

THE CANADIAN CHURCH MAGAZINE

AND MISSION NEWS

Published by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada.

VOL. V.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1891.

No. 56.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

No 56—THE LATE JAMES A. HENDERSON, ESQ.,
D.C.L.

IN the January number of this Magazine, we alluded briefly to the death of James Alexander Henderson, Q.C., D.C.L., Chancellor of the Diocese of Ontario, which occurred at Kingston on the 7th of December last, and we promised our readers a more extended notice of the life and career of this gentleman, who for over a quarter of a century has taken a leading part in his own diocese, and has been a useful and prominent member of the Provincial Synod.

The late Chancellor was born in February, 1821, at Stoke, near Plymouth, in England, and was consequently in the seventieth year of his age at the time of his death. He was the son of Capt. James Henderson, an officer in the Royal Navy, and his early training was intended to fit him for the same service, in which during his whole life he manifested a keen and instinctive interest.

In the year 1835, Mr. Henderson came to Canada and completed his education, which had been begun in England, at Upper Canada College in Toronto, where he made the acquaintance and secured the warm friendship of many fellow students who subsequently became distinguished in the history of this Province.

His military tactics led him at an early age to join the militia, and as an ensign in the year 1837, he was present at the battle which was

fought between the royalists and the rebels at Prescott. He subsequently became Lieut. Colonel of one of the regiments of reserve Militia, a position which he retained up to the time of his death.

In 1845 he married the eldest daughter of the late William Wilson, of New Court. Five children born of this marriage died in infancy; but eight, seven daughters and one son, survived their father. Six of the daughters are married respectively to Richard T. Walkem, Q.C., of Kingston, the Rev. E. P. Crawford, of Hamilton, Mr. S. W. Farrell, Mr. A. E. Richards, of Winnipeg, Major Drury, of A. Battery, Canadian Artillery, and Mr. John Galt, of Winnipeg. Stanley Henderson, the only son, resides in Vancouver, and Mrs. Henderson and her only unmarried daughter live at their family home in Kingston. Dr. Henderson's married life, though not free from affliction, was yet one of great happiness. He was a most affectionate husband and father, and a man of bright and cheerful disposition, and though he preferred the quiet of a domestic life,



THE LATE JAMES A. HENDERSON, ESQ., D.C.L.

he was noted for his hospitality and for the readiness with which he entertained his clerical and lay brethren when the meetings of the Synod or its committees called them to the city of Kingston.

Choosing the law as his profession, Mr. Henderson studied in the offices of the Hon. J. S. Cartwright at Kingston, and the Hon. Robert Baldwin in Toronto. Having been admitted to practice in 1843, he entered into partnership