

quite as economical as coal, and in many respects greatly superior. It is smokeless, cleanly to handle, very little ash, and no sulphurous gas, consequently makes no soot to gather on the tubes. I find the stoking much easier than with coal. I banked the fire at 5.30 p. m., closing off the drafts, and found plenty of fire next morning at 7 a. m., with 60 lbs. of steam up. When the fire has burned out I find the grate bars perfectly clean."

The report of the manager and engineer of Stratford water works is of sufficient interest to reproduce verbatim:—

Test of peat fuel, obtained from township of Ellice, made at Stratford water works plant, Sept. 25, 1898:

CONDITIONS OF TEST.

No. 1 Boiler, coal fire, was drawn at 3 p.m., two pine slabs thrown on grates, served to kindle peat fuel. No. 2 boiler was treated similarly, but no kindling was used, the peat fuel ignited from the hot bars.

The steam gauge registered 47 lbs. In 13 minutes the steam rose to 60 lbs., and was held remarkably steady during the test.

The water level of boiler averaged 4 inches.

Temperature of feed water, 170 deg.

Reading of vacuum gauge, temperature of feed water, and pressure of water gauge was taken every half hour. Peat fuel consumed per hour, 510 lbs.

Water pumped per hour, 31,000 imp. gallons.

Ash and unconsumed peat, 7.5 per cent.

I have no hesitation in saying that fully 15 per cent. of the peat fuel was lost owing to the excessive distance from grates to boiler. Had I known the nature of this fuel I should have recommended the raising of the grates fully 7 inches, a mesh finer grate bar, and an automatic damper.

Trial of selected Reynoldsville coal, September 29th, 1898.

No. 1 boiler was drawn at 3 p.m.; 50 lbs. of pine served to kindle.

No. 2 boiler was treated similarly; 50 lbs. of pine served to kindle.

The steam gauge registered 52 lbs.

The water level of boiler averaged 4 inches.

Temperature of feed water, 170 deg.

Reading of vacuum gauge, temperature of feed water, and pressure of water gauge was taken every half hour. Coal consumed per hour, 300 lbs.

Water pumped per hour, 30,080 imp. gallons.

Ash, 8.9 per cent.

(Signed) THOMAS CLARK.

Mechanical Engineer and Manager
Stratford Water Works.

Taking difference in gallons pumped into account accurate comparative results are, peat, 10,902; coal, 10,020. About as nearly equal as two fuels could burn, while if engineer's allowance to the new fuel on account of the disadvantage, unsuitable conditions imposed be calculated, the following ratio is arrived at, viz, 11,877; 10,020 in favor of peat.

The Canadian Peat Fuel Company, comprises among its shareholders some of the shrewdest financial intellects in Canada, who are represented on the directorate by the following gentlemen:—Geo. H. Perley, president, Ottawa; A. Jardine, vice-president, Toronto; Hon. R. M. Wells, Toronto; Alex. Lumsden, M.L.A., Ottawa; J. S. Loudon, Assistant General Manager of the Standard Bank, Toronto; E. W. Spragge, M.D., M.R.C.S.; E. J. Checkley, with Wilson Irwin as General Manager, and controls the entire business in the Dominion; the company's offices are in the Bank of Commerce Chambers, Toronto. County rights are being rapidly disposed of. We would strongly advise every enterprising Canadian who has capital to invest, to at once communicate with it, as they are being quickly taken up. Already the counties of Essex, Kent, Lambton, Middlesex, Elgin, Waterloo, and Lanark, Ontario, have been contracted for, and options have been secured, for a limited time, on counties comprising fully three quarters of the remaining area of the Province of Ontario. Several counties in Quebec, and the Province of Manitoba, have also been applied for. Prompt attention is given to applications, and every information forwarded by the secretary of the company. Address, The Canadian Peat Fuel Company, Toronto.

We clip the following from The Globe:—

QUESTION OF PEAT FUEL.

The question of obtaining fuel from the many peat beds of Canada has been occupying the minds of a good many of our citizens since this new enterprise was given to the public at the Industrial Exhibition recently held in this city. Those interested will be pleased to hear that a bronze medal, the only medal given in the machinery department, was awarded the Canadian Peat Fuel Co., for their exhibit on that occasion. This must be gratifying to the company, as it shows that the directors of "Canada's Great Exposition" thought of this most important enterprise. The public at large will be glad to learn that negotiations for establishment of local plants to supply the "patent peat" fuel to all are well under way for almost every county in Ontario as well as for Manitoba and portions of the older provinces.

Applications for Territorial rights in Great Britain and any other part of the world must be sent to the patentee, A. A. Dickson, 110 Adelaide street west, Toronto.

We cannot close this article without appending a brief autobiography of Mr. Dickson, whose inventive genius has already made him famous, and whose name will soon be a household word from one end of the Dominion to the other.

ARCHIBALD A. DICKSON.

was born in Kingston, Ont., 30th November, 1854. He is of Scottish descent, his parents came to Canada in 1832, and settled in Kingston, where his father, the late Alex. Dickson, was, for many years, engaged in the crockery business.

His son, the subject of these notes, was educated at the grammar school in the Limestone City, after which he engaged in fire insurance, was for some time local manager in Montreal of the Beaver and Toronto and Victoria Mutual Companies.

In 1880 he resigned in order to devote his time to the manufacture of telephone instruments, which he successfully conducted under the name of the Telephone Supply Association.

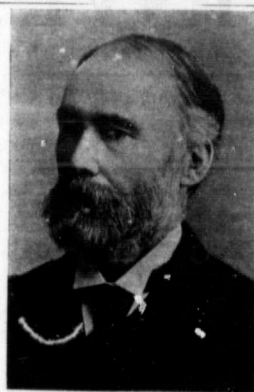
In 1885 he sold out, and focussed his whole energies to the development of the peat fuel industry and the solution of the problem that has made his name illustrious as the only man



ARCHIBALD A. DICKSON.

in the world who has been able to accomplish it, and for which he spent many sleepless nights, and many thousands of dollars. He is also the inventor of a chemical bath, which hardens gypsum after it has been cut into pedestals and columns for building purposes, and innumerable smaller articles, such as clock cases, candlesticks, etc., which have all the appearance and solidity of highly-polished marble. This, although a valuable invention, Mr. Dickson rightly considers of minor importance in comparison with his great peat discovery. In 1886 he married Miss Violet Robb, daughter of John Wanless, Esq., M.D., the well-known homoeopathist, of Montreal. Five children have blessed this union, one son and four daughters. In religion he is a Presbyterian, and a Liberal in politics. Thoroughly a man of the people, full of sympathy with the struggles of his fellow men, it is quite inconceivable that the great prosperity his achievements have made certain, will

ever alien his demeanor to the poorest of mankind. It is hardly necessary to add he is universally esteemed.



HON. GEO. W. ROSS, L.L.D.
Minister of Education.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES PROMINENT CITIZENS OF TORONTO

HON. JOHN DRYDEN

Was born in the township of Whitby, Ontario County, Ont., 5th June, 1840. His father, the late James Dryden, was a native of Sunderland, Eng., who came to Canada with his widowed mother in 1826, and who afterwards married the father of the late Sheriff Paxton, for many years a prominent resident of Ontario county. James continued to



HON. JOHN DRYDEN.

live with his mother and stepfather until coming of age, when he purchased a farm for himself, subsequently purchasing another 200 acres, which formed the nucleus of the now famous Maple Shade Farm, of 420 acres, the property of the Hon. John Dryden.

The subject of this sketch was primarily educated at the common school, in the neighbourhood, subsequently finishing at the Whitby Collegiate. At the age of nineteen he returned home and entered into an arrangement with his father to work the farm on shares. Later he added by rental his uncle's farm and another lot, all of which he eventually purchased. As a thorough farmer in every detail, not only in the proper cultivation of the land, but also in stock-raising, he has long been known to have no superior and few equals in America. His splendid farm is underdrained throughout, and is known far and wide as the best cultivated in the country. His special forte, however, is stock-raising. He is a constant importer of the choicest Shorthorns, Clydesdale horses, and Shropshire sheep. He possesses to-day probably the finest herd of Cruickshank Shorthorns on the continent, while his imported horses are equally celebrated. It would take a volume to give even a

cursor record of these fine animals. Suffice it to say, Mr. Dryden, among many others, bred the well-known bull "Barnham Hero," who was never beaten in taking first prize in any ring in Canada.

We may also briefly mention that his imported "Lady Clare" and her filly, "Lady Gordon," have been equally successful. It is needless to say crowds visit the Maple Shade Farm from all parts of the country, where they are always sure of a courteous reception, whether Mr. Dryden is there to receive them or not. But while he has paid so much attention to this model farm, he has not forgotten his public duties, and has found time to interest himself in other duties for the welfare of the entire community.

The part he has taken in these affairs may be briefly summarized as follows:—Was secretary and treasurer of the local School Board for many years. In 1863, at the early age of twenty-three, was elected a councillor; served his township and county as Deputy Reeve and Reeve continuously until 1871, when he voluntarily retired. In 1879 was nominated to represent the Liberal party in the Provincial Parliament, to which he was elected by a large majority, and re-elected ever since, despite the most strenuous opposition. Was chosen by Sir Oliver Mowat to succeed Hon. Chas. D. Ross, Sheriff of Ontario, as Minister of Agriculture, 1890, the duties of which he still most efficiently performs. Indeed, it is universally acknowledged that it would be almost impossible to fill his place. He has also held many important offices, as president of the Ontario Agricultural Association, and for the advancement of the farming community, a director of the Whitby and Port Perry railway, of which his father was president and one of the chief promoters.

In religion he is a Baptist, of which Church he is a liberal supporter, as well as to many charitable societies.

In 1867 Mr. Dryden married Mary Lydlia, daughter of Mr. Thomas Holman, a well-known publisher of New York. Eight children have blessed this union—only one son and five daughters survive.

His defeat, by a small majority, at the general election last March, in the riding he had so long represented was conclusively proved, at the recent trial to be due to the most barefaced, wholesale bribery, and over one hundred cases were dropped at the urgent request of Mr. Calder, the unelected candidate, who dreaded further exposure, but who is now taking advantage of Hon. Mr. Dryden's magnanimity in allowing him to vacate the seat, by protesting his own innocence—a misstatement so glaring as to call forth the indignation of the electors, whose intelligence he thus so grossly insults and underestimates. There is not the shadow of a doubt the Minister will receive a sweeping majority at the coming bye-election for South Ontario.

R. W. BRO. R. W. BARKER

P.M.; F.G.S.W.; J.M.C.; Scottish Rite, 33rd degree.

Was born in Kingston, Ont., 13th January, 1829. His father, the late Edward John Barker, M.D., the illustrious editor and publisher of the Kingston British Whig, after taking his diploma in medicine in England, came to Canada from London, his native place, in 1832, and settled in Kingston, where for a time he was employed as editor of a paper then established. His pungent and powerful style at once attracted the attention of the leading men of Upper Canada, who induced him to start The British Whig in 1834, which, it is needless to tell our readers, became the most influential journal in Canada, long before the Globe or any other of our leading papers was in existence, and from whose office was issued the first daily published in Canada. Dr. Barker, himself a Baldwin Reformer, became, like many others, convinced of Sir John A. Macdonald's abilities and patriotism, and was his supporter, defender, and warm personal friend for many years. It is a well-known fact that for several years the doctor wielded the pen that controlled the political destinies of Upper Canada. Owing to declining health, he retired from the management of his paper in 1875 (but continued to contribute to its columns for some time after), accepting the office of Registrar of Deeds for the city. He died, after leaving his indelible mark on the pages of Canadian history, on the 28th of April, 1884. In private life he was noted for his