

COMPLEX PERSONALITY OF ONTARIO'S CHIEF JUSTICE

Sir William Meredith, Eminent Lawyer, Politician and University Chancellor, a Dominating Figure in Ontario Public Life for Many Years.

(By W. A. Craik.)
It would require a book to do justice to the complex personality of the extraordinary man who now fills the office of chief justice of Ontario. Sir William Meredith is a rare type in the public life of Canada. In his mentality he belongs to the twentieth century, in spirit he would be a fitting figure for the feudal period. He has that dominating bearing that seeks no favor by honeyed phrases but achieves its purpose by sheer word of command.

The eldest son of a remarkable family consisting of eight sons and four daughters, Sir William was born on a backwoods farm eight miles from London, Ontario, on March 31, 1840. His father, the son of a Dublin lawyer, had emigrated to Canada a few years previously. He had been destined for the bar and after a course at Trinity College, Dublin, had even spent two years in preparation for his career at Gray's Inn, London, but a desire to make his fortune in the colonies seized him and in 1854 he had sailed with three cousins for Quebec. While the others remained in Lower Canada, he pressed on into the more thickly populated districts of Upper Canada and took up his residence on a bush farm in Westminister Township, where shortly afterwards he married the daughter of a neighboring settler.

Soon after the birth of his eldest son, John Meredith gave up the rough life of the farm and went to Port Stanley as deputy collector of customs. From there he moved to London in the course of a year or two and accepted the post of market clerk. This was followed by his appointment

as Sir Oliver Mowat, an eminently solid, sure-footed, careful legislator who left few openings for attack. Try as he might, there seemed no opportunity for the Opposition leader to break thru the defences, which Sir Oliver erected around his administration.

Sir William has been personally blamed for the lack of success of his party in Ontario politics, when at Ottawa all went their way. It is undoubtedly true that he failed to inspire that zeal and enthusiasm in his followers which a less brilliant man might have done. He lacked personal magnetism and what was more detrimental he did not gain the loyal support of some of his lieutenants by reason of a Meredithian characteristic, viz., a tendency to keep his own counsel and retain control of every movement in his own hands. In other words he did not share up the work of guiding the party. But he has as it may his brilliant gifts as a speaker and debater, his grasp of provincial politics and the confidence he inspired in the rank and file of the party who have been enough under more favorable circumstances to have brought him into power.

Meanwhile in 1888 Mr. Meredith removed his home from London to Toronto, where he received the appointment of corporation counsel. In this capacity he served the city with an ability which has not been paralleled before or since. Following the election of 1894, in which he again met with reverses at the polls, he decided to leave the political arena and devote the remainder of his life to the less trying duties of the bench. On October 5 of that year he was appointed chief justice of common pleas.

It is true that with many eminent lawyers, elevation to the bench meant retirement from the position of prominence in the public eye which they previously occupied. This might well have been the case with the ex-leader of the Opposition, who was withdrawing from the centre of the legislative stage into the quiet cloisters of Osgoode Hall. It would have been the case with nine out of every ten appointees. But William Meredith was not an ordinary man and his change of role only emphasized the fact. As a judge he has been a much more important figure and has had his hand in a greater variety of affairs than ever he had as a member of the legislature.

There are two sides to Sir William's activities since 1894. He has been much on the front of the stage; he has also been working behind the scenes. The limelight has been focused on him from gallery and wings in his lightning-change characterizations of judge, commissioner and university chancellor. He has been tireless in the discharge of his duties as chief justice of common pleas and, latterly, since the death of Sir Charles Moss, as chief justice of the province. He has devoted much time to promoting the welfare of the University of Toronto, as senator, as chancellor and as member of the Royal Commission on investigation into University affairs. He has served on the commissions for the revision of the statutes of the province. He was much in the public eye as commissioner to investigate the Farmers' Bank failure. Finally he has found time to study and take evidence on the intricate subject of workmen's compensation, preliminary to drafting a provincial act, a task in itself that would consume the entire time of almost any other man. These are the parts that Sir William has played in the full glare of the footlights.

Behind the scenes, and in the wings he has also been busy. He is not only a stage-carpet and scene shifter but a prompter. It would be too much to suppose that a man who dominated a party in the house for sixteen years, should all at once forego all interest in its welfare. That Sir William is a man of many parts is his old friend and favorite lieutenant, the premier, Sir James Macdougall, is small wonder. There should be a bond of sympathy between the chief justice, as an ordinary citizen, and the premier, as a man in occasional need of advice. There is no harm in this. Sir William is an honest man and no trickster and would be impossible for such as he to countenance any fraud or to aid in high office for political ends. With Sir James and himself it all amounts to a friendly little chat over their cigars and if Sir William is able to help Sir James in the formulation of a policy or the handling of a difficulty, surely that is none of the public's business.

As a family the Merediths, while agreeable enough to those they meet, have always held themselves aloof and have raised little or no society. Sir William's characteristic is noticeable. He is a man with very few intimates. He has climbed to his present eminence by sheer ability, not by means of wily plotting. Kindly at heart and sympathetic, he is yet so sharp-witted that he cannot resist an occasional biting word or an innuendo, a habit which has gained him not a few enemies. On the bench he is severe, demanding much from those who appear before him. He is in effect a judicial autocrat. In private life on the other hand he can be one of the most delightful of conversationalists with a rich store of knowledge and anecdotes.

Despite his seventy-three years Sir William is still a fine, erect and handsome man. His favorite pastime is gardening and in his beautiful grounds at Rosedale he spends much time. Donning an old straw hat and gloves he delights to move about among his plants and bushes, weeding and clipping, or else to dig out dandelion roots from his lawn. Even in his pursuit he shows himself a man of solitary habits.

The government department of railways in Berlin has circulated a solemn warning, urging women railway employees to reform their "raucous and vicious" behavior towards passengers. Mrs. Albert Metcalfe has the distinction of being the only woman commandant of the United States navy. She rules Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., navy yard and has held her rank since 1906, when her husband died. Queen Mary of England, has an utter dislike to diaries.



SOME TYPES WE SEE AT HANLAN'S POINT—BY DOWD

Red Sunflower at Horticultural Show

Hundred and Fifty Different Varieties of Sweet Peas Make Fine Exhibition.

LONDON, July 26.—One of the novelties at the Royal Horticultural Society's show at the Holland House, Kensington, was a new red sunflower, exhibited by Suttons for the first time in this country.

A broad band of chestnut red runs round the base of the yellow petals. It is a cross between the red and the yellow sunflower and the common wild sunflower of North America, made by Professor Cockerell of Boulder University, Colorado. On the opening day (Tuesday) this flower attracted a good deal of attention.

Sweet peas, in their wide variety of coloring, made a magnificent show, and three of the gold medals were awarded to growers of these flowers. Sir Randolph Baker, Sutton and Sons and Dabbie and Company. The boom in sweet peas has been remarkable, observed an expert to a "Lloyd's News" representative. "There are 150 different varieties on that bench, and none are more than five or six years old. Before that, there was little variety; now you can get almost any shade, though we have not yet reached the deep blue for which we are trying."

The gold medals were awarded as follows: Lord Langatook (pine apple), Sir Randolph Baker (sweet peas), the Vicar of Gillingham (vegetables), Blackmore and Langdon (vegetables), H. B. May & Sons (roses), Wm. Paul & Sons, Waltham Cross (roses), Paul & Sons (roses), Sander & Sons (orchids), Charlesworth & Co. (orchids), Dobbie & Co. (sweet peas).

Murderess Eats Victim's Heart

German Widow Confesses to a Terrible Crime.

BERLIN, July 26.—The existence of cannibalism in Germany came to light in the recent trial of a widow named Kockertitz, who was sentenced to death for murdering her lover, mutilating the body, baking the heart of her victim and eating it. The woman confessed to the crime, saying that her actions were in keeping with an old superstition, in which the eating of the heart of the victim is supposed to prevent his spirit from returning and haunting the murderer.

ELECTRIC COOKING

The solution of the problem of electric cooking seems to be brought nearer by the new plan of heat storage. This requires only a moderate current continuously, and enough can be supplied at the time when a peak load is not overtaxing the capacity of the central station.

The heat-storing stove is a block of iron imbedded in some heat insulating material. The electric heating unit is enclosed in this block, and as there is very little escape of heat, a high temperature is reached and retained.

When needed for use the insulating lid is removed from the top of the block, exposing a place hot surface to receive cooking utensils. When the cooking is over, the lid is replaced and the heat continues to accumulate until again wanted.

Much less current is necessary than with other forms of cookers, and that little is obtainable under the best and most economical conditions.

"MODESTY."

A Sonnet by A. O. M.

There burns thy lamp thou bright and glittering stone!
For ages thou hast been the Kaffir's ghost,
Who as they passed at eve asked Heaven's host
To save them from the sins they might atone.
Now at the dance where stately night doth glow
Thou art transformed; polished thy shafts as yew.
Quick speed; mimicking waters in their hue;
Protean as the blast the forge doth blow.

All but supreme one only peer thou hast
And she outshines thine eyes with modest gleam
As the moist pearl the globes of morning dew.
Thou diamond! gem picked from the jealous stream
That wants thy flash and scintillating hue
Hold! Modesty has gleams—has all thy darts surpassed.

C. N. R. TUNNEL THRU MOUNT ROYAL WILL BE COMPLETED NEXT YEAR.

Gigantic Work of Affording Entrance of Railway to the Metropolis Going Ahead Rapidly—Nature of the Cutting and Obstacles Encountered.

MONTREAL, July 26.—(Special)—Few works in railway construction are attracting more attention in Canada at present than the three-mile twin tunnel which the Canadian Northern Railway is boring thru the heart of Mount Royal here. The entire drift is 3 1/2 miles in length, and at the rate the work is progressing, there should be a hole from end to end early next year, while cars should be able to operate thru it before the end of 1914. That is, of course, if no unexpected and unforeseen delays occur. So far, the workers have been singularly fortunate, both in the character of the rock thru which the bore must be driven and in meeting with water.

Mount Royal was once a fiery volcano—so the geological experts declare, and the railway engineers have found abundant evidence to substantiate the experts' view. The mountain consists of a volcanic intrusion of igneous rocks, forced up thru a bed of Trenton limestone. Evidently there have been several stages of eruptions. The two principal rocks encountered yet are Trenton limestone, which was found on the sides, and which was very hard, and crystalline, and good for tunneling, and Essexite, which was very hard and somewhat difficult to drill, but otherwise good for tunneling.

Just what the centre of the mountain is like has yet to be learned. Mr. S. P. Brown, the chief engineer in charge of the work, expects that the nature of the Breccia and some of the limestone walls in the heart of the mountain will require masonry lining, other portions, he thinks, will require only a masonry wall for support, while for the Essexite no central wall will be required except for ventilation and safety.

The tunnel will be 22 feet in height and about 32 feet wide. It will be divided into two tubes by a concrete central wall. This will afford additional safety, better ventilation and economy. The first bore, however, is small, the workers gradually enlarging the hole thru the mountain. This small heading is about 8 x 12 feet.

In the latter part of the work the rate of progress was about 100 feet per day. Under the mountain the rock is harder, and so the speed is not so swift. The heroic muckers made a record on the bore and one day a month ago they nailed a board with this inscription on a tree at the Dorchester street heading: "Canadian Northern Railway, new record for the American continent, 810 feet in 31 days." The Swiss, however, made better progress in the boring of the Loetschberg tunnel. The heading, however, was smaller, and the rock was softer. The first shovel of earth was taken out at the Dorchester street end of the tunnel on July 8, 1912, and by October,

Missing Policeman Found at Montreal

Allan Wright, Wanted at Ingersoll For Theft, Arrested After Clever Police Ruse.

MONTREAL, July 26.—Driven to the open by a decoy of police wire sent in the name of his wife, Allan Wright, himself a policeman, wanted at Ingersoll, Ontario, on a charge of larceny, walked into the central police station this morning and gave himself up.

Wright disappeared from Ingersoll about a week ago, leaving his wife behind him. A warrant for his arrest on a charge of stealing a considerable amount of money had been taken out against him, but all efforts to find him were fruitless.

The wife of the wanted man, true to her husband, refused to speak and for several days the Ingersoll authorities were at a loss as to how to proceed. Officers watched the Wright missing man might pay a visit to the home under cover of darkness, while he did not show up personally. Several telegrams were delivered. They put the officers on the scent. They traced his Montreal address thru telegram sent to his wife and later Wright a despatch purporting to come from his wife, to the effect that she would meet him here to see him before he left.

Growing suspicious Wright wired home and found that his wife was still there. Then he conceived that the fake telegram sent him was a trap into which he might fall, and knowing that he could not possibly board the Empress Mary, who had been traced his Montreal address thru telegram sent to his wife and later Wright a despatch purporting to come from his wife, to the effect that she would meet him here to see him before he left.

Princess Mary is A Splendid Swimmer

Daughter of King George Enters Competition for Ladies' Challenge Shield.

LONDON, July 26.—Among those taking part in the annual swimming and diving competitions at the Bath Club was no keener competitor than Princess Mary, who has well been named the "open-air Princess." For five years she has been a member of the Bath Club, to which the Princess of Wales also belongs.

The race in which the young princess took part was that for the Ladies' Challenge Shield. In this the competitors have to swim fifty yards, by breast stroke, and to pass in floating, diving and ornamental swimming. The princess went thru the various tests very well, she was not placed among the first three.

Common Theatre Outdoes the Best

Rough Paris Music Hall Causes the Theatrical Sensation of the Season.

PARIS, July 26.—One of the theatrical sensations of Paris at the present time is the Theatre Bobbins, where revivals of Moliere's plays are being given under peculiar circumstances.

The theatre is situated in the Rue de la Gaite, in one of the poorest and roughest sections of the city, and is nothing more than a music hall which formerly sang ribald songs from the little stage, the manager is presenting the clever comedies of Moliere.

Dramatic critics and others who

LORD SELBORNE TALKS HOME RULE TO WELSH CROWD

Tory Politician Who Lacks Logic in Opposing Disestablishment of Church in Wales.

HE CAME TO CURSE

And Behold He Blessed Liberal Policy—Why Should England Interfere in Local Question?

(By Hector Macpherson.)
LONDON, July 26.—Lord Selborne has been playing the part of a political Balaam. He had been invited to Swansea, to a great demonstration against the Welsh disestablishment bill. He was expected to curse Liberalism for its desire to Wales, and behold! he blessed it altogether. The remarkable spectacle was witnessed of a great imperialist unconsciously advocating home rule.

There were some things, he said, that concerned England and Wales alone, but did not concern Scotland and Ireland. His contention was that, inasmuch as Scotland and Ireland had no concern with the church in Wales, therefore they should not meddle with it. Lord Selborne's idea was that the matter concerned England and Wales, and should be settled by them.

What is that, but the good home rule doctrine, that questions affecting certain localities should be settled by the localities themselves? If Lord Selborne desires to be logical, he has no business to oppose the disestablishment of the English Church in Wales. That church is alien to the people of Wales, and by huge parliamentary majorities they have shown their desire to get rid of it. If localities have the right to manage their own affairs, as Lord Selborne seems to imply, why should he oppose the Welsh disestablishment bill?

Moreover, if Scotland and Ireland are not to be allowed to interfere in English affairs, why should England interfere in Scottish and Irish affairs?

Sound Political Theory.

Lord Selborne has got hold of a sound political theory. He is a home ruler, and he would like to apply his theory when it suits the times, just as it suited them to coquet with home rule for Ireland during the conference over the Parliament Act. Those who are in the habit of saying that it dates from the revolution of 1832, when it was a recognized constitutional doctrine, that no law was to be enforced without the consent of the representatives of those affected by it.

In the case both of Scotland and Ireland, legislation has been entirely against the wishes of the people. Out of that grew federalism and the agitation, with all their tragic accompaniments, of the Home Rule day, English rule in Ireland was a continual violation of the fundamental law of representative government. The least that should be done, in the case of the majority of the people, is to concede home rule. England is simply going back to the constitutional doctrines of the revolution of 1832. To the abolition of the Scottish parliament, and the transfer of legislative power to London, was due the depopulation of the Highlands at the time of the famine, or rather infamous, Sutherland clearances. Home rule would have prevented the depopulation of the Highlands. Further, only by the home rule will the people be brought back to the land. Take another instance of the evil effects of the union in disregarding the representative principle. Lord Selborne's plan to settle her own ecclesiastical affairs without interference from Scotland and Ireland. Had this simple plan been followed, there would have been no disruption of the church, and no violation of the Act of Union.

Scotland's Grievance. The British legislature violated the Articles of Union, and made a change in the constitution of the Church of Scotland. From that change has flowed almost all the discord now existing in Scotland. Year after year the general assembly protested against the violation, but in vain, and from the act of 1712 undoubtedly flowed every secession and schism that has taken place in the Church of Scotland. Even in later days, the evil effects of the violation would have been rectified had parliament accepted what is known as the Claim of Right, which was rejected by the votes of the English members. Scotland's grievance now is, not so much that she gets legislation thrust upon her against her will, as that she gets little or no legislation at all. As a result, Scotland, which stands for its parliamentary connection with England to a state of political stagnation. "Who is there," in the words of the member of Kirkcaldy, in a speech delivered by him in Glasgow, "would be bold enough to say that there is not a great work awaiting to the end of the Scottish legislature? Who is there who can witness the squalor and misery in their cities? Who is there with soul so dead that he could look with equanimity at the manhood of Scotland leaving their shores as at the present time? The power of a nation rests on the happiness of its citizens. What were they, if they had not behind them the moral fibre of a free and contented people?"

Certainly Scotland will not be free to work out her national salvation till she gets back her old national parliament.

have gone slumming into this theatre declare that the acting of these people is so spontaneous that the comedies are more enjoyable than when presented by high-class companies in the best of theatres. The theatre has been attracting quite a large patronage, and tourists who are flocking to it in vast numbers.

SAN FRANCISCO IS T

Bob McAllister, Go the T Had Gre Amateur.

By W.

McAllister, the Club, and the amateur boxer de cluso in many a thoro test. ed to meet Sall round bout at arena on the or lose, the prove an excit mer mug-hunter.

It will be clash between athlete and a r moid. McAllister, benefits of tittle professors, and a modern equipm training appa treatment. Fete what he picked and for years h untles of cond were afforded a low.

It is different ed connections w knows what it road, to have o take a smelt He has sampl sprawling on a a couple of t kneaded his flesh ed a punch that in its effects wh

It took a long Allister to make the 30-round gam were the fault. sive frined that "hundred-million hear of occasion died the fault. Champlain Bob traces in the lon One adviser w be a fatal mista lowed to sign r than four rou all manner of s beco the thoro, i ore and excitme lic.

Another thoug year of two. B limit to six rou suspected of be brass because h Bob could no round journey, i reinstatement as Now Bob is bo trip, and the p cause of his ity for bob-taild him to its arms. In his amateur surely a wound, figured in was w when it finally b a match would