

Government commissioner to the Antwerp and Indian and Colonial Exhibitions. On his return to Canada, he resided in Toronto for several years, and on the death of his father on January 2nd, 1887, he took up his permanent abode at "The Hermitage," where he lives. Mr. Leith holds a captain's commission in the 77th Wentworth battalion, and has a 1st class certificate from the Royal School of Infantry at Toronto. He takes considerable interest in agricultural matters, and is a director of the Ancaster Agricultural Society. He is a Free Mason and a member of Parkdale Rose Croix Chapter, Egyptian Rite. In politics he is an ardent Conservative and always an active worker in the party contests. In religion he is a Protestant, having been born and brought up in the Church of England. On July 6th, 1882, he married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Henry W. Eddis, of Albury Lodge, Rosedale, Toronto, by whom he has issue two daughters.

JAMES T. MIDDLETON,

Hamilton, Ont.

JAMES TAYLOR MIDDLETON, for a long time past prominently associated in business affairs of the city of Hamilton, was born at Alloa, Scotland, November 28, 1840. His parents were Arthur and Janet (Stuart Taylor) Middleton. He is one of a family of four children, of whom himself and a sister survive. Arthur Middleton served his time as a draper in Brechin, and afterwards worked for some years in Aberdeen. He was subsequently in the employ of the Caledonia Railway Company in Edinburgh, and in 1851 he came with his family to Canada, first settling in Stamford township, where they remained some years. Thence he removed to Smithville, a village in the township of South Grimsby. At later periods he carried on general store business in the villages of Selkirk and St. Ann's, in the same part of the country. Young James T. Middleton, who had attended a private school in Edinburgh, after coming to this country, continued his studies at the St. Catharines high school, and he was also under the tuition of Mr. S. F. Ross, of Stamford, now Deputy Collector in the Inland Revenue office at Hamilton, and from whom, he avers, he received the best portion of his education. While in Stamford, he worked on the farm of his uncle, the late G. W. Taylor, a leading public man who, in his time, had filled the offices of reeve of Stamford, warden of Welland and mayor of Clifton (now Niagara Falls). In 1856 he went clerking in a general store in Smithville, where he remained three years. He next spent some time in a Montreal dry goods house, after

which he clerked for the firm of Asa & Joseph Durkee, in Otterville, Oxford county. Leaving Otterville, his next move was to enter into partnership in a general dry goods store at Smithville with Joseph Durkee his old employer. After a varied experience here—farming as well as keeping store—during which he bought out Durkee and started on his own account, he removed to Hamilton to take the position of wholesale traveller for the old marble firm of M. E. Rice & Co. In 1876 he joined Mr. McArthur in purchasing the business of Rice & Co., which, for a further period of six years, was conducted under the firm name and title of McArthur & Middleton. Meanwhile the firm also carried on a wholesale hat, cap and fur business under the same name. In 1882 a dissolution took place, Mr. Middleton retaining the marble trade, and Mr. McArthur taking the other branch of the business. Under his careful management, Mr. Middleton's trade expanded wonderfully until at the present time he is the largest marble and granite dealer, as well as the heaviest importer, in the Dominion. The materials principally handled are Scotch and New Brunswick granite, and Italian and American marble, all for cemetery and building purposes. The business extends all over the country, from Quebec on the east to Vancouver on the west. With local public affairs, Mr. Middleton has taken an active interest. He was secretary of the Grimsby Agricultural Society, and also for several years secretary of the Smithville High School Board, and for two years he sat in the Grimsby Township Council. He has always been a strong and conscientious temperance advocate, his record in that connection being of the most creditable kind. In early life he joined the Sons of Temperance, and since removing to Hamilton he has been one of the leading figures in connection with the movement in that city. He has been D.G.W. Patriarch of the Sons, and belongs to the I. O. Good Templars, and to the Royal Templars of Temperance. He was president of the Prohibition Club in Hamilton, during the famous three-cornered election contest in 1887, and for years he has been a member of the Dominion Alliance for the total suppression of the liquor traffic. In politics, he is, like his father before him, a Reformer, though his mother held strong Conservative principles. He was chosen to contest South Wentworth for the Commons at the general election of 1891, and though not elected, the fact that he reduced the former Conservative majority of 176 to a bare 1, is a tribute to his standing among the electorate. In 1865 he married Catharine Olivia, daughter of the late William Eastman, a prominent farmer in Gainsboro' township, and grand-daughter of the late Rev. Daniel Ward