

He was well read in politics, and ancient and modern literature, including that in the Gaelic tongue, as well as in theology, which was his particular study. A favourite pursuit of his in his late years was reading the Scriptures in the original. We have always felt that the natural features of a country have much influence in developing character, and Dr. Reid's lot happened to be continuously cast, during the last fifty years of his life, in one of the most beautiful village spots in this or any other country; and, up to the last, the old man was keenly alive to the natural beauties which on every side surrounded him. Often of evenings of the last summer of his life, he would sit by the parsonage door, and trace, or fancy he could trace, fantastic forms in the hills and meadows around him. Character is greatly influenced and refined by the presence of such associations, especially when there is, as there was in Dr. Reid's case, sufficient sense of the beautiful to perceive them. He preached the gospel of the Lord faithfully, and faithfully performed the services of the church. His discourses which were always original, were more remarkable for directness and simplicity than eloquence. They were always of a character to make men think, and at times might be called eloquent. Dr. Reid ever took great interest in public affairs. His pen has more than once done good service in the elucidating political questions in these columns. He took particular and active interest in educational questions, and published one or more essays on theological subjects. His political views were Conservative; and allegiance to the different sovereigns of Great Britain under whose reigns he lived was with him an obligation of religion. And we close this notice by saying that Dr. Reid survived three Bishops, whose friendship and confidence was given him to the latest moment of their lives. He attained the venerable age of 85 years.—*Montreal Gazette*.

#### NO. 7. THE ABBÉ FERLAND.

We regret to have to record the death of the Reverend Abbé Ferland, which took place at the Archbishop's Palace at two o'clock on Wednesday morning, in his 59th year. The Abbé J. B. A. Ferland's reputation rests upon his literary productions, although he was at the same time a distinguished ornament of the Roman Catholic Church in Canada. While his productions have not been very numerous, they are held in great estimation, on account of the circumstances under which they were written, chiefly amid the performance of his arduous professional service. The Abbé was a profound scholar, and has laboured strenuously in his arduous studies. He was therefore well acquainted with the subjects on which he treats in his several publications, more especially with everything connected with the history of Canada. He was descended from the family of Ferland, formerly of Poitou, in Vendée, France, in the 17th century; a member of which emigrated to this country and settled on the island of Orleans, near Quebec. Here the name was changed to its present style; and the father of the historian was married to a daughter of M. Le Brun de Duplessis, one of the four advocates who remained in Quebec after the conquest. M. Ferland was born at Montreal on the 25 of December, 1805. In 1813, his mother went to reside at Kingston with her son, and there he pursued his early studies. In 1816 he entered the college of Nicolet, where he remained until 1823, when he was admitted to holy orders; served one year as under secretary to Monseigneur Plessis, and afterwards became professor of arts, rhetoric, and philosophy at Nicolet. In 1828 he was admitted to the priesthood; was vicar, and served at Rivière de Loup, and St. Roch, Quebec, and acted as first chaplain of the Marine Hospital during the cholera of 1834. He was appointed curate of St. Isadore; and in the first of the same year he was appointed curate of St. Foy, as also at St. Anne de Beaupre in 1837. In 1841, was appointed superintendent of students at Nicolet, and became superior of that institution in 1847. A year later he was called to reside at the archiepiscopal palace, Quebec. In 1856 he proceeded to France for the purpose of gathering materials for an early history of Canada. In this expedition he was eminently successful, and on his return, published "Observations on a History of Canada by P. Abbé Arasseui," and subsequently "Notes on the Registers of Notre Dame de Quebec," "A Voyage to Labrador," lately the first volume of "Cours of History of Canada from 1534 to 1633," and "A Journal of a Voyage to the Coast of Gaspé," with other narratives. M. Ferland was a gentleman of much goodness of heart and amiability of manners, and was very generally esteemed. The funeral took place on Friday morning, surrounded by all the pomp and circumstance which the position occupied by the lamented deceased demanded, and accompanied by the expression of the most profound grief on the part of all classes. The room in the Archbishop's palace, in which the remains of the reverend gentleman was placed, while awaiting interment, was visited daily by thousands of friends and acquaintances, whose sorrow-stricken air bore ample testimony to the deep feelings of bereavement within their breasts. On Thurs-

day, at 3 o'clock, the solemn service of the dead was chanted over the body by the Roman Catholic clergy of the city, and again at five o'clock, by the members of the Seminary. The deceased, having held the post of garrison chaplain, was entitled to the honors of a military funeral, and this mark of respect, in all its solemnity, was most scrupulously paid to the remains by the Commandant, Colonel Gordon, of the 17th Regiment. The troops lined Fort Dauphin and Buade streets to the grand entrance of the Cathedral. First came the band of the 17th Regiment playing a funeral march, with a firing party from the same Regiment. Then came a large body of the clergy of the Arch-diocese. Next came the body—the following reverend gentlemen acting as pall-bearers, viz: Rev. Jos. Auclair, curé of Quebec, Rev. Andre Pelletier, Superior of St. Ann's College, Rev. E. M. Methot, Professor of Rhetoric in the Seminary of Quebec, Rev. Thomas Caron, Superior of the College of Nicolet, Rev. T. H. Harkin, curé of St. Columbe, and Rev. A. Bourret, curé of St. Anne le Pocatière. Next to the corpse came the chief mourners—the remainder of the funeral procession being in the following order; The Professors and students of Laval University in full academic costume—the executive Council, represented by Col. the Hon. Sir. E. P. Taché, and several other members of the government—Colonel Gordon, Commandant, Colonel Robertson Ross, 25th Regiment, Town Major Knight, and a number of other officers of the garrison—an immense concourse of citizens—strong detachments of the 25th Regiment, and Royal Artillery—the pupils of the Seminary. The cortege comprised in its ranks the judges, the members of the Legislature now in town, several of the foreign consuls, and nearly all the leading professional and mercantile men of the city. The shops along the line of march were closed. The Cathedral, which was too small to hold within its walls one half of those who followed the corpse from the Archbishop's Palace, was draped throughout the interior with sable hangings, and presented a very solemn and impressive appearance. The service was chanted by the Bishop of Tloa, Administrator of the Diocese, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Cazeau, Grand Vicar. At the termination of the service, His Lordship, standing at the foot of the Bishop's throne, in his mourning vestments, delivered a brief but touching address. The body was then lowered into its place on the epistle side of the Cathedral sanctuary. It is intended to place at once a tablet, bearing an appropriate inscription, over the grave.—*Quebec Chronicle*.

#### NO. 8.—FREDERICK WIDDER, ESQ.

We deeply regret to hear of the death of Frederick Widder, Esq., late Chief Commissioner of the Canada Company. He had resigned the commissionership of the Company through ill health, and was on his way to England, when Mrs. Widder, who had been ailing for some time, took ill and died in Montreal. He now, after the lapse of a few brief weeks, follows her to the grave. Few, who have known and enjoyed for so many years the hospitalities of the late Mr. and Mrs. Widder, in this city, but will feel deep sorrow at the foregoing sad announcement. Mrs. Widder was, herself, a woman of most agreeable manners and refinement; and few in Toronto have ever excelled her in the discharge of the difficult and delicate duties which her long continued hospitality, and prominent social position, necessarily devolved upon her. Mr. Widder himself will long be remembered as a man of cultivated taste and amiable manners. For many years he was known here as the Chief Commissioner of the Canada Company, and, as such, exercised much influence to promote the early settlement of what was long known as the "Huron Tract" of country in Upper Canada. Their deaths, so soon after each other, has cast a gloom over an extensive circle of friends and acquaintances in Toronto and its neighbourhood. They have left a blank in social life which will not soon be filled up.

#### NO. 9.—MR. JOSEPH REID.

Mr. Joseph Reid, of Chateaugay, died on the 3rd December, aged 76 years and 11 months. He formed part of the Canadian contingent which defeated the American army at Chateaugay in 1813, and distinguished himself so nobly on the field that he was immediately promoted to a sergenty.

#### NO. 10.—THE HON. ALEXANDER STEWART, C B.

Nova Scotia has just lost one of her most eminent sons. Judge Stewart, C B., an able jurist, died a few days since (Jan. 1865), at his residence, Halifax. He was of Scottish extraction and of humble parentage, and was about 71 years of age at the time of his decease. He was brought up in early life to the business of a brewer, which his father had followed for many years in Halifax, and it was at all times his boast that he had sprung from and was of the people. Subsequently he studied the legal profession, and was admitted to the bar. We learn from a lengthy notice in the *Halifax Reporter*