

Halifax. In the latter year, having returned from a successful mission to Great Britain on behalf of his *alma mater*, he received the appointment of professor of pastoral theology in that institution, and for five years filled the position with great satisfaction. In 1859, he returned to Halifax, as the curate of the historic old church of St. Paul's, and, on the death of the venerable incumbent, in 1865, he was chosen rector. This position, which he still retains, is one of the most important centres of ecclesiastical influence in the Maritime Provinces. "We may observe," continues the *Journal*, "that the church edifice of St. Paul's has associations and a history surpassing in interest probably those of any other Protestant sanctuary in the Dominion. Built within a year of the founding of Halifax (1750), its frame of oak is still untouched by the tooth of time. On the establishment, in 1876, of the university of Halifax, a degree-conferring, non-teaching institution, modelled after the university of London, and designed to simplify and unify the collegiate system of Nova Scotia, considerable speculation arose as to the gentleman likely to be named for the important and dignified office of chancellor. Doctor Hill's appointment thereto was accepted by all as a most felicitous solution of the problem, and under his able direction, the senate of the university has made gratifying progress in bringing into harmonious co-operation the higher educational forces of the province."

At the time of his appointment to the chancellorship of the university of Halifax, the degree of D.C.L. was conferred upon him by the university of King's college—a well-merited tribute to the scholarship of one of her ripest scholars.

Dr. Hill is president of the Church of England institute and of the board controlling St. Paul's alms house of industry; governor of the orphan asylum, and vice-president of the British and Foreign Bible Society and of the Tract Society. He has been for many years chaplain of the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia; he is a delegate from the diocese of Nova Scotia to the synod of the Anglican Church in Canada, and a member of the executive committee of the synod. He is also a prolific writer, the number of books and pamphlets from his pen being quite numerous and able. We find a copy of most of his works in the legislative library at Halifax.

WILLIAM ROSS,

HALIFAX, N.S.

WILLIAM ROSS, the present collector of customs at Halifax, is a man not only well known in the province of Nova Scotia, but in other provinces of the Dominion of Canada, he having served in both the Provincial and Dominion Parliaments for several years, and, at one period, as a minister in the cabinet of Hon. Alexander Mackenzie. Few purely self-made men in Nova Scotia have made a more prominent or better record than Mr. Ross.

He is a native of the Island of Boularderie, Cape Breton, named for one of the French governors, when Cape Breton was under France; and he was born on the 27th of December, 1825. His parents, John and Robina (Mackenzie) Ross, were both from Scotland, and belonged to the agricultural community. He was educated at different private schools, finishing in 1841 at Halifax, where he attended one year; then entered a shop in Cape Breton, where he learned the mercantile trade, commencing business for himself at St. Ann's, Cape Breton, in 1847, and continuing it until 1874, when he was appointed collector of customs at Halifax.