

A GOLDEN JUBILEE AND ITS LESSONS.

The Hon. R. W. Scott, Secretary of State, and Mrs. Scott have just celebrated the golden jubilee of their wedding day. Owing to the fact of Mrs. Scott being an invalid it was a family celebration only, but they had the happiness of having all their children and grandchildren with them on the auspicious occasion, and received many tokens of congratulations and good wishes from a large circle of friends.

* * *

Mr. Scott was born in Prescott on the 24th of February, 1825. His father, the late W. J. Scott, M.D., belonged to an old Irish family, resident in the County of Clare, and his mother, Sarah Ann Macdonell, came of a race of staunch Catholics, who came to Canada in order to seek that religious liberty denied them in their own land. Mrs. Scott was born in Dublin in the year 1833—daughter of the late John Heron—the eldest of a family who were gifted with great musical talent and who, for many years, charmed the English-speaking world on both sides of the Atlantic, with their exquisite voices, and particularly in their rendering of Irish ballads.

Mr. Scott visited Ottawa as early as 1846 (it was then Bytown), and finally settled there in 1848—he has therefore seen the marvellous growth of the small town, and its development into a large and prosperous city. He was Mayor in 1852, and was first elected member of the Canadian Legislature in 1857. From Confederation (1867) to November, 1873, Mr. Scott was a member of the Ontario Legislature. In 1871 he was elected Speaker by a unanimous vote; was subsequently Commissioner of Crown Lands in the Blake and Mowat administrations. In January, 1874, was appointed Secretary of State in the administration of the late Alexander Mackenzie. From 1878 to 1896, Mr. Scott was leader of the Opposition in the Senate, and on the formation of the present administration of Sir Wilfrid Laurier was again appointed Secretary of State.

In the year 1863 Mr. Scott had the satisfaction of carrying through Parliament a measure placing the Separate School system of Ontario on an acceptable and permanent basis. The Bill was