

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

"I ALWAYS kept in view some definite purpose as the point to be reached next," said the Hon. Wm. Mulock once to a friend. "If young men would have some clearly-defined objective point always ahead of them and thus advance from one thing to another without confusing their plans they would find progress easier."

Mr. Mulock deservedly ranks as one of Canada's most successful men. In boyhood he worked on a farm, but now he is possessed of great wealth. As a law student he found it necessary to teach night school in order to make ends meet but before there were gray hairs in his head he was the chief member of an important legal firm. As a young man he entered politics without any remarkable prospects, and to-day he is Postmaster-General of the Dominion and a prominent figure in the Imperial movement.

Mr. Mulock comes of a gifted and cultured family. His father was a graduate, in both arts and medicine, of Trinity College, Dublin, and his mother was Mary, daughter of the late John Cawthra of Yorkshire. The Postmaster-General was born in Ontario and is in his 57th year. After taking a brilliant course at Toronto University, where he supported himself by his labors as a tutor, he commenced the study of law, and was called to the bar 31 years ago. From that time to the present his advance has been steady and rapid. Elected a member of the governing body of his alma mater in 1873, he became in 1881 its vice-chancellor, a position which he continues to hold. The following year the people of North York, his native riding, elected him as their representative in the Dominion House of Commons. He quickly made his mark as a debater, for, though not eloquent, nor markedly fluent, he is dignified, argumentative and alert. His party soon learned also to value him as a counsellor, and to-day Mr. Mulock is looked upon as one of the most astute tacticians on the Liberal side.

In Parliament he has taken particular interest in legislation having to do with agriculture, banking and commerce. The people of Ontario often speak of him as "Farmer" Mulock—an appellation to which he is by no means averse being rather proud of his large interests in farm property and of his beautiful country seat at Newmarket—which is an object lesson in scientific and artistic agriculture.

He is a member of the Anglican church and married Sarah, eldest daughter of the late James Crowther. His youngest son, Cawthra, a lad of about 14, is reputed to be the wealthiest

boy of his age in Canada, to him having fallen the lion's share of the late Mrs. Cawthra-Murray's wealth.

Although a member of Parliament, Mr. Mulock never uses a railway pass, and, although Postmaster-General, he does not take advantage of the franking privilege, except for official correspondence. This alone is sufficient to mark him out as a noteworthy man.

Strongly devoted to our Imperial connection, it was Mr. Mulock who in 1890 moved an address affirming the loyalty of the Canadian people to the Motherland. This address was unanimously adopted by both Houses of Parliament, and had an important effect at the time, not only on the British, Canadian and American public, but elsewhere, as those who are posted on the inside history of parties in this country are well aware. Mr. Mulock's name is also inseparably associated with the inauguration of Imperial Penny Postage and with

the Pacific Cable scheme. Last session he had the honor of introducing and seeing passed the first actual legislation in connection with the latter scheme which has been placed upon the statute books of any country within the Empire.

A large share of his attention has been given to educational matters—principally in connection with the University of Toronto. His broad culture and shrewd business methods have proved a strong combination both in public and private affairs, and his executive ability is admittedly of an unusually high order.

ORIGIN OF HUMBLE PIE.

ONE of the entertaining passages in the just published volume of "A New English Dictionary" is that dealing with the history of the phrase "humble pie." "Why humble pie?" asks

The Academy. "Pies are not humble dishes, nor do most people feel humble when they are helped to pie. Eating the leek is quite another matter. We may not all be, like Pistol, 'quainish' at the smell of that wholesome vegetable, but his swallowing it under the blows of Fluellen is a picture which will for ever elucidate and consecrate the phrase. The explanation of 'humble pie' may still be new to many. 'Umblies' are the heart, liver and other inward parts of the deer, and were the huntsman's perquisites. Dr. Brewer says: 'When the lord and his household dined, the venison pasty was served on the dais, but the humbles were made into a pie for the huntsman and his fellows.' It seems reasonable to the great majority of people, and Dr. Murray suggests that 'humble pie' combines the two notions in a jocular way."



HON. WM. MULOCK.