

November of the same year the company acknowledged his services by appointing him assistant-superintendent of the Central division from Kingston west to Stratford, including the Galt and Waterloo branches. After remaining in that position for about a year and a half, he severed his connection with the Grand Trunk, and accepted the position of general superintendent of the Credit Valley Railway (May 1823), on the resignation of James Ross. Following this appointment soon came that to the management of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce, which in September of the same year became a part of the Ontario and Quebec system, and was afterwards designated the Ontario division of the Canadian Pacific. When the Ontario and Quebec road was completed in August of 1884, its management likewise fell under the control of Mr. Whyte. What his administration has been since his elevation to this important office is very well known. Corporations, it has been well said, are bodies without souls, and they are not in the habit of promoting a man out of feelings of sentiment or of friendship. But corporations have eyes; and they are ever on the alert for administrative talent. The genius for the management of railway traffic, which Mr. Whyte possesses, was perceived, the reader will see, as soon as the opportunity for the display of his talents was opened to the subject of this sketch. Mr. Whyte is a man of quick insight, and as he possesses a cool and a clear head, it does not take him long to see his way out of a difficulty, and come to a decision. Eminently, it may be repeated, he is an administrator, being above all things swift and expedient, and sound of judgment. He is an extremely popular railway official; and in the social life of Toronto his removal from that city was much regretted. Mr. Whyte married in 1872, Jane, daughter of Adam Scott, of Toronto. There has been issue by this marriage a family of three girls and two boys.

Wood, Alpheus Field, Lieut.-Col., Madoc, J.P., M.P.P. for North Hastings, was born in the State of New York, on the 30th May, 1828. He is a son of Thomas and Frances (Peckins) Wood, his mother being a daughter of Richard Peckins, who was a descendant of one of the earliest settlers of the State of Vermont. Thomas Wood adopted the life of a mechanic, in the State of New York, but came to Canada in 1810, settling in Bath, Bay of Quinté, where he continued his calling. During the war of 1812, he served in the Kingston

Guard, and afterwards received a pension. He lived to the great age of ninety-three, and died in 1882, at his son's, in Madoc, leaving five of a family, the subject of this sketch being the fourth eldest. A. F. Wood received a common school education, finishing his studies at Fredericksburg. His family removed to the County of Hastings, in 1843, and at the age of eighteen, he engaged in teaching school in the County of Hastings, and so continued to do for three years. In 1849, he concluded to adopt a mercantile calling, and commenced business in the town of Madoc, as a general merchant, and in this business he has continued ever since. In 1854, he admitted as partner James Deans, under the firm name of Wood & Co. The partnership existed for three years, when they dissolved, Mr. Wood carrying on the business himself, and he continued to do so until 1879, when he retired from the general store business, but has since been a partner in the hardware business, in which he still continues. In 1878, he engaged in the grain trade, and to facilitate the operations of his large business, erected an elevator, with a capacity of some 30,000 bushels, and he is now devoting all his time to grain-buying. Mr. Wood was an ensign in the old Canadian militia, and was promoted from rank to rank until 1870, when he was appointed lieut.-colonel of the North Hastings battalion. In 1857, he was elected reeve of the township of Madoc, and remained in that position for twenty years, during ten of which he served as warden of the county. In 1877 he retired, and thereafter took no part in municipal or other public life, until 1883, when he received and accepted the nomination to stand for the North Riding of Hastings, in the Conservative interest, for the Ontario Legislature. He succeeded in defeating Peter Vankleek, the Reform candidate, by a majority of 208 votes. Since becoming a member of the legislature, he has introduced and carried through successfully the Sunday Excursion Act, and an amendment to the Railway Act, which act prevents the appropriation of mines by railway companies. In 1870, he was appointed census commissioner by the Dominion government. He has been president of the Belleville and North Hastings Railway for three years, director of the Grand Junction Railway, and of the Toronto and Ottawa Railway. In 1880 he was appointed government valuator of Canada by the Dominion Government, and this office he still holds. Colonel Wood is a member of the Freemason craft,