



A PORTRAIT, FROM THE PAINTING BY J. HOM.—This is a characteristic piece of work by an artist, some of whose pictures have already been reproduced in our columns. There is about it the same clearness of colouring, the same saliency of outline, the same emphasis where emphasis is required to bring out expression and character that we find in nearly all Hom's productions. If not a *chef d'œuvre*, it is a fine striking portrait, pleasant to contemplate and worthy of study as a work of art.

JOHN PAGE, ESQ., C.E.—To several of our readers this portrait will recall a familiar face—that of the late Mr. John Page, whose sudden death on the 2nd of the present month was a source of surprise and deep regret to hundreds of friends throughout the Dominion. By his disappearance Canada has lost one of the most faithful of her sons, a man who has forever stamped the impress of his ability and energy upon the Dominion, and one who leaves behind him in the new Welland Canal, the new Lachine Canal, the system of the enlarged St. Lawrence Canals, and the Sault Canal, now in course of construction, an enduring monument which the rolling years will never be able to efface. Although well advanced in years, Mr. Page's mental faculties were to the last unimpaired. His family has for several years resided at Brockville in a beautiful home embowered in trees, and it was the habit of the deceased every Saturday to proceed there to spend the Sabbath with his family and return to the capital on Monday morning. As, however, Dominion Day happened this year on a Tuesday, he remained at home from Saturday till Wednesday morning, when he returned to Ottawa. He breakfasted as usual at the Russell House and then repaired to his office in the West Block. Passing the office of Mr. Bradley, secretary of the Department, he dropped in for a few minutes for a chat, and incidentally remarked that he had spent the whole of Dominion Day in his study revising the proof of the specifications for the enlargement of the Rapide Plat Canal, tenders for which work are now being asked. He also observed that he never felt in better health in his life. Mr. Page then proceeded to his office. Having hung up his hat, he walked to the desk, and started to lift up the cover as Mr. G. A. Mothersill, his chief clerk, entered the room through the connecting door. As Mr. Page attempted to lift the cover, being in a standing position, he stumbled and fell. Mr. Mothersill ran forward, picked him up and placed him in his chair and then sent a messenger for a doctor. Supposing Mr. Page to be in a fainting fit from the heat, Mr. Mothersill threw water in his face. Under the effect of this Mr. Page revived slightly. In the meantime Dr. Cousens arrived, and shortly afterwards Dr. H. P. Wright. Both gentlemen did all in their power, but it was evident from the moment they saw him that they considered his case hopeless. He spoke to them weakly several times in answer to questions. He lived only about half an hour, passing away in unconsciousness. The cause of death was failure of the heart's action. As an engineer Mr. Page had a grand record. Born in Scotland on the 9th of August, 1815, he served first under the late Robert Stephenson as engineer of the Northern Lighthouse Board. He came to the United States in 1838 and was engaged on the Erie Canal until 1842, when he entered the service of the Canadian Government as resident engineer on the Welland Canal. In September of the same year he was appointed resident engineer of the Junction and Williamsburg Canals, which position he retained during 1850-52. He then filled the position of Superintending Engineer of Canals below Kingston from 1852 to 1853. In 1863 he declined the Deputy Ministry of Public Works. On the 8th of March, 1864, he was appointed Chief Engineer of Public Works of the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, and on the 15th of March Chief Engineer of Public Works of Canada. The survey for the Welland Canal enlargement was commenced in 1870, and from 1872 to 1873 the late Mr. Page was engaged in making reports on the enlargement of the canals from Lake Erie to Montreal. On the 10th of December, 1873, he made a report on the proposed Bay Verte Canal. On the 16th of February, 1880, he presented a special and general report on the canals of the River St. Lawrence. He was Chief Engineer of Canals from 1879 up to the time of his death, and altogether had been 47 years in the service of the Government. Mr. Page was married on June 12, 1852, to Miss Elizabeth Grant Wylie, daughter of Dr. Alexander Wylie, of the County of Dundas, by whom he had seven children, four sons and three daughters. Mrs. Page, two sons and the daughters survive him.

SIR GEORGE SIMPSON.—The portrait which we here present to our readers is that of a man who for fifty years wielded a power which, as to the area over which it extended and the interests which it affected, might be compared to that of some of the sovereigns of the earth. It is now thirty years since Sir George Simpson passed away, but his name will long be associated with the closing years of the old régime in the North-West, where his influence was extraordinary. He was born in Ross-shire, Scotland, and there he passed his youth. In 1809 he moved to London and entered into business. After devoting himself to commercial pursuits for about eleven years, through the Earl of Selkirk, with whom he had come in contact, he

was selected to take a leading part in the operations of the Hudson's Bay Company. There was at that time a sharp rivalry between that body and the North-West Company, and it fell to the lot of Mr. Simpson to conciliate the latter and to effect a union of the two. He reached Montreal in May, 1820, and his ability was quickly recognized by the officers of the company here. He was appointed Governor after the coalition, and general superintendent of the company's affairs in North America. His peculiar talents as an administrator found ample scope in reconciling conflicting interests, abating personal jealousies and organizing expeditions. The journeys of Messrs. Dease and Simpson, of Dr. Rae, and of Messrs. Anderson and Stewart owed their success very largely to his arrangements and knowledge of character. The Queen, in acknowledgment of his merits and services, conferred on him the honour of knighthood. Nearly fifty years ago he undertook his famous journey round the world, of which he wrote an account, which is still consulted with advantage both for what relates to the North-West and for the description of old-world scenes. In his later years Sir George Simpson resided at Lachine. In 1860, on the occasion of the Prince of Wales's visit to Canada, he superintended the novel entertainment given in honour of His Royal Highness. His reception as a guest of the son of his Queen was his last public act. He was soon after seized with apoplexy, and on the 7th of September, 1860, he closed his long and remarkable career. In addition to his position as Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, Sir George Simpson was associated with some of the most important of Canada's monetary institutions, having been successively a director of the Bank of British North America and of the Bank of Montreal. In 1830 Sir George Simpson married the daughter of Geddes M. Simpson, Esq., who died in 1853, leaving a son and three daughters.

GRANT ALLEN.—It is much to be able to add new truths to the stock of human knowledge; it is scarcely less to be able to bestow these truths upon the multitude. Among the writers who have received inspiration from the loftiest thinkers of our time, and brought their thoughts in an attractive and helpful way before the people, Grant Allen holds an honoured place. He was born at Kingston, Ont., February 24th, 1848. His father, Rev. J. A. Allen, still resides in the Limestone City. When twelve years of age Grant Allen was taken to England and entered King Edward's School in Birmingham. Thence he went to Oxford, where he graduated in 1871 with high honours. Two years afterwards he was appointed professor of logic and philosophy in Queen's College, Spanish Town, Jamaica, and from 1874 to 1877 he was that institution's principal. Since 1877 Mr. Allen has lived in England, of late years making his home in Dorking. As a boy he early evinced the talents which have won him fame. His delight in collecting flowers and insects and in observing the habits of birds and animals was keen. He soon passed from the pleasure of collecting curious and beautiful specimens to the higher pleasure of classifying them, and trying to understand how they had come to be what they were. It was natural, therefore, that he should enthusiastically espouse the philosophy of evolution, the philosophy which reads in the structure of a flower or the anatomy of an insect, not only its genealogical record, but the story of the interplay of a thousand moulding forces—competitive and friendly. In deciphering the evidence which the strawberry presents in its pulpy fruit, or the butterfly in its painted wings, he has shown how intricate the alliances and the wars of which placid groves and fields have been the theatre from the day when life first dawned on our planet. Mr. Allen is not only happy in his gifts of observation and insight, he is equally fortunate in possessing rare powers of exposition. In this doubtless his experience as a teacher has been of service to him. He never forgets how difficulties loom in the minds of those who have as yet but entered the vestibule of the temple of science; that if they are to proceed farther into its heights and depths they must have plenty of light, a sympathetic guide, and permission to take their own time. Mr. Allen has not only made plain to ordinary readers the truths of evolution as won by Darwin and Spencer, he has made valuable additions to the philosophy of development in his "Physiological Esthetics," published in 1877. This work ably traverses the ground common to both physiology and psychology; and psychology it is which Mr. Allen conceives to be the science wherein he may yet do his best work. His published volumes comprise "Colour Sense," 1879; "Anglo-Saxon Britain," 1880; "Vignettes from Nature," 1871; "Colours of Flowers," 1882; "Flowers and their Pedigrees," 1884; "Charles Darwin," 1885; "Force and Energy," 1888; and "Falling in Love, and other Essays on more exact Branches of Science," 1889. In 1884 Mr. Allen turned his versatile pen to fiction, writing "Strange Stories," for which his Jamaican experience gave suggestion. Then followed "Philistia," "For Mamie's Sake," "Babylon," and "In all Shades." Mr. Allen, in addition to his authorship in books, is a voluminous writer for the press, contributing thereto at times poems of singular grace and felicity. During the summer of 1886 he revisited Canada, renewing old friendships and creating many new ones, for in his case the man is even more charming than the author.—G. I.

MADAME PAQUET.—Madame E. T. Paquet, wife of the Hon. E. T. Paquet, ex Provincial Secretary, and late Sheriff of Quebec, whose portrait we have much pleasure in publishing, is one of Canada's most gifted amateur singers. Descended on both sides from two of the oldest families in France and Britain, this lady enjoys a high

social position. She was born in Three Rivers, and is the daughter of Mr. Charles Auguste Larue, the founder and late proprietor of the famous St. Maurice Iron Works. Her brother was the late Capt. Larue, of "B" Battery, whose fine voice is well remembered by all lovers of music. Madame Paquet early evinced a strong passion for the art which she has so faithfully followed as an amateur. Her preliminary studies were made at the Sillery Convent, Quebec, under teachers of great skill and competency. She soon took a high position among her fellow-pupils. During her sojourn in Paris she embraced every opportunity which presented itself of hearing the prominent artists in the choicest programmes. At Montreal she took lessons in singing, and afterwards went to New York, where she distinguished herself at the academy of Madame Murio-Celli, the eminent professor of Emma Abbott, Emma Juch and other American prima donnas. Madame Celli was enamored with Madame Paquet's voice, which she pronounced one of the sweetest that she had ever heard. She made excellent progress with this lady, and but for family and personal reasons could easily have won a strong professional position on the lyric stage. Madame Paquet sang at the charity concert given in Quebec last May by Madame Albani, and shared the honours of the evening with that distinguished Canadian prima donna. She also sang with Mr. Edward Lloyd, the great English tenor, winning from the best critics only expressions of high praise, the *Montreal Gazette* saying that she "immediately conquered her audience." Of her singing at the Albani concert, the *Quebec Chronicle* remarked with truth: "Madame E. T. Paquet, who possesses a voice which is singularly sympathetic, finely modulated and peculiarly well-adapted for devotional singing, rendered Gounod's 'Ave Maria' in a superior manner. She was enthusiastically applauded, and won great praise by the feeling manner in which she brought out the rare beauties and rich melody of this sublime creation,—an air which tests the skill and voice of all great singers. The test was well sustained by Mrs. Paquet. Her performance merited, in the highest degree, the hearty burst of applause which followed, and when she returned to the stage in response to the encore and sang part of the composition over again, she was presented with a handsome bouquet of white and red roses." She has sung with brilliant effect in Gounod's "Faust" and other operas. In simple English, Scotch and French ballads which touch the heart, she has also gained great applause. Her manner on the stage is pleasing, unaffected and modest, and her voice is a rich and full soprano. This lady's assured social position ensures her always the *entrée* to all our aristocratic circles, where she is a great favourite. At the evening parties and receptions given by the wives of the Governors-General and Lieut.-Governors, and notably at the "At Homes" of the Princess Louise and the Marchioness of Lansdowne she has been ever a central figure, and with her usual kindness has complied with the oft-repeated request and rendered in faultless manner gems from her extensive repertoire.

ISLE DORVAL, AT PRESENT THE RESIDENCE OF G. W. EADIE, ESQ.—The scene in our engraving, one of the most charming in Canada, has for some two hundred years had associations, more or less intimate, with some of the most distinguished characters in our history. As early as 1673 (as we learn from "Le Vieux Lachine," the admirable repository of the annals and traditions of Lachine and its neighbourhood, prepared by D. Girouard, Esq., Q.C., LL.D., M.P., on the occasion of the bi-centennial of the massacre at that place), the islands of Courcelles or Dorval were conceded to M. de Fenelon, brother of the illustrious Archbishop of Cambrai, who played an important rôle in the controversies of Frontenac's first administration. The property, after undergoing some changes, fell into the hands of Sir George Simpson, with the closing years of whose long governorship of the Hudson's Bay Company it is still connected in the minds of old Lachinois. It still belongs to Sir George's heirs, from whom Mr. Eadie has leased it. As a memorial of an interesting event, which took place shortly before Sir George's death, and, indeed, was destined to mark his last appearance in public, we append an account (taken from the *Montreal Gazette* of the time) of the visit of the Prince of Wales to Isle Dorval, and of the novel entertainment organized in honour of His Royal Highness: On Wednesday, the 20th inst. (August, 1860), the canoe excursion given by the Hudson's Bay Company to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, came off with complete success from Sir George Simpson's beautiful country residence—Isle Dorval—about three miles above Lachine. The weather, which had been threatening in the morning, cleared up in the afternoon, and was everything that could be desired. After the review, which took place in the morning was over, the Prince of Wales and suite drove out to Lachine by the upper road, meeting a hearty reception along the whole route; but more especially at the village of Lachine, where the residents had made great exertions to do the Prince due honour. For a considerable distance pine trees had been planted on each side of the street; a profusion of flags and garlands decorated the houses, and (short as had been the time for preparation) no less than eight or nine triumphal arches spanned the road. The first seen was near the toll-bar, erected by Mr. Duff. Among others, we noticed that at the Hudson's Bay House, the residence of Sir George Simpson; at the Ottawa Hotel; at the Lachine Brewery (Dawes & Sons); and at the residence of Mr. Hopkins (H. B. Co. service). At a point opposite Isle Dorval (also the property of Sir G. Simpson), the royal party quitted their carriages to embark in boats sent up for the purpose from the vessels of war lying in our