

his career as a Mason having commenced in St. Francis lodge, Richmond, P.Q., in 1863. After having filled several subordinate offices, he was elected master in 1867, and this office he held for two years. He also filled the office of grand steward of the Grand Lodge of Canada. On his removal to Montreal, he became a member of the Royal Albert lodge, G.R.Q., of which he is still a member. He was one of those who took an active part in bringing about a settlement between the Grand Lodges of Canada and Quebec, when the latter, owing to confederation, formed itself into a separate grand lodge; and he was ever found amongst those who anxiously sought to heal all differences in an amicable manner. He was an active member of the board of general purposes from the formation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec until the board was abolished in 1881. In 1871, he was elected district deputy grand master for Montreal, and was re-elected the following year. In 1876, he was elected to the office of deputy grand master, and at the annual communication, held in 1877, was unanimously elected grand master, at which time he was probably the youngest G.M. in the fraternity. This position he occupied for two years. Mr. Tait was chairman of the committee for the revision of the Ritual, and also of the committee for the revision of the Constitution, and has been for some time chairman of the committee on Jurisprudence. He took second and first-class certificates at the Military School at Quebec, in 1864; was lieutenant of one of the companies of the 54th battalion, when it was called out at the time of the Fenian raid; and subsequently became captain of the same company, from which position he retired, retaining his rank, on his removal to Montreal. In 1863, Mr. Tait married Monica, daughter of the late James Holmes, of Montreal, who died at Kingston, in 1876. In 1878, he married Miss Kaign, of Newport, R.I. He has several children. Mr. Tait is a member of the Church of England, and a Conservative in politics.

Folger, Benjamin Webster, Kingston, Ontario, was born at Cape Vincent, N. Y., on the 24th April, 1838. He is a son of Frederic A. and Laura Folger, and received his educational training at Cape Vincent. Mr. Folger is one of those capable and enterprising citizens of the great republic to the south of us, to whom the country is indebted for some of her most important national achievements. For railway construction the Folger Brothers, as they are

known, have a genius; and the Kingston & Pembroke Railway, an undertaking of gigantic importance, considering the conformation of the surface over which it passed, is a monument of their courage and ability. Most of those who knew the nature of the route, with its enormous rocks and steep hills; its deep gorges, and stretches of bog; the tangle of forest, the lakes and rivers in the way, dismissed from their minds the practicability of ever being able to construct thereover an iron road. The Folger Brothers saw the obstacles, but they were not deterred. How successful was their undertaking is now a matter of history; and the extensive and important territory pierced by the road must ever remain under a debt of gratitude to these sturdy and courageous men. The elder brother, Benjamin, the subject of this sketch, is a man of fine character, generous and manly; and his great strength of purpose is plainly written on his face. As an instance of the magnitude of the difficulties in the construction of the Kingston and Pembroke road, it may be stated that no less than eight contractors engaged for the construction, but one after another withdrew or failed. Chisholm, McDonald & O'Brien, men of good calibre, however, took the contract, and performed the great task with thorough success. Mr. Folger is largely interested in iron mining in connection with his larger railway operations. He devotes himself to his own affairs; belongs to no secret society or political party; and has never voted. In religion he is a "Christian without a creed." He married on the 27th January, 1864, Antoinette Louise Jones.

Trerice, Alexander, Dresden, Ontario, was born in the township of Yarmouth, County of Elgin, Ontario, on July 8th, 1835. His father was Isaac Trerice, who was born at Nova Scotia, and is still living, though in his 84th year; and his mother was Euphemia McKillop, of Scotland. Alexander Trerice received a common school education, and at an early age engaged in such employment as offered; for when he was a lad nearly everybody was obliged to throw off his coat, roll up his sleeves, and enter into the hard work of pioneering. But young Trerice had plenty of ambition, and he had the good judgment, likewise, to not hesitate in entering any employment that he could use as a stepping-stone to something better. At first, therefore, we find him engaged as a carpenter and joiner; after a time as a carriage and waggon manufacturer; and next eringect