

INTRODUCTION.

THIS volume comes well commended by the work of its author in other fields of historical research. His "History of the Baptists" of the Maritime Provinces is not only a gallery of portraits of the fathers of the Baptist denomination, nor even a mere record of the growth and development of a single religious communion. It is really a history of the religious life of the Maritime Provinces for the period which it covers, written not only with the author's warm affection for the church with whose labours it especially deals, but with a genuine catholicity which accords the most generous appreciation to all other labourers in the same great field.

The gift of true and lifelike portraiture which distinguished the earlier volume will be found in equal degree in the present work, in which the author traces the careers of three great pre-Confederation premiers of the Province of Nova Scotia. One of them is still with us, and if indefinite length of days could be conferred by universal suffrage, the time would never come when his countrymen would be willing to part company with his vigorous and *puissant* personality. The name of Sir Charles Tupper is "writ large" in the history, not only of the Province of Nova Scotia, but of the great Dominion of which it forms a part. His achievements are well known to the present generation of his countrymen, and although he has reached an advanced old age, there are many persons yet living who can recall his first appearance on the political stage, and who could recount from their own personal knowledge the salient events of his long