

THE CANADIAN METHODIST MAGAZINE.

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THE LAST FORTY YEARS.

CANADA SINCE THE UNION OF 1841.*

II.

WE have stated that one of the most conspicuous features of Mr Dent's admirable history is the careful study and delineation of the characters of public men. He has shown himself here, as well as in his "Canadian Portrait Gallery,"† to be quite a modern Plutarch. As an example of this mode of treatment we give his sketch of Sir Charles Metcalfe, Governor-General of Canada, 1843-45:—

"Sir Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, the statesman who had been appointed to succeed Sir Charles Bagot as Governor-General of Canada, had passed many years of an industrious life in the civil service of India, and had more recently administered the government of Jamaica. In both hemispheres he had won a high and honourable reputation, not only in various official capacities, but also as a man. The testimonials to his efficiency as a public servant, as well as to his intellectual and moral worth, were strongest and loudest where he was best known. 'The ablest civil servant I ever knew in India,' said Macaulay, 'was Sir Charles Metcalfe.' 'In his public career,' said Lord William Bentinck, 'I think no man has shown

**The Last Forty Years—Canada since the Union of 1841.* By JOHN CHARLES DENT. 2 vols. Pages 392, 649: 76 full page engravings. Toronto: George Virtue. Twenty parts. Price fifty cents per part. Bound in two volumes. Cloth, gilt, \$12.

† Four vols. 4to. J. B. Magurn, Toronto.