



"The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

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WHOLE No. 323

GENERAL.

William J. Brown.

WILLIAM J. BROWN was born on the 14th September, 1851, in the village of Watertown, Glengarry Co., Ont., of Irish parents who emigrated from Antrim Co., Ireland, during the troubled times of 1837 and 1838 and the French invasion.

When my father moved to this place (Chard, Prescott Co.), I was but a child, and the whole neighbouring country a dense wilderness. There were no roads or avenues of communication except for foot or horseback travel, and to this day I remember well the fearful howling of the wolves around our little home in the dense forest. There being no schools in those days, I had no opportunity of receiving an education, and it was not until I reached the age of 18 that I could write my own name. But from that time forward I made the best possible use of my spare moments for studying, which were few indeed as compared with the more fortunate ones. My occupation until about the age of 25 was that of logging, or "shanty men," as we were called; and if your columns were open to a description of the shanty-man's life, I could let you have it perhaps in better style than I can that of beekeeper.

On September 9th, 1872, I took for my life partner Margaret J. Ryan, of Pendleton, Prescott Co., and hand-in-hand we pulled together. Our life so far has not been free from care, toil or trouble, as many may suppose. We had to work hard after settling down to farm life,

which we did on the same farm on which my father settled thirty-nine years ago.

Public position was not my ambition, yet, like many others, who does not seek it? It is almost sure to come. In 1879 I was appointed postmaster of Chard, a position which I still hold; I also got the contract for carrying Her Majesty's mails between this place and Pendleton. In 1884 I was appointed secretary-treas-



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urer of our school-board, and still retain the office. In 1887 I was named a Justice of the Peace for the united counties of Prescott and Russell, and have been selected on three occa-