

THE DAVIN MEMORIAL.

483 Bank Street, Ottawa, January 13th, 1902.

SIR,—

Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin, K.C., the representative of an important constituency in the House of Commons, during three Parliaments, died, suddenly, in the City of Winnipeg, on the 18th October last. Acting, in accordance with a wish which Mr. Davin had expressed to her some years before, his widow brought his remains to Ottawa, and they repose in Beechwood Cemetery there. His friends, throughout the country, believing that some recognition should be made of the services rendered to the Dominion by one possessing his interesting, unique and brilliant personality, at the same time giving expression in a tangible form to the deep grief everywhere experienced over so great a loss to the national life of the country, now propose to erect over his remains, a stone, or some other worthy memorial. Among those who have contributed to the fund started for the purpose are the following ladies and gentlemen:—Mrs. C. A. E. Harriss, "Earncliffe," Ottawa; Mrs. William Macdougall, do.; Mrs. Kathleen Blake Coleman ("Kit"), Toronto; Mrs. Simpson ("Mary Markwell"), Winnipeg; Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., G.C.M.G., Ottawa; Hon. Edward Blake, K.C., M.P., London, England; Hon. G. W. Ross, Premier of Ontario, Toronto; Hon. L. P. Brodeur, Speaker of the House of Commons, Montreal; Hon. J. Wilberforce Longley, Attorney-General, Halifax; Hon. Sir W. R. Meredith, Chief Justice of Ontario; Hon. Sir A. P. Caron, K.C.M.G., Ottawa; Hon. R. P. Roblin, Premier of Manitoba, Winnipeg; Hon. Mr. Justice Gwynne, Supreme Court of Canada; Hon. Mr. Justice Girouard, do.; Sir Sandford Fleming, K.C.M.G., Ottawa; Hon. Sir C. H. Tupper, K.C.M.G., Vancouver; Hon. Sir William Hingston, Senator, Montreal; Hon. J. C. Patterson, ex-Lieut.-Governor of Manitoba; Hon. Peter White, ex-Speaker of the House of Commons,

Pembroke, Ont.; Senator Gowan, C.M.G., Barrie; Senator Forget, Montreal; Senator Miller, P.C., Arichat, N.S.; The Very Reverend Principal Grant, LL.D., Queen's University, Kingston; Professor Goldwin Smith, LL.D., Toronto; John S. Willison, Editor "Daily Globe," Toronto; Richard White, Montreal Gazette; J. J. Stewart, "Herald," Halifax; S. D. Scott, "Sun," St. John, N.B.; R. J. Westgate, "West," Regina; G. Mercer Adam, Werner Co., Akron, Ohio; John Reade, "Gazette," Montreal; Dr. A. D. de Celles, Parliamentary Librarian, Ottawa; Dr. W. H. Drummond, Montreal; Hon. H. J. Macdonald, Winnipeg; Charles Magee, President of the Bank of Ottawa; R. L. Borden, K.C., M.P., Halifax; E. B. Osler, M.P., Toronto; E. F. Clarke, M.P., do.; W. R. Brock, M.P., do.; Hon. T. C. Casgrain, K.C., M.P., Montreal; Raymond Prefontaine, K.C., M.P., Mayor of Montreal; Sir Thomas G. Shaughnessy, President Canadian Pacific Railway, do.; Lt.-Col. G. T. Denison, Toronto; George Taylor, M.P., Gananoque; Hon. F. R. Latchford, Toronto; D. MacMaster, K. C., Montreal; H. A. Powell, K. C., Sackville, N. B.; J. Ross Robertson, "Evening Telegram," Toronto; C. W. Mitchell, "Free Press," Ottawa; Capt. Morrison, D.S.O., "Citizen," Ottawa; P. M. Sauvalle, "La Presse," Montreal; Robert Harris, President Royal Canadian Academy, Montreal; J. J. McGee, Clerk of the King's Privy Council, Ottawa; Rev. Francis Ryan, Rector St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto; D. O'Connor, K.C., Ottawa; C. B. Powell, M.P.P., Ottawa; J. L. Macdougall, C.M.G., do.; R. W. Shannon, do.; G. P. Brophy, do.; George Goodwin, do.; Rev. Canon Lowe, D.D., do.; Rev. Wm. Moore, D.D., do.; Rev. A. A. Cameron, do.; W. D. Lighthall, Montreal; W. W. Campbell, Ottawa; A. H. Todd, do.; Prof. Ami, Geological Survey, do.; Thomas Macfarlane, do.; Benjamin Sulte, do.; Archibald Stewart, do.; F. Blake Crofton, Halifax; Christopher Robinson, K.C., Toronto; Fred. Cook, London "Times," Mayor of Ottawa.

These subscriptions, which run from five to twenty-five dollars each, have been obtained by the undersigned, but as, owing to a pressure of other duties, he has been unable to reach all the late Mr. Davin's friends in the ordinary way, he takes this means of doing so. A public meeting of the friends of the lamented poet, historian, journalist and politician, will be called within the next two weeks,

COPIES OF LETTERS RECEIVED BY MR. MORGAN IN CONNEC-
TION WITH THE PROPOSED DAVIN MEMORIAL.

WINNIPEG, Nov. 25th, 1901.

Dear Mr. Morgan,—

I am very glad to hear that you are interesting yourself in reference to some recognition of the public services of the late lamented Mr. Davin. I have known him very intimately since we first met in Toronto many years ago, when he was engaged as a writer on the Mail newspaper. He was a man of highly cultivated mind and great eloquence; in fact, I think superior in both these respects to any other member of the House of Commons, which he so long adorned as a representative. His readiness in debate was second to that of no other member of that body. Both in Parliament and on the platform he rendered yeoman service to the Conservative party, although he invariably took a strong position in favor of the constituency he represented, even when it conflicted with the policy of the party to which he belonged. As an able, independent, fearless and eloquent advocate of what he believed to be the best interests of the people, he made a mark on the page of Canadian history that will not soon be obliterated, and I am quite satisfied that his untimely end will be mourned by the Canadian public irrespective of party.

With best wishes for your success in doing anything in an endeavor to commemorate in a suitable way his services to Canada and to the Conservative party, in which I shall gladly co-operate, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES TUPPER.

Office of the Premier of Ontario,
Toronto, 10th December, 1901.

My Dear Mr. Morgan,—

I have your note respecting a memorial to the late Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin. If there is any movement made towards erecting some token of appreciation to his memory in Beechwood Cemetery, I shall be glad to co-operate with you and give you a subscription whenever it may be required.

Mr. Davin was a man of very brilliant parts, and no doubt would have had considerable influence in the formation of public opinion had he lived.

Yours truly,

G. W. ROSS.

Halifax, N.S., November 26th, 1901.

Dear Mr. Morgan,—

I am very glad that you are interesting yourself in the erection of a stone or some other memorial to the late Nicholas Flood Davin, K.C. Your undertaking will have my warmest support, and I shall be very glad to give a subscription in aid thereof.

Yours faithfully,

R. L. BORDEN.

The Speaker, Commons of Canada,
Montreal, Dec. 16th, 1901.

Dear Mr. Morgan,—

I am in receipt of yours of the 14th inst., concerning the memorial you propose to put up to the late Nicholas Flood Davin.

In reply, I have to say, that I shall be glad to do my share in furtherance of the movement, both as a subscriber and as a member of the Committee to be appointed to administer the fund.

Yours truly,

L. P. BRODEUR.

Department of Agriculture,
Winnipeg, 24th December, 1901.

Dear Sir,—

In reply to yours of the 20th instant, I can assure you that it will afford me much pleasure to have my name identified with the Davin Committee, not only on account of the intellectual worth of the late Mr. Davin and the prominent place that he occupied in public affairs, more particularly in this Western country, but especially so by virtue of the personal friendship that existed between us. I shall, therefore, esteem it an honor to be included on the Committee.

Yours faithfully,

Henry J. Morgan, Esq.,
483 Bank St., Ottawa.

R. P. ROBLIN.

20 Kensington Gate, London, W.,

Dec. 9th, 1901.

Dear Mr. Morgan,—

Thanks for your letter. I have written my son to send you a subscription towards poor Davin's memorial.

With every good wish, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD BLAKE.

High Court of Justice,
Toronto, Dec. 27th, 1901.

Dear Sir,—

I am glad to learn that it is proposed to erect a stone or other memorial to the late Nicholas Flood Davin, and shall willingly act on the Committee in any capacity that may be desired. When the Committee is ready to receive subscriptions please notify me.

Yours faithfully,

Henry J. Morgan, Esq.,
483 Bank St., Ottawa.

W. R. MEREDITH.

Attorney-General of Nova Scotia,
Halifax, Dec. 17th, 1901.

My Dear Sir,—

I have yours of the 13th instant, asking me to join in some memorial to the memory of Nicholas Flood Davin. As I had an intimate personal acquaintance with the late Mr. Davin for nearly thirty years, I shall have very great pleasure in complying with your request, and am willing to take any part or place you may assign to me in respect of the same, and when the period for subscriptions arrives I shall be glad to chip in my mite.

Yours truly,

Henry J. Morgan, Esq.

J. W. LONGLEY.

2482 St. Catherine Street,
Montreal, Dec. 18th, 1901.

Dear Mr. Morgan,—

In any scheme that will help to preserve the memory of poor Davin you may count on my assistance. My great regret now is that I never had the opportunity of personally knowing the brilliant but ill-fated scholar and gentleman.

Kindly put my name on the list to the extent of ten dollars and believe me,

Yours faithfully,

W. H. DRUMMOND.

to appoint a Committee in the premises, and the undersigned would be glad to be able to report to the meeting that the movement had your approval and support. Kindly state, in your reply, what amount, if any, you wish to subscribe.

Respectfully yours,

Henry Morgan
James Bain

THE EMPIRE.

An example of Mr. Davin's oratory, being an extract from a speech delivered by him in the House of Commons during his last Session in Parliament:—

"Sir," said Mr. Davin, "we in Canada occupy, in my opinion, about the happiest position that a race or people could occupy. We have a strong executive, but we have boundless individual liberty. There is no country in the world where the citizens are more free, and there is no country where law and order are so certainly and steadily maintained. Here in this country, therefore, Scotsman, Irishman, French-Canadian, Englishman, or German, whether he be born on the soil or whether he has become naturalized, would be a dastard unless he felt grateful to the great empire that has conferred upon him such priceless privileges. And there is this to be said in regard to our position—that we have certain material advantages purchased at a very low price. We have behind us miles and miles of ships, the great 'sea-dragons her seas have bred,' of the empire; we have all her prestige and power, as my hon. friend (Mr. McNeill) who has introduced this subject, said. We have all this behind us; and every man, be he a settler of three years' residence, or be he born on the soil, wherever he goes, not a hair of his head shall be touched, for all that power and all that overshadowing prestige are behind him. And, sir, especially I say that the French-Canadian should be instinct with the feeling of Sir Etienne Pascal Tache, the chairman of the Quebec conference, whence confederation sprang, when he said that he believed that the last shot fired in defence of the British empire on this continent would be fired by a French-Canadian gun, and the trigger pulled by a French-Canadian finger. A few years ago, when, on the other side of the line.

there was some growling in regard to Canada, when the feeling was not as friendly as it is today, I stood in the later autumn on the citadel at Quebec and looked down on our great St. Lawrence, stretching her mighty arms to the sea. I looked up and saw the star of the evening, and I felt that whatever planet might shine there, that for all Canada, and I will say even for the French-Canadian who has a true conception of what he owes to the empire, the real star that will always for the patriotic heart shine over Quebec is Wolfe's glory and Wolfe's victory. As I thus reflected, the evening gun was fired, as the evening gun is fired on Pacific waters and at Halifax, and it seemed as if the august mother put her arms around her Canadian child and said: 'Sleep on in peace, my invincible arms are around you.' It is because those arms are around us that we have that sense of security, that confidence in the present and in the future that belongs to us today."

"What a world of hope may be buried in a single grave!"—Lord Lytton.
