

"PEACE BRIDGE" MEMORIAL.

(Garrett O'Connor.)

In the Welland Tribune, for which journal I reported at Niagara Falls over twenty years ago, I incidentally suggested the usefulness of a free bridge across Niagara river to connect the American Reservation and the Queen Victoria, Niagara Falls Park. But it was in July, 1909, when there was talk in the newspapers of holding a Canadian-American peace celebration, that it occurred to me that a "Peace Bridge" (or "Link of Love," as I termed it), connecting the parks at the Falls, free to all, would be a grand memorial of the century of peace since the war of 1812-14. I sent my idea to the Toronto, Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Welland newspapers, also to several public men. My suggestion became popular.

It was not long before American

public men interested in the peace celebration, American journals, Buffalo and Fort Erie boards of trade, etc., were making their own of my pet idea—(but never mentioning who the author was)—of which I am proud. Buffalo and Fort Erie people coolly proposed that the proposed bridge be built at the head of Niagara river. Welland County Council heard a report from Reeve Foster, Fort Erie, on the matter, this gentleman also failing to name the author or explain why his idea should be seized and applied to a most unsuitable place. A society was started in New York, having for its chairman a Mr. John T. Stewart. This society also saw fit to adopt my suggestion, which is gratifying; but when stating at a meeting in New York a week ago, with Hon. R. L. Borden present, that the New York Peace Society favored the building of a "Peace Bridge" at Niagara

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