

council; he also represented Milton at the county council board as reeve; and, had his ambition run in that direction, would have been asked to contest the county for a seat in parliament. Mr. Barclay in religion is a Presbyterian, and in politics a decided Liberal. He is of a genial and kindly disposition, but uncompromising with all shams and false pretences.

Robertson, Alexander, Belleville, Ontario, M.P. for West Hastings, was born at Trenton, County of Hastings, Province of Ontario, on the 5th of December, 1838. He is a son of William Robertson, lumber merchant, who came to Canada from Glenelg, Inverness-shire, Scotland, in 1827. Our subject's father married on the 2nd November, 1837, Jane Simmons, a native of Canada, and daughter of a United Empire loyalist. At the wedding Sir John A. Macdonald acted as groomsman. Wm. Robertson, who died in 1861, was a descendant of the Robertsons, of Strowan, a race who were noted for their bravery and fine physique. When James I. was murdered in Black Friar's monastery, in presence of the Queen and her attendants, by Sir Robert Graham, the murderer made his escape to the Highlands, hiding in the Braes-o'-Mar, where he was captured by Robert, grandson of Robert of Athol, founder of the Clan Robertson. For this brave deed, and the taking of Graham to the Queen, he was rewarded with a Crown charter, dated in 1452, erecting a large quantity of lands into a free barony, and also with a coat of arms.—A naked man manacled, under the achievement, with the motto, "*Virtutis gloria merces*." The family moved from Trenton to Belleville when Alexander was seven years old, and he was educated in the Grammar school. He afterwards studied law with George E. Henderson, Q.C. He was called to the bar in 1864, and has practiced his profession in Belleville ever since. He is now a member of the firm of Robertson & Thomas. Mr. Robertson was a member of the town council from 1864 until 1870, when he was elected mayor. He was also elected mayor at the inauguration of the city in 1878, and again by acclamation in 1879. He has done much to beautify and build up the city, and advance its material and other interests, having erected in 1876 the elegant brick block, known as the "Robertson Block," on the east side of Front street, and a similar one, in 1879, on the west side. He served as captain in the Argyle Light Infantry at Prescott during the Fenian excitement of 1866. In politics he is a Conservative. In 1873, he was offered

by acclamation the membership in the House of Commons for East Hastings, but declined. In 1879, at the urgent request of his many friends, he became a candidate for the Local Legislature in West Hastings, and was elected over Thomas Holden, by a large majority; but in 1882 he resigned his seat to become a candidate for the House of Commons at the general election, and defeated James Brown, his opponent, and he is now the representative for this riding. He is a member and trustee of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church; a prominent member of the Masonic order, and a Forester, and he takes a lively interest in promoting and encouraging public games and mainly sports. He was married in June, 1870, to Mary Georgina, eldest daughter of Dr. Robert Stewart, of Belleville. She died in 1874, leaving one child, Ethel Jane, born in July, 1871. Mrs. Robertson was a woman of kind and genial disposition, having a special talent for music, and being much beloved by a large circle of friends. Her death was a serious loss to society in Belleville.

Moss, Charles, Q.C., Barrister, Toronto, was born at Cobourg, Ontario, on the 8th March, 1840. His father, John Moss, was born near Maryborough, Queen's county, Ireland, and his mother first saw the light in Belfast, Ireland. They were married in 1835, at Cobourg, but in 1846 removed to Toronto, where they continued to reside for the remainder of their lives. [vide sketch of the late Chief Justice Moss] the father dying in 1868, and the mother in 1876. Of the children who survived them the first born was Thomas, afterwards chief justice of Ontario. Charles, the subject of this sketch, was the third son. The fourth son was William, who died at Winnipeg on 23rd June, 1882. Respecting him we find the following notice in the *Winnipeg Times*, June 24th, 1882:—"Mr. Moss came to Winnipeg in the fall of 1879. He was the brother of the late Chief Justice Moss, of Toronto, and of Mr. Charles Moss, Q.C., of that city. He took to journalism early in life, and for some time held a position on the *Cleveland press*. On his arrival here he joined the staff of the *Free Press*, and soon afterwards became its chief editorial writer. That position he filled with singular ability. He was a powerful and scholarly writer; but while he held strong political views, he always agreed to differ kindly with those opposed to him, and never wittingly struck below the belt. The death of a young man of his great promise is a loss, not alone to the *Free Press*, but to Canadian journal-

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