



GEORGE McCORMACK, M. P., ORILLIA, ONT.

A lumberman holding a high position in the commercial life of Canada, the head of an influential firm, operating extensively in two Provinces, and a member of the Dominion Parliament, closely in touch with the interests of his native country, George McCormack, M.P., of the town of Orillia, in the Province of Ontario is looked upon as an important factor in the progress of his native country. Of Irish descent on the paternal side, and Scotch on the maternal, his mother being a Mackenzie, the subject of this sketch was born at Lochaber, in the county of Ottawa, and Province of Quebec, on the 12th of October, 1856. Educated at the public schools of his county, he entered into the lumber business, which he has followed with much success throughout his life. Having acquired a thorough knowledge of the many phases of this varied business in the Ottawa Valley, he became interested in the lumber industry in the then comparatively unknown district of Parry Sound, where the opportunities for lumbering operations were many. The success that has met his efforts

and shrewd foresight justified the course he adopted in devoting his energies and business acumen to the development of the lumber trade in that part of Canada now generally known as New Ontario. For many years he has been extensively engaged in the lumber business in the Muskoka, Parry Sound, and Algoma districts. As partner of the late Angus McLeod, member of Parliament for North Ontario in the Canadian House of Commons, (who died in the year 1903) under the firm name of McCormack & McLeod, a large business was carried on in the lumbering operations of Northwestern Ontario. Mr. McCormack has large interests in the lumber trade of British Columbia.

Interested in public affairs, he was an unsuccessful candidate for election in the general elections of 1890 for the constituency of Parry Sound. In 1895 he was elected by acclamation as councillor in Orillia. In the year 1896 he successfully contested the riding of Muskoka and Parry Sound for the House of Commons against W. H. Pratt and Colonel O'Brien, the sitting member. In the general elections of 1900 he was re-elected for the same constituency over his opponent, R. J. Watson, Esq.

A Presbyterian in religion and a member of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, he married in 1883, Emma J., daughter of Z. Cole, Esq., of Colebridge, Ontario, and resides in the town of Orillia.

Mr. McCormack is also interested in the milling industry and in mercantile business, and has mills at Vancouver, British Columbia, and at Haliburton in the district of Algoma, and has a general store at Uptergrove. In British Columbia he has secured a number of valuable timber limits, and the mill established by him, with modern machinery, is working to its full capacity.

Mr. McCormack is conceded to be a man of great natural abilities, distinguished for his sound judgment and unassuming manner. A Liberal-Conservative, he has many friends in both parties, and has developed greatly since his advent into Federal politics. He is a good friend and a fair opponent.