



City of Cambridge

4. IN CITY COUNCIL

March 25, 1991

COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS: Before this month of March, 1991, designated by this Council as IRISH HERITAGE MONTH in Cambridge, comes to an end, it is appropriate to recall at random the following individuals of Irish Lineage who, among others, contributed mightily to various aspects of municipal life in the City of Cambridge.

Cambridge's first teacher of Irish ancestry was Henrietta MacIntyre, a graduate of Radcliffe College and the Sorbonne College at the University of Paris;

Cambridge's first mayor Irish ancestry was John H. McNamee, a resident of Athens Street, who served as Mayor from 1902 through 1904;

The Honorable Edward W. Quinn who served as Mayor of Cambridge for the longest consecutive number of terms, twelve years, 1918 through 1929;

Joseph J. Kelley, described as "one of the most respected and dearly beloved citizens of Cambridge" was born in County Donegal, Ireland in 1842 and came to the United States in 1846 where his family settled in East Cambridge. He attended the Otis Grammar School until he was ten years of age, when he went to work in a rope factory and afterward was employed in a belt factory in East Boston. From 1880 through the time of his death in 1899 he was engaged in the undertaking and funeral business at the location of Third and Gore Streets, moving to a location on Cambridge Street in the late 1890s. That participation in public life was his specialty is evident in his being a member of the Common Council in 1874, 1875; Representative to the Massachusetts Legislature in 1877, 1878, 1879, 1883; Alderman in 1885, 1886, 1887; School Committee member here in the City in 1897 through 1899; Trustee of the Cambridge Public Library for five years;

Cambridge's first Superintendent of Schools of Irish lineage was Michael Edward Fitzgerald who served in that position from 1912 until 1944. Born in Rockland, MA in 1863, a dynamo of personal and professional integrity and academic excellence who believed intensely that education is a life-long process, he carried out the belief of Horace Mann that education is the balance wheel of our social machinery. The high respect in which Cambridge residents hold public education in this City today is, in no small measure, the product of the presence of Michael Edward Fitzgerald.

From the mid to late 19th Century, the Cambridge School Committee was peopled with persons of Irish lineage who gave of their very being to the vitality of the community. People such as C.L. McCurley in 1855, Anassas Kelley in 1858, Thomas Scully in 1868 and 1869, John O'Brien, the Reverend Pastors of the Sacred Heart Church, from 1875 until 1882; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council salutes the memory of these friends of Cambridge of Irish lineage who labored for the good of this City in years gone by with an intensity which we are called upon to echo in our own time; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and is requested to prepare a duly engrossed copy of this Resolution for any relatives of the above referenced persons who live in Cambridge today.

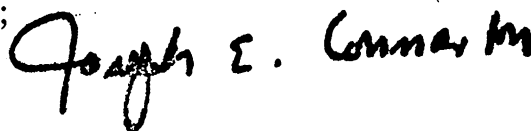
In City Council March 25, 1991.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph E. Connarton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph E. Connarton
City Clerk



4.

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

(617) 498-9094

William H. Walsh
City Councillor

BY HAND

March 21, 1991

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Joseph E. Connarton
City Clerk

FROM: David Noonan, for
Councillor Walsh

RE: Council Resolution for March 25, 1991
(CONSENT AGENDA)

I am enclosing a Council Resolution regarding the contributions of persons of Irish lineage to the life of Cambridge which Councillor Walsh requests be included in the CONSENT AGENDA for the Council Session of March 25, 1991.

Thank you for your customary courtesy and cooperation.

I'm certain that if the city is here and has not been dismantled, in 100 years you and your contributions will be heralded in much the same way.

(ENCLOSURE)



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- Cambridge's first mayor of Irish ancestry was John H. McNamee, a resident of Athens Street, who served as Mayor from 1902 through 1904;
- The Honorable Edward W. Quinn who served as Mayor of Cambridge for the longest consecutive number of terms, 12 years, 1918 through 1929;
- Joseph J. Kelley, described as "one of the most respected and dearly beloved citizens of Cambridge" was born in County Donegal, Ireland in 1842 and came to the United States in 1846 where his family settled in East Cambridge. He attended the Otis Grammar School until he was 10 years of age, when he went to work in a rope factory and afterward was employed in a belt factory in East Boston. From 1880 through the time of his death in 1899 he was engaged in the undertaking and funeral business at the location of Third and Gore Streets, moving to a location on Cambridge Street in the late 1890s. That participation in public life was his specialty is evident in his being a member of the Common Council in 1874, 1875; Representative to the Massachusetts Legislature in 1877, 1878, 1879, 1883; Alderman in 1885, 1886, 1887; School Committee member here in the City in 1897 through 1899; Trustee of the Cambridge Public Library for 5 years;



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- From the mid to late 19th Century, the Cambridge School Committee was peopled with persons of Irish lineage who gave of their very being to the vitality of the community. People such as C.L. McCurley in 1855, Anassas Kelley in 1858, Thomas Scully in 1868 and 1869, John O'Brien, the Reverend Pastor of the Sacred Heart Church, from 1875 until 1882.

Now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this Council salutes the memory of these friends of Cambridge of Irish lineage who labored for the good of this City in years gone by with an intensity which we are called upon to echo in our own time; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and is requested to prepare a duly engrossed copy of this Resolution for any relatives of the above referenced persons who live in Cambridge today.

Cambridge's first Superintendent of Schools of Irish lineage was Michael Edward Fitzgerald who served in that position from 1912 until 1944. Born in Rockland, MA in 1863, a dynamo of personal and professional integrity and academic excellence who believed intensely that education is a life-long process, he carried out the belief of Horace Mann that education is the balance wheel of our social machinery. The high respect in which Cambridge residents hold public education in this City today is, in no small measure, the product of the presence of Michael Edward Fitzgerald.

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RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and is requested to prepare a duly engrossed copy of this Resolution for any relatives of the above referenced persons who live in Cambridge today.

City Council MAR. 25 1991
Adopted by the affirmative vote
of 9 members
Joseph E. Grant City Clerk



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Order # 4

S-432

Consent

Councillor Walsh resolution on
Irish Lineage for Irish Heritage
Month.

In City Council,

March 25, 1991

Order adopted