

years that he had been one of those who saw in John A. Macdonald, the young lawyer, in the forties, the evidences of that statesmanship which has made him as premier a conspicuous figure in the national life of Canada.

It was under the guidance of such a man, so closely identified with the political incidents of his time, and under his inspiration, that Mr. Pense began his newspaper training. A love for the work was hereditary. His father, Michael Lorenzo Pense, was for some time the publisher of *The Argus*, of Kingston, and an attache of *The Whig*.

The present publisher began as city reporter at the age of fifteen, and eight years later, after managing the paper for several years, purchased it for \$7,500, entirely upon credit, without a dollar of capital or financial backing. His success has been steady and substantial. He saw the necessity of new departures, and the paper underwent a complete change. Its identity in journalism became more marked, its opinions more aggressive, its political influence more potent and direct. As the exponent of liberal principles it is credited with being largely instrumental in educating the people so that parties became more evenly balanced than ever before. Mr. Pense, in short, is a born journalist, and he has, in the exercise of a reasonable ambition and by a persistency of purpose, made *The Whig* one of the best papers in Canada. Its circulation and its usefulness have been increased tenfold: with every department of the business he is familiar. In editorial as well as practical work he is expert. Every advantage he has gained is the legitimate result of energy and ability. In some sense, therefore, he is a representative Canadian in the fourth estate.

Withal, none has led a more active public life. For five years he served as an alderman, and when elected mayor was the youngest man who had filled the position. He sat for six years on the Public

School Board, and was twice given the chairmanship. He has served thirteen years on the Collegiate Institute Board, and for two years as chairman. He has been president of the Young Men's Liberal Club for seven years: is the president of the Kingston Reform Association and of St. George's Society, being recalled for the third time since 1878: was president of the Kingston Lacrosse Club for many active seasons, as well as of several other clubs: is now president of the Kingston Athletic Association: was master of Minden Masonic Lodge in 1878 and 1879: has been warden of St. James' church and lay delegate to the Synod of Ontario for over fifteen years, and has been prominent in church building and in creating parochial improvements: conducted the negotiations which led to the settlement of the medical co-education difficulties, and was president of the Kingston Women's Medical College, the first of the order in Canada: is a life governor of the Kingston

General Hospital, and while chairman, in 1892 and 1893, promoted several new buildings and general improvements. was president of the Canadian Press Association in 1881: 2, when the enjoyable excursion into Manitoba occurred, and Pense Station was named in memory of the visit. He has had a working part in establishing the new dairy and veterinary schools, as chairman of the committee, he is part proprietor and president of Carnovsky Wood Working Co.: is a vice president of the Kingston Infants' Home: and yet withal he has never canvassed personally for an office, save inevitably for the City Council.

A biographer has said: "The paper is conducted with marked breadth of view and with dignity. The building from which it is issued is very handsome and commodious, and reflects great credit upon its tasty and enterprising proprietor. Mr. Pense is a staunch Liberal, and it goes without saying that

his journal advocates the same cause. As a writer he is clear, terse and vigorous. Over ten years ago he was tendered the unanimous Liberal nominations in both city and county, and his friends still urge that he should become a candidate. He has a faculty of uniting those about him in public bodies in working harmony, which probably accounts for his retention for long periods in public positions, and for the support and kindness he has experienced from both political parties. *The Whig* circulating in nearly as many Conservative as Liberal homes. It was a Conservative ward he represented for five years, heading the poll by over 100 majority."



L. E. B. PENSE, PUBLISHER OF THE KINGSTON WHIG.

#### HERR KRIBS' FAMILY.

Louis P. Kribs, the well-known newspaper man, has no children of his own, says *The Toronto Evening News*. But both he and his wife are fond of youngsters, and by adoption they possessed until a few days ago a family of five. Now it comprises six. Somebody evidently thought Herr Kribs' household was not large enough, and so deposited an infant on his doorstep. It was with mingled feelings of astonishment and indignation that Mr. Kribs viewed this unorthodox method of arrival. "Mrs. Kribs," he said, "I wonder what people think we run here, an orphan asylum or what? Children are all very well in their place, Mrs. Kribs, but the extent of these premises is limited, and this thing either has to stop or we've got to move into a larger house. Let us see, Mrs. Kribs, we had five before. This makes six, an even half dozen. Let us call this family an even half dozen, Mrs. Kribs, and then we'll stop there. There's got to be a limit to this game somewhere. I always play a limit. We'll make the limit six and the next time anybody antes up another baby on our doorstep we'll call the game." And the Kribs family now numbers the even half dozen.