

Thomas Arcy Mcgee: The Extreme Moderate, 1857-1868



Thomas D'Arcy McGee: The Extreme Moderate, 1857-

1868 by David A. Wilson

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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Thomas Arcy Mcgee was a prominent Irish-Canadian politician and journalist who played a key role in the development of Canada. He was a strong advocate for Irish independence and Canadian Confederation, and his writings and speeches helped to shape the political landscape of both countries.

Mcgee was born in Carlingford, County Louth, Ireland, in 1825. He was the son of a farmer and a schoolteacher. Mcgee received a classical education and studied at Trinity College Dublin. He became involved in politics at a young age and was a member of the Young Ireland movement. In 1848, he participated in the abortive Young Ireland Rebellion and was forced to flee Ireland.

Mcgee came to Canada in 1849 and settled in Montreal. He quickly became involved in journalism and politics. He founded the *New Era* newspaper, which became one of the most influential Irish-language newspapers in Canada. Mcgee also served as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Canada from 1857 to 1868.

Mcgee was a strong advocate for Irish independence. He believed that Ireland should be a self-governing nation within the British Empire. He also

worked to promote the rights of Irish Catholics in Canada. Mcgee was a key figure in the development of the Canadian Confederation. He was one of the delegates to the Charlottetown Conference in 1864, which led to the creation of the Dominion of Canada in 1867.

Mcgee was assassinated in Ottawa in 1868. His death was a major blow to the Irish-Canadian community and to the Canadian Confederation. Mcgee is remembered as one of the most important figures in Canadian history.

Mcgee's Legacy

Mcgee's legacy is complex and controversial. He was a brilliant orator and a gifted writer. He was also a passionate advocate for Irish independence and Canadian Confederation. However, Mcgee was also a controversial figure. He was often accused of being too extreme in his views. He was also criticized for his personal life. Mcgee was a heavy drinker and a gambler. He was also known for his womanizing.

Despite his flaws, Mcgee was a significant figure in Canadian history. He played a key role in the development of the Canadian Confederation and in the promotion of Irish independence. His writings and speeches continue to be studied and debated today.

Further Reading

- Thomas Arcy Mcgee: A Biography by Desmond Morton
- Thomas Arcy Mcgee: His Life and Times by Brian Jenkins
- The Extreme Moderate: The Life of Thomas Arcy Mcgee by Joseph Schull

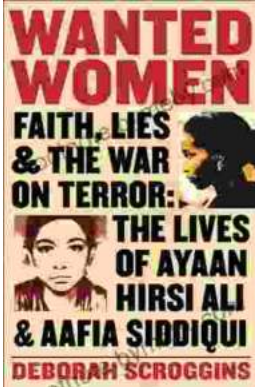


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