

ment; minister of Customs; minister of Public Works; minister of Railways and Canals; Executive Commissioner for Canada at the International Exhibition, Antwerp, 1885; appointed by the Queen as Royal Commissioner of the Royal Colonial and Indian Exhibition, London, 1886; one of Her Majesty's plenipotentiaries to the Fisheries Conference at Washington, 1887.

The following are some of the Acts which he carried through the Legislature of Nova Scotia: The jury Law; Education Act providing free schools; Equity Judge Act; Windsor and Annapolis Railway Act; Representation Bill; Executive and Legislative Disabilities Act; an act reducing the number of members from 55 to 38.

In the Federal Parliament he introduced the Weights and Measures Act; the act prohibiting the sale or manufacture of intoxicating liquors in the N. W. T. of Canada; the Consolidated Railway Act of 1879; the act granting a charter to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, in 1887; the act of 1883 granting a loan to the C. P. R. company; the Railway Subsidies Acts of 1883 to 1884; and the act of 1884 respecting an agreement between the Province of British Columbia and the Dominion of Canada; the Customs Act of 1887; an act extinguishing the monopoly rights of the C. P. R., and a number of other acts. He has been three times High Commissioner for the Dominion in London.

In order to help the government with the difficult questions calling for attention just now he has again entered the cabinet, and has accepted the portfolio of Secretary of State, and hence his present contest in Cape Breton county, in order that he may be able to sit with his colleagues in the House of Commons, a hale old warrior in his 75th year.

### The Evening Cloud.

A cloud lay cradled near the setting sun—  
A gleam of crimson tinged its braided snow;  
Long had I watched the glory moving on  
O'er the still radiance of the lake below.  
Tranquil its spirit seem'd, and floated slow!  
Even in its very motion there was rest;  
While every breath of eve that chanced to blow  
Wafted the traveller to the beauteous west.  
Emblem, methought, of the departed soul,—  
To whose white robe the bloom of bliss is given,  
And by the breath of mercy made to roll  
Right onward to the golden gates of heaven;  
Where, to the eye of faith, its peaceful lies,  
And tells to man his glorious destinies!

### David MacKeen, Ex.-M. P.

Mr. David MacKeen, ex-M. P., is of Scottish descent, the name "MacKeen" being another form of "MacIain," "son of John," the first of the name being a son of "John," a warrior son of an early Lord of the Isles. Having also a dash of the north of Ireland blood, Mr. MacKeen can claim kin with the "Celtic fringe" on both sides of the channel.

His father was the late Hon. William MacKeen, M. L. C., Nova Scotia. Born at Mabou, N. S., on Sept. 20th, 1839, he received his early education there, and having subsequently completed it at Halifax and in Boston, the subject of our sketch entered upon what has been a long and useful career.

He married 1st, in 1867, Isabel, daughter of the late Henry Poole, Derby, England; 2nd, Miss Dawson, of Halifax; 3rd, in 1877, Francis M., daughter of the late John Crecar, of Halifax.

Besides being an able, and influential Parliamentary representative for nine years, Mr. MacKeen has held, and still holds several important and onerous positions. He was agent and treasurer of the Caledonia Coal and Railway company; United States Consular Agent; a Municipal Councillor and Warden of the county of Cape Breton, etc.

He was first returned to Parliament for Cape Breton County at the general election of 1887, and re-elected in 1891. He now retires of his own accord in order to make room for Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., the new Secretary of State in the present administration.

Mr. MacKeen is at present general manager for the Dominion Coal company, a concern that employs several thousand hands. He is largely interested in the Sydney Hotel, Sydney, C. B., built a few years ago at a cost of nearly \$50,000, and in every other enterprise of importance in the county.

Both he and Mr. MacDougall, his colleague up till now in the representation of the county, recognise the importance of Cape Breton's resources, and with their help its immense mineral wealth promises to be largely developed within the next few years.