

home his first earnings, and brought his parents to this country. He took the worthy couple with him wherever he went, until they were no more. After a time Mr. Thomson severed his connections at Trenton, and went to Springville, Pa. It was while here that he married Elizabeth McCoy, with whom he has since found so much of life's true happiness. Up to this time he had merely been seeking the position of machine-tender, but he now aspired higher, and became manager of the mills, and continued in this responsible position until he accumulated some means. He then went another step higher and leased a mill, in which operations he was achieving much success, when the American war broke out. He then lost everything that he possessed, and then it was that he first knew what real misfortune was. Having a family to provide for, he could not sit idly down and brood over the mischance, but he set out at once to find a position such as that which he had occupied before evil days came upon him. Some men would not have had the heart to "begin the world again"; but he was not of that class, and it was not long before he occupied the position of foreman for one of his old employers. He remained here for a short time only, and then embarked for Canada, in which country it was decreed that he should be long remembered among paper manufacturers. He went to the Windsor Mills, and erected there for the Canada Paper Company a pulp and paper mill, for the manufacture of pulp and paper from wood, the first experiment of the kind that had ever been made in Canada. He remained here for five years; then, in company with his brother, John Thomson, built the mill at Penobsquis, N.B., now called the Springdale mills, and owned by Mr. Nelson, of St. John. From this point Mr. Thomson, accompanied by his brother, went to Gananoque, a beautiful town opposite the Thousand Islands, on the St. Lawrence, and there built a large mill. He was engaged putting in the machinery when the walls cracked from the peak to the water's edge, owing to their being built on a slanting rock. The machinery was then re-shipped to Newburgh, where it was erected for the fourth mill. On this occasion Mr. Thomson had a share in the enterprise beside, and the firm was known as Rookledge, Thomson & Co. Three years later (1873) were erected the mills at Kingsey Falls, for the Dominion Paper Company. In 1874 the Messrs. Thomson built for the Napanee Paper Company their splendid mills. In 1879

they erected, entirely for their own use, the seventh and last mill, at a cost of over \$60,000. These fine buildings are situated at Thomsonville, on the N. & G. Railway and Napanee river, eight miles north of Napanee. In 1884, John Thomson retired from the business through ill-health, although, comparatively speaking, a young man. His share was purchased by the subject of this sketch, and the firm now is known as that of James Thomson, who carries on a very large and successful business, and where orders for No. 3 print and book papers are filled with carefulness, neatness and promptness. Anyone requiring such will find it to their advantage to address James Thomson, Newburgh, the pioneer wood paper maker of Canada. Mr. Thomson is a Presbyterian, being of that religious persuasion that believes in looking up. He has held the office of elder for a number of years, and is very prominent in the church. He has not aspired to any public office, but has occupied a place in the council of the corporation of Newburgh, where he resides with his family. He has been offered higher positions, but would not accept the same, not wishing to be identified with such public affairs as would too much engross his attention. In the highest sense of the word—in so far as integrity and excellent business abilities are concerned—Mr. Thomson may well be designated a representative Canadian.

McKellar, Peter Duncan, Registrar of the County of Kent, Chatham, Ont., was born on the 2nd of November, 1839, in the township of Raleigh. He is a son of the Hon. Archibald McKellar, and Lucy, daughter of Colour Sergeant McNab, of the 71st Regiment. Peter D. McKellar was educated at Upper Canada college; studied law in Toronto for three years; and took the LL. B. course in Toronto, except the final examination for which he did not read up, as he had been appointed registrar in the meantime. Mr. McKellar was a full private in the Victoria Rifles, formed in Toronto under Captain Ord, at the time of the *Trent* excitement; and he held a commission as lieutenant in the Sedentary militia. As we have seen, he is registrar of the County of Kent, to which office he was appointed in July, 1862, by the Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald. He has interested himself in the furtherance of objects of wide public importance from time to time, and in this connection may be mentioned his exertions towards the promotion of the Erie and Huron railroad scheme. Mr.