

ROBERT SURTEES, C.E.,

*Ottawa, Ont.*

ROBERT SURTEES, C.E., who at present occupies the position of waterworks' engineer in Ottawa, is an Englishman by birth, having been born at Ravensworth, Yorkshire, March 3rd, 1835. His parents were Robert Surtees, a surgeon by profession, and his wife Catharine, whose maiden name was Cathrick, both of them members of old and well-known families in the counties of Yorkshire and Durham. Our subject, who while a child suffered the loss of his father, attended a private academy in his native place. Afterwards he served his apprenticeship with a civil engineer in Darlington, remaining in this vocation until he was twenty-one, when he emigrated to Canada. He first settled in the city of Hamilton, where his ability in his profession at once secured for him the appointment of assistant city engineer. He remained in Hamilton four years, when he removed to the village of New Edinburgh, now embraced in the city of Ottawa, where he established himself as an engineer and architect. During his fifteen years residence there he had charge of many important works, which gave ample scope for the exercise of his professional skill. Besides laying out numerous roads and private buildings in various parts of the district, he did similar professional work on the McKay estate and Beechwood cemetery, and was architect of the Protestant hospital and Carleton county court-house, and a number of other buildings. He acted also as engineer and secretary to the Ottawa city passenger railway from its commencement until 1875. He was, moreover, engineer for the waterworks in the town of Peterborough and the city of Hull. In 1875, he accepted the position of city engineer for Ottawa, and under his direction and supervision some important works were carried out, such as the construction of the main sewer and the doubling-up of the waterworks system, the former costing half a million dollars and three years labour to complete, and the latter entailing an expenditure of half a million dollars. Both these works bespeak Mr. Surtees' ability in his profession, and the waterworks system especially may be pointed to as one of the very finest in the Dominion. In 1887, on account of the large increase of work and responsibility devolving upon him, Mr. Surtees elected to take the position of waterworks engineer alone, which he still occupies, and Mr. E. E. Perreault was appointed city engineer. Mr. Surtees is a member of the Canadian and American Societies of Civil Engineers, as well as of the American Waterworks Association. While in New Edinburgh, Mr. Surtees took considerable interest in civic af-

fairs, serving as reeve and member of the county council for five or six years, and as member of the public school board for about thirteen years. In benevolent society circles he is known as a member of the Masonic fraternity, having many years ago joined Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton. He is also a member of St. George's Society of Ottawa. Politically, he was always a Conservative, but of late years, on account of his public position, he takes no active part in election campaigns. In religion, he is a member of the Church of England, and is thoroughly evangelical in his views. In 1869, he married Lucy, daughter of the late William Jeffrey, of Hamilton, and has had issue seven children, of whom six—four sons and two daughters—are living. His eldest son, William, married Miss McCormick, of Ottawa, and has a position in the technical branch of the department of the Interior; Harold J. is an electrician, and at present connected with the Standard Electric Light Company. Mr. Surtees enjoys a position of well-earned distinction in his profession. In private life, he is of irreproachable character, and in every worthy respect esteemed as a good and useful citizen.

WM. D. LE SUEUR, B.A.,

*Ottawa, Ont.*

WILLIAM DAWSON LE SUEUR, Secretary of the Dominion Post-office Department, Ottawa, and one of the ablest and most cultured of Canadian writers, was born at Quebec, February 19th, 1840. He is the son of Mr. P. Le Sueur, secretary of the board of civil service examiners and formerly chief superintendent of the money order branch of the post-office department. Young Le Sueur was educated at the High School, Montreal, and at the University of Toronto, where he graduated, a silver medallist in classics, in May, 1863. In the previous year, he was admitted to the Law Society of Upper Canada, but did not pursue law as a profession. Neither, unhappily, has he devoted himself exclusively to literature, for the pursuit of which he possesses unusual gifts. His father's connection with the civil service gave him the opportunity, at an early age, to enter the post-office department, in which by the year 1868 he had risen to the position of a first-class clerk. In 1880, he became assistant secretary, and eight years later secretary of that department, filling the onerous duties of that branch of the executive with intelligent industry and rare ability. Known and respected as a valued civil servant, Mr. Le Sueur enjoys, however, the wider reputation of a literary man, though with the modesty of true worth he conceals his honours under the