

From the press of Morang & Co., of Toronto, comes a *de luxe* edition of the Hon. James W. Longley's biographical study of Joseph Howe. It forms one volume in the series entitled "The Makers of Canada." It is a book of three hundred pages, admirably printed in bold, clear type, and bound in buckram. The frontispiece is a photogravure portrait of Mr. Howe seated at his desk.

Mr. Longley deals with his subject gracefully, fluently, and, we think, judiciously. With personal recollections of Mr. Howe at his command, he is able to vivify contemporary records, to discard what is least interesting, and to keep the salient features in continuous, picturesque and bold relief. It was not permitted to Joseph Howe to play a large part in the history of this country as a federated section of the British empire. He withdrew from active participation in Dominion politics not long after the union of the provinces had been effected, and shortly after that withdrawal he died. But in the period of his greatest activity, no Canadian leader did more than he to centre the attention of the British Colonial Office upon Canadian affairs, no man displayed a greater capacity for healthy revolution, and few equalled and none excelled him in his genius for constructive statesmanship. Space prevents detailed discussion of his campaign on behalf of responsible government, a campaign which involved the matching of the popular will against a narrow, ignorant and corrupt oligarchy, and which led him into direct and, to them, fatal collision with Sir Colin Campbell and Lord Falkland. Nor may we follow Mr. Longley too closely in the chapters treating of Howe as a minister, as a railroad commissioner, as the persistent, eloquent and convincing representative of his colony in London, of his journalistic activities, and of his relation to the local literature of his time. Perhaps the most graphic passages in the book cover the epoch when Howe opposed Confederation, and afterward apparently stultified that opposition by entering the cabinet at Ottawa as Secretary of State. The latter action was held by his enemies, of whom he had not a few to indicate a black and unpardonable treachery. To his friends, whom it bewildered, it appeared at the best as an inexplicable and inexcusable inconsistency. But now that the situation is revealed in clearer perspective by the passage of time, the present generation, which knows