

SIR DONALD A. SMITH

There are few names of distinguished Canadians whose mention calls up such universal expressions of admiration and gratitude as that of Sir Donald A. Smith. His long career has been full of arduous and often perilous work, more particularly in the early portion; but the abundant fruits of his labour have been spent with a lavish hand, not for the purpose of his own aggrandizement or self-glorification, but for the good of the community at large. Unlike the majority of those men who are abundant; blessed with the goods of this world, he has, with true generosity, dispensed his wealth during his life-time, thus ensuring the proper carrying out of his wishes, and has superintended the disposal of his bequests with an energy and conscientiousness which it would be well if many more would emulate.

Donald Alexander Smith was born in Morayshire, Scotland, in 1821, and received a good English and classical education, in addition to the ordinary school course, which is of an extremely thorough and solid nature in the curriculum of Scottish schools.

It has become almost a proverb that, wherever men are found, in British Empire, to have attained wealth and success, Scotchmen will always be discovered to be in the majority, and we may without doubt attribute this success to their native tenacity of purpose, combined with the thoroughness and rigor of their early training by the village "dominie" or school master, who implanted in them the seeds of knowledge.

For a time, Mr. Smith also studied medicine, and, although he did not long persevere in this branch, still the experience he then obtained served him well in after years, when stationed in the wilds of Labrador or the great prairies of the great lone land, when the Indians came to have implicit faith in his healing powers, and were