

CANADA CITIZEN

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD

Freedom for the Right means Suppression of the Wrong.

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OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

We purpose publishing in THE CANADA CITIZEN a series of portraits accompanied by brief character and life sketches of some of the most prominent among our temperance workers. This week we take much pleasure in presenting to our readers and placing first on our roll

No. 1.—GEORGE MACLEAN ROSE.

Mr. G. M. Rose, is one of the most prominent of the leaders of the great Canadian Temperance Reformation. He has been publicly known for more than thirty years as a staunch and effective advocate of total prohibition. Born in 1829, he is now well advanced in life, but he is still in the foremost rank of workers, and takes second place to none, in zeal, in effort, or in liberal support of the cause he has so much at heart.

Mr. Rose is not gifted with any extraordinary oratorical ability, but he is one of those who can always readily, fully and clearly express his views, and do this so as to carry conviction to any thoughtful listener. He owes a good deal of his power to the soundness of his cause,—for he is almost invariably on the right side of any question he discusses,—and also to the determination with which he pushes on any enterprise that he undertakes. This careful judgment and this unyielding perseverance make him an invaluable champion of moral reform, and a formidable opponent to all self-seeking advocates and supporters of wrong. To the qualities already mentioned, he adds an unusual degree of quick perceptive power, by which he promptly and accurately gauges men and motives, a keen appreciation of straightforwardness, and an utter fearlessness in stating his convictions and views just as he feels them. He could not help recognizing and admiring the virtues or good deeds of even an enemy, and would never hesitate to tell a friend how much he despised anything that he thought unworthy in that friend's conduct or character. Notwithstanding this honesty and plainness, Mr. Rose is a man of much sociability and large sympathy and benevolence. He has been eminently useful as a worker in the Sons of Temperance—an organization whose object is to make sympathetic social intercourse a counter agency to the dangerous bar-room, and in the Blue Ribbon movement instituted for the purpose of reclaim-



ing those who have been led astray. Both in Quebec and Ontario, the S. of T. awarded Mr. Rose the highest honor in their gift, electing him to the office of Grand Worthy Patriarch, a handsome gold medal testified to the esteem in which he was held by the brethren of the first-named province, and the Ontario members presented him with a valuable silver water pitcher token of their regard. He has also held the position of Most Worthy Associate of the National Division of America. There is probably no Temperance society of any extent in Canada that has not been benefitted by his co-operation and support. For many years he was treasurer of the Ontario Prohibitory League, later on of the Dominion Alliance, in which organization he now holds the position of vice-president.

In other organizations G. M. Rose has also held positions of honor and trust. In the large body he was made the recipient of a gold medal for services rendered the cause of Protestantism in Quebec, and he holds high rank in the Masonic brotherhood.

The same qualities that made the subject of our sketch a zealous and successful worker in philanthropic enterprises, made him also a useful and prosperous citizen. He is eminently a self-made man owing what he is and has to his own industry and perseverance. The following synopsis of his business career taken from Rattray's *The Scot in British North America*, will be interesting to many of our readers:—

“He was born in Wick, Caithness-shire, Scotland, on the 14th of March, 1829, and learned the printing trade in the office of the *John O'Grout Journal*. A year after he had attained his majority the family settled in Canada. He entered the employ of Mr. John G. Becket, of Montreal, who was then engaged in the publication of the *Montreal Witness* and other journals. After the death of his father, which took place in 1853, the care of the family devolved upon him. The means at his command were but scanty, but in partnership with his elder brother, Henry, he started a small job printing office. By strict industry and economy they obtained a fair measure of success. In 1856 they dissolved partnership, George having become convinced that Western Canada offered more scope for his energies than Montreal. In connection with Mr. John Muir he established the *Chronicle*, in the village of Merrickville, but he did not remain there any length of time. Among his other engagements about this period, was that of city editor of the *London Prototype*. In 1858, he came to Toronto as manager of the printing office of Mr. Samuel Thompson, for whom he published the *Toronto Atlas*, started in opposition to the *Colonist*, which had taken ground