

been successful. Though a public-spirited citizen, and interested in that which pertains to the public weal, he has ever avoided office of all kinds, though frequently solicited to allow his name to be submitted to the voters.

He has been connected with several commercial enterprises, but at present is interested with none outside of his own, except the Western Assurance Company, of which he was one of the stock-holders when it was incorporated in 1851, and in which he has been a Director since 1862.

In politics he has always been a Conservative, taking an active interest in the affairs of that party, and firmly believing in its prominent tenets. He is, however, far from being a partisan, and counts among his warmest friends, many who are opposed to his own views politically. But this fact is owing doubtless to his honesty of purpose, for with him principles are fixed by convictions of duty, and that which he believes to be right, he advocates openly and fearlessly. Religiously he is a Disciple of Christ, and a zealous worker for the cause of christianity; and though a firm believer in his own views, he is characteristically tolerant of the opinions of others.

Mr. Beaty was married in March, 1850, to Miss Sarah Carroll, a native of Ireland. The result of this union was three children, of whom but two survive, John William, who begins a commercial career in his father's office, and Elizabeth Eleanor, wife of Dr. R. B. Nevitt, a practising physician in Toronto.

NICHOLAS W. BROWN, M.P.P.,

WHITBY.

IF anybody, in the County of Ontario, is self-educated or self-reliant, it is Nicholas Wood Brown, member of the Provincial Parliament, from the South Riding of Ontario. He is of Scotch descent, though both parents, Abram and Bathsheba (Wood) Brown, were from Vermont. They moved from Ferrisburg, in that State, to Whitby in the Spring of 1821, and our subject was born on the 8th of August following, first seeing the light of this world in a half-finished, doorless shanty. Fifty years ago literary privileges in what is now the well-settled, well-improved county of Ontario, were of a meagre and very ordinary character, and Nicholas, living in a little opening in the woods, browsed as best he could on the tree of knowledge, making no attempts to reach the higher branches. His education, however, did not end with his few school days; he has been a reader and thinker all his days, and has always had a disposition to "cipher in his head," otherwise his calculations would have been missed, and he been left out of Parliament.

Mr. Brown farmed until eighteen years old; then learned the carpenter and joiner's trade