

WILLIAM RALPH MEREDITH, M.P.P., AT HOME.

BY. THOS. E. CHAMPION.

FEW more charmingly picturesque spots are to be found in the city of Toronto than that in Rosedale where stands the handsome house on Lamport Avenue occupied by the leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition in the Provincial Parliament. Crossing the Sherbourne street bridge, which a little distance north of Bloor street

Bright and cheery as are its surroundings, the interior of the house is not less so: everything betokens an air of comfort, while there is something which strikes one as specially homelike when the comfortable library is reached. Mr. Meredith, on your entrance, greets you heartily, tells you you are welcome, and before many

moments are past you feel that you are so. From another room comes the sound of music, laughter, and of young people's happy voices, and at once it is learned that however formidable Mr. Meredith may be as an opposing counsel in the law courts, or as a militant politician on the platform, he is not feared in his own household.

Mr. Meredith is the son of the late Mr. John Cook Meredith, an Irish gentleman, who was a B.A. of Trinity College, Dublin, and who came to this country in 1834, with the intention of farming. He settled in the township of Westminster, and there, on March 31st, 1840, the subject of this sketch was born. Mr. Meredith continued farming for sev-

eral years, but eventually relinquished that occupation and was appointed Clerk of the Division Court in London, Ontario, which post he occupied until he met his death, some few years ago, by the overturning of a steamboat upon which he was a passenger, on the Canadian Thames. His widow still survives, and resides



W. R. MEREDITH, M.P.P.

Leader of the Ontario Opposition.

spans the lovely and romantic Rosedale ravine, and following the tracks of the street railway, the house is soon reached. It is a modern residence, looking towards the city, and, happily for its occupants, has, in whichever direction one may look, green fields and trees now clothed in the most luxuriant foliage.