

miles. Why this should be so must be left to the ethnologists to explain. The fact remains, nevertheless.

Our present purpose is to sketch, as briefly as the limited space in this work permits, the career of John George Bourinot, the Clerk of the House of Commons, publicist, journalist, and *littérateur*. He was born at Sydney, in the island of Cape Breton, on the 24th of October, 1837. His father, the late Hon. Lieut.-Col. John Bourinot, was a resident of Sydney for half a century. He was vice-consul for France, and those who have ever visited him at his home will remember the liberal and open-handed way in which he dispensed the hospitalities of his position. From 1859 until the union of the provinces, he represented Cape Breton in the House of Assembly at Halifax. At Confederation, he was, by Royal proclamation, called to the Senate of Canada. Senator Bourinot was of Norman descent, a Huguenot, and a native of the island of Jersey. He married Jane, daughter of the Hon. Mr. Justice Marshall, who was a fearless advocate of temperance, an able writer on social and religious topics, a sound jurist, and a gentleman much respected by the community in which he lived. His father, a captain in the British army, was an Irishman of strong, loyal, and patriotic feelings. From such an ancestry is the subject of these remarks descended. With such blood flowing in his veins, is not to be wondered at that he succeeded in reaching his present position of distinction, despite the many obstacles which, from time to time, appeared in his path. His early training was carefully looked after, his father having had the good fortune to secure as a tutor the Rev. W. Y. Porter, under whom the intelligent lad made rapid progress. Mr. Porter was a capital teacher, with an especial liking for his profession. He saw promise in his bright pupil and took the utmost pains to bring him forward. He was not deceived in his prediction. The lad amazed him by his quickness of perception and the intellectual grasp which he exhibited,—a faculty quite beyond his years. His father resolved to complete the education so well begun and sent him to Toronto, where he entered the University of Trinity College. His college days are not forgotten by his fellow students. He had a passion for study and applied himself to his books with a devotion, perseverance, and zeal, which proved the admiration of students and professors alike. The plums of the course dropped into his hands. The Wellington and other scholarships were among