

dren, two others having previously died. Mrs. Stephens died ten months after her husband. The oldest daughter, Annie S., is the wife of Dr. Newton W. Powell, of Cobourg; George Joel, the eldest son, has succeeded his father in business and in the Consulship; Caroline M. is the wife of Allan Bowerman, Principal of the High School at Farmersville, Ontario. Roe is married and is a music publisher and dealer at Detroit, Mich., and Harriett B. and Harry H. are single.

## REV. MICHAEL STAFFORD,

LINDSAY.

MICHAEL STAFFORD, Priest of the Roman Catholic Church, Lindsay, is a native of the County of Lanark, Ontario, the son of a pioneer settler, Thomas Stafford, and was born March, 1, 1832. His father was from Wexford, Ireland; his mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth McGarry, from West Meath, same country. His family fought for Irish separation, and that was the reason Thomas Stafford came to Canada. Up to fourteen years of age our subject was educated at a district school near Lanark, his teacher, Robert Lees, still living, and filling the office of County-Attorney of Carleton. The school-house was an abandoned lumber shanty; the seats were made of bass-wood logs hewn flat on the upper side, and the desks were constructed by boring holes in the side of the house, driving in pegs and laying an unplanned board on the pegs. From that humble school-house he was promoted to the district school in the town of Perth, where he spent two years; immediately afterwards gave one year to study at Chambly, then seven years at St. Therese College, and took his ecclesiastical course at Regiopolis College, Kingston, where he was a pupil of the late V. G. McDonnell, and a schoolmate of Rev. John O'Brien, now Bishop of Kingston.

Mr. Stafford was ordained Priest in 1853, by the late Bishop Horan, and was a Director of Regiopolis College three years, filling meanwhile the chair of Logic and Philosophy. While in Kingston, Father Stafford was Chaplain of the Penitentiary, and on careful inquiry he ascertained that ninety per cent. of the convicts were sent there through the use of strong-drinks as the direct procuring cause—a lesson which, it will be seen, was of great value to him.

On leaving Kingston he spent a year in traveling in the United States, and on the continent of Europe. Returning to this country, he spent seven years on Wolfe Island, where he found, on entering upon his duties, that, through the great exertions of his predecessor, Father Foley, there were only three Catholics in his parish who were not total abstainers. Best of all, there were no arrests and trials for crimes—a fact which confirmed his judgment in regard to the primal cause of the great number of convicts in the Kingston prison.