

and the able manner in which he seconded the efforts of his principal contributed materially to the great business success which has been achieved by the firm. The steady growth of its trade has been such as is rarely surpassed in this country; indeed the house is recognized as one of the solidest and best of its kind in western Canada. Some few years ago the firm was joined by R. T. Steele and George E. Bristol, who are still actively connected with it. Mr. Park was never a man who sought after public honours of any kind, but confined himself mainly to business. He, however, always encouraged all classes of legitimate field sports, and at cricket, foot-ball and rackets, which were his favourite recreations, he was for many years an expert. He at one time was a member of No. 1 company, 13th battalion, and was out with the regiment at Ridgeway during the Fenian Raid of 1866. In politics, he has always been a Conservative, and, though taking no active part in election contests, he is a liberal supporter of his party. In religion, he is a Protestant, was born and brought up in connection with the Presbyterian Church, and is an adherent of St. Paul's, Hamilton. In social life, Mr. Park is genial, affable, and among his many intimate friends he is held in high regard.

NICHOLAS AWREY, M.P.P.

*Hamilton, Ont.*

AMONG the names of the rising representative men in Ontario of late years that of Nicholas Awrey, South Wentworth's popular member in the Provincial Legislature, has occupied a prominent place. Mr. Awrey, who was born in the township of Binbrook, June 8th, 1851, is descended on the paternal side from loyal British stock, while his maternal ancestors, though of German extraction, have also a distinguished record in connection with Canadian affairs. His parents were Israel Awrey and his wife Elizabeth, the latter a daughter of the late George Rymal, of Binbrook. At the time of the revolutionary war the Awrey family lived in Pennsylvania, and they all remained loyal to the Crown. It is related that one of these, Arnold, was drafted into the Continental army, but he refused to serve against the king, and in making his escape to Canada he had to swim the Niagara river. At the close of the war, in 1785, the various members of the family were among the staunch band of U. E. Loyalists who sacrificed their homes in order that they might still live under the British flag, and, coming to Canada, they settled in Binbrook. Subsequently three of the brothers, of whom Mr Awrey's grandfather was the youngest, being then only eighteen years of age, fought on the British side

through the war of 1812-14, and were present at the battles of Queenston Heights and Lundy's Lane. His mother's family, the Rymals, have for many years past been well-known in connection with Canadian political affairs. Her uncle, Jacob, was a member of the old Canadian parliament during the period of the rebellion of 1837, and he, as well as her father, was included in the decree of banishment issued against the leading supporters of William Lyon Mackenzie. They were afterwards pardoned under Lord Elgin's proclamation, and Jacob was again elected to parliament as one of the representatives of the old Gore District. His son, Joseph Rymal, familiarly known as "Honest Joe," also had a long career in parliament, having represented South Wentworth continuously for twenty-five years prior to 1882, when he retired. Another of Mrs. Awrey's uncles, Joseph, fought against the Americans in the war of 1812, took part in the principal engagements, and drew a pension from the government up to the time of his death, which occurred about five years ago. Mr. Awrey early developed a strong interest in politics, and in 1879 was chosen as the Reform candidate for the Legislature in South Wentworth. After a keen contest he was returned at the head of the poll. This position he has retained ever since, having been re-elected in 1883, 1886 and 1890. Mr. Awrey has long since proved himself a valuable member of the Legislature. He is a sound logical reasoner, a keen debater, and session after session has rendered valuable services on the public accounts, railways, private bills, municipal and other important committees. Being gifted with a high standard of oratory, his services to his party as a political campaigner are in frequent demand in various parts of the country, and appearances indicate that ere long he will occupy a still higher position than heretofore in the councils of the Ontario Government. Mr. Awrey has given but little attention to municipal politics, having served only one term in the Binbrook Council in 1877. In agricultural matters, however, he has always shown a deep interest. For years past he has been a member of the Board of the great Central Fair Association, is President of the Wentworth Farmers' Institute, and during the past four years he has represented the 7th district,—which includes the city of Hamilton and the counties Wentworth, Halton, Wellington, Waterloo and Dufferin,—in the Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario. He is also serving his third year as President of the Provincial Farmers' Institute, and is a member of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association. He was appointed commissioner to represent the Province of Ontario at the World's Columbian Exposition during the session of 1892, of the Ontario Legislature.