

ed himself in the business of builder and contractor, and success very soon began to attend the work of his hands. He still resides at Ingersoll, where he continues in a prosperous business, and holds a conspicuous place in municipal and town politics. He was elected councillor in 1879, and in 1883 was elected deputy reeve. He was re-elected, by acclamation, to the same position in 1885; and he has been a trustee of schools for the past ten or twelve years. In 1856 he became an Oddfellow, and has filled the office of noble grand for three terms in that order; likewise having held the treasurership, and other offices. He is likewise a Mason, and is a member of St. John's lodge, in which he has likewise been treasurer. In politics, Mr. Bell is an active supporter of the Reform party, and his religious views lead him to give a strong adherence to the Methodist Episcopal church. He married on April 23, 1857, Agnes Elliott, who died on June 11th, 1863. He again married, on November 12th, 1863, Margaret Elliott, who still survives.

**Caron, Hon. Sir Adolphe, K. C. M. G., B. C. L., Q. C., P. C., M. P.** for Quebec county, and Minister of Militia and Defence, was born in the City of Quebec in 1843. Our subject is the eldest surviving son of the late Hon. R. E. Caron, lieutenant-governor of the province of Quebec. The Caron family is ancient, and many members of it from time to time held distinguished places in the state. Sir Adolphe was educated at the Seminary of Quebec, at Laval University, and at the University of McGill. In 1865, he graduated from the last mentioned institution taking with him the degree of B. C. L. M. Caron had as preceptors in the offices wherein he studied his profession, very distinguished lawyers. At first he studied with L. G. Baillairgé, Q. C., and subsequently with the Hon. (now Sir) John Rose, bart. In 1865 he was called to the bar of Lower Canada, and in May, 1879, was appointed a Queen's counsellor. He is the only remaining member of the widely known firm of Andrews, Caron & Andrews, Mr. Andrews, sr., having died a few years ago, and Mr. Andrews, jr., having been appointed to a justiceship. The firm is now re-organized and known as Caron, Pentland and Stuart. In 1867, he married Alice, only daughter of the late Hon. Francois Baby, M. L. C., and has issue Alice, and Adolphe DeBlois. Besides his attention to law, he has formed prominent connections in other directions. He has been a director of the Stadacona Bank, and was vice-president of the Liter-

ary and Historical Society of Quebec in 1867. But above all other interests, he found himself attracted to public life, and was first returned to parliament in March, 1873. He has sat in the House ever since, and has been twice elected by acclamation. He always showed himself to be an industrious and practical member of the House of Commons; and those who observed him closely had no difficulty in predicting that sooner or later he must obtain a substantial recognition of his abilities. Sir John A. Macdonald always keeps his eyes about him for talent, and Sir Adolphe was long under his scrutiny. A very great friend and warm admirer of Sir John A. Macdonald declares, however, that the premier does not want to have near him any ability, or brilliancy that could ever be likely to cast his own in the shade. Nevertheless, we are pretty certain that he is shrewd enough to seek to gather about him the best brains that he can lay hold of, and, as a rule, he has always succeeded in doing this. He perceived that Sir Adolphe would not alone make a good minister, but that he would likewise make a popular one. To some men, indeed to most men, come that one opportunity, at some period or another in their lives; to put it in poetic parlance:

"There is a tide in the affairs of men,  
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

That tide came last winter; that one opportunity arose for Sir Adolphe, Minister of Militia. We need not, so close to the event which furnished the opportunity, dwell at length upon it here. Like a thunderbolt upon our ears came the tidings that several policemen and civilians had fallen before a body of armed rebels in the North-West. It was the winter of the year, the theatre of revolt was far away; it could not be reached by railroad, but almost interminable stretches of wilderness lay before whomsoever should go there to re-assert the majesty of the law. A weak or incapable minister of militia would have been at his wit's end in the face of a problem, grave as this, thrust upon him for immediate settlement. But Sir Adolphe was not dismayed; he did not hesitate at all, but promptly and firmly grappled with the difficulty. Looking back upon it now, it naturally gives us ground for the heartiest approbation to think of the celerity with which troops were placed at different points in the territories, in the face of long and difficult marching, and at an inclement season. It is perhaps doubtful if there is to be found in the history

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