

shire, Scotland, in which place Mr. Gordon was born on the 26th of August, 1786. He was educated at the Inverness Royal Academy, emigrated to Canada in the beginning of the present century, and settled in Amherstburg, in Canada West. In 1805, Mr. Gordon received his commission as ensign in the first regiment of Essex Militia, and served as lieutenant and paymaster during the War of 1812. He was present at the capture of Detroit on the 16th of August, 1812, with the force under General Brock, and had the distinguished honour of being the first to hoist the British flag on that memorable occasion. He was also engaged in the action at Frenchtown, on the 22nd of January, 1813, where he was seriously wounded. Mr. Gordon was returned to the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada, as a member for the county of Kent, in 1820, which constituency he represented until 1828. He was then appointed a member of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada, and was, after the union of Upper and Lower Canada, called to the Legislative Council of Canada by royal mandamus, on the 4th of November, 1845. He was Lieutenant Colonel (retired list) of the first battalion of the Essex militia. Mr. Gordon, for many years, carried on business at Amherstburg, as a merchant, where he was noted for ability, industry, and integrity. Mr. Gordon, while the companion-in-arms, in the war of 1812, of the late Sir John Beverley Robinson, Sir J. B. Macaulay, Hon. William Hamilton Merritt, Chief Justice Maclean, the late Mr. Justice Jones, and others, became their intimate friend; and their subsequent association in the Legislature of Upper Canada brought them still more together, and cemented that friendship. During recent years Mr. Gordon's advanced age prevented him from taking a very active part in the business of legislation, but his admirable business habits and sound judgment always commanded weight, while those who differed from him could not fail to respect him. Like some of those whom we have named, he has been removed from amongst us by death, full of years and well-earned honours.—*Leader*.

No. 23.—E. W. THOMSON, ESQ.

We regret to learn that Colonel E. W. Thomson, of Toronto, died suddenly at Toronto, on the 20th inst. He was born at Kingston in 1794. He was a member of the last Parliament of Upper Canada, having beaten W. L. Mackenzie as candidate for York. He ran unsuccessfully as Conservative candidate for one of the ridings of that county in 1851 and 1863. He served in the Militia in 1812 and in 1837, and has always since held rank in it. He has been for some years commandant of his district. Colonel Thomson was known in Lower as well as Upper Canada as a zealous promoter of agricultural improvement, and his loss will be much regretted here. In early life Colonel Thomson was engaged as a contractor, in connection with the Hon. George Crawford, in the building of the locks of the canals on the St. Lawrence. He afterwards was, at a more recent date, similarly engaged in the widening of the locks of the Welland Canal; but his chief pursuits have been agricultural. He was one of two or three who founded the Provincial Agricultural Association, about twenty years ago. Before that he had been an active promoter of the Home District Societies. He was Chairman of the Board of the Agricultural Association from its first formation, and was re-elected only a few weeks ago in London, C. W., to the same position. He was an extensive farmer in York and Peel during the greater part of his life. He was a representative of Canada at the World's Fair in London, England, and acted his part most satisfactorily. Colonel Thomson belonged to the old Kirk of Scotland, of which he was an elder. Although 71 years of age, he had walked in from his farm, some miles, on Wednesday, to attend a meeting of the Council of the Agricultural Association, and had exulted in the strength which enabled him to do so. He was hurrying into town again on Thursday morning to keep a similar appointment, when some blood vessel or internal structure was ruptured by the exertion, and he fell dead beside the road.—*Montreal Gazette*.

No. 24.—PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

In common with the whole press in Canada and the British Provinces, we give expression to our profound and heartfelt regret at the tragic events at Washington, which has suddenly deprived a great nation of its chief ruler. An act so base and dastardly will be reprobated by every right minded man. To our British feelings, a blow aimed at the Sovereign head of a State, combines in itself not only the crime of the regicide and parricide, but it is one which cannot but be regarded with the utmost horror. If we are not even to speak evil concerning the ruler, much less should we hold his person sacred from physical violence. In the case of Mr. Lincoln we fear his death to be a public loss at this crisis.

Mr. Lincoln was born in a part of Hardin county, Ky., which is now included in Laura county, February 12, 1809. His ancestors, who were Quakers, went from Berks county, Penn., to Rockingham county, Va., and from there his grandfather, Abraham, removed with his family to Kentucky about 1782, and was killed by Indians in 1784. Thomas Lincoln, the father of Abraham, was born in Virginia, and in 1806 married Nancy Hanks, also a Virginian. In 1816 he removed with his family to what is now Spencer county, Ind., where Abraham, being large for his age, was put to work with an axe to assist in clearing away the forest, and for the next ten years was mostly occupied in hard labour on his father's farm. He went to school at intervals, amounting in the aggregate to about a year, which was all the school education he ever received. At the age of nineteen he made a trip to New Orleans as a hired hand upon a flat boat. In March, 1830, he removed with his father from Indiana, and settled in Macon county, Ill., where he helped to build a log cabin for the family home, and to make enough rails to fence ten acres of land. In the following year he hired himself at \$12 a month to assist in building a flat boat, and afterwards in taking the boat to New Orleans. On his return from this voyage his employer put him in charge as a clerk of a store and mill at New Salem, then in Sangamon, now in Monard county, Ill. On the breaking out of the Black Hawk war in 1832, he joined a volunteer company, and to his surprise was elected captain of it, a promotion which, he says, gave him more pleasure than any subsequent success in life. He served for three months in the campaign and on his return was in the same year nominated a whig candidate for the legislature. He next opened a country store, which was not prosperous, was appointed postmaster of New Salem, and now began to study law by borrowing from a neighboring lawyer books in the evening and returned in the morning. The surveyor of Sangamon county offering to depute to him that portion of his work which was in his part of the country, Mr. Lincoln procured a compass and chain and a treatise on surveying, and did the work. In 1834 he was elected to the legislature, and was re-elected in 1836, 1838, and 1840. In 1836 he obtained a license to practise law, and in April, 1836, removed to Springfield, and opened an office in partnership with Major John F. Stuart. He rose rapidly to distinction in his profession, and was especially eminent as an advocate in jury trials. He did not, however, withdraw from politics, but continued for many years a prominent leader of the whig party in Illinois. He was presidential elector in behalf of Henry Clay. In 1836 he was elected a representative in congress from the central district of Illinois, and took his seat on the first Monday in December, 1847. On Jan. 16, 1849, he offered to the house a scheme for abolishing slavery in the district by compensating the slave owners from the treasury of the United States, provided a majority of citizens of the district should vote for the acceptance of the proposed act. He opposed the annexation of Texas, but voted for the loan bill to enable the government to defray the expenses of the Mexican war. He was a member of the whig national convention of 1848, and advocated the nomination of Gen. Taylor. After the expiration of his congressional term Mr. Lincoln applied himself to his profession till the repeal of the Missouri compromise called him again into the political arena. At the republican national convention in 1856, by which Col. Fremont was nominated for president, the Illinois delegation ineffectually urged Mr. Lincoln's nomination for the vice-presidency. On June 2, 1858, the republican State convention met at Springfield, and unanimously nominated him as candidate for U. S. senator in opposition to Mr. Douglas. The two candidates canvassed the state together, speaking on the same day at the same place. The debate was conducted with eminent ability on both sides, and excited universal interest. Mr. Lincoln had a majority of more than 4,000 on the popular vote over Mr. Douglas; but the latter was elected senator by the legislature. On May 16, 1860 the republican national convention met at Chicago, and on May 18 began to ballot for a candidate for president. On the first ballot Mr. Seward received 173½, Mr. Lincoln 102, Mr. Cameron 50½, and Mr. Bates 48. On the second ballot Mr. Seward had 184½, and Mr. Lincoln 181. On the third ballot Mr. Lincoln had 354 and Mr. Seward 110½. Mr. Lincoln was subsequently elected President of the United States and served his term of four years, when he was again elected in opposition to Gen. McClellan. His career since his first election is so well known that we need not enlarge upon it. His tragical death in Ford's Theatre, Washington, might well form an era in the history of the American Republic.

No. 25.—REV. WILLIAM L. THORNTON, M.A.

We regret to announce the unexpected death of the Rev. Wm. L. Thornton, President of the Wesleyan Conference, on Sunday, 10th March. Born of highly respectable parents in Huddersfield, and brought up with strong hereditary attachment to Wesleyan Metho-