

in the township of Williams, and afterwards in Dorchester, Middlesex county. His ability as an educator made him well known, and ere long he was selected as principal of the Goderich public schools, a position which he held for fifteen years, and filled to the highest satisfaction of the community. After leaving Goderich he taught for a short time in Galt, having accepted the position of principal of the schools there. Later on, however, he withdrew from the teaching profession, and was appointed inspector for the Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Society of London. In this office he remained until 1871, winning such repute that he was selected to organize and manage the business of the Hamilton Provident and Loan Society. The organization was successfully accomplished, and the business, under Mr. Cameron's excellent management, has been a highly prosperous one. It is true, as Mr. Cameron himself states, that the company owes much of its success to the wise counsels of its first president, the late Hon. Adam Hope, and the first vice-president, the Hon. W. E. Sanford, as well as to its present president, Geo. H. Gillespie, and vice-president, A. T. Wood, and such directors as the late E. W. Hyman, of London, Alex. Turner, and Chas. Gurney. But too much credit cannot be given to the popular manager for the fine executive ability he has displayed in conducting its business, while his sterling integrity has earned for him the unbounded confidence of his employers. Mr. Cameron has always been a Reformer in politics, though he does not mix himself up in party contests. He is a member of the Presbyterian body, and at various times has been on the board of management of Knox and Central churches, with the latter of which he is now connected. Mr. Cameron has seen a great deal of the world, having travelled extensively throughout Canada and the United States, and has also visited Italy, France, Switzerland, Germany, Holland and the British Isles. Being a man of keen observation and gifted with a retentive memory, his mind is well stored with information regarding these countries. In 1858, he married Harriet Ann, only daughter of the late Thomas Putnam, J.P., of Dorchester township, whose family figured as supporters of William Lyon McKenzie in the rebellion of 1837. One of his brothers, who was known as "General" Putnam, was shot while leading a detachment of the rebels at Windsor. In private life Mr. Cameron is held in the highest esteem. Among his acquaintances he is known as a genial, warm-hearted friend, generous in disposition, and one whose charitable nature is never appealed to in vain. He is a worthy member of the St. Andrew's Benevolent Society, with which he has been connected since coming to Hamilton.

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IN Canada at the present time there is not any sentiment that appears to so generally prevail as the feeling of satisfaction with which its people of the present generation regard their present condition, whether viewed from a political, material, educational, or moral standpoint, but that they are justly entitled to entertain such feelings, no one with a full acquaintance of all the facts can gainsay. The Dominion to-day occupies a very high, if not the first, place among the self-governing dependencies which owe allegiance to the British Crown. In extent of territory, diversity of resources, character, and capacity of its people, development and growth of all its varied interests and industries, and in the provisions made for education, and the moral and intellectual improvement of its inhabitants, Canada has made such strides, and holds such a high position at the present time, as to attract the attention and receive the admiration of intelligent people throughout the civilized world. In everything that constitutes true greatness, her foundations have been laid broad and deep, and the careful examination of her present condition clearly reveals the fact that she possesses all the elements necessary to insure the future of her national existence. Now, while this is very gratifying, it in itself demands investigation; success in the life of the state, not less than in the career of the individual, can only be achieved by the application of the proper means to secure the end desired, and if we are to profit by experience, and thereby be enabled to mould our policy so to direct the affairs of state as to insure continued growth and development, it is imperative that we should carefully examine the past, and thus intelligently ascertain what are the true causes of all the blessings and advantages we enjoy to-day. While considering this subject, due weight must be given to the superior physical condition which naturally exists throughout the country, it being an indisputable fact that Canada can produce within her own confines everything necessary for the subsistence and comfort of the human family in great profusion, and that in her inland seas and great rivers she has to hand highways for the interchange of products that are of incalculable value to her people. But it is not alone to any advantages of a material character that the Dominion owes her present enviable position, and it is now acknowledged by all candid students of Canadian history that the most potent influence, the real cause of the satisfactory condition existing at the present, is to be found in the capacity and character of the noble pioneers who in the early days carried on the business, created her insti-