

Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Quebec and is now a Federal Senator. To the manor born like the offspring of England's gifted aristocracy, he stood in the front rank of statesmen and was destined to play a most conspicuous part in the political annals of his country, had not his failing health compelled him to forego the bright career that stood invitingly open before him.

True statesmanship requires patient training ; self-conceit is liable to overlook this important fact. In the lower order of things Englishmen divide labor into two classes,—skilled and unskilled. They distinguish between the work done by educated mechanics and mere manual drudgery. The same distinctions exist in the world of politics. Some fancy they are born leaders of men because they keep themselves posted on public events from the perusal of newspaper articles. Others fit themselves for so responsible a position by long and careful study, supplemented by close observation and experience. The latter are the only true guides of the people,—are alone capable of formulating and consummating a wise line of policy at critical junctures and of fostering the common prosperity.

To this enlightened school of political leaders does Mr. Masson belong,—the school of Lafontaine and Cartier, those bright intellects who so well mastered the complex problems of our social requirements.

Immediately on quitting college, he began with vigour the battle of life, dashing into the lists where a phalanx of famous jousts were already the "cynosure of all eyes,"—where our Cartiers, Dorions, Lorangers, Cauchons, Chauveaus, and Laberges were winning enduring fame. However, he declined for the present to engage in active politics. He wisely resolved to see more of the world before meddling with state affairs,—to enlarge his knowledge of the institutions of his own country by contrasting them with those to be found abroad. Consequently, in company with the *abbé* Desaulniers, he travelled all over Europe. He must certainly have greatly benefited from his intimacy with a companion, so eminent as a philosopher and man of letters,—at the fountains of whose wisdom and science some of our most distinguished statesmen and judicial magnates replenished their youthful tapers. France, Italy, Spain were visited in turn, each challenging the admiration of our tourists. But how must the *abbé* have enchanted his youthful friend, as he expatiated on the