

Benefit Society, the Sarnia branch of the Bible Society and the Tract Society. He is also an elder of the Canada Presbyterian church, and one of the foremost men in the county in religious and benevolent enterprise. He was the first President of the Sarnia Young Men's Christian Association, and is now Vice President. Ralph Waldo Emerson has well said: "The earth is upheld by the veracity of good men; they make the earth wholesome."

In December, 1847, Senator Vidal married Catharine, eldest daughter of Capt. William Elliot Wright, R. N., of Moore, Lambton, and they have six children living, four sons and two daughters, and have buried one son, a promising youth, in his seventeenth year. The eldest son, Emeric Alexander, is married, and is deputy county treasurer; Charlotte Jane is the wife of Thomas W. Nisbet, Manager of the Bank of Commerce, Sarnia; Elizabeth Mary is the wife of David B. Gardner, of the Bank of Montreal, Chatham, New Brunswick, and the others are unmarried.

ARTHUR MEIGHEN,

PERTH.

ARTHUR MEIGHEN, many years a prominent business man in Perth, and now deceased, was born near the City of Londonderry, Ireland, in December, 1826. In 1839, having lost his father, he came to Perth, County of Lanark, clerked awhile in a store, and in 1848 went into business for himself. He traded alone until 1867, when he associated with him two younger brothers, William and Robert Meighen, who are still in business here, and among the leading commercial men of the town. He died on the 30th of May, 1874.

As a merchant and general business man, Mr. Meighen was eminently, if not pre-eminently successful. From a sketch of him which appeared in the *Perth Expositor* for June, 4, 1874, we learn that he was clear-headed, shrewd, keen and methodical, being of a somewhat rare race of merchants, who, in the face of every difficulty that may arise, are bound to succeed. His character for probity stood high. He was a fair dealer; was never guilty of driving a hard bargain with any one, and retained the confidence and good-will of the hundreds of people with whom he had business transactions. His acquaintance was very extensive, and he had the respect of the whole community.

Mr. Meighen was public-spirited and backward in no enterprise that would further the interests of the town or county, in which he resided. He was for many years a Justice of the Peace; a Director of the Tay Navigation Company; a member of the School Board at Perth, and treasurer of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church of which he was an active and stable member. His christian character was irreproachable, and he sought the good of all, being a wise adviser, both as regarded moral and business affairs.