

commencement of the construction of a road. When on public business in England, in conjunction with Judge Sicotte, they organized a small committee, upon which the Barings and Glins were represented, to cooperate in such manner as was necessary to carry out the objects of the company in this country. They pressed their views upon the Imperial government and different administrations in Canada, and contended that if the Intercolonial Railway was built, that it would impose a burden upon Ontario quite out of proportion to any benefits to be derived from it, and in that case urged that as a compensation, and to obtain the acquisitions to the people in Ontario, that the government should take steps to acquire and open up the North-West, and the result is now before us. From 1857 to 1868 he represented the constituency of West York, first in the Canada Assembly until the union, and from that event, in the House of Commons. During the time Sir William was in the Executive Council he was minister of finance during the first year, and receiver-general during the second; postmaster-general from November 24th, 1864, until August 30th, 1866, when he was again appointed minister of finance, and held that office until he entered the Privy Council. He was peculiarly fitted for the duties of the last-mentioned position, owing to his long and successful commercial experience, and conducted its affairs with signal ability. In 1865 the government appointed him a commissioner, with Mr. (now Sir) Alexander Galt, to visit Washington in the interests of reciprocal trade between the United States and Canada; was re-appointed to the same mission in connection with Sir A. T. Galt, the present Justice Henry, and Sir A. J. Smith, 1866; and to the London conference, 1866-67, to complete terms for the union of the British American provinces. Again in 1875, his services were required as a commissioner to report on the route of the proposed Baie Verte canal. From July, 1868, until November, 1873, Sir W. Howland filled the position of lieutenant-governor of Ontario, and upon his retirement therefrom left behind him an enviable record of official probity and administrative ability. His appointment to the chief civil office of the province was one which met with much favour from the public generally as well as from his party, and the highest expectations of his friends were not disappointed. As a partial recognition of his distinguished pub-

lic services, Her Majesty created him C.B. (civil) in July, 1867, and in May, 1879, conferred upon him the order of knighthood. Sir William has been twice married, first in 1843, to Mrs. Webb, who died in 1859; again in 1866, to the widow of the late Captain Hunt. He has three surviving children, two sons and one daughter. Sir William is modest and unassuming in disposition, courteous in manner, self-possessed and dignified in demeanour, honourable in the highest sense; possessing the instincts which characterize the true gentleman, he affords a fine example of a successful and useful career, and one worthy of imitation.

Griffin, William Henry, Deputy Postmaster General of Canada, was born on August 7th, 1812. When he had reached his seventeenth year, he entered the Imperial civil service as a clerk in the office of the deputy postmaster general, and four years later, the authorities perceiving his very great efficiency, promoted him to the position of surveyor of Post-offices, east of Kingston. When the post-office was transferred to provincial control in 1851, Mr. Griffin was made secretary; and on June 12th, 1857, he was appointed deputy postmaster general of old Canada. The year following the completion of Confederation, he became deputy postmaster general of the Dominion, and has remained in that position ever since. Mr. Griffin has always exhibited a marked capacity for administration, and is, perhaps, one of the most thorough and efficient officers in the entire civil service. He has, it might be said, consecrated his life to his duties; and where his duties are there lie all his attention and his interest. The government has always recognized Mr. Griffin's fine abilities, and especially his capacity for organization. In 1868 it was considered necessary to re-organize the civil service, and Mr. Griffin was appointed one of the commissioners to carry out this object. He was likewise a member of the Civil Service Commission of 1862. He has been a member of the Board of Audit since the organization of that body in 1858; and since 1864 has been a member of the Board of Excise, Customs and Stamps. It was Mr. Griffin who negotiated the postal convention with the United States in 1875. He is vice-president of the Civil Service Building and Savings Society; and is also chairman of the Civil Service Board. Mr. Griffin is still hale and hearty, exhibits the same excellent capacity for administration as he did in his more youthful days, and we

doubt
years
B
Neil
secor
Willi
Augu
Beth
Canad
the fi
daugh
tish o
voted
Beth
ing at
he str
of 181
return
famil
that I
to the
lose s
tion o
to Yo
he in
classi
applie
wise b
aforet
deacon
year w
of Que
by, h
then
chief
settler
dawn,
the du
the y
was a
thwart
into hi
in this
zeal,
appoint
tained
years h
Strach
have e
Bethur
in St.
bishops
ern N
consecr
sion sh
Dr. Str
died at
statem
Those
his dec