

Preston has many estimable social qualities, and in professional and parliamentary life duty is to him above all other things. He has always taken a warm interest in agricultural matters, and is president of the North Crosby and Newboro' Agricultural Association. Upon the floor of the legislature Dr. Preston speaks with the well-contained confidence of one who is master of the subject and the situation, and therefore always receives close and serious attention.

Lusignan, J. Baptiste Alphonse, Ottawa, was born at Saint Denis, County of Saint Hyacinthe, Province of Quebec, on the 27th of September, 1843. He is a son of Jean Baptiste Lusignan, by his wife Onésime Mâsse, who died in 1872. She was of German descent by her father, and of Scotch descent by her mother. Jean Baptiste Lusignan comes from the historical family of that name. One of his ancestors, Jean Miel de Lusignan, emigrated to this country from the Province of Poitou, France, at the end of the 17th century, and was married at Boucherville, Province of Quebec, in 1699. Our subjects' grandfather, Antoine, was killed at the battle of Saint Denis, and there too his father, aged nineteen, fought by his side against the British troops in 1837, when the insurrection was suppressed. Our subjects' father fled to the United States, but soon after returned. He was the youngest but one of seven brothers. He became a merchant, and married in 1841. J. B. A. Lusignan is the eldest of eleven children, nine boys and two girls. Young Lusignan was educated at the College of Saint Hyacinthe, entering that college in 1852, when yet not nine years old. He went through a complete curriculum of classic studies, which terminated in 1859, he being then not quite sixteen. He studied divinity for three years at the Seminary of St. Hyacinthe, and at the Montreal Seminary. In 1867, he studied law under M. Fournier, now a judge of the Supreme Court, and formerly a minister of the Mackenzie government; afterwards under M. Papineau, now judge of the Superior Court, and finally under the late Joseph Doutre, Q.C., at Montreal. He was a pupil of the Laval University at Quebec in 1862-3. In 1863, he became assistant editor of the *Tribune*, Quebec, and of the *Journal de Saint Hyacinthe*. He took second and first-class certificates at the Québec Military school in 1864. He wrote a pamphlet in 1864 against the management of that school, which had the effect of putting the French cadets on the same footing as the English, and secured to them equal consideration. In February,

1874, he became private secretary to Sir A. A. Dorion, minister of Justice, and in March to Hon. T. Fournier, minister of Inland Revenue. Later on in the summer of 1874, he became private secretary to the Hon. F. Geoffrion, minister of Inland Revenue. He is still in the same department, a second-class clerk. In 1864, he became first president of a legal society, called "Le Cercle Légal," with Mr., now the Hon. L. O. Taillon, attorney-general for Quebec, as vice-president at Montreal. From 1865 to 1868, he was one of the board of directors of the Institut Canadien de Montreal, acting in various capacities. He was assistant-editor of *l'Union Nationale* in 1865; and in the same year editor-in-chief of *Le Pays*, the leading French organ of the Liberal party in Montreal, until 1868, when he resigned in order to be admitted to the bar. He was admitted to the Lower Canada bar in December, 1868, and practised in Saint Hyacinthe from that date to January 1874. He was Crown prosecutor at Aylmer, County of Ottawa, Province of Quebec, in July, 1878; was president of L'Institut Canadien Français of Ottawa, in 1881, and declined re-election in 1882. He founded in the spring of 1885, the St. Lawrence Fishing Company, having its seat of operations on the Labrador coast, with Count de Puyjalon as manager, and of this, he, M. Lusignan, was one of the directors. He was also one of the founders and directors of the Stadacona Club, Ottawa, in 1883; president of the Convention Nationale, in connection with the celebration of the Saint Jean Baptiste festivity in June, 1885, at Ottawa. He was one of the invited speakers at the Congrès National of the Saint Jean Baptiste Society, in Montreal in 1884, where he spoke on literary criticism. He was elected member of the Royal Society of Canada in May, 1885, to replace N. Bourassa, who had resigned, and was then appointed secretary to the French (or 1st) section. He took an active part as speaker in over fifty Federal and Provincial elections, from 1863 to 1878. He is a regular contributor to *La Patrie* (Montreal), and to the literary reviews. We may say that M. Lusignan signs all his articles. He published in 1872, a law book, which is a continuation to Judge Ramsay's "Digest of Reported Cases" in Lower Canada. His book extends from the end of 1862 to end of 1871, and contains 308 pages in 8vo. It has proved a decided financial success. He published in 1884, "Coups d'œil et coups de plume, 342 pp. in 8vo. He published, in 1867, a pamphlet of 86 pp. against Con-