

SENATOR WARK of this city to-day entered upon the second century of his life, hale and hearty, and surrounded by his friends who congratulated officially and otherwise on his centennial celebration.

The story of the Senator's busy life is told in his own words elsewhere in this paper, but a few additional points in his long career will be of public interest.

Senator Wark was born near Londonderry, Ireland, Feb. 19, 1804, came to this province in 1825, remaining for a year in St. John, went to the Bend, now Moncton, in 1826, to Richibucto in 1830, became a trader in 1836, member of the assembly in 1842, member of the legislative council in 1851. He was a member of the late Sir Leonard Tilley's government from 1858 to 1862 and for a short time in 1867 was receiver general. He removed to Fredericton soon after his appointment to the senate in July 1867.

In his reminiscences, says the Sun, Senator Wark says that he worked for a term in a shipyard, for the remainder of the two years with Mr. Kelly as clerk, and then two years as master of the district school. It would be interesting to know if there are any survivors of Mr. Wark's pupils of seventy-eight years ago, or whether he has outlived every child placed under his care. Senator Wark has himself lived to see the Bend transformed into the city of Moncton. There was not much sign of railways in the province at the time of his residence. But the Bend was the divisional point, so to speak, on the stage line between St. John and Halifax.

About this time Kent County was set off from Northumberland. The whole county eight years after Mr. Wark went to Richibucto, had a population of 6,031. But Richibucto was then a brisk sort of place. In a letter printed by the senator two or three years ago, it is stated that in these early times the shire town of Kent was a much busier place than it is now. The children who were at his school during his six years of teaching are perhaps all dead. Some of their sons and daughters are old men and women. But one old gentleman in Kent, a lawyer of more than fifty years standing, writes that he has heard Mr. Wark described by contemporaries as a most excellent schoolmaster.

Those who remember Mr. Wark as a trader and in provincial politics, are more numerous. Elected first in 1842 with others some years younger, he has long outlived every one of his colleagues, and the writer believes every other member of the assembly elected four years later.

Appointed to the legislative council in 1851 at the age of 47, he has long been the only survivor of those who were then members. Called to the senate at the age of 63, in 1867, with seventy-one others, some of them not more than half his age, he and Senator Miller of Nova Scotia, and Hon. A. R. McClellan of Alberta are the only original senators left. He has outlived his brethren and peers in three legislative bodies. Mr. John Wesley Weldon, his colleague in the representation of Kent, became a judge, and died. The son of that colleague, came to St. John and represented that county three terms at Ottawa, and he too has passed away. Sir Leonard Tilley began a long political career ten years after Mr. Wark entered the legislature. That distinguished career closed years ago. Mr. Wark was in public life two years before Sir John A. Macdonald, thirteen years before Sir Charles Tupper, nearly twenty years before Alexander Mackenzie, and nine years before Mr. George Brown. It takes us back to old issues when we consider the principal questions in which Mr. Wark was interested during his eight years in the house of assembly. The educational question he mentions in the interview printed to-day. But it is worth noting that the interest which he took in the university, whose doctor's degree he holds, first shown in the legislature three score years ago, has recently been exhibited by a handsome donation of \$1,000 to one of the college funds.

Mr. Wark was the promoter of a movement for the reformation of the postal service, and he was made chairman of a committee to carry it forward. The whole control of the postal affairs of the colony was in the hands of the imperial government. The postmaster general, the late Mr. John Howe, was appointed by and responsible to Downing street. Rates of postage, mail routes, and all the details were arranged under imperial authority, and Mr. Wark did not give up the controversy until the post office department was rescued from imperial control. When he ceased to be a member for Kent, Mr. Francis McPhelim took

his place, and he became postmaster general.

It was in the forties that the agitation over the repeal of the colonial trade policy took place. Before Cobden's time colonial products enjoyed an imperial preference. Under this protection our pine timber trade with Great Britain grew and flourished. The nearest thing to an annexation movement ever seen in this province resulted from the withdrawal of the preference. On the 18th of March, 1850, Mr. Wark moved a resolution expressing the fear that the imperial policy "would produce such feelings of dissatisfaction as must inevitably

prable that he will recommend his fellow senators to consider the ways of the most industrious of insects.

Senator Wark continues to enjoy excellent health. He is cheerful, and is usually ready to enter into conversation. He has always been kindly, generous and affable. He has strong convictions, but is liberal and charitable toward the views of others. He is a staunch Presbyterian like his father and grandfather, and when at Richibucto was treasurer and trustee of the Presbyterian church. Fifty years ago he taught a Sunday school class in that village, which was largely attended. One member was met

ed to fill a clerkship on my arrival in St. John. On reaching that city, however, after an uneventful voyage of 35 days, I was destined to be disappointed, as positions of the kind I sought were scarce indeed. I was not like those emigrants, however, who thought they must have a good position or none at all, so secured work in one of the numerous shipyards then so common along the harbor front of St. John.

St. John was even then a town of very considerable importance. The British government, after the close of Napoleon's career, had protected the pine timber trade much in the interest of British America, and in the year 1825, 114,000 tons of timber were shipped from the city. The city itself was of course very crude in appearance as compared with the present day. The streets were hilly and rough and exceedingly muddy; the buildings small and rough, but the community was a busy one, the chief industry being that of shipbuilding and lumbering.

I worked at shipbuilding in St. John until the spring of 1828, when I went to Dorchester to work for a Mr. Gilbert, but shortly afterwards went to the Bend, now Moncton, where I entered the employ of Mr. J. M. Kelly, whose son was Hon. William M. Kelly, at one time commissioner of public works for the province, first as a ship carpenter and afterwards as a clerk in his store, where I remained two years. Then the school at the Bend became vacant and I was appointed master, which position I retained for the same period.

Hearing of a vacancy in the school of Richibucto, then a much more important place than the Bend, I applied and was appointed to the position. This I held for six years, and when I retired to enter mercantile life I had between 70 and 80 scholars. Among them were Ann Foster, mother of H. A. Powell, K. C., and Elizabeth Clark, mother of J. D. Phinney K. C.

In 1836 I went into business, opening a general country store at first, but afterwards going into the timber trade, in which I engaged for upwards of thirty years.

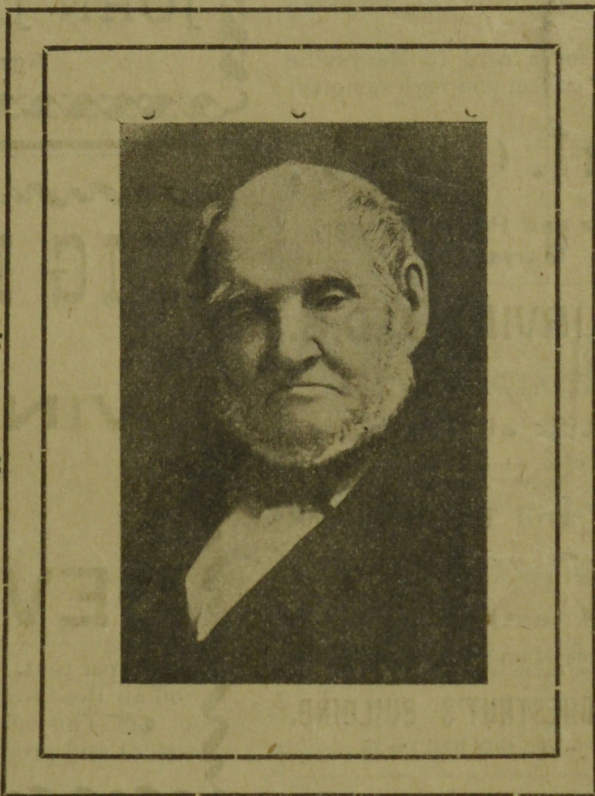
My first entrance in politics was in 1842 when, along with the late Hon. J. W. Weldon, I successfully contested Kent Co. for the legislature, and my first vote in that body was for my colleague as speaker. We were honored with some great minds in the legislature at that time. On the Conservative or Tory side were Hazen and Partelow of St. John and End of Gloucester, and on the Liberal side were such men as Wilmot and Fisher of York and Hill of Charlotte. Party lines were not strictly drawn, however. I was re-elected in the general election in 1846, and sat in the house until 1851 when Sir Edmund Head, governor of the day, appointed me to the legislative council.

While in the legislature I associated myself with Hon. L. A. Wilmot to secure reforms in matters of education, agriculture and the post office department, being on the latter committee for several years. At that time there was only one class of teachers in the province, all receiving a grant of £30 per annum. We succeeded in having them classified according to their merit, changing their allowances. We also introduced a system of school inspection and other features, many of which are found in the educational system of today. At that time King's College, now the University of New Brunswick, was an Episcopalian institution, and I associated myself with Hon. L. A. Wilmot and Hon. James Brown in a successful effort to reorganize the institution on a non-sectarian basis. Then every member of the senate and every professor was obliged to subscribe to the thirty-nine articles. This disability was removed as regards the faculty and every religious body was represented on the senate, thus stripping it of its denominational character.

After confederation became an established fact in 1867 I was honored with a seat in the senate, and since the death of Hon. R. B. Dickey last year, I am, with the exception of Hon. Mr. Miller of Nova Scotia, the last of the original number of twenty-four appointed to that body from the maritime provinces. I have never missed a session since my appointment, and shall go to Ottawa this year as usual, in my health is as good as at present, when the warm weather comes.

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HON. DAVID WARK,
Senator of Canada.

Who to-day celebrated the 100th anniversary of his birthday.

POINTS IN SENATOR WARK'S CAREER.

Born	Feb. 19, 1804
Came to St. John	1825
Removed to Westmorland	1826
Settled at Richibucto	1830
Elected to Legislature	1842
Member of the Executive	1858-1862
Called to the Legislative Council	1851
Appointed to the Senate	1867
Removed to Fredericton	1868
Celebrated his Centennial	Feb. 19, 1904

lead to a separation from the mother country." Mr. Fenety in his Notes says that Mr. Wark's speech introducing this resolution occupied over fourteen columns of a newspaper. He had grappled with Earl Grey on the post office question and he did it again on this one, and he seems to have thrown out broad suggestions that the imperial policy might lead to separation.

Senator Wark was a strong confederate and took his share in giving effect to his views. It was in the nature of things that he should be one of the senators called by royal proclamation.

Until the last few years he was an assiduous committee worker. He has never missed a session at Ottawa. When there he seldom misses a sitting of the house. If he has a fad, it is that the senate does not do enough work. He has no patience with the habit that chamber has of short sittings and frequent adjournments while the house of commons is getting legislation ready to send up. The senate has the power to initiate all measures except money bills. Senator Wark does not see why his chamber does not send bills to the commons. He holds that a fair share of private legislation should be threshed out first in the senate.

This appeal to a more strenuous life was made to the senate by the veteran when he was ninety-five years old. At that age he was not satisfied to be so idle as his neighbors desired him to be. Our despatches state that he will be presented at Ottawa this year with a portrait and an address. His reply will be courteous and modest, as all his language is, but it

by the writer a few days ago, who says that some rather eminent men received Sordy school training from Senator Wark.

Since his residence in Fredericton he has been an active member of St. Paul's Presbyterian church, and a generous giver towards its support as well as to missionary and other schemes of the church.

Interviewed by a reporter the other day, Senator Wark said:

"I was born in County Donegal, Ireland, on the 19th of February, 1804, of Scottish parentage, and was the youngest of a family of three sons and three daughters. My father was a farmer and in the nature of things it was impossible that we all should stay at home. While I was yet young my eldest brother had entered the employ of the Hudson's Bay Co. My father had designated my second brother to succeed him on the farm, and it was arranged that I should go with my eldest brother to Canada to enter the same employ. When I was old enough to do so, however, the Hudson Bay Company amalgamated with their rivals, the Northwest Company, and my hope of entering the service of the former company was lost owing to the decrease in the number of employees.

After the war of 1812 emigration to British America from Ireland flourished. Every spring several ships sailed from Irish ports to St. John and Quebec, and in May, 1825, I took passage on the Liverpool ship James and Henry Camming, along with 452 other emigrants.

I had received a good education in the schools of Londonderry, and had expect-

THE ADDRESSES

Presented to Senator Wark

BY THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION AND ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

On the Centennial Celebration of His Birthday.

Following is the address presented this afternoon to Hon. Senator Wark by the mayor and aldermen of Fredericton:

To the Honorable David Wark, Senator of the Dominion of Canada, etc.:

May it please Your Honour—We, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Fredericton, thank Your Honour for this opportunity afforded us, on this memorable occasion, the one hundredth anniversary of your birth, of presenting the congratulations of your fellow citizens, whom we have the honour to represent, and also of ourselves, with the prayer that the Almighty in His Divine wisdom, may spare you to us for many years, endowed with the same vigorous faculties and health, with which you have been able to serve your country in the highest parliament of our Dominion.

Your long, active and useful life among us, identified as it has been, with all professions, callings and trades in the province, together with your clear intellect, rendered your long service in the Legislature of this province, both as a member of the House of Assembly and afterwards in the Legislative Council for sixteen years, and a portion of that time as a member of the Executive Government, of the greatest service to the welfare of the province. The action of Her late Majesty, at the time of the confederation of Her North American colonies, in placing you in the Senate of our new Dominion, is a high testimony of the standing in which your experience was esteemed, and the duties of which high position you have continued well and faithfully to perform, from year to year, to the present time.

The changes and advances you have been permitted to witness in the short space of one life, are almost beyond comprehension. At the time of your arrival in this country in 1825, you being then 21 years of age, steam was in its very infancy, no railway or transport by steam power, no telegraph or use of the electric current, or other great advancement in the useful sciences; you, sir, have been spared to bear witness to the unlimited beneficence of the Almighty in his great gifts to mankind during the past century.

You have loyally served your country during the reigns of five sovereigns of Great Britain, George III, George IV, William IV, Victoria the Good, and His present Majesty, King Edward VII, and during all your active and energetic life, not the slightest stigma has ever been insinuated or charged against you, but you have been known throughout our Dominion as an upright and honorable gentleman and an example for future generations.

We can also claim the honour, through you, Sir, of having as a fellow citizen, a gentleman who is at this time, the senior parliamentary representative of any legislative body, not only in Great Britain or her colonies, but in the world, and one who still continues by his clear mental capacity and long experience, to be of the greatest service in the greatest of our country's councils.

We desire to convey to your daughter and family, our esteem and respect, after your residence of over thirty years in this city, and to express our admiration of that happy home love and care, which has no doubt largely contributed to the maintenance of your unvarying vigor and good health.

In testimony whereof the Mayor of the said city of Fredericton has hereunto set his hand, and caused the common seal of

(Continued on Second Page.)