

Scotch, and French Canadians were in every case taken captive by it. After the lecture, and after receiving congratulations from the clergy, who were present in large numbers, and from the Mayor, Hon. Charles Alleyne, and the principal citizens, he was carried off by some choice spirits to "Mrs. Brown's," a well-known hotel then kept by that lady. Need it be said that a night was made of it, as was the custom in those days in the good old city of the Rock as well as elsewhere. Toast and song went round and so did jest and repartee, as well as the flowing bowl. McGee was at his best and fully convinced us all that

The best of all ways to lengthen our days  
Is to steal a few hours from the night, my dear!

Next day an address and purse were presented to him by his admirers, and he was strongly urged to take up his residence in Canada. At Montreal, where he met with an equally hearty and cordial reception, the advantages to be secured by his removal to Canada were also impressed upon him. And with good effect, for in 1856 he had become a citizen of Montreal and established the New Era. Shortly afterwards he was elected a member of the old Canadian Parliament for that city, and other duties besides newspaper drudgery began to engage him.

His Parliamentary career and the work performed by him as a minister of the crown have become part of Canadian history. It was only after his death that his public services were adequately recognized and appreciated.

He found time to complete his history of Ireland at this period, and did a good deal of literary work for the Catholic publishing house of the Sadliers. He was not free from the malignant attacks of enemies, political and otherwise,

at home and abroad. The Witness assailed him most wantonly, and with hypocritical regrets for being obliged to do so as a public duty, referred in deprecatory tones on several occasions to his convivial habits. After much forbearance, McGee became so provoked that he turned upon his assailant, or rather upon McDougall, the proprietor and responsible editor, the "Temperance Pharisee, an utter stranger to him, to whom he was personally unknown, and who had no means whatever of judging of his personal habits," and the dressing down was so effectual that the offence was never afterwards repeated.

Of course we exchanged papers, and I had frequent letters from him. On his first election for Montreal, he wrote me how he had secured the suffrages of the colored voters. The barber's shop he patronized was kept by a colored citizen, who professionally manipulated McGee's fine black curly head of hair. At a meeting of the colored voters, this barber, who was a man of influence amongst them, carried the crowd with him by claiming McGee as a "brother, whose hair was like their own!" "Yes," wrote McGee, "my black curly pate made me a man and a brother, and that's how we carried the day, with flying colors, or may I not say with the black banner waving: black and green for me in future."

When attending the sessions of Parliament held at Toronto, he often ran down to Whitby to see me and to spend a quiet day. I got him to deliver a lecture on behalf of the funds of the Whitby Mechanics' Institute. It proved, as I fully expected it would, a great success. The subject suggested was "Sir Walter Scott." Scotchmen are numerous in Whitby and in the adjoining townships. From