



#### A DEFENDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

THE portrait on this page is a good likeness of the gentleman who gave \$25,000 to establish a sanatorium for consumptives in Muskoka, Mr. W. J. Gage, of Toronto. It is four or five years since Mr. Gage first began to think seriously of this project. In traveling about the country, and in his own warehouse, he had observed the suffering and distress caused by tuberculosis. He saw the need of combating the great white plague in a scientific manner if its ravages upon humanity were to be held in check. He read much upon the subject, he consulted many eminent physicians, he devoted his thought to the means that might be employed. The result is a commodious hospital at Gravenhurst, planned and equipped in accordance with the latest scientific knowledge of the nature and proper treatment of consumption. Mr. Gage's generous gift was supplemented by the late H. A. Massey, and, although the sanatorium is not able to do all the work that might be done towards reducing the misery caused by consumption, it is doing a most useful work, and has saved many lives. The chief need at the present time is a fund for poor patients who are unable to take treatment at all, or who have to leave the institution before they are restored to complete health.

Mr. Gage is one of "the native-born," his birthplace being near Brampton, Ont. His first occupation was school teaching, but in 1873 he became connected with the publishing business as bookkeeper for Adam Miller & Co., of Toronto. Ere long he was admitted as a partner, and, on the death of Mr. Miller, he continued to carry on the business. He is now head of the large publishing house known as The W. J. Gage Company, Limited. As a business-man Mr. Gage has been most successful. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and takes an active part in the work of the denomination. The most recent evidence of his keen interest in all matters affecting the health, and hence the happiness, of the multitude, was his offer to erect free baths in the city of Toronto under certain conditions.

#### THE UNCLE OF ALL FRENCH-CANADIANS.

MR. LEWIS HERBETTE.

A MAN of whom English-speaking Canadians know comparatively little, but whom French-Canadians are at present honoring very highly, is Mr. Francois-Louis Herbette, a distinguished French statesman and author. Mr. Herbette is making his first visit to America. In the New England States, where he has lately been, he was received with great acclaim by the French-speaking population wherever he went. Banquets were tendered him at Fall River, Woonsocket, Boston, Lowell, Manchester, and other places. In Montreal the reception accorded him has been no less enthusiastic.

The explanation of all this is that for a great number of years Mr. Herbette has constituted himself the guide, protector and friend of French-Canadians visiting France or sojourning in Paris. He is called "the uncle of all French-Canadians." His mansion in the rue Fortuny and his country-house at Pornic have their doors wide open to visitors from America. He seeks them out, anticipates their wants and desires, and

pays them a thousand gracious attentions. Every Wednesday his table is surrounded with celebrities in the field of politics, art, science and literature, and to be a French-Canadian is a sufficient passport for admission to the charmed circle. As an entertainer, Mr. Herbette is, indeed, without a peer, either in lavishness, or in cordiality. Those who have visited him say that he has the rare power of making the most diffident guest feel at home. But he aims to be the friend of Canadians in particular.

His visit to America is partly for pleasure and recreation, but he has also been commissioned by his Government to report upon the intellectual and industrial condition of the French people on this continent; the development of art and literature amongst them; in fine, to give his impressions of the life of Frenchmen and their families wherever they are gathered together in communities upon the soil of the North American continent. What use may be made of such a report it would be hard to anticipate. But that Mr. Herbette will prove, in this instance, as hitherto, a keen, intelligent observer goes without saying.

He is a native of Paris, and will be 56 years old on



MR. W. J. GAGE.

November 26 next. His brother, Jules Gabriel Herbette, is a distinguished French diplomat, and occupied the trying post of ambassador at Berlin at a time when the utmost tact and skill was necessary in the communications of the two Governments. After 10 years' service at the German court, Mr. Jules Herbette pressed his resignation of the post two years ago, on the ground that he had lived long enough away from his beloved France. The French Government reluctantly released him, and he has since lived in retirement in Paris.

Mr. Louis Herbette also is a statesman of great experience. From 1876 to 1882, he saw service as prefect of a number of the most important Departments in France. In the last-mentioned year, he was appointed director of penitentiary administration, under the Minister of the Interior, and distinguished himself by his activity until ill-health overtook him, in 1891. He is a Conseiller d'Etat, has written extensively and is an accomplished orator.