

## IV. Biographical Sketches.

### 1. THE REV. DR. NEVILLE.

The Rev. Edmund Neville, D.D., Rector of St. Thomas' Church, was the son of the late General Neville, of the Royal Artillery, and was born in London, England, March 23rd, 1805. He entered the East India Company's Army as ensign in 1822. After serving five years he returned to England, and then emigrated to the United States. After some time he was ordained a Minister of the Episcopal Church of the United States, and held appointments at New Orleans, Philadelphia, Newark, N. J., and New York. About the commencement of the American war he returned to England, and soon afterwards came to Hamilton, holding the appointment of assistant minister of Christ's Church for about five years, and in 1868 was appointed rector of St. Thomas' Church. He was in his 67th year when he died.

### 2. REV. PROFESSOR HINCKS, F.L.S.

The deceased gentleman was born in the year 1792, and was consequently 79 years of age at the time of his death. His life was chiefly devoted to scientific pursuits, particularly in the department of Natural History. His contributions on Botany to the British Association and the Linnæan Society, and in later years to the *Canadian Journal*, on various branches of natural history, gave him a high reputation among scientific men of both hemispheres. On the establishment of a Chair of Natural History in Queen's College, Cork, he was appointed the first professor; and from 1854 until a short time before his death, he occupied a similar position in University College, Toronto. Dr. Hincks was a distinguished clergyman of the Unitarian Church, and though his studies chiefly took the direction of scientific subjects, theological questions received a share of his attention and called forth an occasional contribution from his pen. He came of a distinguished family. His father, the Rev. Dr. Hincks, of Belfast, was a celebrated oriental scholar; his brothers are all eminent men—Sir Francis Hincks, the Minister of Finance; Dr. Edward Hincks, the great cuneiform scholar; and Rev. Thomas Hincks, who was at one time proposed for the Kingston Bishopric.—*Globe*.

### 3. RECENT CANADIAN DEATHS.

**DR. EDMUNDSON**, of Brockville. His name has been a household word in the old Johnson District for more than thirty years past—his practice as a physician having extended far and wide. Dr. Edmundson was a most skilful physician and an accomplished scholar; he was a man of enlarged and liberal mind, and took the deepest interest in the progress and welfare of his adopted country. Though most retiring in his habits, his advice on important affairs, on many occasions during the last thirty years, was sought by successive leaders of the Liberal party, and found most valuable. Of the highest personal character, and beloved by all around him, a loss has resulted to Brockville and the country round, by the death of Dr. Edmundson, that cannot easily be supplied.

**MR. JAMES STOCK** was born in the County of Lancashire, England, in the year 1818, and was a descendant of an old English Roman Catholic family. In the year 1830, Mr. Stock accompanied his father to this country, and settled in the township of Etobicoke, where the Stock family established what is still known as the "Stock Settlement." The first farm settled upon was the property of the late William Arthurs, of this city, and forms a portion of that tongue of land which may be seen jutting out into Lake Ontario, a short distance to the westward of Toronto. Subsequently Mr. Stock became a resident of Toronto, and entered into the business of distilling, which proved to be unprofitable, when he entered the store of Mr. Wm. Henderson to acquire a knowledge of the grocery trade, in which he remained until the time of his death, and in which he realized a very considerable competence.

**MR. JOHN TAYLOR** was the oldest of the well-known firm of John Taylor & Brothers, Don Mills, millers and paper manufacturers. The father of the members of the firm, whose name was also John Taylor, emigrated from England in the year 1825, and settled with his family on the Don River, about three miles from the then town of York. As his family grew up, they manifested excellent business habits and great industry, and in their hands the property first acquired has increased to two thousand acres, and the water power on the stream is used to drive three paper-mills and a grist-mill. Mr. John Taylor was the eldest of the family, and to his liberality and enterprise was very largely due the great extension of the business of the firm. He was a man of the highest character. His probity, liberality and kindness, earned for him the respect and regard of all who knew him. He was

apparently a hale man, and might reasonably have looked forward to a long life. He has been cut off at the age of 62, by an acute inflammation, after a fortnight's illness.

**MRS. ARCHANGEL JONES**, widow of the late William Jones, Esq., for many years registrar of this county, and also Superintendent of Indian affairs for the Western District. Mrs. Jones, who was of French Roman Catholic descent, was born in the year 1787, on or near the present site of the Michigan Central Railway Depot in Detroit, where her father, M. Descount—dit Labadie—had a farm comprising 300 arpents of land, now forming the principal part of the city of Detroit. Previous to the breaking out of the war of 1812, Mrs. Jones was engaged to be married to her husband, who was at that time in the mercantile business in Detroit. When hostilities were commenced, he left his store property and valuables, to a large amount, and secreted himself in Mrs. Jones' father's house, till he got a Frenchman to paddle him over to the Canada shore, not, however, without several shots being fired at him by the Yankees, whilst crossing. He then took a command over the Indians and fought with Tecumseh at the battle of the Thames, as also at Lundy's Lane; he afterwards acted as aide-de-camp to General Proctor, during which time he married the subject of our memoir, in the township of Flamboro West, in the year 1815. Mrs. Jones was closely connected with most of the old French families of Detroit.

### 4. SIR JOHN HERSCHEL.

A cable despatch informs us of the death of the illustrious astronomer Herschel, who followed in the footsteps of his father, the great Sir F. W. Herschel. Sir John Frederick was in his 79th year at the time of his death, having been born in 1792. He graduated senior wrangler and Smith's prizeman at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1813. He at once devoted himself to mathematical and astronomical pursuits, and took a high position among men of science. A list merely of his contributions—the result of patient and careful observations of the heavenly bodies—would take up considerable space. He remained four years at the Cape of Good Hope, studying the southern celestial hemisphere; and suggested the idea of making meteorological observations at different places simultaneously at an appointed time. He has received deserved and generous recognition from different scientific societies; received a baronetcy in 1838; and in 1842 was elected Lord Rector of Marischal College, Aberdeen, he having previously received a D.C.L. from Oxford.

### 5. SCHAMYL, THE CIRCASSIAN CHIEF.

Intelligence has been received of the decease of the great Circassian warrior Schamyl, at Medina, in the course of the pilgrimage to Mecca, to perform which he had obtained permission from the Russian Government. Schamyl was at the ripe old age of 73, having been born in 1797, in the village of Himry, in the north of Daghestan. He was a member of an obscure family, but was instructed by the Arab, Djelad Eddin, in the doctrines of Souphisana, according to which, in each century a man should appear who, by passing through the four degrees of religious perfection, should become a Mursheed, or an Elect of God, commanding other men in his name. To Schamyl, an acquaintance with this doctrine became a desire and a will to exemplify it in his own person, and he determined to become a Mursheed. In 1824 he joined the banner of Kasi-Mollah, then head of the Circassian tribes, who had declared a holy war against Russia, which was waged until 1831, to the advantage of the Circassians. In October of that year, however, the Russians brought overwhelming forces into the field, drove the tribes from position after position, and surrounded them in Himry, where Kasi-Mollah and his whole force were destroyed. Schamyl was supposed to have perished with them, and turned the idea to account by proclaiming his resurrection, which was extensively credited, although Hamfad Bey was chosen chief. Schamyl submitted without a murmur to the choice of the tribe; but some time afterwards Hamfad was murdered along with his guards or *Mureeds*, of whom Schamyl was one. He escaped, as if by miracle, for the second time, and now was considered as undoubtedly the Prophet and Sultan of the Caucasus, notwithstanding the schism of Pasha Hadji, who up to 1837 disputed with him the title of Mursheed. He afterward waged a successful contest against the power of Russia, and only succumbed to the forces of the Czar after years of heroic struggle.

### 6. CAPT. ALEXANDER MACNAB.

There seems to be a growing desire throughout Canada, now that Confederation has given us a country around which a national sentiment very naturally entwines itself, to preserve from oblivion such incidents as go to make up our country's history, and to col-