

threat to come to Canada had the desired result.—A reduction in the rent was granted! Alas! the adverse criticism so freely passed on the projected visit by well-meaning friends of Ireland, and the unstinted abuse heaped on the "seditious adventurer" by the toady press, made this our Caesar grow so great that he thought he could with impunity break his agents promise, and he did so. Finding the jury so prejudiced in his favor, he bravely determined to trust to their verdict. However he thought it well to make himself a little more 'solid' with the lord-loving jury. 'Twas needless, but no matter. The ghosts of some of the victims of his ancestors must have haunted him, for in a long letter to the papers in which he stated his case to the public, he attempted to vindicate the memory of his grandfather! This, too, *before* O'Brien came to Canada. Now this letter was given a prominent place in the Ottawa papers, without any clue being given to its authorship, but the *Toronto Globe*, whether inadvertently or not, let the cat out of the bag by publishing it over the name of Captain Streatfield, Lansdowne's secretary. Then the Irish land-lord shielded himself behind the Canadian Governor General, and with the air of a martyr told the sympathetic flunkies of Canada that he was precluded from taking any part in the controversy on account of his position! He should have to bear the "cowardly" attack of O'Brien in heroic silence out of respect for the dignity of his office. Yes, it is a fact that this man who actually commenced the controversy in Canada pursued this *dignified* course.

If Lansdowne cherished the hope that William O'Brien would be scared away by the loud talk of the Orangemen, the abuse of the press, or the divinity which doth hedge around a Canadian Governor-General, he was soon disillusioned. O'Brien was going to come, so Lansdowne went to visit Toronto the Good. A crowd assembled in Queen's Park, where they were harangued by some rev. and right rev. firebrands. Their speeches were of the most incendiary character, appealing with devilish art to the religious and national prejudices of ignorant Toronto ruffians, whose subsequent actions proved how persuasive were the evangelists. When our late G. G. received the address from these gentlemen he had not a word of condem-

ation for their speeches, but many words of gratitude for their loyalty. *Qui tacet consentire videtur*. All this was watched with deepening interest from the College reading room, where there was now only one opinion.

O'Brien began his crusade, and in due time arrived in Toronto. We know what happened. Being refused a hall he spoke in the open air, and not Orange ruffians alone, but many gentlemen (as gentlemen go in Toronto) prevented him from being heard, by yelling and hooting like demons. Yes, Toronto demonstrated its loyalty by preventing free speech. By the way, Torontonians distinguished themselves in a similar way in '37. Then, it was liberty of the press that they found incompatible with their notions of loyalty, and accordingly they wrecked the office of Wm. Lyon McKenzie's paper and threw the type into the lake.

The Canadian students felt the disgrace attaching to them as Canadians from the conduct of Torontonians, and for the time at least would have been glad to number themselves amongst their fellow-students from across the line. When it was known that *College Students* were conspicuous in the mob, they resolved that they would wipe out the foul stain on the name of Canadian students by doing their utmost to secure fair play to the champion of free speech on his visit to Ottawa the next day. What happened that night is well known. I shall not give the sickening details of the mobbing of O'Brien and his friends with "the tacit approval of the great body of Toronto citizens." "Lansdowne and Howland winking at it." Out upon you, Toronto the Good.

How shall I describe the felling of the students of Ottawa College when they heard the news. Indignation and anger burned fiercely in their hearts. The admiration for the editor of *United Ireland* burst into enthusiastic love for the fearless champion of free speech and humanity, the victim of loyal brutality. It was summarily and unanimously determined that we should assist at the Ottawa demonstration. A gentleman whose opinions had recently undergone a considerable change, proposed that the cadets should form a guard of honor for O'Brien. (By the way, a paragraph in the *Citizen* of that morning announced that a certain Ottawa company would meet that