

OUR CANADIAN PORTRAIT GALLERY.

No. 57.—HON. JOSEPH E. CAUCHON,
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.

One of the most prominent of French Canadian public men is the Hon. Mr. Cauchon. He has, by the vigour of his intellect and the energy of his character, established for himself a strong position in public life, which, for the time being, the quiet dignity of the Senatorial Speakership somewhat obscures. The very elevation of his office debars him from taking part in those Parliamentary tourneys in which, in former days, he was distinguishable, more, perhaps, for the boldness of his assaults than his skill of fence. But in the actual condition of parties the honoured seat before the Vice-regal throne is, doubtless, the most convenient one for him to occupy, his active services not being required as a leader, and his long Parliamentary career and admitted abilities forbidding his occupancy of a subordinate position in the ranks of his party.

Joseph Edward Cauchon was born at St. Rochs, Quebec, on the 31st. December, 1816, being descended from a member of the Conseil Supérieur, who came to Canada in 1638. Having completed his education at the Quebec Seminary, he commenced the study of the law, and was called to the Bar of Lower Canada in 1843. Before that time, however, he had already commenced his career as a journalist, having edited *Le Canadien* from 1841 to 1842. He then established *Le Journal de Québec*, which soon, under his able control, took a leading and influential position among French Canadian newspapers. M. Cauchon is still editor of, and chief political writer for, *Le Journal*, and is esteemed by many to be the ablest writer on the French press of the country. Vigorous, terse, and bold in his style, copious, and generally exact, in his information, his leaders, like his Parliamentary speeches, command attention and respect even where they plant a sting. From being a political writer he soon developed into an active politician, for in 1844 he was returned for Montmorenci to the Legislative Assembly. It is creditable both to him and his constituency that the associations then formed between them, more than a quarter of a century ago, have never since been interrupted; even at the last general election he was returned by acclamation both for the House of Commons and the Legislative Assembly; and though, on his elevation to the Speakership of the Senate, he had to resign his seat in the Commons, he still represents Montmorenci in the Local House. Mr. Cauchon entered Parliament as a supporter of the Lafontaine party, and his vigour in debate soon brought him into prominent notice. On the retirement of his leader in 1851, he assumed an attitude of hostility to the Government, and directed his energies to the expulsion of the western section of it. He cordially supported the Coalition of 1854, and from January 1855 to April 1857, was a member of it, holding the office of Commissioner of Crown Lands. In this position he displayed great departmental ability, and exhibited liberal and progressive ideas as to the mode of administering the public domain. He, however, disagreed with his colleagues on some particular question, and his strong self-will led him to resign rather than forego his own opinion. He remained out of office until 1861, when he re-entered the Cabinet, taking the portfolio of Commissioner of Public Works. The defeat of the Government in May of the following year was followed by the resignation of the whole Ministry, since which time Mr. Cauchon, though more than once offered, has never accepted a seat in the Cabinet. When Sir N. F. Belleau entered on his duties as Lieut.-Governor of the Province of Quebec, he offered the Premiership to Mr. Cauchon; but after consultation with other gentlemen whom he had invited to take office with him, he abandoned the task. The prominent part he had formerly taken in public affairs, especially his zealous championship of the Union, rendered it seemly that he should occupy an eminent position under the new regime, and accordingly, the Privy Council offered him the Speakership of the Senate, which he accepted, and his appointment was gazetted just on the eve of the first meeting of the Dominion Parliament. He performs the duties of his office with becoming dignity, and dispenses its hospitalities with great liberality. Though Mr. Cauchon has "turned" fifty-four, he appears to be ten years younger, and good for at least twenty years more of active public life; hence, when he shall have filled his term in the Speaker's chair, it need not be matter of surprise should he resume the active part he was wont to take in Parliamentary proceedings and the discussion of political questions.

No. 58.—THE LATE REV. HUGH URQUHART, D.D.

Few clergyman in Canada were better known or more universally respected than the late Dr. Urquhart of Cornwall, who died on the 5th of the present month, at the ripe old age of seventy-seven years, about forty-nine of which were spent in Canada. It was impossible that a life so long, which had been well spent in the performance of assigned duties, could have done other than attracted to itself a large circle of sympathetic and warmly-attached friends. But to the earnest, intelligent and single-hearted discharge of his obligations as a minister of the Gospel, were added, at least for many years, those of a teacher of youth, and it may well be believed that Dr. Urquhart's many amiable personal qualities thus brought prominently into notice gained for him an unusually large number of personal associations.

Hugh Urquhart was born in Ross-shire, Scotland, in the

year 1793, and after the usual training at the Parish School, graduated at the University of King's College, Aberdeen. He was licensed as a probationer by the Presbytery of Inverness, and in August, 1822, was fully received into the Ministry of the Church of Scotland by the Presbytery of Dingwall. He came to Canada in the October following, and first settled in Montreal, where for several years he acted in the joint capacity of Classical Teacher and Minister of the Gospel. In 1827 he received a call from the congregation of St. John's Church, Cornwall, which he accepted, and since that time, about forty-four years ago, he has resided there, performing his ministerial duties with much acceptance to his congregation. At Cornwall he also resumed the duty of teacher of youth, and among his pupils were many who have since risen to eminence in the country—such as Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Premier of Ontario, the late Chancellor of Upper Canada, &c., &c. A writer in the *Montreal Gazette*, in an obituary notice of the deceased, says:—"From 1847 to 1857, Mr. Urquhart filled the chair of Ecclesiastical History in Queen's College; and in the latter year, the University of Aberdeen conferred on him its highest degree, that of Doctor in Divinity. Dr. Urquhart was a sound scholar, and a most diligent student. His knowledge was general as well as professional; and it may be said with truth, that up to the last year of his life, he kept abreast of both modern literature and modern "thought." Though firmly attached to the Church of Scotland, he was a catholic-minded and large-hearted man,—a "broad churchman" in the best sense. Wherever he saw piety, he recognized its power and worth; and by whomsoever Christian work was done, he heartily rejoiced. His house was a model home in which, with dignity and a liberal hand, hospitality was extended alike to strangers and to acquaintances. Those who have ever seen him at the head of his table surrounded by friends, whether clerical or lay, will never forget the almost unparalleled grace and kindness which marked the bearing of their host: in this respect he was a man of a thousand."

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

The Fourth Session of the First Parliament of the Dominion was opened by His Excellency Lord Lisgar on the 15th inst., with the following speech:—

"Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate:

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

"I have much satisfaction in meeting you at this, the usual and most convenient season of the year, and under the present auspicious circumstances of the country.

"The hope I was sanguine enough to express at the close of the last Session, that no further attempt would be made to disturb our frontier, was doomed to early disappointment. The Session had scarcely closed when lawless bands assembled within the United States in great numbers, and renewed the menace of invasion. They ventured to cross the border at two points, but were promptly met and repulsed. So complete and humiliating was the repulse, that the invaders lost heart and hope, threw away quantities of arms, and fell back to encumber the villages in their rear, with their starving and demoralized masses. Our Militia rallied at the first call to arms with praiseworthy alacrity, and the spirit which pervades the country swelled their numbers with volunteers from all quarters. The gallantry displayed and the success achieved, have been duly recognized by the highest Military authority, and honoured, in gratifying terms of appreciation, by Her Most Gracious Majesty. In maintaining the Militia on active duty, the Government incurred an outlay to a considerable amount beyond what was provided by the votes of last Session. The accounts of the entire expenditure for the defence of the frontier will be laid before you, and I feel confident that you will pass a bill to indemnify the Government.

"My anticipations of success in regard to the Act passed for the Government of Manitoba, and the North-West Territories, and in regard to the Military Expedition, which it was necessary to despatch, have been fortunately realized. The troops surmounted the difficulties of the long and toilsome route with endurance and intelligence. They encountered no armed opposition, and their arrival at the Red River was cordially welcomed by the inhabitants. The people of the new Province have, under the Constitution accorded to them last year, assumed all the duties of self-government, and every appearance warrants the hope that they are entering steadily upon a career of peace and prosperity.

"The Legislature of British Columbia has passed an Address to Her Majesty, praying for admission into the Union, on the terms and conditions therein stated. All the papers on this important subject will be submitted, and your earnest attention is invited to them. I hope you will think that the terms are so fair as to justify you in passing a similar Address, so that the boundaries of Canada may, at an early day, be extended from the shores of the Atlantic Ocean on the one side, to the shores of the Pacific on the other.

"Should such an address be adopted, it will be necessary for you to take steps to secure the early exploration and survey of a route for an Inter-oceanic Railway, with a view to its construction in accordance with the terms of Union.

"The acquisition of the North-West Territories throws upon the Government and Parliament of the Dominion the duty of promoting their early settlement by the encouragement of immigration. This duty can be best discharged by a liberal land policy, and by opening up communication through our own country to Manitoba. The means proposed for accomplishing these purposes will be submitted for your consideration.

"Her Majesty's Government has decided upon referring the Fishery question, along with other questions pending between the two countries, to a Joint Commission to be named by Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States. On this Commission Canada will be represented. This mode of dealing with the various matters in controversy will, I trust, lead to their satisfactory adjustment. Canada urges no demand beyond those to which she is plainly entitled

by Treaty and the law of nations. She has pushed no claim to an extreme assertion, and only sought to maintain the rights of her own people fairly and firmly, but in a friendly and considerate spirit, and with all due respect to foreign powers and international obligations. The thanks of the country are due to the Admiral on the Station and those under his command, for the valuable and efficient aid which they rendered to our cruisers during the past season in maintaining order and protecting the inshore fisheries from encroachment.

"The prospect of the adoption of an International Currency seems, in the present state of Europe, to be so remote, that I recommend you to consider the propriety of assimilating the currency of the Dominion without further delay.

"The extension to Manitoba of the Militia and other laws of the Dominion, and their adaption to the present circumstances of that young Province, will require your attention.

"The decennial Census will be taken on the third day of April next, and it is believed that a more thorough and accurate system has been adopted than any that has hitherto obtained. It may be necessary to amend the Act of last Session in some particulars.

"Among other measures bills will be presented to you relating to Parliamentary Elections, Weights and Measures, Insurance Companies, Savings' Banks, and for the consolidation and amendment of the Inspection Laws.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

"I have given directions that the Public Accounts shall be laid before you. You will learn with satisfaction that the Revenue for the past year was in excess of what was estimated, and that the prospects for the current year are so encouraging that, notwithstanding the extensive public improvements which are contemplated, you will probably be able to diminish the taxation of the country.

"The Estimates for the ensuing year will be submitted to you, and I feel assured that you will be of opinion that the supplies which you will be asked to vote can be granted without inconvenience to the people.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Senate; and
Gentlemen of the House of Commons

"I lay these various and weighty matters before you in full confidence that they will engage your mature attention, and I pray that the result of your deliberations may, with the Divine blessing, prove conducive in all respects to the advancement and happiness of the country."

SENATE.

Feb. 16.—The Senate on meeting adjourned till the next day out of respect to the memory of Senators Boss, Crawford and Anderson deceased.

Feb. 17.—Hon. Mr. MACFARLANE, in moving the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, referred to the history of the past year, touching upon the various points dwelt on in the Speech. He complimented the Government on the state of affairs and expressed a wish that our differences with the United States might be satisfactorily settled. Hon. Mr. ARMSTRONG seconded the resolution, speaking in French. Hon. Mr. LEBELLIER DE ST. JUST regretted the withdrawal of the British troops from this country and enquired what steps the Government had taken to replace them. He wished also to know what was their canal policy. He thought the pacification of the North West had been obtained at two high a price, and objected to the annexation of British Columbia as involving a cost with which the advantages to be gained were by no means commensurate. Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL replied, and was followed by Hon. Mr. DICKY, and Hon. Mr. HOLMES. The motion for address and for the presentation by the Privy Council were then carried. The House adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Feb. 15.—On the return of the members from the Senate Chamber, the consideration of the address having been postponed until the following day, Mr. MCKENZIE asked if the Government intended to bring down the correspondence on the fishery question. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD in reply said that as soon as the address was adopted the correspondence would be laid before the members. Sir A. T. GALT hoped it would include the correspondence moved for last session, but not yet submitted. The House adjourned at 4 p.m.

Feb. 16.—Mr. MACKENZIE wished for information respecting the representation of the North West. Was the Province to be represented this session? Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that full information would be given when the papers were brought down, but in the meantime he might state that as soon as the results of the census were known writs were issued. As to the legality of the Act there was some doubt, especially with reference to the appointments to the Senate; but, if it should prove necessary, care would be taken to constitutionalize them. A bill would be introduced covering not only Manitoba, but all other Provinces admitted into the Confederation. It was the intention of the Government to name Senators for Manitoba, who would take their seats in the meantime. Mr. LACERRE (St. Maurice) in moving the address paid a compliment to the volunteers for their readiness to turn out in time of danger, and to the inhabitants of the North West for the loyalty displayed at the last elections. As to the Fishery question, Canada demanded nothing but her rights, and it was satisfactory that these had been entrusted to a statesman who would know how to deal with them. Mr. KIRKPATRICK seconded the motion. In referring to the pacification of the North West, which he attributed entirely to the firm and determined action of the Government, he expressed his approval of the appointment for Lieut.-Governor, and paid a high tribute to the energy and endurance of the volunteers forming portion of the expedition. He next spoke in favourable terms of the proposed union of British Columbia to the Confederation and of the Inter-oceanic Railway. He recommended that grants should be made to settlers along the line of the road. While speaking of the appointment of a High Commission, he expressed his opinion that the losses inflicted on Canada by the Fenian invasion should be introduced for its consideration. After touching on the subject of the assimilation of the currency, he concluded by congratulating the House on the satisfactory state of the finances.—On the motion for the adoption of the first paragraph, Mr. MACKENZIE protested against the arrogant pretensions maintained by the United States, and expressed a hope that the Fenian raid would come under the consideration of the High Commission. He contended that the British Minister at Washington had submitted to gross