

Castle on the estate which is historically celebrated was founded by the Knights Templars in the twelfth century and has been rebuilt after the original design by its present owner. Mr. Vernon was educated in England for the royal engineers and in 1863 he received a commission from the Imperial Government. He resigned this however, shortly after it had been granted, and in the same year, 1863, in company with his brother and Col. Houghton, now Deputy-Adjutant General, of Winnipeg, came to British Columbia. Mr. Vernon and his companions engaged in commercial pursuits and ranching and mining in Yale district and the upper country and by reason of business shrewdness, enterprise and hard work were successful in these undertakings. After a time Mr. Vernon took over the management of the entire business having purchased the interests of his partners and has since confined himself almost entirely to ranching, possessing one of the most extensive and finest farms in the Province. In 1875 he first offered himself as a candidate to represent the important district of Yale in the Provincial Legislature and was returned by a large majority. In February, 1876, he accepted the portfolio of Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works in the Elliot cabinet, and on returning to the people for confirmation in this position was re-elected by an overwhelming majority. This position he retained till the general election of 1878, when he was re-elected by his constituents, but in consequence of the defeat of the Elliott administration, Mr. Vernon was in opposition. In 1882 he was not a candidate for re-election but in 1886 he was again returned and on the death, in 1887, of Hon. Mr. Smythe, he accepted office in the Davie Government as Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works. At the last general election in June, 1890, he was again returned by his constituents and now occupies the chief commissionership of lands and works in the ministry of which Hon. John Robson is Premier. Mr. Vernon from his intimate acquaintance with the mining and farming industries of the Province in which he is very largely interested personally, makes an excellent commissioner. He is a hard worker and an able administrator. In 1877 he married Miss Branks, who died in 1885 leaving two children.

**Vowell, Arthur Wellesley**, (Victoria), son of the late Richard Prendergast Vowell of Clonmel, county Tipperary, Ireland, was