

and consenting, was chosen as the representative for Baldwin ward. For four years he continued to hold this office, and always, so far as the limited field in which his work afforded room, displayed his brilliancy and natural ability. During the years 1869 and 1870 he accepted the position of chairman of the finance committee. In 1871 he contested the mayoralty, and was successful, defeating Alexander Robertson. In 1872 he was not a candidate; but in 1873 he again offered, and was again elected, defeating J. J. B. Flint by sixty votes. In 1877 he entered municipal politics as alderman for Ketcheson ward, and remained in the council till 1880. But in the last named year he was appointed acting magistrate, and held that office, to the highest satisfaction of the public, till his death, which occurred on the 28th of June, 1884. The lamented deceased had been a member of the Methodist church from boyhood, and was an honoured member of that communion at the time of his death. He left a wife and seven children. He was a candidate for East Hastings in the House of Commons in 1872, but was defeated by John White. In 1879 he was a candidate for the legislature of Ontario, but was defeated by Alexander Robertson, whom, as we have seen, he had himself defeated for the mayoralty of Belleville. In politics deceased was a consistent and thorough Reformer. He was an able advocate, and stood in the front rank of the provincial bar.

**Rorke, Joseph**, Clarksburg, was born in the township of Tecumseh (near Beaton), County of Simcoe, Ontario, April 26th, 1832. His father, Richard Rorke, a native of the City of Waterford, Ireland, emigrated to Canada, in 1820, when a youth of fifteen years of age, in company with four or five elder brothers, who, after undergoing the hardships and perils of the sea voyage, and shipwreck off the Isle of Anticosti, losing all but their lives, made his way to Little York, now Toronto, when he shortly after located the farm upon which the subject of our sketch first saw the light. In 1831 he married Mary, eldest daughter of Thomas Hurst, a native of Roscommon, Ireland, who also emigrated with his family to Canada, in 1820, and located in the same township. She died in 1880, aged seventy, leaving eleven children surviving out of a family of fourteen. Our subject received his education at the public school, in the neighbourhood of his birthplace. The troubles of 1837-38, made a lasting impression on his

mind, creating a spirit of loyalty to Queen and country, and a stern opposition to all attempts to weaken British influence, and the connexion with the mother country. When young he was very fond of literature and adventure, and desirous for a military and active life. He left school at the age of fourteen, and spent a short time as clerk in a country store. In 1848 he removed with his parents to the township of Collingwood, in the County of Grey, and located lands adjoining the present village of Heathcote, where his father still resides. This being a period when railways were unknown in Ontario, the pioneer settlers of Grey were obliged to contend with many difficulties and undergo great hardships, Holland Landing being the nearest base for supplies, and Toronto the nearest reliable market. His mind matured rapidly under the hard experience of the next five years, and he soon began to take an active part in the political struggles of the country. He remained on the farm with his father until the close of 1853; and taught school in Thornbury, during 1859 and 1860. He spent the next four years in the employ of the Messrs. Marsh, general merchants, Clarksburg, as accountant. In 1867 he married Susan, daughter of the late John Donaldson, of Mount Norris, County Armagh, Ireland, who emigrated to Canada in 1846. After his marriage, he settled permanently in Clarksburg, and opened an office as notary public, conveyancer, land loan and general agent, which he still carries on. His wife died in 1883, leaving two sons and three daughters living, a son and daughter having died before her. He received his first commission as captain in the 4th battalion Grey Militia, taking rank and precedence from the 4th of February, 1858, from Sir Edmund Head; and his second commission as captain in No. 4 company, division Reserve Militia of the regimental division of North Grey, taking rank and precedence from 2nd of April, 1869, from Sir John Young. In 1868 he was gazetted lieutenant in No. 7 company, 31st Grey Volunteer Infantry battalion. In 1869 he attended the School of Military Instruction, Toronto, and obtained a second class certificate, bearing date, November 24th, 1869. He received a captain's commission in the 31st Grey Volunteer Infantry battalion, taking rank and precedence from February 28th, 1870. At the time of the *Trent* affair, he assisted in raising a flank company in his regimental division, in which he was appointed ensign, the lieutenant-colonel and