

THOMAS DARCY MCGEE is admitted on all sides to have been one of the ablest men, if not the very ablest man, of British North America. As an orator, he had no peer in these Provinces, and as a writer, whether of prose or poetry, he has left no superior. He was one of the very few politicians of America who deserve the name of statesman. His knowledge of politics was varied and profound; gained not so much in the closet as by a long and close personal observation of the working of different forms of government in different countries. As is the case with all men of ardent temperament and quick and generous sympathies, the well laid plans and the carefully formed opinions of his mature manhood differed very materially from the splendid theories and hastily formed judgments of his youth. The gifted, high-souled boy was a fiery republican and an uncompromising reformer. He burned to see all men free and equal, according to his notions of freedom and equality, and was impatient of the slow progress of reform, and of the gradual amelioration of the condition of the masses which he saw going on around him in the Old World. Particularly was he indignant at the wrongs inflicted by the Saxon on his native land, which he seems to have loved with no common love. His mind dwelt on the terrible tyranny of former ages and on the glaring injustice of his own. He could make no allowances for the oppressors—could see no faults in the oppressed. When he thought of his countrymen his heart overflowed with love and pity; when he wrote of their oppressors he dipped his pen in gall. Despairing of his native country, and hoping, no doubt, to find the realization of his ideal in America, the land of the free, he, while yet a boy, emigrated to the United States. The talented young Irishman soon attracted notice both as a writer for the newspaper press and as a public lecturer. In 1845, when but twenty years old, he, by the special invitation of the great O'Connell, returned to the land of his birth. There the impetuous youth could not be kept within bounds. Dazzled by the splendid schemes of a band of impatient patriots, almost as young and quite as inexperienced as himself, he became an active member of the Young Ireland party. When the magnificent visions of this party were dissipated so rudely and so indignantly in 1848, the sturdy patriot of twenty-three found his way back to America. Though young in years he was old in suffering and in experience. He again became connected with the newspaper press. In New York he published the Nation and the Call—journals bitterly anti-British in sentiment no doubt. During the nine years which immediately followed the fiasco of 1848, Mr. McGee gathered a fund of valuable experience. His opinions on many important subjects in that time gradually and, at first, perhaps, unconsciously underwent a very great change. He came to America wholly prepossessed in favor of republican institutions. He, for many years, watched the working of those institutions with the eye of no common observer. As a public journalist, ample opportunities were afforded him of watching the hidden movements of the Government machine in the United States. Reluctantly, most reluctantly we have no doubt, he was forced to confess to himself that theoretical republicanism was one thing, and practical republicanism, as carried out in the great Model Republic of the nineteenth century, quite another and a very different thing. He had seen the beautiful but most unsubstantial dreams of his youth vanish one by one, and there had come in their stead many hard, perplexing and humiliating realities. Reading and experience had proved to him that monarchical Governments are not necessarily tyrannical, and that true liberty is not always found to co-exist with republican institutions. His intercourse with men demonstrated to him that the politicians of the American Republic, as a class, by no means pure in their principles, more enlightened in their views, or more truly philanthropic in their aims than are the statesmen of the Old World. When he visited Canada, which he did in 1857, he found the subjects of Queen Victoria in that flourishing colony in the enjoyment of a greater measure of real liberty than the sovereign people of the United States can boast of possessing. He was also gratified to find that the social status of his countrymen and co-religionists was much higher in the former country than in the latter. He, in the above named year, gave the strongest possible proof of the sincerity of his convictions by leaving the Republic and by again voluntarily becoming a subject of Queen Victoria. This revolution in the political opinions of D'Arcy McGee, though great and liable to misconception, is by no means unexampled. The same causes which converted the eloquent demagogue of British misrule and the ardent panegyrist of Republics into the earnest advocate of British connection, and the staunch upholder of monarchical institutions are continually at work modifying the opinions and influencing the political action of almost every thoughtful man on this side of the Atlantic. He is simply those which by slow and almost imperceptible degrees convert the extravagant of twenty into the moderate liberal of thirty, and into the calm and cautious conservative of mature years. That the change is not so rapid or so marked in the great majority of instances, as it was in Mr. McGee's is in great part owing to peculiarities of temperament and to other causes which, if known would not, we verily believe, prove very contributory to the political history of the less outspoken converts. Mr. McGee's opinions, of course, attributed his change of views to improper motives, but to our mind his return to loyalty is extremely natural and easily accounted for. The cause for which Mr. McGee most strenuously labored during the latter years of his busy life was the Confederation of these North American Colonies. This scheme was a grand one. To consolidate the scattered, isolated, and separately considered insignificant provinces into a great and powerful nationality, was a cause worthy the life-labor of the most gifted of the world's statesmen. Whatever may be its ultimate fate, the Confederation of the British Colonies in North America, as now established, owes its existence mainly to the eloquent and unflinching advocacy of Thomas D'Arcy McGee.

Being a sincere lover of order and an earnest advocate of rational liberty, Mr. McGee, from its inception a fearless and an uncompromising opponent of the Fenian conspiracy. With both tongue and pen he unflinchingly exposed the designs of the leaders of that organization. He earnestly warned his countrymen in Canada against having anything

to do with the Fenian organization. He would prefer a time of loss excitement. He, himself has often told the story of his connection with the young Ireland party, in the blood of his youth. He and they were guilty of some follies, of which in the riper years of his manhood, he could not approve. Since his return to Canada he has been a constant and ardent friend of that party, but not altogether dissimilar from his own. A favorite mode of attack on the part of his enemies has been to charge him with political inconsistency. Yet from the time that he had the opportunity to perceive the position of things in the Fenian movement, he has been a consistent and hearty sympathizer with the Fenians. This will be plain to all men who have read the letter he wrote his friend Mr. GAVAN DUFFY, in Australia, many years ago, upon the political situation in the United States. A letter which was published in pamphlet form by some of his friends in London. That letter indicated a reason why he should come to Canada, and the principles which sets forth are consistent with his whole life since. There were reasons of the hour, why, on the occasion of an election in Montreal, he did not at the first form an alliance with the party to which he belonged at the time of his death. But that was his first desire, and that alliance would have been a great success. It followed in the views he wrote Mr. DUFFY. It followed in the natural course of events. And here, as pointing out a fact it may not be improper to say, that the first personal friendship between him and the writer of this article from a frank notice in the Gazette, of a Conservative Toronto lecturer on Mr. DUFFY, a member of the Fenian government to which it was sufficiently strongly opposed. The incident showed that a strife of party perhaps unnecessarily bitter, could not prevent the recognition of common sense. His regular alliance with the party to which he had before belonged followed shortly after that of the Fenian movement. It was probably a natural result of the Fenian conspiracy which he had seen in the Fenian movement, and which he had seen in the Fenian movement, and which he had seen in the Fenian movement.

Notwithstanding the great variety of Pills heretofore in the market, a want has been generally felt for a safe and perfectly reliable purgative medicine. Such a remedy is now supplied in Parsons' Purgative Pills.

Should advise everybody to keep constantly on hand a bottle of Hovard's Rheumatic Compound. It is a strong and efficacious compound for a sudden emergency.

Sheridan's Condition Powders are recommended for sheep in loss of appetite, rot murrain, and all diseases of the skin.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

MR. EDITOR.—A correspondent to the Examiner labours to work himself into a fury about a speech made by Sir John A. Macdonald in the House of Assembly. He speaks of "its utter want of principle, and its insulting tone to Catholics. Now, sir, I heard the speech to which the writer in the Examiner alludes, and was very far from considering that it was at all insulting in its tone towards Catholics, or that it evinced any want of principle in the speaker. So far from it, I thought it a frank and manly speech, and one that was not intended to give offence to the most sensitive Catholic among the audience. Mr. Coles said, that personally, he was in favor of the bill, but that the majority of his party did not seem to be so. He said, that he was in favor of the bill, but that the majority of his party did not seem to be so. He said, that he was in favor of the bill, but that the majority of his party did not seem to be so.

LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

FROM EUROPE.

LONDON, April 17, evening.—The Irish hierarchy will present a petition to Queen Victoria, against any change in the disposition of revenues of Established Church, in that part of United Kingdom. Deeds of violence against persons and property of daily occurrence in Cork.

LONDON, April 19.—All doubts of the safety of Dr. Livingstone, the African explorer, are now dispelled. Sir F. Murchison received a letter to-day from the distinguished traveller, which came by the way of Seanzard. Dr. Livingstone writes that he is in good health, his journey of exploration has been successful, and that he will soon return to England.

LONDON, April 19.—The War Office are in receipt of later despatches from the British Expedition in Abyssinia operating for relief of the British captives. General Napier, commander of the British forces, reached Lal. 21. Abyssinian King Theodoros was at Magdala, ready for siege, his forces consisting of about five thousand effective men and 26 large guns.

LONDON, April 19.—The last few days have contained articles calculated to alarm the public excitement, they pronounce vast preparations for war the best pledge of peace.

NEW YORK, April 7.—Charles Dickens gave his farewell reading in Boston last night to an immense audience. Steamer Sea Bird burned yesterday on Lake Michigan, and out of 100 persons on board, only two escaped death.

NEW YORK, April 11th.—A Montreal special, dated yesterday, says that at St. Etienne, a man named Leblanc and his wife, who were in the habit of robbing and murdering wayfarers and travellers who stopped at their house, attacked a traveller, the man with an axe and the wife with a razor, the traveller was killed, and the wife was severely injured.

NEW YORK, April 10th.—A special despatch from Ottawa says:—A plot has been discovered to blow up the Houses of Parliament by means of nitro glycerine. It has produced much excitement in every city. Extreme vigilance is maintained by military and civil authorities to prevent an outbreak.

OTTAWA, April 10.—Whelan, the man suspected of being the murderer of Mr. McGee, examined yesterday. Testimony against him so strong, that he was ordered to be committed until 16th inst. The evidence of Whelan proves the following facts:—That Whelan was at the House of Commons on Monday night. That he went into the gallery and out again four times in the course of the evening. That each time he passed in and out he was seen talking to his assistants, and was found in company with the late Mr. McGee.

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SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Arnault presented a bill to incorporate Societies for the sale and distribution of seed Grain.

Mr. Arnault explained the object of the bill, and stated that he intended to unite himself with the bill, and to vote in favor of it. He stated that the bill was intended to incorporate Societies for the sale and distribution of seed Grain. He stated that the bill was intended to incorporate Societies for the sale and distribution of seed Grain.

Mr. G. Sinclair from the Committee of the whole House on Ways and Means, reported 5 Resolutions, to the effect:— 1st. That the present Revenue bill be continued until the 1st May, 1869.

2d. That when any party shall notify the Government that it desires and intends to import into this Island any machinery for the purpose of establishing manufactures, the Governor in Council may make an order to admit the same duty free.

3d. That upon the expiration from this Island of articles manufactured thereon, from materials imported into it, and upon which duties have been paid, the Government shall pay from the Treasury to the person entering said goods for exportation, such drawback thereon, not exceeding the amount of import duties which may have been paid on the materials out of which such articles have been solely manufactured.

4th. That on the entry of the manufactured goods for exportation to any port or place, not within this Island, and on the production of a duly authenticated copy of the entry inward of such goods, and their arrival at the place of destination, the said drawback for the amount of duties paid on the materials entering into the composition of such manufactured goods shall be paid to the party exporting the same.

5. That all materials used for manufacturing purposes may be imported by the manufacturers for that purpose only, and entered at the Custom House as such.

On motion the question was separately put on said Resolutions, and agreed to by the House. Hon. Leader of the Government presented to the House a copy of Memorial of His Lordship the Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown, in relation to the Education and also copy of minutes of Council in reply to said memorial. Said memorial states:— That, in 1853, the late Right Rev. Bishop Bernard McEneaney, Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown, did establish a College of Instruction at Saint Andrew's, in King's County, and also a school for the poor children and property, which were invested in Trustee by an Act of the Legislature the same year for the support of said College.

That, with the aid of a grant from the Legislature every year up to 1854, the College was kept in operation, when it was dissolved by the late Bishop Bernard McEneaney, and the R. C. Bishop of Charlottetown, to erect a College on a large scale near Charlottetown, now called St. Dunstan's College, and which he endowed with certain lands in the vicinity of Charlottetown, and in aid of which the income of the said lands was appropriated since it was opened in 1855.

That, in 1857, a female Boarding and Day School was opened in Charlottetown, conducted by the Ladies of Congregation of Notre Dame, in which most of the higher branches of education were taught, and which had a large number of pupils, and which the City have been, and are still, taught free of any expense whatever.

That, in 1862, another school was opened on Rowland Street, known as St. Joseph's School, conducted by the same Sisters, which although very numerous attended very few of the higher branches of education. That another female Boarding and Day School was opened in Miramichi, in Prince County, in 1861, in which the usual higher branches of female education are taught, at which a large number of pupils attend daily.

That between the few educational institutions just named, and the poor children educated—three-fourths of whom belong to the poorer classes and consequently pay nothing. He feels convinced that the education imparted is superior to that taught in day schools—he feels it a grievance that he gets no aid from the school fund of the Province, and that the Government should be obliged to contribute to the establishment and maintenance of those institutions, which he considered essential to a sound Catholic education, in the earnest hope that, one day, simple justice would be received at the hands of the Legislature.

His Excellency thereon earnestly entreats His Excellency in Council to consider impartially his case, and ask the Legislature to alter the present School Act, so as to permit all schools to participate in a fair proportion of the school fund, according to their number and efficiency; or to grant a sum specially for the purpose.

The copy of Minutes of Council in reply to said memorial was read. That while His Excellency in Council freely acknowledge the great and meritorious exertions made by His Lordship in the cause of Education, they regret that they do not feel themselves in a position to submit the proposed grant to the consideration of the Legislature.

Ordered that said papers be laid on the table. Hon. Mr. Wallace presented the Eighteenth Annual Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum.

Hon. Atty. General gave notice that on Monday next he would move that the Bill relating to Education be committed to a Committee of the whole House.

House in Committee of the whole on the Report relating to the improvement of Highways: Mr. Ye in the chair.

And that the Statute Labor should be performed at an earlier period in the season than was now customary. The radical features of the present system as pointed out in said Report are said to be results of the want of reasonable and permanent management.

Mr. P. Sinclair said, that as one of the Committee appointed to report on the subject of the Statute Labor, he was desirous to bring before the House a Report as being adverse to borrowing for the purpose contemplated. He was against commencing by borrowing. Government works were not always successful as could be desired. It was therefore in his opinion better to appropriate for the first few years the sum required for the purpose, and thereafter to borrow, the result was satisfactory, a loan could afterwards be contracted for.

The Report was read by the Chairman, clause by clause, and its general principles favorably commented upon by hon. members on both sides, all of whom concurred in the desirability of adopting a more effective and systematic mode of road making than that which had hitherto obtained in the Colony. The necessity of a competent supervision, such as that pointed out by the establishment of a Board of Works, was generally admitted. The expenses consequent upon such an extension of the Statute Labor, and the comparative difference between the amount of work that could be performed by machinery, and that of manual labor, as well as the relative expenses required to carry on such works was also discussed.

Mr. P. Sinclair submitted a Resolution, to the effect, that the Report under consideration be printed once in the several newspapers of the Island, and that a further consideration be deferred until next Session.

Said Resolution was accordingly adopted. Mr. P. Sinclair, from the Committee to whom were referred the Resolutions on Temperance, introduced a bill in conformity therewith. Said Bill was received, read and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

House adjourned. MONDAY, April 6. House in Committee on the bill to incorporate Societies for the sale and distribution of seed grain on credit.

Mr. McNeill in the chair. Mr. Arnault explained the object of the bill, which was to empower parties so desirous to form themselves into Clubs or Societies of less than nine members, with a view of selling or loaning seed grain to parties desirous of obtaining it on such terms as might be agreed upon. It was therefore necessary that such societies should be incorporated, in order that their transactions would be legalized. He (Mr. Arnault) alluded to the fact that the same societies had been formed in other parts of the Island, and that they were deriving great benefit therefrom.

After some time spent in Committee the chairman reported the bill agreed to. Hon. Atty. General submitted several resolutions having for their object the amendment of the School Act. The principal of which are to the effect:— That the Board of Education should consist of eleven members, instead of nine, as formerly, two of whom should be titled Examiners, whose duty should be to examine candidates for the office of Teacher, and to report to the rules of the Board. Such examiners to receive a salary of £20 each. One of said eleven to be the Secretary of the Board, and another to be the Treasurer, each to receive a salary of £50 per annum. Ordinary members of the Board to be paid £20 per annum, subject to a reduction of 10s for each absence.

That it should not be essential for candidates for the office of Teacher to attend, as hitherto, for a term of five months, at the Normal School, but that the Board of Education should consider them competent without such attendance; but if not, said Board should have power to compel their attendance at that institution for a period not exceeding five months.

That ordinary pupils attending the Normal School should be qualified as Teachers, and should pay a tuition fee of £2 a year, payable quarterly into the Treasury; and when on that principle 30 pupils should be enrolled, the Government would appoint an assistant Teacher, to whom, in addition to such fees, the sum of £25 should be paid from the school fund, and the Government should be bound to provide for the maintenance of such pupils in colleges, and district teachers should be free from assessment for building school houses, purchasing books, &c.

That on the School Visitor reporting to the Board any district teacher incapable of conducting a school, or improperly performing his duties as teacher, it should be the duty of said Board to suspend him, or to suspend his license, as they may deem advisable.

The number of Grammar Schools not to exceed three in King's, three in Prince, and five in Queen's County, in addition to those Grammar Schools now established in Charlottetown, Summerside and Georgetown.

That there should be three School Visitors, one in each County at a salary of £150 each.

That District Teachers who may receive from the Board of Education, licenses for competency to teach the French language, and who shall teach that language to not less than ten pupils in each school, should receive an additional sum of £5 per annum for their services as French Teachers, the Trustees to provide an equal sum of £5 for said object.

The different alterations referred to in said Resolutions elicited remarks from hon. members on both sides.

The increased number of members on the Board, the appointment of three School Visitors instead of two, the increase of the number of attendance at the Normal School on the part of Candidates for the office of teacher; and the Resolution granting Five Pounds extra salary to Teachers of the French language, were the principal points brought up by the Opposition, the discussion on which was continued until the adjournment of the House.

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of the kind in the colony, in regard to respectability and character, it would therefore appear a hardship to compel the Government to remove the post offices from such places.

After considerable debate on the point, Mr. Howland proposed that the bill be referred to a committee of the House, to be composed of the members who contended for the sweeping change contemplated by the bill, and those who were opposed to it, and that they should report thereon to the House on Monday next.

Hon. Mr. Howland then withdrew his amendment in favor of that proposed by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, and all Government bills were accordingly referred to a committee of the House, to be composed of the members who contended for the sweeping change contemplated by the bill, and those who were opposed to it, and that they should report thereon to the House on Monday next.

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he was connected with the Fenian organization. He would prefer a time of loss excitement. He, himself has often told the story of his connection with the young Ireland party, in the blood of his youth. He and they were guilty of some follies, of which in the riper years of his manhood, he could not approve.

Since his return to Canada he has been a constant and ardent friend of that party, but not altogether dissimilar from his own. A favorite mode of attack on the part of his enemies has been to charge him with political inconsistency. Yet from the time that he had the opportunity to perceive the position of things in the Fenian movement, he has been a consistent and hearty sympathizer with the Fenians.

This will be plain to all men who have read the letter he wrote his friend Mr. GAVAN DUFFY, in Australia, many years ago, upon the political situation in the United States. A letter which was published in pamphlet form by some of his friends in London.

That letter indicated a reason why he should come to Canada, and the principles which sets forth are consistent with his whole life since. There were reasons of the hour, why, on the occasion of an election in Montreal, he did not at the first form an alliance with the party to which he belonged at the time of his death.

But that was his first desire, and that alliance would have been a great success. It followed in the views he wrote Mr. DUFFY. It followed in the natural course of events. And here, as pointing out a fact it may not be improper to say, that the first personal friendship between him and the writer of this article from a frank notice in the Gazette, of a Conservative Toronto lecturer on Mr. DUFFY, a member of the Fenian government to which it was sufficiently strongly opposed.

The incident showed that a strife of party perhaps unnecessarily bitter, could not prevent the recognition of common sense. His regular alliance with the party to which he had before belonged followed shortly after that of the Fenian movement. It was probably a natural result of the Fenian conspiracy which he had seen in the Fenian movement, and which he had seen in the Fenian movement.

Notwithstanding the great variety of Pills heretofore in the market, a want has been generally felt for a safe and perfectly reliable purgative medicine. Such a remedy is now supplied in Parsons' Purgative Pills.

Should advise everybody to keep constantly on hand a bottle of Hovard's Rheumatic Compound. It is a strong and efficacious compound for a sudden emergency.

Sheridan's Condition Powders are recommended for sheep in loss of appetite, rot murrain, and all diseases of the skin.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.