

Regiment), came to Canada with his wife and three daughters about the year 1831, and also settled in Gloucester township as one of the earliest pioneers in that section of the country. There he continued farming until his death in 1846. Thomas Borthwick, after remaining several years on the Stephenson farm, purchased the property on which the famous Borthwick mineral springs are situated, and on which he still resides, at the advanced age of 84 years, his wife, eight years younger, being also alive. The old couple, who have trod life's path together so long, celebrated their golden wedding some three years ago. William Borthwick, the subject of our sketch, received a good practical education, attending the public school until he was sixteen, and afterwards a year at a commercial college in Ottawa. His first experience in business was as clerk in the grocery store of J. G. Robinson, of Kemptville, with whom he remained about a year. Prior to this, Mr. Borthwick had taken considerable interest in local military matters, and in 1865, at the close of the American war, he was stationed for three months at Sarnia with No. 1 company Ottawa Rifles, in which he held the rank of sergeant. He was also on duty at Cornwall during the excitement incident to the Fenian raid in 1866. In the fall of that year he left Kemptville and spent the winter at the Kingston Military School, obtaining a first class certificate. In the winter of 1868, he proceeded to California, making the journey *via* the Isthmus of Panama. For three and a half years he remained in the "Golden State," operating successfully in the lumber trade. At the end of that period, namely, in 1872, he returned to Ottawa and commenced business in the grocery trade, in which he has been engaged ever since. Mr. Borthwick has had a successful business career. From a modest commencement his business has grown under his management to be the largest of its kind in the Ottawa district, a considerable amount of jobbing being done in addition to a heavy local retail trade. In this connection it is worthy of note that Mr. Borthwick was chiefly instrumental in building up the fruit trade at the Capital, which was at first of small dimensions, but now compares favourably with that of any other part of the country. He has also been interested in several Government contracts, and is at the present time the active member of the firm of Heney & Borthwick, who have the contract from the Dominion Government for drainage system in connection with the Lachine Canal between Lachine and Montreal. In 1887, Mr. Borthwick was elected alderman for St. George's Ward, in which position he has served the city ever since; and during the past two years, 1890 and '91, he has acted as chairman of the fire and light com-

mittee of the city council. In politics, he is a staunch Conservative and an active worker for his party when occasion requires. He joined the Masonic Order in 1874, and is at present a prominent member of Prince of Wales Lodge, 371. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Oddfellows and to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. In religion, he is a Presbyterian. In 1870, Mr. Borthwick married Jane, daughter of William Blythe, a Gloucester township farmer, the wedding taking place in San Francisco, whither Miss Blythe went for the happy occasion. The result of the union is a family of three sons and five daughters, all of whom are living.

COL. JOHN LAND,

Hamilton, Ont.

THE first white settler in what is now the fair city of Hamilton was a Land, and the oldest living representative of the family is the venerable gentleman whose name appears at the head of this article. Colonel John Land was born in Barton township, November 11th, 1806, on the old homestead property now occupied by his son John H., on Barton-street east, and at present included in the city. His parents were Robert and Hannah (Horning) Land, both of U. E. Loyalist families, who came to Canada at the period of the Revolutionary War. About the year 1783, the Colonel's grandfather, Robert Land, came to this country. Robert Land was an Englishman by birth, and when the war of independence was in progress he remained loyal to the Crown. He was employed in carrying despatches for the British commanders, and in the undertaking of this perilous duty, a price was set on his head by the Whigs, the reward being offered for him dead or alive. His experience at that time would furnish material for a very interesting narrative. He was a hunted man, and only by stealth and at long intervals was he able to visit his family. On the last of these occasions he was tracked by the Continentals, and in making his escape he was aided by a neighbour, who accompanied him some little distance to show him a short cut out of the reach of danger. The enemy, however, caught sight of and fired upon them before they could reach a field of grain for which they were bending their steps, and whose luxuriant growth, as dusk was coming on, offered a good place of concealment. A musket ball struck the knapsack in which Land was carrying his despatches with such force that it penetrated leather, papers and outer clothing, and flattened the threads of his shirt against his back. He was not killed, however, but managed to make his escape, though his friendly neighbour was captured and