

him. In the Legislature he made a good impression from the start, and although not speaking often he always gained the ear of the House. Topics connected with agriculture have been his favorites, and upon these he has always spoken with authority. In 1890 he became Minister of Agriculture, and in that position he has evinced remarkable aptitude as an administrator. It is a position which brings him into intimate touch with the great industries of the country, and no other department of Government offers such large opportunities for useful and original practical work. Nor is it saying too much that Mr. Dryden is filling and magnifying his office, and that in promoting the interests of agriculture he has secured the respect, the good-will and the confidence of all classes of the people. He is an earnest believer in the power of knowledge as an agency to accomplish results, and through the helpful instrumentality of agricultural and kindred societies, farmers' institutes, the agricultural college and the public schools, he is confident that the most efficient service which government has in its power to offer can best be rendered to the agricultural industries of the country. Expositions of policy, as given in recent public speeches to farmers and dairymen, have been received with marked favor throughout the province, and it is not too much to say of those speeches that in range of information, definiteness of aim and originality of conception they will rank with the best addresses which the literature of agriculture affords.

It remains to say a few words on Mr. Dryden as a Baptist, for no paper on the man would be complete in this magazine which did not touch the religious side of his character. And here once more Mr. Dryden has become what he is without the influence of home example. True, upon his mother's side he was of Baptist origin. The grandfather, Elder Israel Marsh, and the great grandfather, Elder William Marsh, were pioneers in the Baptist ministry in this province. But the mother, who died a young woman after nursing all her children through typhoid fever, was not a member of any church; neither was the father, who lived to a good old age. There was a Baptist church in Brooklin (or rather on the 6th concession of Whitby) in those days, some forty years ago; but John Dryden used to say that