



CHARITABLE IRISH SOCIETY

OF HALIFAX, CANADA

FOUNDED 1786

Sketch of some of the Foundation
Members of the Charitable Irish
Society, including Remarks
on the "Morris Family,"

BEING A PAPER READ AT A MEETING OF THE
SOCIETY ON NOVEMBER 20th, 1918

BY GEORGE MULLANE

(Printed by order of the Society)



RICHARD JOHN UNIACKE

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A SKETCH OF SOME OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE CHARITABLE IRISH SOCIETY

On the 17th day of January in the year 1786 a number of Irishmen, inhabitants of the town of Halifax, held a meeting at the British Coffee House, kept by John O'Brien. This hostelry was situated at the head of Marchingtons wharf, Upper Water Street, (now McFatridge's), and signed Articles of Association, for the purpose of relieving the wants and misfortunes of their countrymen, which association was styled the Charitable Irish Society. Let us see what manner of men were these who gathered at the Inn on Water Street that winter's night of long ago. Many of them were leaders in the province and had much to do with shaping the institutions of our country. Military men, professional men, and prominent merchants, besides citizens of a humbler calling in life, all doing their utmost in developing the life and activities of the new settlement. Let me take the first in the roll of membership, Hon. Richard Bulkely, a captain of cavalry who before he came to Chebucto, lived an active and adventurous life, as a carrier of despatches from Whitehall to the army in Flanders. He was descended of a prominent Dublin family, who ruled in church and state in the Green Isle. Coming to the new settlement with Cornwallis as one of his aid-de-camps he gave the Governor valuable aid in planting the new colony in Acadia. He saw the new town grow from a military post and fishing village, to an important commercial centre in North America. He was the adviser and right hand man of Governors, and in every step in the progress of the town assisted it along with strong common sense and administrative ability.

The next on the roll are Thomas Cochran and his brothers James and William, enterprising settlers from the North of Ireland and leading merchants of the town. Thomas Cochran was a member of the Assembly, and the old Council of Twelve, father of a General and a Chief Justice and the grand-

father of the hero of Lucknow, Sir John Inglis and of two secretaries of the Province, Samuel Hood George and Sir Rupert George, also Irishmen. The latter, until the advent of responsible government was Provincial Secretary under the old regime. J. F. M. Bulkely, son of Hon. Richard Bulkely, was provincial secretary, a man of brilliant parts, who died young, a victim to tuberculosis. Hon. Charles Hill, a member of the council, a native of Ireland, a merchant and auctioneer, who sold more condemned prizes than any man in America. And John O'Brien, the genial boniface, in whose tavern these warm hearted Irishmen met to organize a national society. Richard John Uniacke, as Senator Power says, was a striking and picturesque figure and there was about his career a halo of romance. He was the first president of the Society. Uniacke was the 4th son of Norman Fitzgerald Uniacke of Castletown Roche, in the county Cork. Norman Fitzgerald Uniacke of Castletown, was the third son of James Fitzgerald Uniacke of Mount Uniacke who commanded a troop of Cavalry for William of Orange at the battle of the Boyne, and whose military services are said to have been of material benefit to the Mount Uniacke branch of the family.

In his sixteenth year the first president was articled to a Dublin attorney named Garde. Young Uniacke did not remain with Mr Garde until the end of the five years, but left Ireland in December, 1773, to seek his fortunes beyond the Atlantic. He came via the West Indies and Philadelphia to Nova Scotia, being induced to come to this province by his future father-in-law Mr Delesdernia, who met him on the waterside of the later city. Soon after coming to Acadia he became a partner in a business carried on by Mr Delesdernia, and another at Cumberland and Hillsborough N. B. Young Uniacke got mixed up in what is called the Eddy rebellion in 1776 and was brought a prisoner to Halifax. Through interest he was allowed to depart for Ireland, where, in Dublin, he completed his law studies as an attorney of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer, 22nd day of June 1779. Returning to Nova Scotia he was admitted as a barrister and attorney on the third of April, 1781. He was sworn in Solicitor General 29th Dec., 1781 and Attorney General some time after.

Senator Power thinks the draft of the constitution of the Charitable Irish Society submitted at the first meeting was probably the joint work of Uniacke and Gerald Fitzgerald, the secretary. In 1789 Uniacke donated £50 to the funds of the society. He was president 13 terms, besides filling at different times subordinate offices. In 1797 Mr. Uniacke was appointed Attorney General in succession to S. S. Blowers, who was made Chief Justice. He had been speaker of the House of Assembly, and afterwards a member of H. M. Council. An ancient enmity between him and the old Chief Justice Blowers prevented him from succeeding to the office of Chief Justice.

John Parr's name appears among the original members of this society. He was the last of the Governors of Nova Scotia and general commanding the forces in this province. Major General Parr was a soldier of the old French wars and fought in Flanders where he was badly wounded. He was present at the battle of Fontenoy.

As Lord Dunsany said; "Many an Irishman who sails from America for those historic lands knows that the oak trees that stand there have their roots far down in soil once richened by Irish blood. On this field Irishmen met Englishmen and terrible was the clash of arms, when Dillons brigade turned the tide of battle in favor of Marshal Saxe. It was not disloyalty that drove them forth; their king was gone; they followed; the oak was smitten and brown were leaves of the tree.

"But no such mournful metaphor applies to the men who march to-day toward the plains where the 'Wild Geese' were driven. They go with no country mourning them, but their whole land cheers them on, they go to inherited battlefields; and there is this difference in their attitude to kings, that those knightly Irishmen of old, driven homeless over sea, appeared as exiles suppliant for shelter before the face of the Grand Monarch; and he, no doubt with exquisite French grace, gave back to them all they had lost except what was lost forever, salving so far as he could the injustice suffered by each. But today when

Might, for its turn, is in the hands of democracies, the men whose fathers built the statue of Liberty have left their country to bring back an exiled king, to his home, and to right what can be righted of the ghastly wrongs of Flanders. And if men's prayers are heard, as many say, old saints will hear supplications going up by starlight, with a certain, wistful, musical intonation that has linked the towns of Limerick and Cork with the fields of Flanders before."

—Captain Lord Dunsany.

Next comes Gerald Fitzgerald, a lawyer and a soldier, our first secretary. He was a lieutenant in 2nd Battalion of the Royal Highland Regiments, raised in Nova Scotia during the American Revolution. This battalion was commanded by Colonel Small, a soldier of much distinguished service, who afterwards became a General. Although the majority of this battalion were Highlanders, but as in all Scotch regiments there were a goodly number of Irishmen among them enlisted in Halifax and St. John's, Nfld.

Constant Connor, another who appears on the roll of original members, was an officer of a New Jersey loyalist corps, and settled in Halifax after the Revolution. He killed a man in a duel. He died in the home of Laurence O'Connor Doyle's father and was buried in the Grafton Street cemetery. (Old St. Peter's)

Major Thomas Moncrieff, another prominent member, died at New York Dec. 12, 1792. He was buried in the family vault at Trinity Church of that city attended by a number of relations and friends. He was bred at Trinity College, Dublin, where at an early age, he distinguished himself by the brilliancy of his genius, and a rapid progress through the classics and the belles lettres. His entry in public life was in 1749 when he landed in Nova Scotia, where Colonel Cornwallis, observing his admirable requisites for military life, soon adopted and promoted him. In the war with France from 1755 to 1763., he had the honor to be distinguished by the attachment and confidence

of the Generals Prideaux, Moncton, Composite and Gage, who severally appointed him their aide-de-camp.

Thomas Moncrieff was with Lawrence at the reduction of Fort Beausejour. He was one of the original members of the Charitable Irish Society.

Died—Winkworth Tonge, 7th February, 1792, aged 64 years, another officer of French wars, and a friend and fellow countryman of Major Moncrieff. He was engineer officer at the siege of Louisbourg and also at the capture of Quebec. He had a large estate in Hants county. His tombstone can still be seen in old St. Paul's cemetery, Barrington Street. William Cottnam Tonge, the brilliant member for Hants, who was the first to advocate popular rights in the Assembly of Nova Scotia, was his son.

In 1798, William Cottnam Tonge proposed to take charge of 300 of the maroons at £10 a head. Writing to the Duke of Portland about this matter, Sir John Wentworth says: "Mr. Tonge prefaced this proposal with observing that his estate was embarrassed with debt, which this speculation would remove. He offered bonds, but Sir John distrusted the proposal. He said also that the maroons would not go with Tonge, unless compelled by military force, nor would the people of the town (Windsor) receive them unless by coercion." He adds: "I have a still further and equally serious objection, of a more private nature, which is, that I cannot and ought not to have any reasonable confidence that less seditious practices would be imparted under this direction than has been employed where they are now". This dislike and distrust of Mr. Tonge entertained by Sir John Wentworth appears to have pervaded all their subsequent intercourse, until it culminated in the refusal to accept Tonge as speaker of the Assembly on his second election.

Ten years after the organization of the Charitable Irish Society (1796), on St. Patrick's day, a levee was held at Government House about 5 P. M.; the Irish Society's dinner took place at Gallagher's. H. R. H. Prince Edward, Sir John Wentworth, several members of H. M. Council, the Speaker and several members of the House of Assembly attended as guests.

One hundred years ago—1818—St. Patrick's day was celebrated at the old Masons' Hall, Barrington street. A levee was held at Government House in honor of the anniversary. The sons of St. Patrick did honor to their Saint. In the chair was Dr. Samuel Head, brother of Captain Head, R. N., a Haligonian who won distinction in his profession in the wars with the French Republic and the United States. Dr. O'Brien was vice-president. It was remarked on that occasion if the spirit of their Patron was hovering over them it would have been gratifying to find his progeny possessing undiminished gifts of hospitality, liberality and conviviality.

The sessions at the annual banquets a century ago were of much greater length than in the twentieth century. Two years after the above celebration, the assembly again assembled at Masonic Hall for the purpose of dining together in honor of the day. Richard John Uniacke, Jr., president of the society, took the chair, assisted by Edward McSwiney, vice-president. The latter was Uniacke's second in the fatal duel with William Bowie, a year before. At this celebration the society was honored with the company of His Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie and suite, and other distinguished people. At a quarter before six o'clock the company sat down to a sumptuous dinner, where every delicacy which could be procured was displayed, and a supply of the choicest wines increased the festivity of the scene. Fifty-four toasts were given during the banquet. After a dozen toasts had been honored, the first president of the society (the old Attorney-General) said nothing would gratify him so much as to hear a song in his native language. Indeed, he thought it would contribute to the number of his years. Mr. McSwiney very obligingly gave the beautiful song of "Eilein a Rhune," in the Irish language, the air of which afforded infinite pleasure to those unacquainted with the meaning of the words.

The Attorney-General, in returning his thanks to Mr. McSwiney, took occasion to observe how futile and vain were the expectations of mortals; he had thought to hear a song in the language of his country that would prolong his life, but he was

now satisfied that it would have a contrary effect, as it had induced him to form a determination to remain there at the feast till the morning. A number of volunteer toasts were given during the evening, among which were the Rev. Dr. Gray, the Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court; the Hon. Charles Morris and several other gentlemen. A variety of excellent songs were sung, and it was not until the beams of the rising sun enlivened the eastern horizon that the company entirely quitted the festive board.

In 1828, James Boyle Uniacke, one of the brilliant sons of the founder, was President of the Charitable Irish Society, with Lawrence O'Connor Doyle as Vice-President. These two brilliant men, no doubt, enlivened the entertainment of that night with their eloquence and wit. James Boyle Uniacke, the first Premier of Nova Scotia under responsible government, matriculated at King's College, Windsor, in 1814, when probably not more than 16 years old, graduating in 1818. About four years afterwards he was admitted to the Bar. He married one of the richest heiresses in Halifax, daughter of Hon. John Black, a merchant, and member of the Council of Twelve. Mr. Uniacke dispensed a lavish hospitality, entertaining not only his own personal friends, who were chosen chiefly from the rich and aristocratic officers of the garrison and navy but also many others. He was fond of horses, his stables being full of them, and when gout took possession of him and he found himself unable to engage an antagonist with the foils, or to contend in the racket court, he nevertheless did not forego his daily ride on horseback. He was the chief supporter of the turf in the province in his day, the only one, except the late John Clarke Hall, of Cornwallis, who maintained a racing stud. Mr. William Church was the jockey who rode Mr. Uniacke's horses in those running races that took place on the Halifax Common, and that furnished several days of revelry to a large crowd, whom the great sporting event drew to the capital. He brought reproof one day in court from Chief Justice Halliburton, who informed him that his dress did not conform with what became him as a member of the Bar, and if he appeared again in such a manner he would not be heard. Such carelessness was not to be overlooked in one who

in everyday life was dressed to perfection, and whom in that line not Count D'Orsay of his own time, nor our former Governor General, Lord Dufferin, could have outrivalled.

At one of the most remarkable scenes that occurred in the House of Assembly when the rumor of the defection of one of Mr. Johnstone's supporters had become a fact, that great orator, in a burst of eloquent declamation, likened Mr. Howe to Margrave in Bulwer Lytton's "Strange Story," deprecating the exercise by the great reformer of those seductive arts which, on this particular occasion, was to add one more to the rank of the radicals, and to enable them to carry the measure, which, but for the changed view of the victim, would have been impossible.

In outlining the influence of Irishmen who had made their homes in Halifax, in the development of the religious, social and commercial life of the town, continuing this subject, I will give a further list of names prominent in the commercial activities of the city. Emigrants from Ireland continued to come to Halifax in small numbers down to the fifties of the last century. Looking at the advertisements in the Acadian Recorder I find such names as Michael Bennett, M. Forrestall, the Hacketts, Bulgers, Doyles, Keneficks, Boyles, Conroys, Maddens, and many others who carried on extensive business concerns in the early part of the nineteenth century in Halifax. A fine specimen of the energetic Irishman was the late Hon. James Cochran, a member of the executive council of Nova Scotia. He first saw the light in Granard, Longford, Ireland, in 1802. He came to Halifax in 1825, and got employment with the firm of Lewis and Temple Piers, (who, by the way, descended from an Irishmen who accompanied Cornwallis to Halifax.)

Mr. Cochran possessed energy, judgment sound and vigorous, and soon began to take a position in the van of his contemporaries. By perseverance and integrity he soon built up a large fortune. He was a director of the People's Bank, and also of the Acadia Fire Insurance Company. Mr. Cochran was long identified with the political struggles in this province.

He belonged to that influential class of Irish Catholics in the province of Nova Scotia, who acted with the reform party. His direct active political history commenced in 1867, as a candidate for the Local Assembly, in the interests of the Anti-Confederate party. When a government was formed in 1867, Mr. Cochran was selected for a seat in the executive. In 1871 he retired from the Local House, and was appointed to a seat in the Legislative Council. In 1853 he was elected president of the Charitable Irish Society, and again in 1867. After many years absence from his native land, he revisited the home of his birth several times. After long and useful life, full of years and honors, he passed peacefully away, leaving behind him an honored name. The following short extract is from a very appreciative obituary notice that appeared in the 'Recorder' at the time of his death: "Mr. Cochran's private character, his benevolent acts, his kindly sympathies, his pious endeavors, his private virtues, they are only recorded by the All-Seeing searcher of men's hearts."

Walsh's hardware store, Cheapside, was known both far and near in the county of Halifax to an older generation. In 1857, Patrick Walsh, a native of Ireland, and one of the successful merchants of Halifax, was elected president of the C. I. Society. He took a deep interest in the society, as well in every forward movement for the welfare of the city.

Morris Family

The object I have in view in preparing this sketch of the Morris family who were members of the Charitable Irish Society, is to give the members present here tonight a slight idea of the class of men who composed its early membership. This society has had at its head many of the highest dignitaries, both civil and military, who have ever honoured this Province. Distinguished statesmen, governors, councillors, speakers of the Assembly, eminent practitioners in law and medicine and laymen holding the highest position in social and commercial circles.

Capt. the Hon. Charles Morris, surveyor general of Nova Scotia for over thirty years, a member of the council and a judge of the supreme court of this province, was born in Boston 8th June 1711, and baptized in Brattle Street Church in that city June 10th, 1711. His father, Charles Morris, who, according to tradition was born at Bristol, England, was a son of Charles Morris and grandson of Rev. Charles Morris, a Welsh clergyman, emigrated to Boston, where he became a prosperous sailmaker and married 5th September 1700, Esther Rainstorpe, her father, James Rainstorpe also, a sailmaker and according to tradition, from London, was an inhabitant of Boston as early as 1695.

Between May 7th, 1701, and February 3rd, 1720, nine children were born to Charles Morris and Esther R. Morris.

Captain Charles Morris married Mary Read, daughter of Hon. John Read, appointed Attorney-General of Massachusetts, 1735. Mary Read Morris' head stone is to be seen in old St. Pauls cemetery.

Before coming to Nova Scotia, Captain Charles Morris resided on a farm in Hopkinton, Mass., owned by his father.

In October, 1746, Governor Shirley sent six companies of 100 men each to Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia. In Dec., 1746, the larger part of this force was sent to Minas, Kings County, to guard that settlement during the winter, and Morris was captain of the first Company to reach the place. On Jan. 31st, 1747, a detachment of French troops under a Canadian officer named Jean Baptiste Roche de Ramezay, marched from Beaubassin into Grand Pre and surprised the garrison in the dead of the night. In the attack many New England men were killed, wounded or taken prisoners. Lieut. Col. Arthur Noble and his brother Francis, among others, lost their lives. Morris however, to whom is attributed much bravery in resisting the attack, escaped, and in August and September, 1747, was in command of his company at Annapolis Royal, Daniel Dyson, Robert Noble, lieutenants, and David White, ensign being his subordinate officers.

Charles Morris had probably been trained as a surveyor, for under Shirley's direction in 1745 or 1746 he made a survey of the whole of Nova Scotia, with a view to British colonization a copy of which survey may still be seen in this city. In writing to the Duke of Bedford, Shirley says Morris has distinguished himself by his behavior at Minas and recommends that he be employed in further surveys in Nova Scotia. John Bruce, a military officer and Charles Morris laid out the town of Halifax in 1749. With this important service began Morris' career as "Chief Land Surveyor."

The second Hon. Charles Morris was born in New England He married Elizabeth Band and succeeded his father as Surveyor. General. In 1769 he was a merchant doing business on Sackville street. He died January 26th, 1802, aged 70 years. Beamish Murdoch says: "I feel pleasure in recalling from the names of the public men of the province of 1789, those whom I have seen, and those I have as a boy conversed with. Of the council S. S. Blower, of the assembly, Uniacke, Pyke, Charles Morris the third, Michael Wallace, Alex. Howe, Jonathan Crane, William Cockrane, Benjamin James, Charles Hill, S. S. Pool. I feel linked as it were with the early settlers of Halifax, not only by descent, but much more by the oral traditions of their sufferings, their principles and conduct. They have left us patterns of simplicity of character, of candor, humanity, loyalty and generosity, that cannot fail to be reproduced in an intellectual and civilized community."

In 1788 on Mr. Blowers' appointment to a seat in council a vacancy occurred in the members of the assembly. Charles Morris, Jr., and Jonathan Sterns were candidates, the latter a loyalist lawyer from Boston. The poll opened Wednesday, 20th February and closed Friday 22nd, when there appeared for Morris 415 votes and for Sterns 274. At the close of the election Morris was carried in triumph "on the shoulders of his fellow citizens from the court house to his father's house, Morris St., from thence to the Dockyard and through Dutchtown, and then through all the principal streets of the town, surrounded by an immense concourse of people, who filled the air with repeated

acclamations of joy." During this election which took the form of a contest between the representatives of the old settlers and that of the loyalists, some serious rioting took place. The Royal Gazette of that day said, "It was utterly impossible in such confusion to prevent many persons from being wounded and hurt two of whom, we are sorry to inform the public, remain in a dangerous state, one having his skull fractured by some person who rushed out of Laycook's house on the beach (Water Street) and the other having been dangerously wounded by a shot from a window in the same house. We are likewise sorry to inform the public that Mr. Benjamin Mulberry Holmes (a loyalist merchant) and his son have been much beaten and abused by the populace on Friday night, and were it not for the very fortunate and timely interposition of Mr. Tobin's man they would have fallen a sacrifice to an enraged multitude. One life was lost besides those dangerously wounded."

Thomas and Michael Tobin were original members of this society. Michael, who lived on the site of the present Pentagon, (Simson) Building, was an original member of this society. He was the father of Hon. James Tobin and Hon. Michael Tobin, both members of H. M. Council and members of this society.

Hon. Charles Morris (the third) succeeded his father as surveyor General in 1802, and in 1808 was appointed a member of H. M. Council. He was President of this society in 1811.

Hon. Charles Morris in his duties as a surveyor was well acquainted with the province and particularly with Halifax county. While his children were quite young he built a house on the eastern border of Lake Loon, Preston, and there some of their happiest days were spent. It was beautifully situated on a slight rise facing the lovely lake. The placid water with its clusters of great lilies set therein reflected the trees on the shore, and great loons with snowy breasts and spreading wings floated in the air above calling to others in unmelodious laughing tones. While the Hon. Charles Morris lived, the Lake Loon property was only occupied during the summer months.

After his death, his widow and his unmarried children made it their permanent home.

His eldest son, John Spry Morris, succeeded his father as Surveyor General of the province. He was fourth in succession of the family to hold that office. He resigned it many years before his death and went to England, where he died in 1881, aged 86 years. John Spry Morris was vice-president in 1829.

The second son, Rev. Charles Morris, passed some of the early part of his life in the King's service as a captain. He was always a man of most studious habits and great scholastic attainments. Although timid and retiring in his habits, yet with much courage and a great love of adventure. The story of his life would make a pleasant chapter of biography. Later in life he took holy orders, but did not at once enter parochial work. He afterwards went to Quebec and in Gaspe in that diocese had a small congregation of English residents (of the Church of England faith) under his charge. At that time emigrant or gastric fever was doing deadly work in the hospital at Grosse Island. Mr. Morris immediately volunteered his services as a teacher and comforter of the sick and dying in hospitals. He was very earnest and helpful in the work, never sparing himself, but remaining day and night at his post. His christian charity and self abnegation commanded the admiration of all. In the midst of his work he was prostrated by fever, and died after a very short illness, from the effects of that terrible disease. He was pure and simple in life, and of most earnest and unpretending piety. Like the Master he served he laid down his life for his brethren, and so entered into rest.

The third son, the Rev. George Morris, was a student at Oxford, and was ordained in 1821, a clergyman of the Church of England. He afterwards returned to Nova Scotia and had charge of the parish of Rawdon, where he married and remained for some years. In 1843 he was transferred to Dartmouth, and was made rector of Christ Church, but was superannuated in 1854. From that time he lived in retirement at Freshwater, Halifax, and died in October 1883, in his 90th year.

Dr. Frederick Morris was another son, well known as a medical practitioner in Halifax. He was much given to experimental chemistry. He was the first residential doctor on the establishment of the Halifax Dispensary.

Edward Morris was a draftsman and surveyor in his father's office (Crown Lands) for upwards of 40 years.

James Morris, the youngest in the family, was a clerk in the Customs and Excise Department, Halifax. His sons were James G. Morris, John, Frederick and Charles; the latter the only one now living.

One daughter of the Hon. Charles Morris was the wife of Rev. M. Higgins, of St. John, N. B. The others were never married.

Some Early Presidents.

Glancing backwards and reviewing in their order some of the more prominent gentlemen who have occupied the position of President of the Charitable Irish Society, during the one hundred and thirty two years of the Society's existence, it may be remembered that only ten are now alive.

It is a noteworthy fact that the large majority who have passed away, all have left behind honoured names and cherished memories, a record indeed which shall ever form a sacred page in the Society's history. One of the prime movers in the foundation of the Society, was Richard John Uniacke, elected President 17th February, 1786. A brilliant young Irishman, destined to play a very prominent part in the political history of this country. His life is admirably told by Senator Power, a past president of this Society, in a paper read before the Nova Scotia Historical Society, to which I refer the members who wish to learn more of their first President. In 1787, Hon. Richard Buckley was elected president. I have

referred to this gentleman above, Hon. Thomas Cochranⁿ, prominent merchant and member of the firm of Thomas, James and William Cochran and father of Sir William Cochran, Chief Justice of Gibraltar and of that gallant soldier General Cochran of the Peninsula war and war of 1812—14 with United States, and grandfather of Sir John Inglis, the hero of Lucknow. He was selected as the third president of our Society. Like his two predecessors in the chair, he played a very prominent part in the political history of Nova Scotia. The grant books of Nova Scotia show that Joseph, James and Thomas Cochran, participated in the grant of Amherst township (of 26,750 acres) in October 1765, but at an early period we find the three brothers Thomas James and William Cochran, settled in Halifax, where on a wharf in Upper Water Street (now John Tobin & Company's,) they did a general West India importing business. The father of the Hon. Thomas Cochran was Joseph, lived with his family, and died in Halifax. Joseph Cochran died Dec. 23, 1787. Thomas was born in the North of Ireland. He was married twice, his second wife was Jane, daughter of Major William Allan and Isabella (Maxwell) Allen. Major Allan's daughter Elizabeth was the first wife of John George Pyke, and his youngest, Isabella was married to the Hon. Charles Hill.

The house in which the Hon. Thomas Cochran lived was what is now 37 and 39 Hollis Street, the original dwelling having been divided into two.

Mr. Cochran first appears in Nova Scotia history as a public man in 1775, when he represented the town of Liverpool in the House of Assembly. From that time probably until his appointment to the Legislative Council (the old council of twelve,) about 1788 he seems to have been continually in the Legislature. He died August 26, 1801.

By his first marriage Mr. Cochran had one daughter, Margaret, who married, June 29th 1782, Admiral Sir Rupert George, Bart., then a Captain in the Navy on this station, third son of Dennis George, Esq., of Clophook, Ireland.

The children of the Hon. Thomas Cochran and his second wife, Jane Allan were, eight. Elizabeth was the mother of Sir John Inglis, was married 1803 to the Rt. Rev. John Inglis, D. D., third Episcopal Bishop of Nova Scotia.

Rodger Johnston was the fifth president of the Charitable Irish Society. He was a military man, a Deputy Commissariat General of the army. He did not remain long in Halifax after his occupancy of the office of President.

In 1794, the chair was filled by the son of the second president of the Society, the Hon. J. M. F. Bulkeley, a member of the council of twelve and secretary of the province.

Mr. Bulkeley was a young man of brilliant talents, but of delicate health. He died at the early age of 35 years while holding the presidency of this Society. Every mark of respect was shown to his memory. The governor and staff, the executive Council, officers of the army and navy and the Charitable Irish Society attended his remains to their last resting place in the old cemetery, Barrington Street.

Hon. Charles Hill was president three years in succession, 1801-03.

Robert Hill, with three sons, Charles, Patrick and Robert and one daughter, Jane, came from the North of Ireland in Colonel Alexander McNutt's company, probably in the autumn of 1761, and settled in Economy. From there, probably Charles Hill and a nephew, Robert, son of Robert, went to Halifax, (Charles Hill was of the firm of Pier's and Hill, till Temple S. Piers death,) and engaged successfully in business and founded families. In 1801 Charles Hill was admitted to a seat in the old Council and from that time until his death, in 1825, he was one of its most prominent members. Robert Hill also served three terms as president, 1805-7 he died in his 40th year, March 16, 1812, having had however, by his wife, Elizabeth Cleveland, no less than nine children. His widow afterwards married Major Thomas King, of Retreat Farm, Windsor, N. S.

In 1804 Dr. Bartholomew Sullivan occupied the chair. He took a very active interest in the land of his adoption. Before the American Revolution, Dr. Sullivan was settled in Boston, adhering to the Crown in the dispute with the colonies he was compelled to leave Massachusetts. Before coming to Halifax, he entered Howe's army at New York as an army surgeon and saw much service during the war. He bequeathed a large sum of money to the building of old St. Mary's Church. He died in 1808 and was buried in St. Peter's burying ground, Grafton Street. His remains were subsequently transferred to the cemetery of the Holy Cross. The monument marking his last resting place was inscribed by Bishop Burke, the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Nova Scotia.

John George Pyke the father of Judge Pyke of Quebec, was president in 1808. He was a first settler, having come to Chebucto with his parents, with the expedition that founded the town of Halifax. His father perished in the Dartmouth Massacre, when the Indians raided that settlement. Mr. Pyke held many positions of trust in Halifax. He represented the town in the general Assembly for a number of years and was Senior Magistrate of Halifax for many years, John Howe and Mr. Liddell being the other two.

In 1810 Croften Uniacke the third son of the old Attorney General, occupied the chair.. He was a lawyer and judge of the vice-admiralty court of the province. He married Dorothy Fawson, daughter of Captain Jones Fawson, R. N. (and Dorothy Morris, daughter of the first Charles Morris.)

In 1811 the Hon. Charles Morris 3rd. was elected president (see Morris family above). The chair was filled worthily in 1818, by Dr. Samuel Head, brother of Captain Michael Head R. N. He was the son of Dr. Michael Head, an Irishman who settled in Halifax shortly after the founding of the town.

Dr. Samuel Head established a private Hospital at the south end of Water Street. At that time there was no public hospitals for civilians. Dr. Head's father was also a skill-

ful physicians. As was the custom in those days, they kept a drug store on Granville Street, about where Brown Bros. drug store is situated. When the writer was a boy the Miss Heads, daughters of Dr. Samuel Head, lived on Morris Street, North side, near Dresden Rowe.

In 1819 Judge John Richard Uniacke occupied the chair of the Society. He was the eldest son of the founder, and was considered the handsomest man of his day in Halifax. He held the position for three years. As a leading barrister he was appointed a king's consellor on St. Patrick's day 1824. Mr. Uniacke possessed all the spirit and fire of the Irish race, ever ready to resent an insult or defend his honor. Like his distinguished father he played a very prominent part in political life, representing the people in the assembly. He was truly eloquent, possessing ready wit and humor for which he was greatly admired. Richard John Uniacke, Jr. will be ever gratefully remembered by the Roman Catholics of Nova Scotia, for eloquent vindication in conjunction with Judge Haliburton (Sam Slick) of their right to representation in the councils of the province. Mr. Uniacke married a daughter of the Hon. Charles Hill. He died on the 17th, February 1834, at his residence known to-day as the Ladies College. His remains was laid to rest in Sackville cemetery. The society attended his funeral in a body as a mark of respect to the memory of one who was greatly beloved.