

tration of the present chief commissioner, the department is now one of the most perfect in its internal and general organization. Mr. Flynn takes a very lively interest in the colonisation of this province, making it a subject of much meditation and study.

By those who know him intimately, Mr. Flynn is said to be one of those men who stand or fall by honest personal convictions, regardless of party, whatever the subject may be, and these he only arrives at after mature consideration of the question before him. In some men this might be ascribed as dogged obstinacy, but in the subject of our present sketch we are assured by those who know him most intimately that his disposition and character is diametrically opposite to this.

It may be said, to sum up all, that, in Mr. Flynn, Canada possesses a sage scholar, a judicious administrator of public affairs, a conscientious and discreet politician, and a patriot whose only desire is the promotion of his country's welfare. Outside his public life, Mr. Flynn is possessed of friends whose name is legion.

He married on the 11th May, 1875, Mathilde Augustin Coté, daughter of Augustin Coté, editor of *Le Journal de Quebec*, and niece of Hon. Joseph Cauchon, lieutenant-governor of Manitoba, by whom he has issue five children, of which three survive.

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## MICHAEL P. RYAN, M.P.,

### MONTREAL.

MICHAEL PATRICK RYAN, member of the House of Commons for Montreal Centre, and for years one of the leading business men of this city, was the third son of William and Mary Ryan, and was born on the 29th of September, 1825, at Pallis, Donohill, county of Tipperary, Ireland. He received a grammar school education, and in 1840, came to this country with the family, who settled on a farm near Chambly. Mr. Ryan kept the Franklin House, Montreal, from 1849 to 1855, and the next year went into the provision business, being for years, we understand, the most extensive dealer in butter, cheese, and other farm products in Montreal. His transactions in some years amounted to \$1,000,000. At length, having with thousands of other prominent business men, met with severe losses, in 1875, Mr. Ryan retired, and since then has done little more than look after his own matters and attend to official business as license commissioner.

He was elected as alderman in 1852, and in that capacity sat for three years in the Corporation of Montreal; was at one period a member of the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade; was elected three times to the presidency of the Commercial Exchange Association, and years ago was connected with the militia, and held the rank of captain. He was at one time a director of