

and in politics is a Reformer. Through energy, enterprise and ability, Mr. Skinner has amassed a very valuable property and placed himself among the prosperous young farmers of his community, and he and his young wife make welcome their large number of friends to their beautiful home, where a kindly hospitality is always shown.

J. ERNEST GOSNELL, one of the prominent and progressive farmers of Orford township, resides on Concession 5, north half of Lots 17 and 18, Middle road. He was born upon this property June 29, 1861, a son of Lawrence and Eliza (Bowers) Gosnell, and the place was settled by his grandmother in 1832, and has remained in the family ever since. It comprises 112 acres, upon which Mr. Gosnell has a nice brick house, built in 1874.

Lawrence Gosnell was born Feb. 6, 1817, in County Cork, Ireland, and came to the County of Kent with his mother and several other members of the family. The father, Joseph Gosnell, died of cholera while on the way to this county, an account of this being given elsewhere. Lawrence Gosnell was a brilliant man, well educated, keen and prosperous in business, for a number of years served in the council, and bore his part in the development and advancement of the community. He married Eliza Bowers, who was born in Lower Canada, and who long preceded him to the grave, dying Jan. 23, 1875, at the age of fifty years, on the old homestead. Mr. Gosnell's death occurred Jan. 2, 1892, in Orford township, and both are interred in the Gosnell cemetery. They were thoroughly good people, and lifelong members of the Methodist Church, in which for a long time he was class leader, bringing many into the church by his earnestness and piety. The children born to this couple were as follows: Samuel, a farmer of Orford township; Augustus, a farmer of Orford township; Emma, of Highgate, who married R. C. Scott, formerly a miller; Mary L., of Highgate, who married Charles Crichton, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere; Elizabeth, of Ottawa, married to P. G. Keyes, an interior officer; Eliza A., who died young; J. Ernest; Nettie, deceased Aug. 19, 1893, who married A. M. Burchell, and died at the age of thirty years (Mr. Burchell is also deceased, and their son, Fred W., makes his home with his uncle,

Mr. Gosnell); and Fred, who died May 29, 1893, aged twenty-five years, in Highgate.

In February, 1893, in Mosa township, County of Middlesex, J. Ernest Gosnell married Margaret Watterworth, and they have two children, Bessie and Helen. Mrs. Gosnell was born in the same township, March 1, 1864, daughter of John and Jane (Walker) Watterworth, of the County of Elgin and Ireland, respectively, very prominent and worthy people.

Mr. Gosnell has lived upon his present farm all his life, and has made many improvements, now owning one of the best properties in the township. He is a Methodist in religious faith, while his political views coincide with those of the Reform party. Like his relatives on both sides of the family, he is a representative man, and can be counted on to support what he believes to be for the best interests of the community, although he is too shrewd and able a man to be imposed upon, and must first be thoroughly convinced. This care on his part makes his advocacy all the more to be welcomed, and his advice is therefore sought in private affairs as well as public matters by those in authority.

GEORGE WELLINGTON MCKEE, a well known tobacco merchant of Windsor, Ont., is a native of that Province, having been born in Sweaburg, in February, 1866. His parents were Thomas and Salinda (Van Sickle) McKee, both natives of Pennsylvania.

Thomas McKee went to Canada when a young man, and for many years was a government detective. He lived in Woodstock, Ont., until September, 1885, when he moved to Windsor, there remaining until his death, Sept. 29, 1899, at the age of fifty-seven. His wife still resides in Windsor, now advanced in years. Both were members of the Baptist Church. They had the following children: George Wellington, mentioned below; Anna, who married Alois Master, and lives in Windsor; Joseph, who is a printer in Windsor; Abraham, who lives in Windsor; Thomas, who carries on a meat market in Windsor; Norman, who is also a resident of Windsor; and Lena, deceased.

George Wellington McKee came to Windsor with his parents, and continued to live at home until his marriage. He soon entered the employ of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, as a brakeman, and remained with that