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Electric Scotland's Weekly Newsletter for October 20th, 2023

Electric Scotland News

I was impressed by the homily of the Rev. Nola Crewe in her Sunday talk about the war between Israel and Gaza. Hope you take the time to listen to her views from the link in our Electric Canadian section.

I'm amazed at the bias being shown in the Media against Israel. Like they immediately accused Israel for the Hospital bombing whereas there is now proof that it was an Hamas rocket to blame. And of course the BBC's refusal to call Hamas terrorists.

Seems as if I have some kidney issues which means I've had to take time off to visit various specialists for further testing. Will be another week until all the results are in and they can decide what to do about it. They've stopped most of my medicines which means it's been a bit difficult to control my diabetes.

Scottish News from this weeks newspapers

I am partly doing this to build an archive of modern news from and about Scotland and world news stories that can affect Scotland and as all the newsletters are archived and also indexed on search engines it becomes a good resource. I might also add that in a number of newspapers you will find many comments which can be just as interesting as the news story itself and of course you can also add your own comments if you wish which I do myself from time to time. Here is what caught my eye this week...

New Zealand election
National party's Chris Luxon claims victory

Read more at:
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-67110387>

Conrad Black: Following Hamas attack, no one can deny Israel's claim to righteousness
Hamas is trying to pick up where the Nazis left off, but this time, the Jews can defend themselves

Read more at:
<https://archive.ph/NYegn>

Canadian cannabis market struggles five years after legalisation
Canada remains one of the only countries in the world that allows legal and regulated access to recreational marijuana. But five years after the drug's legalisation, the country's cannabis industry is struggling for survival.

Read more at:
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-67126243>

What the Tories can learn from the Conservative Party of Canada

By unashamedly positioning the Canadian Conservatives as the party of home ownership and aspiration, and with a pledge to 'bring it home' that has resonated with working class voters struggling with the cost of living, Pierre Poilievre is storming ahead in the polls. Rishi Sunak could learn a thing or two...

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/what-the-tories-can-learn-from-the-conservative-party-of-canada/>

The rise of Israelophobia - CapX Podcast

The world has just witnessed the worst attack on Jewish people since the Holocaust. Yet amid the international condemnation of Hamas terrorists, there has also been equivocation and even celebration in some quarters. No other conflict stirs emotions like that between Israel and palestine so why is it that the world's only Jewish state appears to be held to completely different standards to other countries?

View this at:

https://youtu.be/f1iV9xPdrjM?si=Uu4fobl3cyctw_J

Federal Government Releases Canada's Just Transition Plan Toward 'Net-Zero World' in 2050

The Liberal government has released its just transition plan that claims it will not trigger massive unemployment in the country's energy towns.

Read more at:

<https://www.theepochtimes.com/world/federal-government-releases-canadas-just-transition-plan-toward-net-zero-world-in-2050-5067536>

A world-first in the Scottish Highlands

As rewilding accelerates around the world, the global movement's first dedicated centre has opened in the Scottish Highlands.

Read more at:

<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20231017-a-world-first-in-the-scottish-highlands>

You've got to have faith

The links between religious faith, educational attainment and socio-economic advancement are well evidenced but little examined. By researching the role of spirituality in a changing Britain, a new think tank will transcend tribal divisions and help our society meet the challenges it faces.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/youve-got-to-have-faith-how-religion-can-help-promote-economic-advancement>

Bring it Home

Sir Alec Douglas-Home isn't often included in lists of our greatest post-war Prime Ministers, but on the 60th anniversary of his premiership, there is much that Rishi Sunak can learn from him. Perhaps most importantly for our current PM, his distant predecessor proved that one year is enough time to turn the polls around.

Read more at:

<https://capx.co/bring-it-home-what-rishi-sunak-can-learn-from-britains-greatest-post-war-prime-minister>

The glorification of slaughter

Many self-proclaimed 'social justice warriors' have remained suspiciously quiet when it comes to Hamas' slaughter of Jews in Israel. More disturbing, however, are the vast numbers who have taken to the streets to actively promote it. This is a criminal act, and the Home Secretary must ensure it is treated as such.

Read more at:

<https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/why-do-we-allow-protests-that-glorify-slaughter>

What do Humza Yousaf's new policies mean for Scotland?

Humza Yousaf addressed the Scottish National Party Conference for the first time as First Minister, in a speech that contained a few new proposals. Here are some of the main consequences of what was announced.

Read more at:

<https://sceptical.scot/2023/10/what-do-humza-yousafs-new-policies-mean-for-scotland/>

Electric Canadian

Our North Land

Being a full account of the Canadian North-West and Hudson's Bay route, together with a narrative of the experiences of the Hudson's Bay expedition of 1884 including description of the climate, resources, and the characteristics of the native inhabitants between the 50th parallel and the Arctic circle by Charles R. Tuttle (1885) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/first/ournorthlandbei00tuttgoog.pdf>

Thoughts on a Sunday Morning - the 15th day of October 2023 - War

By the Rev. Nola Crewe

You can view this at:

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forum/communities/rev-nola-crewe/26409-thoughts-on-a-sunday-morning-the-15th-day-of-october-2023-war>

The Great North-West

And the Great Lake Region of North America by Paul Fountain (1904) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/history/canada/greatnorthwestgr00founuoft.pdf>

Settlers' Guide

A Handbook of Information for Settlers in the Canadian Pacific Railway Irrigation Block (1911) (pdf)

You can read this guide at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/canadiansettlershandbook.pdf>

The Conquest of a Continent

Or the expansion of races in America by Madison Grant (1933) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/conquestofcontin00gran.pdf>

Electric Scotland

The Toilers of the Field

By Richard Jefferies (1901) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/england/toilersofthefiel00jeffiala.pdf>

William Watt

Graham Watt sent in two articles to add to our page about him... "Watt Family connections with the Cairngorm Club" and "Lord Byron, George Watt and the Aberdeen Grammar School" which I've added to the foot of his page.

You can read these at:

https://electricscotland.com/history/other/watt_william.htm

Perth

Its annals and its archives by David Peacock, Master of King James the sixth Hospital, Perth and includes some very detailed accounts of visits by Royalty(1840) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/perth/perthitsannalsit00peacuoft.pdf>

Pharrs and Farris

With other descendants from five Scotch-Irish pioneers in America, also some other Farris and miscellaneous data by Henry Newton Pharr, New Orleans, La. 1955 (pdf)

You can read about these families at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/scotsirish/pharrsfarriswitho00phar.pdf>

Fur and Feather Series

Added the third book to this series, The Partridge.

You can read it at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/sport/furfeather.htm>

The History of Lumsden's Horse

A complete record of the corps from its foundation to its disbandment edited by Henry H. S. Pearse, War Correspondent (1903)

You can read about them at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/lumsdenhorse.htm>

Scottish Society of Louisville

Got in their October 2023 newsletter which you can read at:

<https://electricscotland.com/familytree/newsletters/Louisville/index.htm>

Early Christian Govan

The Historical Context by Alan MacQuarrie, M.A., Ph.D. (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricscotland.com/bible/govan.pdf>

Mrs. John Elder of Govan

Public Benefactor

You can read about her at:

<https://electricscotland.com/history/women/mrsjohnelder.pdf>

More Busy Days

By Dr. Andrew Carnegie, Compiled and Edited by James M. Swank (1903) (pdf)

You can read this book at:

<https://electricScotland.com/history/other/morebusydaysdran00swan.pdf>

Clan Fleming Scotland

Been advised that they have a new web site and have placed a link to it on our Fleming clan page.

You can get to this at:

<https://electricScotland.com/webclans/dtog/fleming.html>

Story

Laying the Foundation Stone of the Dingwall Free Library
From The Northern Weekly, Dingwall, Scotland, for July 16, 1903.

DINGWALL on Tuesday honored itself in honoring Mr. Carnegie. Many have been the gala days in the history of the burgh since the good old times when the Norsemen dispensed justice on its classic green hill at the West End and Macbeth held court on the banks of the Peffrey, but not one of them could have surpassed the proceedings of "Carnegie Day" in the intensity of their enthusiasm and the success attending them. The town made holiday for the occasion, and no effort was spared to give tangible expression to the cordiality of the welcome extended to its distinguished guests, as well as to the sympathy with which the townsfolk themselves entered into the particular business of the day. Bunting, banner, and triumphal arch, booming cannon and cheering throngs, with a smiling sun and a kindly sky, contributed to the eclat of the general enthusiasm, all together making the day distinctly and substantially memorable.

The proceedings were timed to begin at eleven in the forenoon, on the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie and party by train from the north. The train drew up punctually to time, and on alighting they were met on the platform by the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council. As the party emerged from the station the old town guns on Mitchell Hill boomed out a special welcome, during which Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie and their friends were escorted by the Provost, Bailies, and Town Clerk to the carriages in waiting. Meanwhile the crowds congregated in the Station Square were interested spectators of the picturesque scene, somewhat set off by the Provost in his white and scarlet robes, gold chain, and cocked hat, and Chief Constable Macaulay in his smart uniform, in charge of his fine body of men in their new headgear, keeping excellent order throughout, with the regalia of the Freemasons and Oddfellows giving added color. Thanks to the excellent arrangements of the Chief Constable and his staff no time was lost in the marshaling of the procession by ex-Provost Macleay, assisted by Councillor J. G. Robertson, both being mounted, and headed by the Oddfellows' brass band.

Passing along High street to the site of the new Library in Church street, the band playing various national airs, the procession was an imposing spectacle, both sides of High street being lined with townspeople and others who flocked in from the country, and who cheered heartily as the carriages passed. The buildings on the route carried a display of flags, and strings of bunting crossed the street at frequent intervals, special prominence being given among the fluttering banners to the Stars and Stripes, each of which, it was observed, was saluted by Mr. Carnegie and by his American guests. Arrived at the head of Church street the procession passed under a triumphal arch of handsome proportions, elaborately bedecked with evergreens (from Tulloch Castle) set upon a background of colored cloth, the top span of the arch bearing the inscription "Welcome Carnegie" on the High street side and "Cead Mile Failte" on the Church street side, the crowns of the two side pillars of the arch being surmounted by national banners, and the Stars and Stripes and Union Jack as one flag floating proudly on a flagstaff surmounting the arch itself. The occupants of the various carriages alighted at the Library works and were accommodated on a cloth-covered stand, the Freemasons and Oddfellows, with the Town Council, lining up in front, the general public finding standing space as best they could within the limited area

available, while large numbers, in their eagerness to secure a view of the interesting proceedings, appropriated risky perches on the surrounding buildings and the summits of the partially-erected walls of the Library to-be. All being ready the Provost announced that the day's proceedings would begin with a short religious service, whereupon the assemblage, led by Mr. Malcolm, sang the Hundredth Psalm, after which the Rev. J. R. Macpherson, B. D., parish minister, offered up an impressive prayer. Thereafter the Provost, doffing his cocked hat, addressed the gathering.

ADDRESS BY PROVOST MACRAE.

Provost Macrae said: I indeed should and do feel highly gratified and privileged in taking my part in the proceedings here to-day. This day, I confidently predict, will always be regarded as a red-letter day in the annals of our town. We meet here now to witness the laying of the foundation stone of the building which is being erected here—erected through the munificence of the greatest benefactor of our race for the diffusion of inspiring and elevating knowledge. We thus substantially share in that great munificence which has excited the admiration and earned the gratitude—surely the well-founded gratitude—not only very specially of the English-speaking race but of other races as well. (Cheers.) Mr. Carnegie has throughout his singularly busy, eventful, and unprecedentedly successful career given many evidences of his belief in the well-known aphorisms that ignorance is the mother of evil and that knowledge is power. He, himself, eagerly pursued knowledge. He also succeeded in that noblest of pursuits, and now his grand aims are to dispel ignorance, to diffuse knowledge, and thereby promote prosperity and good will among the nations, and very specially among the English-speaking race.

Within the building now being erected here, when we have got it equipped with first-class literature, we and our successors can readily become familiar with the thoughts and with the deeds of the intellectual giants of the past and of the present. We may thus hope that incalculable good will accrue to many here and beyond our town through our prospective Carnegie Public Library. (Cheers.) We have then the best of reasons to rejoice at the prospect of a library and to hail it with the greatest possible pleasure. We have indeed the best of reasons to feel intensely grateful to the generous donor. (Cheers.) Fellow-citizens, I feel sure I also express your views, as I do my own, when I say that we strongly feel we are very specially honored in having Mrs. Carnegie come here to-day to lay its foundation stone. (Loud cheers.) I know that I can on your behalf, as I do for myself, assure Dr. Carnegie and Mrs. Carnegie that we very specially appreciate this signal honor. (Cheers.)

Provost Macrae, addressing Mrs. Carnegie, said: I have the pleasure and honor of handing you this silver trowel and mallet with which you will kindly favor us in laying this foundation stone.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE.

Mrs. Carnegie then descended the steps and tapping the large freestone block at the four corners said: This stone is level, this stone is plumb, this stone is truly laid, and may the blessing of God rest upon the work of this day and upon this Library when it is completed. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

When the cheering had subsided Provost Macrae begged Mrs. Carnegie to accept of the trowel, which bore an inscription, as a small memento of the act she had so kindly and so gracefully performed that day.

Bailie Henderson, coming forward, proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Carnegie for laying the foundation stone of their Carnegie Free Library. They were delighted to have her genial presence to grace their proceedings that day, and they all wished her long life, health, and happiness. He called for three hearty cheers for Mrs. Carnegie and for Miss Carnegie, both of which were responded to with enthusiasm.

Miss Margaret Macrae, daughter of the Provost, then handed a handsome bouquet to Mrs. Carnegie.

At this stage Mr. Carnegie said: Your Provost has kindly asked me to say just one word, which I have great pleasure in doing. I speak this word under the influence of the Hundredth Psalm, impressively sung, which takes me back to other days as it can take none who has not been brought up to hear it when a child. (Hear,

hear.) I speak a word in sympathy with the spirit of the prayer, in which you were told truly that the Christian religion is founded upon sacrifice. Therefore, when we lay the corner stone of a free library, I say what Luther said when he nailed his ninety-five theses to the door of Augsburg Cathedral: "If this thing be of men it will fail, but if it be of God it must stand." (Applause.) Your Free Library is of God, because it is universal in its benefits, to rich and poor, nobleman and King—no privilege, no right that one holds over another. This is the means of obtaining knowledge, as your Provost has said to you. It tends to raise humanity, it serves the poorest as it does the richest, and it is from God, and I venture to predict that, whatever may fall or whatever may happen to Dingwall in the future, this Library will stand, year after year, an agency of greater usefulness as the years roll on. (Loud cheers.)

The band having played the National Anthem an adjournment was made to the front of the Municipal Chambers, where Chief Constable Macaulay had the dense throng orderly arranged at the Cross, with the Freemasons and Oddfellows in their regalias standing in a semicircle.

Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie, as they mounted the Council steps, accompanied by Provost and Mrs. Macrae, Mr. Dewar, Town Clerk, the Skibo party, and the Town Council, were again received with loud cheers, and after the guests had been shown through the Council Chambers, with its historic relics and marble bust of Mr. Gladstone, the ceremony of conferring the freedom of the burgh on Mr. Carnegie was begun. . . . The parchment was enclosed in a handsome morocco case, bearing an appropriate inscription.

THE YOUNGEST BURGESS OF DINGWALL.

Provost Macrae said : Our Town Council fully considered how we, as a community, could best recognize Mr. Carnegie's public and private worth, his unparalleled public munificence, most wisely exercised in providing for the highest education of the deserving youth of his and our native country and in the diffusion of knowledge among the people of Scotland generally through the means of public libraries, in which latter part of his munificence Dingwall, as I have already indicated, substantially shares, and in other ways of worldwide interest. (Cheers.) And the mode in which our own Council resolved to do this is the way in which we as a community can best do it, and that is to enroll Dr. Carnegie's name among the Honorary Burgesses of our ancient Royal Burgh. It is the highest honor in our power to bestow. (Loud cheers.) Nowadays, of course, no material advantage attaches to it, but yet as the highest mark of the respect and esteem of one's fellows it is prized by the great, the noble, and the good. We have on that roll the names of many men of outstanding public and private worth, and several of worldwide fame. We have there—not to go further back than the 18th century—that of Charles James Fox, one of the foremost statesmen and orators of his time, an uncompromising advocate of peace and liberty, an inflexible opponent of the shortsighted and unhappy measures which resulted in the secession from Great Britain of what are now partly the United States of America, a secession which, although still existent, is, we rejoice, being gradually atoned for on both sides by mutual good will and friendship, which we fondly hope will always continue and advance in volume and in strength until it culminates in a happy union of the two principal branches of the English-speaking race for the maintenance of peace and liberty throughout the world, (cheers,) and when, in the words of John Bright, we shall have one law, one language, and one religion, under the one flag of freedom. (Cheers.) In company with the name of Charles James Fox we have, at a later period, that of the greatest statesman, orator, and advocate of peace and liberty of the 19th century, William Ewart Gladstone, (cheers,) the friend and admirer of Andrew Carnegie, and who, as I said in effect on a recent occasion similar to the present, we here proudly claim derived his transcendent abilities and towering moral grandeur, through his mother, from Dingwall soil, Mr. Gladstone's mother being a Dingwall lady, the daughter of a former Provost. (Cheers.) We have on that roll the name of the intrepid African explorer, Colonel Grant, of the Nile. We have on it those of Sir John Pender, of submarine telegraphy fame; of our distinguished Scotsman and brilliant orator and statesman, Lord Rosebery; of our able and indomitable Colonial Secretary, the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain. And we, the other day, added to it that of our present worthy member of Parliament, Mr. Bignold.

It is indeed apposite that we should have on that roll with those two specially noble advocates of peace and liberty I have named, Fox and Gladstone, the name of an equally noble advocate of peace and liberty and the

good of the race—Andrew Carnegie. (Loud cheers.) We fully recognize in Mr. Carnegie a countryman of the very highest order, one of nature's noblemen, who sedulously cultivated his native talents and put them to the fullest use. In return he secured wealth truly beyond the dreams of avarice, but he did so in a way throughout absolutely without reproach. A Scotchman's perseverance and strict honesty were his guiding principles. (Cheers.) And he has manifested to the world that he has always had higher aims than the mere acquisition of worldly wealth. He has made it very manifest indeed that he has had lofty ideals for the elevation of our race, through the diffusion of knowledge and peace among the nations, conditions which alone produce the truest prosperity. And both in the land of his birth and in the land of his adoption he unstintedly employs his wealth and his high intellectual gifts for the good of others. (Cheers.) We very specially recognize and gratefully acknowledge his munificence toward our Scottish Universities, which, while time endures, will make his an honored name wherever Scotchmen dwell; also, let me repeat, his special generosity toward ourselves in our public library, which we most fully recognize and appreciate. (Loud cheers.) But his eminence is not limited to his wonderfully successful business career or to his transcendent generosity merely. While pursuing that career he was, as I have already said, diligent in the pursuit of knowledge, and enjoyed the purer delights of intellectual pursuits. And he has given us from his own pen not a few enduring contributions to our literature, some of which have evoked the highest praise from those competent to judge, such as his friend and our honorary burgess, Mr. Gladstone. It was Mr. Gladstone, for instance, who penned these words in reference to a certain contribution of Mr. Carnegie's: "In it he soars immeasurably above our comparatively pale and colorless liberalism in which we commonplace politicians are content to dabble." (Loud cheers.) Mr. Carnegie has further endeared himself to Scottish Highlanders by selecting as his Scottish home one of the most beautiful spots in our Highlands, to the natural charms of which he is continually adding. (Cheers.) Need I say that his name will continue green in Scotland while Scotland and the fame of Scotchmen endure. (Cheers.) I am sure we here fondly hope that he and his may long enjoy in health and in strength his Highland home, and that he may for many years witness much good as the result of his incomparable benevolence. As a final word, few indeed can reasonably hope to attain to Mr. Carnegie's all-round eminence, but all can aim at endeavoring to learn many useful lessons from his noble career and thus better themselves and their fellows. (Cheers.)

Mr. Carnegie then signed the roll, after which the Provost called for three cheers for Dingwall's youngest burgess, and these were followed by cheers for Mrs. and Miss Carnegie.

MR. CARNEGIE'S REPLY.

Stepping to the front of the balcony Mr. Carnegie, who was again received with loud cheers, said:

Among the last ceremonies I attended was one in Washington among another section of the race, and the President on that memorable occasion gave utterance to the sentiment that "a man who always wanted to be carried was never worth carrying." (Laughter, and hear, hear.) That is how I feel about free libraries. They do not tend to pauperize the community. You maintain that library by taxation, and all I do is to advance a little that you may build the building. You maintain that library, and the library is the property of the poorest man in Dingwall to the same extent as it is to your own multi-millionaires.

Dingwall is unfortunate in one respect. Passing through it when you see Dingwall you don't see it. (Laughter.) You only see the station. (Laughter.) Mrs. Carnegie and myself are impressed wherever we go in the Highlands, and the wider we touch Scottish character and Scottish society, with the presence of Highland virtue and accomplishments. (Applause.) The longer we live in the Highlands the better we like it. (Hear, hear.) Provost Macrae, as representing this community, has seen fit to bestow upon me the highest honor you have in your power to bestow upon any man. We accept the honor, not because we have deserved it. (No, no.) We feel in your sweet and honeyed words, befitting your official position while performing so courteous and gracious an act, that it is no wonder the tongue waxes eloquent. (Laughter.) I assure you the day will be long ere this fades from the memory of Mrs. Carnegie and myself—this brilliant occasion in the ancient and Royal Burgh of Dingwall. (Applause.) Whatever we may forget I may assure you that this day will linger in our memory and will serve to brace her and brace me for the performance of our duties faithfully to the end. (Applause.) It shall be our endeavor never to do by deed, or even by word, anything that will cause you fellow-citizens of Dingwall to

regret the great honor you have conferred upon me to-day. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Mr. Provost and Gentlemen : We have just participated in a ceremony which must pass into and remain part of the history of this ancient and Royal Burgh. Nor will the structure which is to arise be one of the least notable institutions of Dingwall in the 27th century, a period as far in advance of today as that which has elapsed since the date of your charter, for, whatever changes may be predicted of the future, surely this library must remain and books be read and studied, revered and preserved, for in these lie the records of all that man has said and done worthy of record, and there is no receptacle which we can imagine that can prove in the future more appropriate for the home of books than the public library, the property of all the people and maintained by all in proportion to their taxable property. It rests upon the final foundation which must sooner or later be reached in every land, equality of rights, and in the free public library there is no privilege enjoyed by even the august Provost himself which is not the right of his humblest fellow-citizen of Dingwall. . . . The free library is the cradle of Democracy, composed of the best rulers in the Republic of Letters.

When one enters Dingwall his thoughts go back to the mists of antiquity; the very word carries us to the days of the Scandinavians. How strange that they owned the Western Islands and settled even in this spot, when to-day Scandinavia is so unimportant and Britain so great, and in her turn has become the foremost of all colonizing powers. We look at the "Hill of Justice" yonder, which is our translation of the word "Dingwall," established in those early centuries, and immediately we are set to moralizing and philosophizing upon human history. ... I am always confirmed in the good faith that "all is well since all grows better" by gazing upon such sights as that of your "Hill of Justice!" We say of Liberty, "Oh, Liberty, what crimes have been committed in thy name!" but may we not exclaim, "Oh, Justice, what injustice has been committed in thy name!"

You received your charter in 1226 from good King Alexander, son of King Malcolm Canmore, and of that noble woman, Scotland's patron saint, Queen Margaret, both of Dunfermline fame. This gives me a reason to found a claim to some prior connection with Dingwall, tracing events back to a very respectable antiquity, a claim which, however shadowy in the past, by your partial and generous action of to-day you have made real and unassailable. King Alexander earned undying fame by abolishing the test of guilt or innocence by fire and water and establishing trial by jury, and he regulated, although he could not entirely suppress, the gauge of trial by private battle. Much of the grossest injustice, as we know, preceded that reformation. How many thousands of innocent people received "justice" which condemned the innocent! In later days we read with almost incredulous minds the record of the witchcraft epidemic which raged for two centuries right around you here and all throughout the land, and indeed through Europe. For two centuries poor witless and bed-ridden men and women, women especially, received justice by being condemned to death for possessing miraculous powers, which, if they had possessed or if any one to-day possessed them, would bring reverence and honor, for these were beneficent as well as maleficent powers. They could bless as well as ban, for Pope Leo expressly permitted their exercise to prevent disease, droughts, and other afflictions pertaining to agriculture, and priests were permitted to use magic for curing disease.

Now, it is well for us to receive the lesson which Dingwall conveys with its "Hill of Justice." Surely, contrasting what was here in days past with what is, we have our faith confirmed that under the law of evolution Humanity moves ever upward and onward from lower to higher standards. "Men rise on stepping stones of their dead selves to higher things." Amidst all the ills of life, the poverty and want, the wars which devastate, men still killing each other like wild beasts, as I stand here to-day in old Dingwall the proof comes that Humanity has within itself a power or instinct which leads it slowly but surely upward to more improved conditions, that man moves upward and looks upward as the sunflower turns its face to the sun. There is undoubtedly less drunkenness on the earth to-day than ever before, less pauperism, less crime, less cruelty, less injustice. All these are negative, you may say, but we can say positively there is more humanity; there is a higher standard of dealing with our fellows; man realizes more and more the brotherhood of man; we are kinder to our poor and unfortunate; our punishments even to the wrongdoer are lighter. The masses of the people read books which were before beyond their reach. They have comforts which, to-day the necessaries of life, were once the luxuries of the noble; distinctions between rich and poor, peer and peasant, are being more and more obliterated ; sectarian bitterness, the wars of one religious sect with another, the most cruel in all history we

might almost say, have passed away. Such contests as remain between sects are now, fortunately, confined to the tongue—not a harmless yet not a deadly weapon. More and more men are drawn to realize that it is not what a man believes, for who can help his beliefs ? but what a man does ; not what brand of theology he adopts, but what his religion is as translated into life. So that there is not only a rising standard of life among the people, more intelligence, more refined tastes, but there is also a drawing together of all ranks and conditions of men under the belief that we are indeed members of one brotherhood, and that, as a duty-part of their mission, the rich, the noble, the educated, must each contribute of the stock of time, ability, or wealth he has for the common good, and do what he can to make his little part of the world a little better than he found it. Man does move forward and upward. This is the lesson which is deeply impressed upon us to-day by Dingwall's history.

At the close of the Freedom ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie and friends retired for a short interval to the Council Chambers, in company with the Provost and Magistrates.

PUBLIC BANQUET.

The proceedings at the Cross being ended an adjournment was made to the Masonic Hall, where Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie and friends were entertained at a public banquet, at which there were about 100 ladies and gentlemen present. Provost Macrae presided, with Mr. Carnegie and Mrs. Macrae on his right and Mrs. Carnegie and Colonel Sir Hector Munro, Lord Lieuten-ant of the county and A. D. C. to the King, on his left. The Skibo party, with the members of Town Council and their wives, occupied seats at the head of the table, ex-Provost Macleay and Councillor Dr. Adam acting as croupiers.

Grace having been said by the Rev. J. R. Macpherson, and a sumptuous repast having ended, the Provost in eloquent terms submitted the loyal and patriotic toasts, extolling the good qualities of the King and Queen and the other members of the Royal Family, and dwelling upon the prowess of the navy and army. The toasts were pledged with enthusiasm, the band playing appropriate airs. Colonel Sir Hector Munro responded to the toast of the Imperial Forces in a few well-chosen words. ... In proposing the health of "Our Youngest Burgess, Mr. Andrew Carnegie," Bailie Frew said: On a certain memorable occasion an American citizen was entrusted with the toast of the President. Rising in his place, and lifting his glass, he simply exclaimed, "Gentlemen, the President," further speech being considered superfluous. Were I now to raise my glass and say, "Gentlemen, Mr. Carnegie," I feel confident that the toast of our Youngest Burgess would be responded to with the greatest cordiality and enthusiasm. (Applause.) Mr. Carnegie is a man standing out with great distinction even among distinguished men. On account of his wealth alone he holds a unique position among men of his day and generation. But we look beyond the millions and recognize in his person one standing high in the world's aristocracy of intellect and goodness. (Applause.) Mr. Carnegie is now the third living Scotsman on whom the freedom of this burgh has been conferred. America, with all its glorious institutions and traditions, is but the country of his adoption; Scotland is that of his birth. America has given him scope for his marvelous business capacity, and after a busy and prosperous life where should he turn for relaxation and enjoyment but to his mother country—his beloved Scotland. (Applause.) It is not necessary, and I know that you will not expect me to enter upon the details of his wonderful career; they are known as household words throughout Scotland. . . . It is characteristic of our youngest burgess that he discriminates between giving and charity; while not directly relieving poverty and pauperism he seeks to prevent both. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Carnegie sees with the far-reaching eye that the improvement of the race from the human side is only to be reached through the instruction of the people, leading to self-reliance, better habits, and a better appreciation of the dignity and responsibility of the individual man, however humble. Hence Mr. Carnegie's gifts of libraries, gifts to universities, gifts to every improving and uplifting agency. (Applause.) It is by attending to the causes of poverty and crime, and striking at its roots, that we can hope to beautify the great tree of humanity, not by chopping away at its decayed and broken branches.

Such is the work of our youngest burgess—the exponent of what is great, good, and generous. Looking upon himself as but the steward of his wealth he seeks to help those desirous of helping themselves. With Highland honors let us drink to the health of Dr. Carnegie, our youngest burgess. (Loud applause.)

The toast was pledged with great enthusiasm, the audience singing “For he’s a jolly good fellow” to the accompaniment of the band.

Mr. Carnegie, on rising to reply, received a tremendous ovation. . . . He had to thank Mr. Frew very sincerely for his too kind remarks, and the company most heartily for the manner in which they had responded to the toast of his health. Bailie Brew had dwelt on one great note—the future of the English-speaking race. That was a subject which was much in his thoughts, which was perhaps natural, for Scotland was the land of his birth and America that of his adoption. He had, as perhaps most of them knew, ventured to put on record a prophecy on this subject to the effect that, just as surely as the sun had once shone on an undivided English-speaking race, so surely would it do so again. (Applause.) ... It was most gratifying that in the recent Cuban War the British Government alone had stood by America in her hour of trial. There was, however, one matter to which he would refer and would do so in no partisan spirit, for he had no party politics in Britain. That was that if the home country were to revise its fiscal system it should ponder well and consider seriously before it made any discrimination between its children across the seas—between the States and Canada. His opinion was that if this were done it would be the first thing which would bring about what Britons and Americans joined in hoping would never come to pass, that was that Britain would not be the predominant partner in the future English-speaking World Power. As he said, he gave his expression of opinion in no partisan spirit, but as they knew not what the future might bring forth they could recall, if such a discrimination were made, that the first words of their youngest burgess were words of warning, which, however, he hoped they would believe were the outcome of his love for both Britain and America, and of his desire for their common welfare. (Applause.)

Mr. Carnegie resumed his seat amidst loud and prolonged cheers.

“MRS. AND MISS CARNEGIE.”

Ex-Provost Macleay, in rising to propose the next toast, said : I ask you to fill your glasses for the toast which I have now the honor to submit for your acceptance—your most enthusiastic acceptance, I am sure. Much has been said to-day about Mr. Carnegie, and all of it true, though, I assure you, the half has not been told. I mean the half concerning Mr. Carnegie. (Hear, hear, and applause.) But I mean also in another sense, because, with all due allowance to the gentleman whom we have delighted to honor to-day, his better half surely claims the greater attention— (loud applause)—and I am sure we will also please the heart of the father and mother when, on this auspicious occasion also, we do not forget their child. (Renewed applause.) Of Mrs. Carnegie much might be said, but I dare say she would be better pleased if we said as little as possible. That, gentlemen, reveals the true greatness of the lady I ask you to honor to-day. (Hear, hear, and applause.) And yet I would not be doing my duty to those who honored me by placing this toast in my hands if I did not say something in her honor. . . . Those who know her best think most of her, and that is the highest test of, and testimony to, personal worth, whether it is to be found in the cottage or the castle. (Hear, hear.) As a descendant of one of the noble band who left our shores in the days of the *Mayflower* we claim Mrs. Carnegie as really one of our own kith and kin, (applause,) but we honor her to-day for her own sake, and now that her husband has been made one of our own freemen, a citizen of Dingwall, the real geographical, ecclesiastical, educational, and political capital of the Highlands—(hear, hear, and applause)—we will henceforth be proud to think of Mrs. Carnegie as a Dingwall lady, ever welcome to return within our borders. (Loud applause.) As to Miss Margaret Carnegie, we honor her to-day for the parents’ sake— (applause)—though I am told by those who know that Miss Carnegie is worthy of honor for her own sake—a winsome young lady of captivating charm, one already well fitted to grace the castle walls of Skibo, and one for whose future we—her father’s fellow-citizens—wish everything that brings the truest goodness and the best happiness. (Applause.) I ask you to drink to the toast of Mrs. and Miss Carnegie. Long may they be spared to our youngest burgess, and long and happy may they reign in that beautiful part of the Highlands which they have made their home. (Loud applause.)

The toast was pledged with Highland honors, the band playing “Here’s a health to all good lasses.”

Mr. Carnegie, after a brief chat with Mrs. Carnegie, said that he had been commanded by her to respond to this

toast on her behalf. No one knew so well as he did how true a helpmate his wife had been to him, and he would just tell them a secret which he knew would earn for her their life-long esteem. She was an American lady, but on their first visit to Britain she said to him that they must have a summer home in this country, and only one stipulation would she make with regard to it. He inquired what that condition was, for in the circumstances he could do nothing but grant it. It was that their home should be in the Scottish Highlands. (Applause.) Like all converts too, Mrs. Carnegie had an excess of zeal. (Laughter and applause.) She had told him on one occasion that were she placed on a desert island, with the choice of one musical instrument only, that instrument would be the Highland bagpipes. (Laughter.)

“THE STRANGERS.”

In giving the toast of “The Strangers” Dr. Adam said the toast list must have been written out before the proceedings of the day, because he was quite sure after the auspicious and happy events of that great occasion no one in the hall could feel to be in any way a stranger. (Hear, hear.) They had heard something that day of their town’s antiquity, with a charter dating back to the days of King Alexander, but he (Dr. Adam) ventured to say that there had been no such happy and enthusiastic event in its long history as the proceedings of that day. (Hear, hear.) Referring to the proceedings Dr. Adam made special allusion to Mr. Carnegie’s speech after Mrs. Carnegie so gracefully laid their library’s foundation stone. That speech was certainly one of the best short speeches he had ever heard delivered—(applause)—and in that speech Mr. Carnegie told them that if this library be of God it would stand. He was certain that these great men who were born in their town, and who had won fame in many parts of the world, would, if they were living to-day, indorse these memorable words of their guest. (Loud applause.) He would say further that they welcomed their guests, not only for personal reasons, but because they came here to show their sympathy with the library and believed in the elevating influence of libraries. (Applause.) He was glad to think that no Scottish parish had ever the audacity to refuse these colossal bequests of their youngest burgess. (Applause.) If any did happen to refuse they were born hundreds of years too late—(laughter)—and they should have had their day in the times of Henry the Eighth, who spent inordinately upon his jewelry and little upon his books. As far as Dingwall was concerned they were all delighted with that great day and with Mr.

Carnegie’s great gift. They looked forward with great expectations to the future. If there was a single man in the town who was not convinced of the benefits of free libraries he was sure that if he had listened that day to Mr. Carnegie’s able and convincing speech, however obdurate a sinner he might have been, he would now be converted. (Laughter and applause.) They welcomed these guests who had come from across the seas, those kinsmen who had been so eloquently referred to by the Provost and Bailie Frew. The representatives of that great Republic of the West were their cousins—(applause)—and his own feeling was that this country would submit to any provocation rather than take up arms against them. (Hear, hear.) He would ask them to drink to the health of “Their Guests.” (Loud applause.)

In the course of his remarks the Rev. Mr. Ritchie, Creich, with whose name the toast was coupled, said he was not the greatest stranger there, but if they gave many more entertainments like these he assured them he would come oftener. (Laughter.) Dingwall was advancing, but he was not in the least jealous, as Bonar-Bridge had set the example some years ago. (Laughter and applause.) And when they in Dingwall came in a good second or third he (Mr. Ritchie) had not the least tinge of jealousy. He had often w’ondered at the failure of Henry the Eighth, but now his friend, Dr. Adam, had cleared up the difficulty in a single sentence. (Laughter.) Had Henry the Eighth spent more on books and less on jewelry his career and perhaps the whole history of England would have been different. (Applause.) Dingwall was the centre of law in the past, and now it was to be a centre of wisdom. He was glad to see Mr. Carnegie much improved in health since his return to the Highlands, and he was glad to know that literature was not to lose an ornament for a long time yet. (Applause.) They had that day had examples of ability, brilliant oratory, and genial good will, and if Dingwall could shine so well without a library he wondered what Dingwall would be after their Free Library had given it new impetus, wisdom, and power. (Applause.)

The toast list having been exhausted the Town Clerk read apologies for absence from Seaforth, Tulloch, Mr.

Stirling of Fairburn, Sheriff Guthrie, Sheriff Shennan, and Mr. Munro-Ferguson of Novar, M. P. Novar wrote: Our great neighbor has many claims to distinction, but that which will place him with the immortals is the ground he has gained for individual freedom and social stability in bringing within reach of so many the means of knowledge. He has founded his scheme for the advancement of learning upon one of the most notable precepts of the 18th century:

Here's freedom to him that wad read,
Here's freedom to him that wad write!
There's nane ever fear'd that the truth should be heard
But them wham the truth wad indite.

Mr. Carnegie in a word then proposed the health of the Chairman, Provost Macrae, which was heartily pledged, after which the company rose and sang "Auld Lang Syne" to the accompaniment of the band, the chorus being twice repeated after all present had joined hands on a signal from Mr. Carnegie.

Mr. and Mrs. Carnegie and their guests, with the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors, left the Hall together on their return to the railway station, where a large crowd had gathered to see them off, and as the train steamed northward the band struck up and the entire company sang a verse of "Auld Lang Syne," which was followed by renewed cheering.

END.

Weekend is almost here and hope it's a good one for you.

Alastair