



MR. ALEXANDER FRASER

The Mission of the Celt in Canada

A paper read by Mr. Alexander Fraser, past president, before the Gaelic Club on Saturday last, at Kinner's Lodge, Toronto, Capt. Ross in the chair.

I need not dwell at length on the question as to whether the Celt has a special mission in Canada or not. That proposition will, generally speaking, be taken for granted, on the broad ground that every nationality has its own special place in the world and its own special duty to discharge towards mankind. Thus the Celt, in acknowledging his own racial characteristics and their human value is foremost in insisting that the Teuton, the Slav and all other races should also be true to their blood. "Blood" means "father and mother," and so important in the Divine economy are love and loyalty to the parent and to the family root-tree that a central place is given to them in the decalogue itself in the words: "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," a command and promise of extraordinary significance if read in the light of history.

By the Celt in Canada I mean the Gael of Scottish birth or descent, although I believe there ought to be co-operation between the various Celtic branches wherever possible. For instance, the Scottish Gael and the Irish Gael have very much in common. Irish music ought to be fairly well-known to the Highlander, so ought the rich and extensive field of Irish antiquities, which if properly cultivated would yield abundantly of the material upon which ideals of culture and taste are formed. In Canada, where Highlander and Irishman meet on a friendly footing, free from historical animosities, an interchange of knowledge of these matters ought to be as easy as it would be valuable. Let the Frenchman, the German, the Englishman and the men of other nationalities do their best for themselves, as no doubt they are doing and will do, to impress themselves on Canada. Our duty as Celts is to do our part, so that we may not be lost in the process of national fusion, when that sets in. The mission of the Celt in the world has thus been stated by Mr. Lachlan MacBean, of Kirkcaldy, a schoolmate and lifelong friend of mine: "By infusion of ideas and transfusion of blood to leaven modern civilization." * * * to touch the higher issues and transform by nobler sentiments the results of art and science and culture as these have been evolved by the sturdy Anglo-Saxon race." This high aim has reference particularly to Great Britain, where Celt and Saxon come in daily contact with each other in large numbers. But it can be applied with almost equal force to Canada, and the purpose of this brief paper is to indicate some of the ways in which this can be done.

First it will be necessary to clear the way a little. With some persistence we and kindred organizations are challenged to justify our existence as a national society in this our loved Canadian home. "Why not sink our differences and merge into one Canadian nationality?" This is an altogether praiseworthy craving on the part of the Canadian-born Gael or Saxon, who in the impetuosity of youth stops not to think of what the cry means. It cannot for one moment bear analysis. But it is most important as well as a most interesting phenomenon. It indicates the beginning of that drifting from the old racial moorings only possible in a new country or amid entirely new surroundings; and as such we are able to observe the origin of what one day will be a mighty sentiment in this land. But this awakening is at a stage of incipency which does not affect as yet the racial problems of Canada, nor our duty, as Celts, to our adopted country. Encourage the sentiment of Canadian nationality, by all means. It is a prompting of nature. It will grow. Even now it demands our jealous care and tender nurture. One of the charms which Canada has had all these years to me has been the calm of vantage she has afforded for observing the rediments of what in the old world have for long centuries been ethnological problems, and if I venture to put forth a philosophical basis for the discussion of my subject this evening it is because I believe I have found a fairly reasonable foundation on which to build my argument. I believe the great mistake made by the exclusive Canadian is in considering

log nationality and citizenship. Nationality is not a matter of specifying nor of legislative enactment; not even entirely of sentiment. So far as Canadian nationality is concerned it is now in nature's own crucible, and when it issues therefrom with the necessary homogeneity and consistency generations will have come and gone. It is impossible to predict what human characteristics will predominate in it. The elements are not yet all collected which will largely enter into its composition. Europe has yet to pour her hundreds of thousands of the dregs of the slums of her congested cities—the inheritance of crime and degeneracy. Asia has her Chinese and her Japanese; Iceland and Sweden her stalwart northerners, Britain her diminishing peasantry, Italy her laboring swarms, and Russia her Slavs. This influx will go on for generations. The Gaelic and the Doukhobors of to-day may be racially stronger in the next generation than the Saxon-born in Canada, who has had the qualifying comfort of a few generations to modify their native hardness, and so on.

While this gradual comingling is in process, it is our duty as Celts to cultivate a sturdy manhood and to mould our own characters. On the models we know and understand best. To the Celt, that model is one which nature, through his race has furnished him with, and it is his duty to apply the best in his race to his life work here.

How, then, can this be put in practice? Beginning at the home, the cornerstone of national life, the history of the Gael holds out an ideal of the family circle which can be aimed at here with the best possible results. That ideal held within it, love, constancy, confidence, hospitality and unostentatious piety, and each of these elements appeals to the man and woman of Gaelic descent with all the force of nature. These virtues I need not elaborate, they are obvious, they can be cultivated and practised by all. But how are we mutually to help each other in their cultivation and practice? That is the question involving many others, and not to be answered in a general way. Love, constancy and piety, etc., are not the peculiar heritage of the Gaelic family. But the Gael is naturally emotional, he is by nature fitted in an especial manner to appreciate the value and the beauty of these moral virtues, and therefore he ought to inquire into their germination and growth in his character. If he does so, he needs must find a standard of measurement and he can only find what to him must be the highest and best standard in the lives of his kindred, for these come nearest to his nature and consequently to his practical understanding. In the present day these lives can be studied and brought within the range of familiar acquaintance through personal friendship and intercourse, in sections of the country where Gaelic love, move and have their being as Celts. But the complete way to breathe the atmosphere of the Gaelic home life, and to understand the genius of the people, as a race, is by a close, sympathetic study of their traditions, their history and their literature—sacred and profane. That, and living contact working on a nature akin, will give the necessary tendency and leading to our characters.

Many ways are open to us. We have the priceless heritage of our language. It should be every Gael's boast that he is able to speak it, read and construe it, his deep regret if he cannot do so. To those who are strangers to the tongue of Ossian there the translations of Gaelic poetry and prose, and the numerous books which treat of the more prominent aspects of Gaelic tradition, history and life. The preservation of Gaelic would be no small or fruitless mission itself.

We have the arts and sciences of the Ancient Gael. A knowledge of Celtic art would stimulate taste and give an enlightened and broad view of the history of mediæval Europe. The art treasures of ancient Ireland and Scotland—the carving on metal and stone—alone would repay close study for its intrinsic excellence, and its historic value while for sentimental reasons it should surely appeal irresistibly not only to Celts, who on patriotic grounds should know it, but to all enlightened and intelligent minds.

And what shall I say of the beautiful music and songs of the Gael? In this department alone the Celt in Canada would find scope for endless labor of love. Why should not a few singable translations of our lyrics and their sweet melodies be in the song books used in our public schools. They deserve a place there, they ought to be there and if the Gaelic Society of Toronto would agitate for this it could be done.

So also could a few translations of the matchless Gaelic legends be inserted in our authorized readers for the public schools, and due recognition of the importance of Celtic civilization be made in our histories. Why should not the young of our country know about their forefathers through the medium of the schoolmaster and of the university? I could wish a committee were appointed to attend to this matter, to keep it alive until the Government took it, and kindred subjects of interest to us.

The Gael in Canada should not forget the tie of blood which binds them together by way of kith and kin. They should stand by one another in the struggle of life. This is an age of organization, of combination, and it

would be only a natural thing that those bound together by the strongest of ties should be organized to secure for themselves a fair share of the good things life has to offer. It seems to me that we are remiss in this respect, to an almost inexplicable extent. With our numbers, our common sympathies, our opportunities are simply enormous. Yet somehow we allow them to slip by us unimproved. Is it better to face the world alone or with the advantage to be derived from the sympathy and friendly offices of a large number of your kinsmen whose encouragement and patronage you can count upon if you deserve them. While I believe this idea could be easily and happily carried into effect in a very general way, it seems necessary to urge it, and repeat the advocacy of it until it becomes a familiar thought to us all, after which it ought to work itself out naturally in daily life.

In a wider sense this co-operation ought to be practised. We should impress ourselves on the life of the country in business, in the professions, in education, in morals and religion, and especially so in the various grades of government. The Celt is specially fitted for public life. He is an idealist, ambitious, fond of power and rule. If he does not now believe in the divine right of kings as firmly as he once did, he believes in the divine right of man. You will not find him in politics for the mess of pottage or filthy lucre. You will not find him grabbing the public domain, or tyrannical in the administration of power. The laws of our land bear the impress of the Celtic mind. Our public life has been, in the past, elevated by the high aims and spirit of our compatriots, and I take it that the Celt in Canada should make it one of his chief ambitions to be strongly and largely represented in the councils of the country—especially in the higher ones—by trusted clansmen.

But the sentiment and sympathy, the lofty idealism and generous chivalry of his race must be the best and greatest contribution which the Celt can confer on his Canadian home through influencing the peoples who by and by shall be called the Canadian nation.

An interesting discussion, led by Mr. David Spence, followed, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Fraser at the close.

Father Heydon Leaves Owen Sound.

Owen Sound, April 18.—On Monday evening, the 14th of April, quite a large circle of friends called at St. Mary's Church Presbytery to say farewell to Rev. Father Heydon, who was to leave next day for Toronto.

Before saying farewell, Mrs. T. Gallagher presented him with a fine purse, well filled with money, and Mr. W. H. McClarty, in a clear and audible voice, read the following address:

Rev. and Dear Father—In meeting here to-night to say farewell we wish to express in words all too feeble the deep sense of regret we feel at your departure, and the appreciation and gratitude we have for the great benefits we have derived from your three years in our midst. Two feelings animate our hearts to-night, joy and sorrow. Joy that you have been elevated to one of the highest positions in the Order, and sorrow that we are to lose you. By your co-operation you have had a large share in paying off a great part of the debt of the church of which we are so proud. Your zeal for learning is evidenced by the efficiency of our school, of which you have been the painstaking and assiduous superintendent, and in whose well-being you have always taken the deepest interest. If there is one quality by which you will be remembered, it is the interest you took in the education of the young—that education so potent in its results, received and implanted under the guidance of religion, inculcated with moral precepts and Catholic doctrines. You will be remembered by the kindness with which you pointed out to us the duties of our life, by the clearness and force with which you taught us the doctrines of our religion, by the fidelity and zeal with which you stirred in our hearts a fidelity to our Church and a love for our Creator. These inestimable gifts will never be effaced from our minds, and always in prayer before the altar we will remember you, dear Father. In return we would ask one favor, that in the stillness of the sanctuary you will remember the people of Owen Sound. We earnestly hope that God may bless you with health and strength to labor long and faithfully in His vineyard, and that in your new field of labor you may be surrounded by friends whose hearts are as true as are the hearts assembled here to-night.

O Priest of God, "neath thy arch of years,
How grand, how glorious, thy life appears,
And while Memory points to that hallowed past,
Where the tender seeds that thy hand has cast
Have struck deep root in the well-tilled soil,
To reward thy zeal, to restore thy toil,
The future largely of promise tells,
When the bloom will wave in the ripened dells,
When the harvest shall yield a hundred-fold,
And thy silver years shall be crowned with gold.

We ask you, dear Father, to accept this little gift as a slight token

of gratitude and appreciation from your devoted friends in Owen Sound. The Rev. Father was much taken by surprise at receiving such a token, as he thought the notice of his departure was so short that he would be able to leave without having to make a farewell speech, but the people of Owen Sound were always ready to do what they thought their duty, though to him it was an untimely one. He said the three years he spent in Owen Sound were the most pleasant of his life, and in attending to his duties towards his people he did it with the greatest of pleasure. He always found the people willing to assist him and this made his work light and a pleasure. He regretted very much to have to leave Owen Sound, as he had to part with many true friends, not only of his own faith but of other denominations. This true friendship they had shown him on many occasions, and while he was leaving Owen Sound he was submitting to those in higher authority, and just then he would ask the people of St. Mary's congregation to continue (as they have in the past) to submit to those in authority and obey their commands. In conclusion he thanked those of his own congregation and his friends from other denominations for their kind offering on this, as on other occasions, and that the people of Owen Sound may rest assured that he will always have for them a foremost place in his memory, and that he would not forget them in his prayers. On Tuesday afternoon Master Willie Moffat, on behalf of the pupils of St. Mary's School, read in a very touching manner an address to Father Heydon, and Miss Viola McClarty presented him with a handsome gift.

Oil Painting To Mr. D'Arcy Scott.

An Ottawa despatch says In St. Patrick's Hall, Maria street, St. Patrick's Literary and Scientific Society honored the president, Mr. D'Arcy Scott, by presenting him with a handsome painting in oils of himself and a beautiful illuminated address.

The address referred in eulogistic terms to the unqualified success that attended the endeavors of Mr. Scott to provide for the Irishmen of Ottawa a building worthy in every way of the object for which it was intended, and to the untiring zeal with which Mr. Scott has labored in the interests of the society and for all other national causes. After referring to the fact that for 46 years there had been attempts made to secure a hall, the address read: "That you have succeeded where so many others have failed is a flattering tribute to your executive ability and places you in a proud position of pre-eminence among the many prominent and able Irishmen who have been your predecessors in the presidency of our society."

Best wishes for health and happiness were expressed for Mr. Scott and for Mrs. Scott, who has frequently honored the entertainments with her presence and contributed so substantially to their success by her musical talent.

The address was read by Mr. Jas. Bennett, while the picture was unveiled by Dr. Freeland and Mr. J. McNulty. Mr. Scott made a suitable reply, after which complimentary addresses were delivered by the Hon. John Costigan, Dr. Freeland, Mr. Jno. Heney, Rev. Father McGuire, of Lindsay, and Mr. C. Heney. Songs were contributed by Mr. W. Bennett and Mr. H. O'Hara, after which refreshments were served and a social hour spent. Mr. J. W. McCaffrey was accompanist. The painting is by Calderon and the address by Mr. Arcand.

CHEVALIER JOHN HENEY.

Chevalier John HENEY, of Ottawa, reached his eighty-first birthday on the 16th inst., and was congratulated by many friends. There is probably no more vigorous man of his age in Ottawa or in this country, and few equal.

Mr. HENEY, who was born in County Cavan, Ireland, came to Canada in 1843, landing at Quebec. In the fall of that year he went up to Ottawa. It is related that when he was landing at By Town, a native approached him and asked him his name "John HENEY," was the reply "That's my name," said the other. It was the late John HENEY, best known in Ottawa as "Buffalo" HENEY. The new John HENEY entered the employ of the other John HENEY, and worked for him for several years, then started in business for himself, and became as every one knows one of the most prosperous and prominent citizens of the Capital.

"Mr. HENEY, you look good for 20 years more," said a friend the other day.

"Ten ought to do me, I think," said Mr. HENEY cheerfully.

THE KING'S BLASPHEMY.

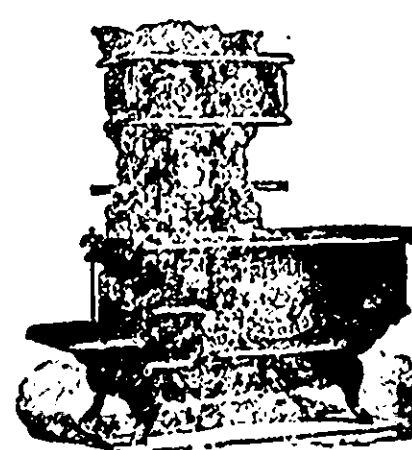
A meeting of Catholic peers was held at the Westminster last week to consider whether or further action regarding the Royal Declaration should be taken during the present or next session of Parliament. A unanimous opinion was expressed by those present that a sustained movement must be maintained to remove a legal enactment which outrages the most sacred convictions of millions of loyal subjects of the Crown, and which imposes upon the Sovereign a most painful task. It was felt that Coronation year was not a fitting time for any movement which might prove a bitter controversy, and it

SOMETHING SUPERIOR

to the finest Japan Tea grown—

"SALADA"

Oeylon GREEN Tea, same flavor as Japan, only more delicious and then it is absolutely pure. Sold in Sealed Lead Packets the same as the Celebrated "SALADA" Black Tea at 25c. and 40c. per pound. BY ALL GROCERS.



WHO PAYS?

WHY burn more fuel than necessary, and put up with the disadvantages of an old style range in your kitchen?

THE NEW IMPERIAL OXFORD

will make dollars' worth of difference in your fuel bills, is easier and quicker to regulate—and offers comfort, conveniences and cooking certainty not found in any other range. Its improvements are patented features exclusively its own.

Canadian Made—Sold by Leading Dealers Everywhere.

The GURNEY FOUNDRY CO., Limited,

TORONTO MONTREAL WINNIPEG VANCOUVER

was decided that, as the declaration is not included in the Coronation ceremonial, the next session of Parliament would be best suited for an appeal to the sense of justice of Parliament and of the public.

First Communion

PRAYER BOOKS—White, from 25c to \$1.00 each. ROSARIES—Imitation Pearl and Pearl, from 20c to \$1.00 each. WREATHS—from 35c to \$1.50 each. Certificates, Medals and Badges.

BLAKE'S

West Side Catholic Book Store 605 QUEEN ST. W., TORONTO Phone Park 322

The "Emulsion"

(Trade Mark.) For Lung Troubles, Severe Coughs, Colds, Emaciation, etc., etc. Few systems can assimilate pure Oil, but as combined in "The U.S.A." (the Emulsion) and digested, it will build you up; it will solidify your flesh; it will bring you back to health. 50c. and \$1.00 bottles. DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO., Limited.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

THE "Buffalo Express"

Leaving Toronto 9.00 a.m. Daily South Parkdale 9.06 a.m. Is this favorable rain between Toronto, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Buffalo and Eastern Points

Solid vestibule train to Buffalo, with Pullman Parlor Car. Train returning leaves Buffalo (Lahigh Valley Depot) 6.30 p.m. daily. Arrives at Toronto 9.45 p.m. Direct connection for Montreal and east at 10 p.m. daily. Tickets and all information at N.W. Cor. King and Yonge Streets, Phone Main 4209.

J. W. RYDER, C.P. & T.A., Toronto M. C. DICKSON, Dist. Pass. Agent

INCORPORATED TORONTO SINCE 1877

CONSERVATORY

OF MUSIC

COLLEGE STREET.

DR. EDWARD FISHER, Musical Director

THE HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL STANDARD AND STRONGEST FACILITY IN CANADA.

Pupils may enter at any time.

School of Literature and Expression

A strong, efficient Faculty.

Calendars and Syllabus Free

FITS EPILEPSY

FREE SAMPLE OF LEBER'S FIT CURE.

If you suffer from Epilepsy, Fits, Falling Convulsions, St. Vitus Dance, or have relatives afflicted with these troubles, send for a free trial bottle of LEBER'S FIT CURE, and you will find it a most valuable remedy. It will cure you, or it will refund your money. It is a most reliable remedy, and it is the only one that will cure you. Write to LEBER'S FIT CURE, 100, N. W. Cor. King and Yonge Streets, Toronto.

"HAPPY THOUGHT" RANGES

"Save their coal as fuel in a single season." Let us show you some of the many improvements.

McDonald & Willson 187 YONGE ST. TORONTO

KITCHEN FURNISHINGS

We carry a full line of Stoves, Ranges, and all the latest improvements.

Coffee Grinders, Meat Choppers, Kettles, Cleaners

Gurney's Scales

all kinds.

Rice Lewis & Son

LIMITED

52 and 54 King St. W., Toronto

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PATENTS

TRADE MARKS, DESIGNS, &c.

Agents for the registration of Patents, Trade Marks, Designs, &c. in Canada, the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Holland, Austria, Hungary, Russia, Japan, China, India, and all other countries. Also for the registration of Patents in the Dominion of Wales, the Town of Berwick, and the County of Durham.

Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any paper in the world. 22¢ a copy. (For particulars, see page 10, No. 1, 1899.)

MUNN & CO. 361 Broadway, New York

Branch Office, 100, N. W. Cor. King and Yonge Streets, Toronto.

E. MCCORMACK

MERCHANT TAILOR.

31 JORDAN ST. WEST SOUTH OF KING

TORONTO

THE OPINION OF AN ADVERTISER.

TISER.

To the Editor of The Register

Dear Sir—It gives me much pleasure to state that the advertisement which I have in The Catholic Register has well paid me. As a rule I find it difficult to tell from which source trade comes through advertising, but on several occasions I know good patrons have come to me through your paper.

Yours,

E. MCCORMACK,

31 Jordan street, Toronto.

What One of Canada's Leading Business Editors

Thinks of Our Paper.

Toronto, March 8, 1902.

The Catholic Register Co., City

We have been using the columns of The Register in connection with our business for some years and are pleased to say that results have always been very satisfactory. The constituency reached by The Register is an important one, and we know of no other medium so well situated in this respect as The Register.

Yours truly,

CREELMAN BROS. TYPEWRITER CO.

U. J. Selts, Gen. Mgr.

We are Headquarters for

Account Books Stationery Office Supplies Leather Goods Binding Printing Four-color Press

THE BROWN BROS. Limited

21-23 Wellington St. W., Toronto.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS

EPPS'S COCOA

Prepared from the finest selected Cocoa, and distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavor, Superior quality, and highly nutritive properties. Sold in quarter-pound tins, labeled JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.

EPPS'S COCOA

BREAKFAST—SUPPER

Typewriters

All makes, rented \$2.00 to \$5.00 per month.

WILKINSON To rent.