

was torn from him in pieces. Naturally such scenes necessitated a change in the method of voting, and the prevailing system was adopted.

The ugly pall of a foul crime threw its shadow of gloom over the first session when the promising career of one of Canada's most brilliant young statemen was cut short by the hand of the assassin, and a cry of grief and horrified indignation went up from all the land when the news was flashed about that Thomas D'Arcy McGee, the gifted young Irish orator had paid the penalty of his loyalty to Canada and the Motherland, being shot down by a cowardly fanatic as he was about to enter his home after making a brilliant speech in the House of Commons on the night of April 7th, 1868.

Once opened the "treasure box" yields up an apparently inexhaustible supply to my pen; and though I fear I may have already exceeded the allotted time, may I briefly refer to an amusing incident which took place in the House of Commons in 1886, and recalled during these days when the restoration of the Irish Parliament forms the most interesting feature of debate in the British House of Commons. The legislation which has lain nearest to my father's heart during all these years is that connected with the New Brunswick and Manitoba School laws; as also the great question of Home Rule for Ireland; he having on several occasions introduced resolutions in the Federal Parliament for the purpose of strengthening the hands of those who were fighting the battle in the Old Country. On the night referred to his Home Rule Resolutions being before the House, the City Council of Ottawa held a meeting and adopted a motion asking the House of Commons not to pass Mr. Costigan's resolutions but to mind their own business. This was sent up to the House and read during the debate, the result being that a wit on the floor of the House suggested it would be well if the City Council would take a dose of their own medicine. The sally was greeted with roars of laughter, and the advice of the Ottawa Aldermen was rendered futile, the Home Rule measure being carried by a large majority.

Standing today at the ripe period of a long season of public life, my father has the happiness of seeing the fruits of his endeavors, in common with those of his contemporaries, about to fall into the lap of Canada, and the garlands of success to be twined around the brow of Ireland. His life-long dream is about to become a reality, and he has the happy privilege of being able to enjoy its realization, and to behold both Ireland and Canada, the two countries he loves