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Celebration of Ireland's National Festival

Three Large Gatherings Held in Toronto---Celebrations in Other Cities---Greetings Exchanged Between Irish Societies East and West.

Below The Register presents an account of the celebrations of St. Patrick's Day in Toronto. Time and pressure upon our space compels us to hold over reports received from outside cities:

I. C. B. U. CONCERT

Lecture by Hon. J. Israel Tarte—Would be a Friend of Ireland as Member for an British Constituency

An admirable entertainment was given in Massey Hall on Saturday evening to mark the celebration of the National festival of the Irish race. This was the grand annual concert of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union. Two thousand people attended and went away delighted with the success of the entire programme, not the least part of that success having been contributed by Hon. J. Israel Tarte's speech on Ireland and the Empire. The entertainment was patronized by many distinguished citizens, most notable among those present being Mr. Goldwin Smith, who during the past few years has taken a generous view of the Irish question in all his public writings.

The musical programme of the evening was under the direction of that gifted teacher, Mrs. Fannie Sullivan-Mallon, and reflected credit upon her judgment. The opening number "Estudiantina" (Lacome) by the Arion Quartette afforded by its execution a guarantee for all the vocalists to follow, and after the audience with a round of applause had shown ample appreciation, Mr. Frank C. Smith played Musin's "Masurka de Concert," interpreting the theme in a way that must have recalled to many present the mastery of the violin, which Musin himself is supposed to excel in. Miss Annie Foley received an ovation when she came out to sing "The Minstrel Boy." The splendid presence and rich cultured voice of this lady seem to have rounded out still more pleasantly since she last appeared before an Irish audience in her native city. She was recalled, of course, and the flattering applause was equally prolonged after the response. Messrs. J. T. Heffernan and Frank Fulton sang Balfe's "The Sails or Sighs" were acceptably, and Miss Alice McCarron followed with the ever-welcome "Kathleen Mavourneen" (Cross). Miss McCarron was in fine voice, and exhibited a rare sympathy with the subject of her song. It was remarked that she never before was heard to better advantage, and that her voice has developed the full sweep of its grand compass. Miss McCarron had to appease a vociferous encore and was again gratefully applauded. Miss Marguerite Dunn, with spirit and faultless descriptive skill recited Locke's "Morning on the Irish Coast." Her work was also so loudly applauded that another response had to be given. But the honors of the

evening were not complete until Mr. Heffernan and Mr. Fulton had displayed themselves in solo work. Mr. Peter Ryan as chairman of the evening was warmly greeted. He remarked how pleasant a duty it was for him to preside at a lecture on Ireland by Hon. Mr. Tarte, a man whom they all loved for the enemies he had made (applause).

Mr. Ryan was accompanied on the platform by Mr. Tarte and Prof. Goldwin Smith. The following also were invited to take seats on the platform: Hon. Richard Harcourt, J. J. Foy, M. P. P., Mayor Urquhart, James Connee, M. P. P., Dr. Pyne, M. P. P., Ald. Burns, Thomas Long, John Flett, F. A. Anglin, P. F. Cronin, W. B. Rogers, Dr. McKenna, Dr. McMahon, R. J. Fleming, J. W. Mallon, L. J. Cosgrave, Robt. Scollard, T. M. Harris, Frank Slattery.

MR. TARTE'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Tarte, who on rising was received with long continued applause, first extended a message of friendship from the French-Canadian race. Never, for many years, he said, had the celebration of St. Patrick's Day been favored with more happy circumstances than at present. The signs of the times pointed to a speedy and a happy settlement of the Irish land question. It was a reflection on British institutions that the Imperial Parliament had not yet successfully grappled with the Irish problem. Was he wrong in saying that Ireland would become one of the bulwarks of the British Empire if it got fair play and freedom? The answer was given by the audience applauding loudly. We had indeed a deep interest in the settlement of the Irish difficulty. The British Parliament had often been handicapped by the struggles with the Irish question.

We all rejoiced in the fact that we were, in some sense, represented by Canadians in the British Parliament. We were proud of the name of Edward Blake. He also mentioned the name of Mr. Charles Devlin. French-Canadians shared in the pride of Irish-Canadian representation in the Imperial Parliament, and French-Canadians would be equally proud of any of their own representatives if they should be called to a seat in that great Parliament. "Would I be indiscreet," Mr. Tarte asked, "in saying that at this very moment I have under my consideration the offer of a seat in the British House of Commons? I if I were not better engaged here, I might be tempted to go and sit over there, and in that case I suppose, ladies and gentlemen, you will have no doubt of my friendship towards the Irish race." (Applause.)

All the nations of the world to-day were making the most strenuous efforts to strengthen their position and extend their influence. Our interests were the interests of the British Empire. Great Britain was our best market. In point of fact it was our only market for our natural products. Let us get rid of every cause of friction, therefore, within our own family, and let us get to business. Canada was forging ahead, but so was every other nation, and we had no favors to expect from other nations. We must rely on our own strength and our own energy. Great Britain and her colonies, it seemed to him, had got into such relation that they must understand each other far better than they had done in the past, from a commercial standpoint. To bring about such an understanding, it was necessary first to get rid of our internal troubles. Surely there was no unconquerable difficulty to be overcome in reaching a reconciliation between Great Britain and Ireland. The Irish were a generous race. Perhaps they had some failings, but people without failings had no heart. Their brothers of French origin could never forget the active sympathy shown to France during the Franco-German war. The Irish had the reputation of being very rightly so—of holding their own wherever they were. Could they not be trusted with the powers of self-government? They governed elsewhere, and he did not see why they could not govern in Ireland.

He had no great problems to solve in Canada, no landlords like those in Ireland. We had home rule to the fullest extent. We had freedom, liberty and happiness, and we invited people from all parts of the world,

provided they were good citizens, to come and share our freedom and our happiness.

"You have alluded, Mr. Chairman," said Mr. Tarte, "to some aspirations that have been cast upon me on a former occasion. We must not pay too much attention to what is said on electoral occasions. We generally find means on such occasions to make fools of ourselves. On some occasions prejudices are aroused. They do not last. Prejudices do not live in a free and educated country like Canada is now." We were more and more becoming a nation, he continued. We were here to stay, and we must be friends and brothers.

We were a contented lot, as Ireland would be when it was on the same footing as we were.

Mr. Tarte thanked them for the kind invitation they had extended to him, and said, in conclusion: "I firmly believe that the time is not far when we will be able to rejoice together at the new era which we see coming for your dear country, Ireland."

A vote of thanks to Mr. Tarte was proposed by Mr. Frank Slattery, who humorously said that they did not believe that all the lies that had been told about Mr. Tarte were true. They recognized in him the most vigorous and talented French-Canadian in public life. The vote was seconded by Mr. Robert Scollard, President of Branch No. 1, C. M. B. A., and was unanimously passed.

The second part of the programme was greatly appreciated. It consisted of the following numbers: (a) "Off in the Stilly Night" (Moore-Brewer), (b) "Criskeen Lawn" (Moore-Stewart), the Arion Quartette, violin solo (a) "Slumber Song" (Schumann), (b) "Hungarian Dance" (Brahms), Mr. Frank C. Smith, "The Armorer's Song," Mr. Frank Fulton, "Fontenoy," (reading), Miss Dunn; quartette, (a) "Terence's Farewell" (Moore-Vogrich), (b) "God Save Ireland" (T. D. Sullivan), the Arion Quartette.

HIBERNIANS' ENTERTAINMENT

Three Thousand People Listen to a Splendid Musical Programme.

The committee in charge of the annual grand concert of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in Massey Music Hall on Monday evening, will receive only congratulation from the three thousand patrons of the entertainment. It was the finest spectacle of its kind ever organized by the Hibernians of Toronto. It was also their most notable musical triumph.

From first to last the programme was enjoyable, not only because of high order in all its parts, but because all the variations of pleasure that can be compassed by grave, patriotic, stirring and gay selections were skillfully introduced. Miss Kate Rigney, who had most to do with conducting the programme, is entitled to no slight recognition. Though a very young woman she attended to her duties with unvarying method and accomplished all her work without a hitch. Miss Rigney opened the entertainment with a piano recital of many Irish selections, capably rendered.

Next she presided at the organ whilst her chorus of 400 children from the Catholic Separate Schools of the city sang "All Praise to St. Patrick." It was a stirring chorus, perfect in attack, well-balanced in its immensity, and throbbing with enthusiasm straight from the young hearts of the singers. The children behaved like soldiers in parade, answering every signal and maintaining the best order when others had the boards.

Miss Mae M. Gallagher made her debut with Mr. Harold Jarvis in Moore's exquisite song "Has Sorrow Thy Young Days Shaded?" Her voice blended sweetly with the tenor and the number was warmly applauded, but no response was conceded. This must have put the encore element on its mettle, for all subsequent encores were so insistently made that they could not be ignored. Consequently a very lengthy programme was more than doubled in length,

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but all went merry as a marriage bell and the concluding number was sung at a quarter to eleven to the satisfaction of all concerned. Miss Gallagher did respond to her second compliment of the evening, the applause that followed her solo "Come Back to Erin." She has a sweet and well trained voice, very pleasing presence and self-possession. She is an acquisition to the already large number of Catholic young ladies known to the amateur concert stage.

In the second part of the programme she sang a lighter selection, "Why Did They Sell Killarney?" that pleased the house exceedingly. Mr. Bernard McWilliams was pleasingly descriptive in Campbell's beautiful ballad, "The Exile of Erin," and won well merited appreciation also upon his second appearance. Miss Nellie Byrne made a favorable impression last year that the committee did well to again secure her services. She was down for two numbers but had to sing five or six to please her admirers. Her graceful manner and frank evidence of the pleasure she herself derived by singing to an Irish audience were very captivating. Her voice has expanded and matured since we last heard her, and whilst she is at home on the concert stage she will attain to even greater power though her voice fills Massey Hall now, her lowest notes being easily caught in the hardest part of the house for hearing. Among her selections were "Kathleen Mavourneen," "Killarney" and "Kate Kearney," all in splendid style.

Mr. H. Ruthven McDonald and Mr. Harold Jarvis need not be praised. They were heard at their best, both displaying a perfect sympathy with the popular ballads which they for the most part selected. Mr. McDonald's best number was "Off the Philadelphia in the Morning" (not on the programme) and Mr. Jarvis' "Kitty of Coleraine," likewise an encore. Frank Clegg was kept singing long enough to prove that his popularity is not waning. Mrs. Annie Hargrave, who has not before been heard in Toronto, made hosts of friends by her spirited treatment of "Barney O'Hay," "The Wearing of the Green" and other numbers. She was encored repeatedly and increased the excellent impression that her first appearance gave.

In the intermission Mr. P. W. Falvey, Chairman of the evening, delivered a brief address on Ireland. He was assisted on the committee of the evening by Bros. P. S. Patterson, M. J. Kelly and F. J. Walsh, to all of whom credit is due for the success of the concert.

IN ST. ANDREW'S HALL

Mr. Frank Slattery Addresses Branches of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union.

The only concert held on St. Patrick's night was that of Branches 2 and 12 I. C. B. U., in St. Andrew's Hall. The audience thronged the house and the entertainment was of a good class. The popular and talented representative from Ward 6, Ald. J. J. Ward, was in the chair, which he filled with his characteristic ability. The programme was made up of songs by Miss Margaret Weir, Mr. Fred

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O'Connell, Miss H. McMahon, Miss Mae Dickenson, piano solos by Mrs. Harvey, readings by Miss A. C. Murphy and James Dempster, and a duet by Misses Irene and Edna Murphy.

Mr. Frank Slattery, barrister, who delivered the address, read a telegram of greeting from Judge Doherty of Montreal, as follows:

"Montreal, March 17, 1903.
"Frank Slattery, Toronto:
"Montreal Irishmen heartily greet Toronto brethren; with you we hail the brighter day that's dawning for the old land.
"C. J. Doherty, President St. Patrick's Society."
The following reply was sent:
"Judge Doherty, St. Patrick's Society, Montreal:
"Toronto Irishmen join heartily with St. Patrick's Society in celebrating Erin's national day. With you, we hail the restoration of Ireland's National Liberty."
"Frank Slattery."

A telegram was also read from President Murphy, of the Irish Benevolent Society, London, as follows:
"London, March 17, 1903.
"Festal greeting, Erin Go Bragh."
"T. J. Murphy, President."

MR. SLATTERY'S ADDRESS.
Mr. Slattery addressed the audience as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen—This is the second time that it has been my fortune to be honored by an invitation to address a St. Patrick's night audience, and on each occasion I have been impressed with the refreshing patriotism of the Irish-loving people of Toronto. It has been the custom for many years for some one to stand in this place to say something on "The day we celebrate," to say what it means to us and ours, and all the men and women of the Irish race in every land as well as Ireland. In every village in every part of the world is to be found the Irish home. Everywhere on earth our kindred are scattered and wherever fortune may have brought them, they group and gather to-day to honor Saint and Motherland. From the isling of the cradle to the aged Celt whose gray hairs are fast sinking in the western horizon of life, every voice is this day turned to the accents of liberty. Millions of Irish people this day surround the sacred altars and unite in an address to heaven for the restoration of their rights. Though miles of ocean lie between us, our hearts go out in loving sympathy to the people of the Green Isle, and our best energies are pledged to aid them. The Irish citizens of this great city have always shown an undying loyalty to the land of their forefathers. Honor and glory and power have come to the son of the Irish exile. His heart ever turns to the land of his ancestors and especially on a day like this when religion prompts him to gratitude for all that Erin means to him. The children of Ireland gather on this glorious feast of St. Patrick to show the world that they are one with the people at home, that the race is still proud to call itself:

"One in name,
One in fame,
The sea-divided Gael."

There is not a spot in any part of the world where Erin's sons are to be found in which some merry Irishman does not on this day fix "a sprig of the green" in his lapel, and with overflowing soul and wild trans-

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ports of native joy sing the inspiring airs of his countryman, and chant aloud the magical tune of "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning." For today at least, the Irishman forgets the suffering of the past, as the poet says:
"The gem may be broke by many a stroke,
But nothing can cloud its native way.
Each fragment will cast a light to the last.
And thus, Erin, my country, though broken thou art,
There's a lustre within thee that ne'er can decay.
A spirit that breathes through each suffering part,
And smiles at thy pain on St. Patrick's Day."

The festival is religious, national, Irish. Fourteen hundred years ago a simple, sublime young man, with the atmosphere of heaven about him, walked through Ireland, preaching and baptizing, and when his footsteps had ended, the pagan land he saw at first became Christian forever, and not only Christian itself, but destined for ages to give letters and light to Pict and Briton and Frank, Christian and reverent Ireland became in that far away time, and Christian and reverent it has remained, through all the troubled centuries down to this hour. So reverently we honor the Sainly Pict or Frank who brought the light to Ireland, the light that shall last there till the lights of the world go out, and so the sons and daughters of Erin celebrate the day and will throughout the ages. Fourteen hundred and thirty-eight years ago to-night death ended the career of St. Patrick. The day of his death is still held in grateful remembrance by the Irish people no matter in what part of the earth fortune may have cast them.

Seven hundred years after St. Patrick went into Ireland to do God's enduring work, an English king sent missionaries there to do another kind of work, and the work is not done yet; it simply never can be done while England is England and Ireland is Ireland.

The Irish Celt next to God loves his liberty, for himself and for all men, and next to God he loves his country. For liberty and for country he has struggled through seven dreary centuries, suffered and endured all hate, died on the field and swung from the gibbet and he is as Irish to-day as ever. The struggle for freedom often seems hopeless, yet the Irish heart never loses courage, for it still loves to think of Erin free.

I trust I may be forgiven if on this auspicious occasion I briefly recapitulate the main historical and constitutional grounds on which Ireland's case rests. Ireland denies that she is bound legally or morally by any laws which are not made by the Sovereign, Lords and Commons of Ireland. The people of Ireland deny the moral or legal and constitutional right of the English Parliament to legislate for Ireland. The first Irish Parliament of which we have any authentic records, sat in 1295, and from that year until 1495 that Parliament was absolutely supreme, and no law made in England was binding in Ireland. In 1495 what was known as Poyning's Law was passed, which provided that the heads of all Bills to be introduced into the Irish Parliament were first to have the approval of the King and Privy Council of England, still that law was an Irish law passed by an Irish Parliament, and did not sacrifice the independence of the Irish Parliament or recognize England's right to make laws for Ireland. Poyning's Law simply reserved a co-ordinate authority with the English Parliament, and this condition of affairs remained unquestioned until the reign of George I., and in the year 1719 an English Act was passed giving the English Parliament power to make laws for Ireland. This law was stoutly resisted by Ireland, and was protested against continuously, until at last in the year 1782, when through the eloquent voice of Henry Grattan a demand was made, Ireland once more obtained from England the independence of her national legislature. For the next eighteen years Ireland enjoyed freedom. What next occurred? The Irish Parliament which lasted for five hundred years, was destroyed by the infamous Act of Union. It was on the first day of January, 1801, at the hour of noon, that the Imperial United Standard was for the first time mounted on the Bedford Tower in Dublin, while the guns of the Royal Battery in Phoenix Park announced to prostrate Ireland that her national independence was from thenceforth no more. Ireland as a nation was extinguished. From that day down to the present hour Ireland has never ceased to protest against the usurpation of the Government of Ireland by the Parliament of England. She has protested by means of armed insurrections, and generation after generation has witnessed brave and gallant men sacrificing their lives in prison

cell, or on the scaffold in defence of Irish freedom; she has protested against it on the floor of the foreign Parliament to which the Irish representatives have been sent. English Government in Ireland has never obtained the assent or approval or confidence of the people of Ireland. The representatives elected by the great mass of the Irish people have never had control or even a potent voice in the Government of Ireland. Since the coming into force of the infamous Act of Union Ireland has been nothing more or less than a Crown colony. Eighty-seven coercion Acts in one hundred years, martial law, suspension of trial by jury, suppression of free speech, are some of the permanent blessings conferred on Ireland since the destruction of the Irish constitution. The suppression of the constitution in Ireland has been followed by disasters unparalleled in the history of the world. The population has decreased from eight and a half millions to four and a half millions. In the reign of Queen Victoria, one and a quarter millions of people died from starvation, four millions of people during that reign were evicted, four million eight hundred thousand people emigrated from the country, as if the land of their birth was a pest house. The whole of Ireland is under military rule. The Irish police are a military force armed with repeating rifles and ball cartridges, and under military discipline. This police force, unlike that of every civilized country, is not maintained for the detection of crime, but for the collection of land rents. Ireland is notoriously the most crimeless country on the face of the earth, and police work there is mainly confined to seizing animals found straying on the public roads, to attending national meetings, and to prosecuting the chosen representatives of the people. Yet whilst the population of Ireland has decreased in fifty years by nearly one-half, the police force in the country has been doubled, numbering now 14,000. Now, then, it is common to hear people ask why Ireland is not loyal. What would the Irish people be loyal to? What have they to be loyal for? There is no race in the world which by instinct is more inclined to sentiments of loyalty than the Irish. The Irishmen of Canada are amongst the most loyal and most prosperous and most contented of His Majesty's subjects. The most trusted and honored men throughout the length and breadth of Ireland are being sent as common criminals to English jails, shut away from all converse or association with humanity, subject to the humiliations of prison discipline and the hardships of prison fare, thrown into jails on vague charges of conspiracy. Would Canada be loyal under such circumstances? A similar policy, if now applied to Canada or Australia would leave the British Empire without the allegiance of a single populous colony.

Those who are free are by far the most proud and jealous of their freedom. In Canada we are proud of the freedom we enjoy, freedom where it is a common blessing, and as broad and as general as the air. We know the advantages of self-government and in that glorious and hazardous enterprise, in the hour of her sore need and peril, Ireland will always be cheered and strengthened with aid from this side of the Atlantic. Canada is a nation, Canada is free, and freedom is its nationality. Although

(Continued on page 8.)

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