

Thomas Kirkpatrick, Q.C., father of the Hon. George Airey Kirkpatrick, was born in the county of Dublin, Ireland. He was the son of Alexander Kirkpatrick, of Coolmine House, in that county, who represented the Irish branch of the Kirkpatricks of Closeburn. Coming to Canada in early life, he established himself at Kingston where he married a daughter of the late Alexander Fisher, Judge of the Midland District, and the son of a United Empire Loyalist, who settled at Hay Bay, Adolphustown, near Kingston, at the time of the American revolution.

Thomas Kirkpatrick represented Frontenac in the House of Commons from Confederation, in 1867, to the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1870.

I happened to be in Kingston on the first day of the Dominion, July 1st, 1867, and, while witnessing the field day on Barrifield Common, held in honor of the inauguration of the Confederation, I had the pleasure of an introduction to Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick. There were two regiments of British infantry, a detachment of Royal Artillery, and a detachment of Royal Engineers quartered at that time at Fort Henry, Fort Frederick, and the Tête du Pont Barracks. It was a glorious day, the people were joyous and enthusiastic, and the military display passed off with great brilliancy. That evening Mr. Kirkpatrick gave a dinner at his residence, where I had the gratification of meeting some of the leading men of the country and of laying the foundation of friendships which still continue. It was on that occasion that I first met the subject of this memoir. He was a young man then, remarkably handsome, with a figure of singular liteness, fully six feet high, straight as an arrow, and with a manner at once earnest, kindly and reposeful. In these characteristics he has not changed, save as years have mellowed and experience chastened the outward appearance of the man. He thus appears to me to have always been the same, and to have developed naturally on ancestral lines, as do certain plants which are the same in all climates and under all conditions, and which art may encourage to larger growth, but cannot alter in the slightest degree.

Dear old Kingston! How many sad and happy memories are associated with thy name! Memories that go back to the early days of childhood, to kindly friends long passed away, to gay military