

Fergus, and has been in mercantile life for many yrs. Elected to the Tp. Council, he became Reeve of Mount Forest, 1876. A Lib. in politics, he has sat as such in the Ho. of Commons for North Wellington since the g. e. 1852, and while in Opposition was regarded as one of the keenest financial critics on his side of the House. Mr. McM. was formerly a dir. and V.P. of the Georgian Bay and Wellington Ry., and is now a dir. of the Grand Trunk, Georgian Bay and Lake Erie Ry. He is also a dir. of the Dom. Life Ins. Co. Since 1896 he has been Chairman of the Standing Comte. on Public Accounts in the Ho. of Commons. He has introduced an Act providing that owners of mining property or timber limits in Can. shall reside in Can., except such owners be Brit. subjects. He favours a reduction in the number of the Parliamentary representatives sent to Ottawa; an elective Senate; the abolishment of the superannuation system in the C. S.; and the preservation of the autonomy of each province. He is a mem. of the Presb. Ch., and m. Sept., 1858, Mary Ann, young. dau. of Robt. Dunbar, late of Guelph, Ont. — *Mount Forest, Ont.*

"That uncompromising Liberal." — *Toronto News.*

McMULLEN, John Mercier, historian, was b. in Irel., June 13, 1820. He is descended, on the paternal side, from a native of Scot., who settled in Ulster in the time of James I., and on the mother's side, from a French Huguenot named Mercier, who fled from his country after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and ultimately settled in Irel. Ed. at home, he proceeded to India, 1843, and saw much of that country, his impressions being embodied in a volume which he published on his return to Eng., 1846, in which year he likewise m. Miss Sarah Charlotte Nesbitt, and took to farming. Two yrs. of famine, however, having disheartened him, he made a gift of his farm to a rela-

tive, and sailed for N. Y., intending to settle in the U. S. Not liking that country, he crossed into Can., and finally made his home in Brockville, Ont., 1849, where he established himself in the book trade. Three yrs. afterwards he added a printing office to his other business, and, in 1857, purchased the plant and copyright of the *Brockville Monitor*—a Con. journal—which he continued to publish up till quite recently, contributing not a little during his journalistic career to the ascendancy and continued success of his party friends. When Mr. McM. came to this country no general history of Can. had been prepared, or was in existence. He determined to meet the want, and with this end in view, commenced collecting facts and other material. As regards the Province of Ont., the material was exceedingly scanty and fragmentary; but, after much research, he was eventually able to put its historical narrative together piece by piece, and, in 1855, the 1st ed. of his "History of Canada" made its appearance, and met with a most encouraging reception. In 1867 he published the 2nd ed., bringing the narrative down to the rise of the Dom. In 1892, after 2 yrs. of steady labour in the way of revision and continuation, the 3rd ed. of this work was published, bringing it down to the death of Sir John A. Macdonald, and the defeat of the Mercier Admn. in Quebec. His book claimed and obtained credit for independence and honesty, and even when rival works appeared, held its place in the favour of the reading public, especially in Ont. Mr. McM. is also the author of a work, "The Camp and Barrack Room; or, the Brit. Army as It is"; and he has ed. a work, published 1882, entitled "Every Man his own Lawyer." He has been on the commission of the Peace since 1858, and has more than once declined Parliamentary honours. In religious belief, he is an Ang. — *Brockville, Ont.*