

M. Baby was born in the city of Montreal, on the 26th of August, 1834; was educated at St. Sulpice college, in his native city, and at the Joliette college; studied law in Montreal, with Messieurs (now Judges) Drummond and Loranger; was called to the bar in 1857; practised his profession several years in Montreal in partnership with Hon. Louis T. Drummond, when, his health becoming impaired, he removed to Joliette, where he continued his practice. He was created a Queen's Counsel in 1873. As a lawyer he has long held a foremost place among the fraternity in his part of the province, and will before long, most likely, take his seat on the bench of his native province, being especially fitted for the same, not only by his legal attainments, sound judgment, and unimpeachable character, but also by his high sense of honor and integrity.

Previous to his admission to the bar, M. Baby was a clerk in the Civil Service of Canada for several years, and he has been mayor of Joliette for four or five terms. The late Sir George E. Cartier, with that keen eye which made him discover merit wherever it existed, prevailed upon him to leave the Civil Service, and enter the political arena, where he now holds so commanding a position. Among the many praiseworthy deeds of M. Baby's life is the valuable assistance he rendered in the founding of the Montreal Historical Society, of which he has been an efficient member from its inception. He is himself an historian of some repute, having spent much time in researches of an historical character, particularly with reference to Canada, and has brought together, not without considerable expense and trouble, one of the most precious private collections of Canadian manuscripts known. The historical department of his large and valuable library is especially rich and attractive. In Canadian history it seems to lack nothing. He is also an antiquarian, and a connoisseur in the fine arts.

M. Baby is an honorary member of the Institut Canadien of Quebec, and also of Ottawa, and a member of the Antiquarian and Numismatic society of Montreal. For this last branch of study he seems to have a passion: he has devoted more or less time to it for years, and his private collection of coins and medals, Canadian and Foreign, is one of the best in the province. His cabinet of numismatical treasures is specially rare and valuable. It is said that if offered for sale it would probably bring him \$4,000 or \$5,000; though it is doubtful if he would part with it for twice the larger sum named.

Though long deeply interested in politics, M. Baby, we believe, did not enter public life until 1867, when he was a candidate for Joliette for the Dominion Parliament. At this time, however, from over confidence on the part of his friends and supporters, he failed to be elected. Five years later, at the General Election (1872) he was returned by acclamation; was re-elected in 1874; unseated on petition on the 28th of October of that year; was re-elected on the 10th of the following December by a much larger majority, and again, at the General Election in September, 1878, he was returned by a still increased majority. On the 26th of the next month, on the return of the Conservatives to power, he was called to a seat in the new Cabinet, his port-