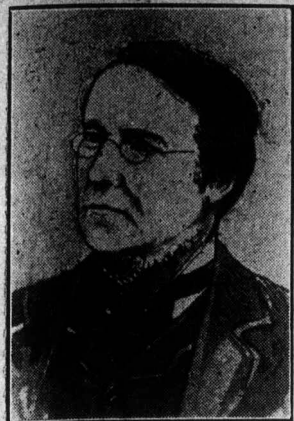


## Ireland's Delegates At the Windsor Hall.

Montreal Irishmen covered themselves with renown at the great meeting which they organized at the Windsor Hall on Tuesday night to listen to the appeals of the Hon. Edward Blake, M.P., and Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., on behalf of the claims of the United Irish League to the support of the Irishmen of Canada and the United States, and, in fact, of every land in which they or their descendants have taken up their abode since they left the Emerald Isle.

"We have beaten our brothers in Toronto," Mr. Michael Fitzgibbon,



HON. EDWARD BLAKE, M.P.

president of the Montreal branch of the United Irish League, announced after subscriptions had been taken up and counted. "Toronto Irishmen gave \$800. The subscriptions which we have just received amount to \$1,700; and when other sums which have been promised are in, there will be a total of \$2,000." The announcement was received with great cheering, as was also the list which was read, showing that amongst those who subscribed were several prominent French-Canadians.

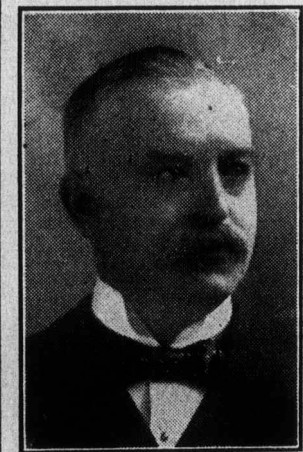
Mayor Cochrane presided, and accompanying him on the platform, in addition to the orators of the evening were: Messrs. Michael Fitzgibbon, president of the Montreal branch of the United Irish League; Robert Bickerdike, M.P., J. A. C. Madore, K.C., M.P., Hon. Dr. Guerin, Ald. Gallery, M.P., Senator Dandurand, K.C., Senator Beique, K.C., M.P., P. J. Coyle, K.C., Matthew Hutchinson, K.C., Dr. Devlin, Dr. E. J. C. Kennedy, Rev. Father Lalande, Rev. Father O'Meara, James McShane, ex-Ald. Connaughton, Ald. Walsh, Patrick Wright, B. Tansey, W. E. Doran, F. J. Curran, J. J. Costigan, C. Coughlin, J. M. Guerin, J. I. Tarte, M.P., F. B. McNamee, M. J. F. Quinn, Walter Kavanaugh, Michael Burke, James Rogers, H. J. Cloran, B. J. Coghlin, John Birmingham, M. Eagan, J. Cyril Walsh, W. P. Kearney, C. M. Hart, M. Donovan, Dr. Walter G. Kennedy, John O'Leary, M. Guerin and Rev. J. E. Donnelly, D'Arcy Scott (Ottawa), Felix Carbray (Quebec), Ald. Madden (Quebec), J. Clarke.

Mayor Cochrane, in opening the proceedings, said that it gave him great pleasure to preside at a meeting held to advance the cause of Ireland. As patriotic British subjects, Canadians were interested in the welfare of every portion of the Empire, because when one section of it was unhappy or distressed, it acted as an impediment to the other members of that vast family of nations. Ireland, as we know, is, and has for generations been, unhappy and distressed; and therefore Canadians took an interest in her condition and in her claims for redress. He thought that the prospect for Ireland was becoming brighter, inasmuch as it seemed that King Edward was personally interested himself in her behalf, and that had in mind the truly royal purpose of granting her an ample measure of justice. He hoped that this was true, and that poor, old, downtrodden Ireland, which had given so many gallant soldiers and so many brilliant statesmen to the empire, would soon enjoy peace and contentment. (Applause.)

MR. DEVLIN, who was received with prolonged applause, said that his first duty was to tender his sincerest apology to that splendid meeting of sympathy with the cause

of the old land, for the absence of Mr. Dillon. (Cheers). He deplored in a special degree the absence of the great leader, for he (Mr. Devlin) was incapable of taking Mr. Dillon's place as a representative of the organization on behalf of which they had come to appeal for the sympathy and support of the liberty-loving citizens of Montreal. The presence, however, of that great Canadian, Mr. Blake (applause) would make the audience forget his (the speaker's) limitations. He thanked the distinguished Mayor of Montreal for associating his high civic position and his personal prestige to the movement in support of which that meeting had assembled. Ireland was the only portion of the empire that was discontented to-day. Why was she discontented? Why was the great movement of which the United Irish League was the embodiment necessary?

Mr. Devlin replied to these questions by giving a graphic sketch of the condition of Ireland, not only at present, when trial by jury is suspended, free speech is suppressed, and the tried and trust representatives of the people, members of Parliament, are sent to prison to herd with criminals of the lowest class, and to perform humiliating work in jail, and when cattle and sheep are taking the place of men and women and children; but also during the past hundred years. During that period eighty-seven coercion acts had been passed. With what result? The people were never more united or determined in their constitutional struggle for justice than they were to-day (applause). The United Irish League was not only struggling to secure the land for the people, as Davitt and Parnell had struggled in the days of the Land League and the National League (applause), and to secure an Irish national parliament for the management of their own affairs, like that which Canadians possessed; but they were struggling for the preservation of the last remnant of the Irish race on Irish soil. That was not the first time that the hand of self-governing Canada had been held out to the Irish people at home in their land three thousand miles away. Enjoying as they did



MR. M. FITZGIBBON,  
President of U.I.L. Montreal

themselves the blessings of self-government, Canadians generously sympathized with the movement for the establishment of an Irish National Parliament. Canadians had stood by the empire in its hour of danger; and meetings such as that, where Canadian sympathy and support were given to the United Irish League, were sure to have a far-reaching effect in the final settlement of the Irish question. (Cheers).

A prominent Englishman had said that Providence had intended Ireland to be the fruitful mother of flocks and herds. Another had said that Ireland's destiny seemed to be to raise emigrants for America, and cattle for the English markets. But when England wanted the best of generals to lead her armies to victory, they went to Ireland to get them (applause); when they wanted good soldiers to save their flag from defeat, they went to Ireland for them; and when they wanted brilliant statesmen, they found them in Ireland. It was admitted on all hands that the Irish party in the British House of Commons excelled in ability, eloquence, and statesmanlike qualities, any other party. (Cheers). Ireland had given England the most brilliant Lord Chief Justice she had had for many years. (Cheers). The record of England's Government of Ireland was one of failure and

was disloyal to-day because she had nothing to be loyal for. (Cheers). A great colonial statesman, addressing a meeting of prominent Englishmen, the other day, said: "We are loyal to the Empire because we have self-governing institutions. If he had not, we would be disloyal." (Cheers). That statement put Ireland's case in a nutshell. Was it good policy, was it wise, was it statesmanlike, to persist in a policy that had produced so much evil to Ireland and danger to the Empire? (Cheers). The Ulster Protestants, under the leadership of Mr. Russell (cheers) are now organizing for a final settlement of the land question; and at the next general election every Ulster member with the exception of three would be united with the members of the other provinces of Ireland in demanding the passage of a satisfactory bill for the compulsory purchase of the land for the tenants. (Applause). With the assistance of the members of their race in Canada and America, the Irish people at



MR. JOSEPH DEVLIN, M.P.

home would soon make this national movement so powerful that, by the strength of its character and the justice of its aims, English statesmen would be brought to see that, in their own interest, as well as in that of Ireland, it would be advisable to accede to its demands. (Applause). He therefore appealed with confidence to those who filled that hall to lend their assistance to that great and holy cause, and thus earn the blessing of future generations of the grand old Celtic race. (Loud applause.)

MR. W. E. DORAN here announced, amidst cheers, that at a little meeting of the Montreal branch of United Irish League which had been held before that great gathering assembled, the sum of \$435 had been subscribed. After having listened to the eloquent address of Mr. Devlin, he felt sure that those who were present would contribute liberally to the fund. Although they all regretted deeply the absence of Mr. Dillon (applause), they felt that the cause of Ireland could not have been better pleaded than it had been by Mr. Devlin. He hoped that this would be the last time that Ireland would have to appeal to the United States and Canada for moral and material assistance. He assured Mr. Blake that the Irishmen of Canada were prepared to follow his noble example, and to aid Ireland to the best of their ability year after year until she obtained a full measure of national self-government. (Applause)

THE HON. EDWARD BLAKE, M.P., was greeted with loud and prolonged applause when he rose to speak. He paid a high compliment to Mr. Dillon for his self-sacrificing and untiring efforts in behalf of his native land, and for his self-abnegation in resigning the chairmanship of the Irish Parliamentary Party in order to bring about the much-needed unity which now prevailed in its ranks. It was fitting that Canadians, who realized the benefits of self-government, should sympathize with Ireland in her struggle to obtain the same right. (Cheers). The legislative union between Upper and Lower Canada had to be dissolved because local opinion and local wants were neglected, and because each of the provinces was not governed according to its own individual interests and wishes. The dissolution of that union had tended to real union—the union which existed to-day. (Cheers). The spirit of union now pervaded all Canada. They had a central government, in which they all had a deep and a national interest; and they had their provincial governments, which gave effect to their local ideas and desires. The utmost harmony and contentment now prevailed. These remarks applied to the condition of Ireland. Everyone knew the means by which the ignominious act of union was passed. That act produced a union in outward form only; in substance, it had produced slavery, as

far as Ireland was concerned. As Mr. Devlin had said, 87 coercion acts had been passed since the act of union. In 1887 a permanent coercion act was passed, which was like an evil spirit, that the British Government let loose upon the people or chained up at will. In 1882 the Canadian House of Commons had unanimously adopted a resolution expressing sympathy with Ireland in her struggle for self-government. He was leader of the Opposition at that time; and he had considered it a duty to support that resolution in an appeal in which he had endeavored to demonstrate the justice and the urgency of the claims of Ireland. (Applause). In 1886 another resolution of a similar character—this time affirming the right of Ireland to self-government and also protesting against the proposed new coercion law—was adopted by the Canadian House of Commons by an overwhelming majority, on the motion of one of the members for Montreal, who now occupied a seat on the judicial bench, and with whose son he had just had the pleasure of shaking hands—Mr. Curran. (Applause). And since then Canada had further affirmed its sympathy with Ireland in her just aspirations. England's effort to rule Ireland was a failure, a dismal and a calamitous failure; it was a blot, a stain, a blemish, upon her history. (Applause). England had been called "the weary Titan tottering under the weight of the too great orb of her fate." But it was her own fault if the weight was too heavy. She undertook too much legislative and governmental work. With Local Parliaments in Ireland and Scotland and Wales, to manage the local affairs of those countries, she would not be overburdened with this work, as she now is. She would be free to look after affairs of Imperial concern. Who would pretend that during the last hundred years, with its 87 coercion acts, or during the six centuries of struggle which had preceded it, Irishmen had lost their individuality as a nation or a race? No man-made laws could change what had been ordained by God. (Applause). The British Empire would immensely gain if there was a contented, a self-governing, and a prosperous Ireland. (Loud applause.)

HON. DR. GUERIN, in moving a vote of thanks to the delegates, said that the United Irish League had bound Irishmen all over the world in a chain of stout hearts, united for the emancipation and glorification of their fatherland. (Cheers). The Irish Canadian occupied a unique position. Canada stood forth an example of the comfort and the contentment produced by home government. (Cheers). The Irish Canadian was loyal to the flag that floats over him, loyal to Canada, and loyal, caressingly loyal, to the great old land of his forefathers. (Applause). Canada had been proud to give one of her brightest sons to the advocacy of Home Rule. (Cheers). They could ill afford to lose his brilliant intellect. He gave up everything that is dear to a public man—home, country, political position, bright prospects of political promotion—to place his talents at the service of Ireland. (Applause). Mr. Redmond deserved their thanks for having sent so brilliant a Celtic orator as Mr. Devlin to plead the cause of Ireland. (Cheers). He was glad to know that reassuring news had been received regarding the health of Mr. Dillon. (Applause).

DR. DEVLIN seconded the motion. They felt thankful, he said, for the rare treat of Irish eloquence which had touched them to the innermost recesses of their Irish hearts. Ireland had paid Canada a great compliment in sending Messrs. Devlin and Blake to them as envoys to plead her cause. He was glad to see present so many sons whose fathers had advocated Ireland's rights in their day; and he was proud that his honored father was one of them. (Cheers). The bond of union between the Irishmen in Canada and the Irishmen in the old land could not be broken even by the hand of death. (Applause).

MR. MADORE, M.P., speaking in French, said: I would not be faithful to the blood that flows in my veins if I did not heartily sympathize with the national cause of Ireland. If any people showed marked sympathy with Ireland in her centuries of struggle for her rights, it was the people of old France. (Cheers). That sympathy will always continue. In the name of my compatriots, therefore, I support this vote of thanks with great pleasure. With all my heart I say: Erin-go-bragh! (Applause). The motion was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Blake, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mayor Cochrane for presiding.

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- 1 Quart Bottle Champagne.
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- 2 Bottles Tawny Port Wine.
- 2 Bottles Superior Claret Wine.
- 2 Bottles Walker's V. O. Rye Whisky.
- 1 Bottle 1878 Brandy.
- 1 Bottle Balmair Scotch or Jameson's Irish Whisky.
- 1 Bottle Holland Gin.

#### HOLIDAY CASE No. 3 at \$11.75.

- 2 Quart Bottles Champagne.
- 2 Bottles Superior Dinner Sherry, (dry or fruity).
- 2 Bottles Very Superior Port Wine.
- 2 Bottles Superior Claret Wine.
- 1 Bottle Walker's Extra Old Rye.
- 1 Bottle 1865 Brandy.
- 1 Bottle V. O. Scotch or Jameson's 3 Harp Irish Whisky.
- 1 Bottle Bols' Liqueur Holland Gin.

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