

deeds and thoughts of men. His imaginative gifts added the sheen of beauty to his writings and his speeches; but they did more than that; their spell upon him was so great that they commanded his course in public affairs. Wherever McGee the statesman went McGee the orator was there, and McGee the poet was not far away.

DRANK OF REBELS' CUP

"His boyhood was nourished in the most revolutionary of Irish schools. As a talented young man he was drawn into the company of a set of brilliant intellectuals, a group of spirits who planned by a combination of oratory and shotguns to overthrow England's power. He trained his eloquence by matching flights with Thomas Francis Meagher who with the possible exception of Emmett, was the most vivid and spectacular of anti-British platform warriors in the last century. With this beginning he set out for America, carried his shining sword into journalism and determined to establish himself in the new world as the special guardian and tribune of his race. But the mind of D'Arcy McGee, while brilliant and imaginative, was fundamentally intelligent, receptive to reason and responsive to experience. He served his people devotedly every hour of his sojourn in the United States, but he soon came to the conclusion that human frailty was not confined to old England, that a Republican Government had no monopoly of liberty, and that the grievances which had racked his soul under British rule had their counterparts in other lands, and were after all not such as should be removed by revolt and revolution, but by the far more certain process of constitutional reform. In this feeling he turned his footsteps to the British flag again, took up his abode in Montreal and gave to this country the last and best decade of his life.

AN EVANGELIST OF UNITY

"For the task that was awaiting him in Canada, D'Arcy McGee was wonderfully equipped. The young colony had been torn by feuds and schisms, the bickerings of rival races. Clashes into which men were divided and sub-divided, had brought the Act of Union of 1841 into a condition of unworkable futility. The Atlantic colonies were isolated and unhappy and were seeking access to our larger western populations. People generally were weary of the crudities and bitternesses of political strife. Into all this the fresh, buoyant spirit of McGee came like sunshine after a night of storm. Free from the antipathies of either faction, but with an intelligent sympathy for both, he set himself to preach the evangel of unity, and through all the changing phases of our pre-Confederation struggle he pressed cheerfully and dauntlessly on. A relentless militant in other lands, he became the tireless peacemaker in ours. "He caught at once the vision of a great confederation—the union of our provinces in a federal system; this ideal seized his intellect and took possession of his heart; he saw in it the one plan, and the only plan, of salvation; and to bring about such a union he consecrated all the resources with which he was endowed.

"A TREMENDOUS EVENT"

"With Upper and Lower Canada struggling to work together, but jealously gathering into rival camps divided by speech and creed, it was a tremendous event to have a man arrive who was a peerless master of the language of the one and a devoted disciple of the religion of the other. At a time when our maritime east and maritime west were farther apart than the Antipodes are today, it was a wonderful thing that a man appeared whose faith in British institutions had been tried in the furnace of experience and who believed with the ardor of a crusader that the genius of those institutions would weld these sundered colonies into one. The picture of a United Canada which filled the mind of D'Arcy McGee captivated his whole being. He could see nothing but the grandeur of a great young nation towering over the asperities of sectional strife, divisions obliterated, hostilities quieted, distance annihilated, the mountains of the Pacific offering shelter to the harbors of the Atlantic. He could see under union a national culture developed, a national literature nourished; he could see the exposed and struggling limbs of British dominion on this continent gathered into one living frame as a guarantee against American absorption.

PIERCED TIME'S VEIL

"Standing before an enchanted Legislature in 1850 he said: "I look to the future of my adopted country with hope, though not without anxiety. I see in the not remote distance one great nationality bound, like the shield of Achilles, by the blue rim of ocean—I see it quartered into many communities—each disposing of its internal affairs—but all bound together by free institutions, free intercourse, and free commerce; I see within the round of that shield, the peaks of the western mountains and the crescent of the eastern waves—the winding Assiniboine, the five-fold lakes, the St. Lawrence, the Ottawa, the Saguenay, the St. John, and the Basin of Mines—all these flowing waters, in all the valleys they fertilize, in all the cities they visit in their courses I see a generation of industrious, contented, moral men, free in name

and in fact—men capable of maintaining, in peace and in war a constitution worthy of such a country."

THE COUNTRY'S PROPHECY

"His voice rang through the whole inhabited area of Canada. An eloquence which had thrilled audiences in Ireland before he was 20, which had defied British power in the hectic halls of Dublin, which had challenged and conquered hostile parties of the great republic, was turned in the full glow of its maturity into a mighty summons athwart British America to give birth to a British nation. The fiery insurrectionist of Carlingford had become the incomparable evangelist of Empire.

"To Sir John Macdonald and Sir George Etienne Cartier it was given to stand at the front of those men who are known now, and justly known, as the fathers of our country. Close around them were George Brown, Tilly, and Tupper. It was these men whose skill in the management of parties, whose experience as men of affairs, whose understanding of the unquenchable aspirations of minorities, whose patience through years of adversity and unbending determination to succeed, enabled at last the lines of our constitution to be settled and the foundations of this Dominion to be laid. To them all honor is due and to them throughout our history increasing honor will be done. But if Macdonald and Cartier were the architects of Confederation, D'Arcy McGee was its prophet. He it was who in its grandest form caught the vision splendid; he it was who spread everywhere the fervor with which he was himself consumed; he it was whose restless pen and matchless platform power carried right into the hearts of the masses his message of tolerance and good will. It was D'Arcy McGee who was the triumphant missionary of union.

"THE WHOLESOME WISDOM OF THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE"

"The full harvest of what our fathers sowed has been slow to ripen. Still it is true and only the voice of unthinking gratitude can deny that in these fifty years we have garnered much. The obstacles encountered have been greater than we believed, but they have been as nothing when compared with the obstacles and dangers which by our union we surmounted. And if in these years we feel again the pains of sectional dissension and there is searching of heart about our future, let us put on the armor of men of old who fought these same dragons in far more perilous array; let us look back across the span of two generations and watch the bold brave figures of the captains of that time; let us learn from their patience and emulate their courage and highly resolve to enrich by our devotion the noble edifice they have handed down. And when distrust moves among us to estrange races from race, or class from class, or to whisper in our ear that we are not our brother's keeper, let us listen over the hills to the reverberating eloquence, the lofty patriotism, the warm hearted toleration, the wholesome wisdom of Thomas D'Arcy McGee."

MR. MARTIN CONBOY

PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK BAR ASSOCIATION

Mr. Martin Conboy, of New York, president of the New York Bar Association, said in part: "The privilege of participation in these exercises, particularly to present such phases of the career of Thomas D'Arcy McGee as precede his labors among you and have a certain relation to that portion of his life which was spent in the United States, is an honor of which I am both sensible and apprehensive. His activity amongst us manifested itself chiefly in the championing of his race and religion. He was unwavering in his devotion to both. He believed his race a superior one, and this belief almost amounted to an article of faith. He was impatient and intolerant of any attitude on the part of his race that gave opportunity for or color to a contrary opinion. He deplored and inveighed against the conditions, social, economic and political, of which he found his countrymen the victims in the United States, and he protested and declaimed against submission to such conditions.

"He was vigorous in his denunciations of everything that tended to perpetuate these conditions, and especially of a complacent attitude towards them, and at times he was more vigorous than politics in his pronouncements. He felt strongly and spoke strongly. His utterances were therefore sometimes commended and sometimes condemned. In consequence he made friends and foes, and some of the latter were so powerful that he undoubtedly became sensible towards the end of his stay with us of the inevitable failure of his methods of remedying evils that unquestionably required remedying.

"Then he came to you, and in this country found immediately warm admirers and a sympathetic following. Were he alive today, I fancy that he might with justice and propriety insist that events in the United States had in large measure justified his opinion, and with equal propriety and justice assert that the advance accomplished lay along lines upon which, with all the force and ability of his great character and genius, he had insisted that the fortunes and salvation of the Irish

in America were to be permanently established.

DUFFY'S TRIBUTE

"At the mature age of twenty-three, Charles Gavan Duffy was able to say of him that 'if we were about to begin our work anew, I would rather have his help than that of any man of our confederates'; that 'he could do more things like a master than the best amongst us since Thomas Davis, that he had been sent at the last hour on a perilous mission, and performed it not only with unflinching courage but with a success unparalleled in that era.' That was Duffy's estimate, and was meant for a description of McGee's qualities of mind and soul.

ARCHBISHOP'S ESTIMATE

"While he was with us, he crossed swords with our Archbishop Hughes, and whoever did that soon realized that he was in combat with a giant in intellect and a commanding influence. Archbishop Hughes was another great champion of his race and religion. He had his own opinions as to how the fortunes of both were to be guarded and advanced, and he was not inclined to look with benevolent toleration on a strong advocate of other methods, especially when that advocate had been identified with a movement which he had condemned. The natural and inevitable result was a clash, but yet, like all men of true greatness of soul, John Hughes could be generous in speaking of an opponent, and what he said of McGee in conversation with his friend, Archbishop Connolly of Halifax, was that 'McGee had the biggest mind and was unquestionably the cleverest man and the greatest orator that Ireland had sent forth in modern times.'

"In the early 40's of the nineteenth century, Ireland had attained the greatest population in her history; by the end of the same decade what with famine, fever, and emigration she had entered upon the decline which was to reduce the number of her people by one-half. Her people moreover were not merely poor, they were also politically powerless to avert their own and their country's ruin.

"Here was unquestionably the material for passion. These are the conditions in which the genius of McGee and of the other young men of his generation was forced into full expression. This was the stimulus under which the intellect and soul and character of the little son of a Carlingford coast guard were formed and trained. The times produced unusual men. Mature beyond their years, tragic in their outlook on life, convinced that somehow and by some means a remedy must be found or evoked for abnormal conditions, the products of the denial of justice. You must learn all this in mind, or else even granting his transcendent genius, the marvel is inexplicable that with no other educational advantages than those he derived from the little preliminary training with a devoted Wexford school teacher he became, as the record of his speeches proves, a very master in the use of language, a poet of merit, an historian who led the way for a host of modern writers, a newspaper advocate of recognized power, an organizer of men, a director of political combinations, and finally at this stage of his life a leader of a forlorn hope. When all this was over, and he was slipping away to America in the borrowed garments of a friendly priest he was still only the 'delicate, pale, thin man' of twenty-three described in the Hue and Cry.

HIS FIELD IN NEW YORK

"At the time that he came to our country we were in the throes of one of those controversies which seem to crop up about once in every generation.

"The field was open in New York for someone who could give adequate expression to the demand for justice, for fair treatment, for patience, and who could bring to the knowledge of the American people the good qualities which lay submerged beneath the weight of poverty and sickness. McGee threw himself into the enterprise with all the ardor of his spirit, and for nine years his wonderful eloquence was devoted to the defence of that portion of his people which had fled to our shores as a refuge from imminent disaster at home. It was fortunate indeed that in such a crisis so gifted a warrior was available for the service.

"McGee was not content merely to act as champion for his countrymen. He realized that if they were to become an integral part of the population of our country, they must fit themselves to graduate from the position of inferiority they then occupied in the view of Americans and that this result must be accomplished by education.

STARTED NIGHT SCHOOLS

"He knew that they were under the necessity of earning their livelihood and could obtain instruction only during those hours not devoted to labor. He, therefore, set about the establishment of night schools in New York city organized along the same lines as those with which he had had experience in Boston on his first visit to the United States. His own devotion to this project must have involved him in considerable expense at a time when he had no money to spare. To further the enterprise he wrote articles, carried on a large correspondence and addressed public meetings on behalf of

the schools and taught and lectured in the ones which were first opened. Fifteen years after he had assisted in the establishment of these schools in New York city, the average attendance was 20,000, and the system had been copied by all the large cities of the Union. It is, therefore, well within the truth to say, as does his most recent biographer, that 'there must have been literally thousands in the United States, who owed their start in education to the institutions he had been so largely instrumental in opening and organizing for them.' If he had no other claim to our recognition, his memory should be cherished as that of one, who pointed to the members of his race how they could throw off the burden of ignorance which oppressed them and rendered it impossible for them to realize the benefits and discharge the responsibilities of citizenship.

HON. FRANK LATCHFORD

CHIEF JUSTICE SECOND DIVISION COURT, SUPREME COURT OF ONTARIO

Chief Justice, Hon. Frank Latchford in proposing the toast to the McGee family sketched the more intimate phases of the family life of Thomas D'Arcy McGee, his parents and his own children. The family's ancestors had formed a notable element in the world's history and had bestowed heroic traditions upon the cradle that was to couch the great Canadian statesman.

At his mother's knee, Thomas D'Arcy McGee, the child, was steeped in the heroic Irish lore, an influence that was to play such a dominant role in his after years. The bitterness of his early life, compulsory separations from his wife, his escape with a price upon his head, these were the stirring days that which he travelled in the years that preceded the glorious decade he bestowed upon Canada.

Hon. Mr. Latchford referred proudly to Mr. John Joseph McGee, a brother to the great builder of Confederation, at whose home the latter found refuge in Montreal, in 1848. He concluded with an expression of assurance that the heir to the famous McGee name and traditions, Mr. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, of Ottawa, was worthy of his honors and distinction and had already proven himself so by his devotion to public services in Ottawa.

MR. T. D'ARCY MCGEE

NEPHEW OF THE LATE STATESMAN

Mr. T. D'Arcy McGee in reply to the toast to the family said: "After listening to the many interesting and eulogistic remarks concerning Thomas D'Arcy McGee, whose name I have the honor to bear, and realizing to the full extent the meaning of this splendid demonstration to his memory, I must confess that it is with mingled feelings of trepidation and deep gratitude that I reply on behalf of the family whose head has been so kindly proposed by the Hon. Chief Justice Latchford, and so cordially received by this large and representative gathering.

"Naturally we feel a deep pride in being so closely connected to one who, together with other great men of his time labored so inspiringly to accomplish the union of the scattered provinces of Canada into one great Confederation. Unfortunately owing to advancing years, my mother and father could not be present tonight to hear the kind remarks which have characterized the eloquent speeches on this occasion, but through the thoughtfulness and courtesy of our esteemed chairman, they have been enabled by means of the radio to participate in this celebration.

"It is also to be regretted that the only two surviving children of D'Arcy McGee, his daughters, Mrs. M. E. Quinn, of Oakland, Cal., and Miss Agnes McGee, of Montreal, are unable to be present to witness this remarkable tribute to the memory of their illustrious father.

"It is indeed a matter of sincere gratification to the family and a happy coincidence that the memory of Thomas D'Arcy McGee is being honored tonight by all, irrespective of race or creed, since he strove to bring about harmony in this country by mutual understanding and good-will are to prevail in this country. Perhaps it would make such a resolution the easier to adopt if I were to give you its form and essence in the words of Thomas Davis: "And oh, it were a gallant deed To show before mankind, How every race, and every creed, Might be by love combined— Might be combined, yet not forget, The fountains whence they rose, As, filled by many a rivulet, The stately Shannon flows!"

"Then these words of the poet of Young Ireland I know of none more appropriate with which to close this centennial celebration. Allow me, then, merely to add that the proceedings are at an end, and that with warmth and gratitude I bid you all good-night!"

preciation of those who have written the biography of Thomas D'Arcy McGee and to the press of the country for favorable references to his short but checkered career. We feel also that we cannot too heartily thank the local committee which has had charge of the celebration.

"The personnel of this committee is typical of the spirit that animated Thomas D'Arcy McGee himself. In this, that its members, representing all creeds, united and cooperated so amicably in the undertaking.

PRaises MR. MURPHY

"And last but by no means the least, we feel that we cannot too deeply, too sincerely and too heartily, express in the strongest possible terms of appreciation our grateful thanks to the one who conceived the idea of the celebration of the centenary of the birth of Thomas D'Arcy McGee, of the one who laid the plans and set in action machinery to accomplish such plans which have culminated so successfully, of the one who by his stupendous energy and untiring devotion to detail was able to create such a widespread interest in this event, of the one who so ably and acceptably represents his fellow countrymen with the Government of today, and who is so honored and respected by all classes and creeds—the Hon. Charles Murphy, Postmaster-General."

CONCLUDING THE EVENING

The historic event was brought to a close by the chairman. After Mr. McGee's speech on behalf of the McGee family, Mr. Murphy said:

"If, in the years to come, the inspiring addresses to which we have listened tonight are to be more than pleasant memories, the lessons they contain must not only be treasured in heart and in mind, but equal care must be taken to give them practical effect.

"To make sure that they will be put in practice, let me offer two suggestions that, in my judgment, ought to be acted on by every member of this audience, as well as by every Canadian in that larger invisible audience which modern science has enabled the speakers of the evening to address.

"The first suggestion that I have to offer is one relating to the position accorded McGee in Canadian history by the writers of Canadian text books for use in the schools.

"Doubtless, you will be surprised to learn that in these text books is no mention made of the name of McGee.

"Here and now we should resolve that Canadian school histories must be rewritten in the light of truth and justice, and without delay. That is a duty we owe to the land we live in, and to the youth of the country who are to be the future leaders of public opinion in Canada.

AN IDEALISTIC MODEL

"The second resolve that I ought to make, if we are to give practical effect to the speeches of tonight, goes to the very root of our national life. It embodies the principle on which Thomas D'Arcy McGee moulded his thoughts and actions, and upon which we should mould ours if mutual understanding and good-will are to prevail in this country. Perhaps it would make such a resolution the easier to adopt if I were to give you its form and essence in the words of Thomas Davis:

"And oh, it were a gallant deed To show before mankind, How every race, and every creed, Might be by love combined— Might be combined, yet not forget, The fountains whence they rose, As, filled by many a rivulet, The stately Shannon flows!"

"Then these words of the poet of Young Ireland I know of none more appropriate with which to close this centennial celebration. Allow me, then, merely to add that the proceedings are at an end, and that with warmth and gratitude I bid you all good-night!"

FOREIGN MISSION NEWS LETTER

HARD GOING

There are a lot of Protestant sects in Kanjoda, India, writes Father Meneses. The Salvation Army, the American Episcopalians, the Irish Presbyterians, the American Alliance Mission besides, the Khosja sect, who literally turn Christians and Mohammedans. The Protestant sects instil a hatred in the minds of the poor people against the Catholic missionary and everything Catholic. Ninety-nine per cent. of our energy is spent in counteracting their propaganda.

Recently I opened a mission in the village of Vansol, where the sects have been at work for years. All the children are now going to our school. My work is entirely among the untouchables, Dheds, Chammars, etc. I don't think there is a single convert from the high castes.

FATHER FRASER WRITES

Father Fraser who is still at work in Rome, making good progress toward his object, has obtained through the graciousness of the Holy Father, an indulgence of 300 days each time the Prayer for the Conversion of China is recited. Readers of THE CATHOLIC RECORD are quite familiar with this

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prayer, as it has appeared several times in our columns. Formerly it carried with it an indulgence of 50 days.

DEATH OF A VETERAN MISSIONARY

The death of Rev. Emile LaFond, C. S. C., removes a lovely figure, a tireless worker and a dauntless apostle from the midst of his spiritual children at Solepore on the banks of the Ganges. After a missionary labor of thirty-five years, kindling new lights of love in the hearts of the natives of the vast morasses of his delta mission, this burning fire of zeal, glimmered, and went out peacefully, on the morning of February 26th in the seventy-third year of his age. Educated in Quebec, he could speak neither English nor Bengali when he arrived at the mission in the early nineties, and the natives concluded from his looks of bewilderment that this good Father was deaf, and shouted loudly in his ear, to the humiliation of Father LaFond. By heroic labors, he overcame these initial drawbacks and soon acquired a remarkable fluency in their language. So readily did he adapt himself to the manners and customs of his people that he soon won their love and confidence. His fellow missionaries often marveled at the depth of this affection. What trait of character did he possess to win such boundless trust? Perhaps the answer is contained in a little note he sent to a group of American school-girls who remembered him at Christmas by a box of candy.

"I hope that, now we are introduced to each other (and you have a nice and sweet way of introducing yourselves), you will write me again. I am lonely here in the solitude and it will do me good to receive news of my youthful friends."

NEW SCHOOLS AND A CHURCH Bishop Fayolle, P. F. M., writes: "The district of Tsin-yen-hien, Sechem, China, has furnished a wonderful group of baptisms—all adults. It was detached from the district of Yen-chow in 1915, and had nine hundred Christians. It has now over two thousand. Fourteen new stations have been founded in eight years, and religious instruction is well under way. We must now start new schools and build a new church that will meet the needs of the Catholics.

WHERE FAITH WAS ONCE STRONG The mission of Ibug, Philippine Islands begun by the Spanish Dominicans and at one time very prosperous, is now very backward. Everything was abandoned during the Spanish-American War, and until now, no attempt has been made to restore the Faith. Father de Gryce, finds that the church has been burned and the ornaments and furniture stolen. Some of the Catholics had passed to the ranks of the Methodists; others had joined the Aglipayans; a number even followed the Rizalinos. Rizal was a Filipino doctor, proclaimed by his admirers as the God of the Malay race who was executed by the Spanish for rebellion, and the Bishop of the Rizalino Church, resides at Ibug and is a man of immoral life, a drunkard and a true devil when he attacks the Catholics. He wears no shoes, but a mitre of red, blue and white. God has had mercy on these poor and simple beings who through lack of spiritual encouragement have been led astray, most of them have come back to the old religion, and

promise to be faithful. Father de Gryce, who spends three weeks at a time at the mission, has now a little chapel in the place, where he also lives and sleeps, as there is nothing better among the Christians' houses. It is poorer than the stable at Bethlehem.

CHARITY

"(That one who giveth aid to an apostle shall merit reward with an apostle.)" I want all men at My table, and all in My heavenly court; The ignorant, poor, and degraded, must be lifted and fed and taught; And ye, My lovers, and chosen, must win them from evil foe.

"But, Lord, we are held by our duties: dare we stay, if You bid us go?" To go? Nay, I have not told you to travel neath alien sky, Nor to seek out the haunts of the temples, whose idols My reign defy: Send your prayers: they are arms to draw them. And your alms are your sacrifice: Thus shall the souls of the pagan come into My paradise!" —GRACE KRON

CHINESE MISSION BURSSES

How many excellent young men have you known who were debarred from the priesthood because they were unable to meet the expenses of a college and seminary education? The Chinese Mission Burses provide a way to the Priesthood for such young men. The interest on each completed bursse provides a sum sufficient to pay for the yearly education of one student at our seminary at Scarborough Bluffs, Ont. When he has gone forth as a priest to the Mission Fields another student will take his place, the bursse providing a permanent fund to educate those who otherwise may never have been priests. Will you help us send a priest to the Missions of China? Address:

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