

JOHN GEORGE BOURINOT

To the statesmanship, letters, scientific achievement, artistic and educational progress of the Dominion of Canada, the little Province of Nova Scotia has made important contributions. She has furnished the Dominion with a Prime Minister, a High Commissioner in London, a Chief Justice of the highest Court in the country, the Principals in two of our greatest Universities, Geologists whose fame extends the world over, eminent journalists, poets, historians, and writers of fiction. She has furnished us also with the highest constitutional authority on the practice and procedure of Parliamentary Government in Canada,—a work quoted and accepted in every colony belonging to the British Empire, where representative institutions prevail, a work which, in seven years, passed through two large editions, and has won for its author, among statesmen and parliamentarians, a reputation equal in character to that of May. What the great writers on the British constitution, its growth and development, have done for England, the subject of this sketch, has accomplished for Canada and the sister colonies. We have said that the Nova-Scotians have taken unto themselves the foremost positions in the Dominion to-day, in all departments of human activity in which the intellect plays the most conspicuous part. They have gravitated to Ottawa, year by year, and dropped into public berths, which no one can refuse to say they did not earn, by virtue of a talent and ability, which seem inherent in the race from which they sprung. Thus we find the Library of Parliament in charge of a son of New-Scotland, the chief of the Statistical Branch is another, the Judge of the Exchequer Court is a third, while Deputy Ministerships, chief officers in the Commons and in the Senate, to say nothing of clerks of the first and second classes, claim as their birth-place that little province by the sea, whose area, all told, is less than 21,000 square