

office he held until the breaking up of the government in 1857. In the following year he was elected Speaker of the Assembly when Parliament was in session at Quebec, and held that position until the dissolution in 1854. He was Attorney-General in the Brown-Dorion government in 1858 for the period of two days. In 1852, upon the defeat of the Macdonald-Cartier government on the Militia Bill, Mr. Sandfield Macdonald came in as the chief of a Reform administration, which, with varying success, remained in power until the Spring of 1864, when it was compelled to give way. From this time until the Fall of 1867, when it became necessary to form a government for the Province of Ontario, Mr. Sandfield Macdonald occupied a seat in Opposition. He was then invited to undertake the duties of leadership in this Province, in what manner and with what success it is not for us, having no politics, to say.

After four years of administration, Mr. Macdonald has given way to Mr. Edward Blake, who takes his place at the head of the government.

For one who has been four times in office, Mr. Sandfield Macdonald has the smallest possible personal following. This is, no doubt, due to the fact that he has never been a strong party man, though always a thorough-going Reformer. For the country, justice requires that we should say that he has ever been a careful, prudent minister. Were he as successful in party leadership as in economical administration, there can hardly be a doubt that he would to-day still be at the head of the Ontario Government, backed up by a following in Parliament which no Opposition could materially disturb. As a public man his faults and failings are much fewer than his virtues, though it is questionable if he will ever again lead a government in Canada.