

## DOMINION PROHIBITORY CONVENTION.



GEORGE W. ROSS, M. P.

Protagonist and Champion of Prohibition.



HON. ALEX. VIDAL, SENATOR.

President of the Convention.

## GEORGE W. ROSS, M. P.

George W. Ross was born on September 18th, 1840, in the County of Middlesex. He is descended from Scotch parents who emigrated to Canada and settled in the above County in 1835. Mr. Ross was educated in the Common Schools of Ontario, and afterwards at the Normal School, Toronto. Though a public school teacher for ten years, he felt so circumscribed by the narrow limits of his duties that he sought an opportunity to obtain a wider sphere. Accordingly he undertook the publication of the *Strathroy Age*, in 1867, which he published for some time with considerable success. Afterwards he published the *Southwestern Express*, in company with Mr. Linton, now a member of the Manitoba Local Legislature. Mr. Ross is now one of the publishers and proprietors of the *Ontario Teacher*, a monthly issued in the interests of the teachers of that Province. Mr. Ross is a politician of liberal principles. In the General Elections of 1872, he contested West Middlesex with Mr. A. P. McDonald, one of the contractors on the Intercolonial Railway. After a severe contest, Mr. Ross was elected by a majority of 56. On the dissolution of Parliament, after the disclosures known as the Pacific Scandal, he was elected by acclamation. Both inside and outside Parliament he has been a warm advocate of Prohibition. For two years he was Chief Executive Officer of the Sons of Temperance of Ontario, and has been Chairman, for two sessions, of the Prohibition Committee of the House of Commons. By his advocacy of Prohibition much attention has been given to legislation in this matter. The Convention, in Montreal, held during the past week, was called through his instrumentality.

## HON. MALCOLM CAMERON.

This veteran was born at Three Rivers, in 1808, and engaged in mercantile affairs for many years. He has been most prominently identified with the Temperance movement as a leader since 1832, and has filled the position of Chief of the Social Circle, Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Sons of Temperance, M. W. G. Chief of the Good Templars, Vice-President of the Ontario League, and President of the Ontario and Quebec League. He declined the Inspector-Generalship



HON. MALCOLM CAMERON, M. P.

An old-time advocate of Temperance and Peace.

in 1841, but became Inspector of Revenue during the administration of Sir Charles Bagot. He was member of the Executive Council from March 1848 to February 1850, in the Lafontaine-Baldwin administration, and from October 1851 to September 1854, in the Hincks-Morin Government, filling successively the offices of Assistant-Commissioner of Public Works, President of the Council, Minister of Agriculture, Postmaster-General and Member of the Board of Railway Commissioners. He was also a Government Director of the Grand Trunk Railway, then under construction. He visited British Columbia in 1862, and was appointed a delegate to proceed to England to secure self-government for that colony, a mission in which he was completely successful. He held the office of Queen's Printer from 1863 to 1869. He sat for Lanark, in the Upper Canada Assembly, from 1836 until the Union of Upper and Lower Canada; and for the same seat, in the Canada Assembly, from the Union till 1848; for Kent, from 1848 till 1851; for Huron, from 1851 till 1854; for Lambton, from 1855 till 1860, when he resigned and was returned to represent St. Clair Division in the Legislative Council till 1863. He was first returned to the House of Commons for South Ontario at the last general elections.

## HON. ALEXANDER VIDAL.

The family of the distinguished Senator was originally from Spain, and removed to England in the 17th Century. He is the eldest surviving son of the late Captain E. E. Vidal, R. N. He was born in Berkshire, England, in 1819, and educated at the Royal Mathematical School, Christ's Hospital, London. He accompanied his father to Canada in 1834 and settled in Sarnia in the following year. He is a P. L. S. and practiced his profession from 1843 to 1852; is Lieut.-Col. Lambton Reserve Militia, County Treasurer of Lambton and President Y. M. C. Association, Sarnia. He was engaged in the Banking business for many years till 1875, when he retired. He sat for the St. Clair Division in the Legislative Council of Canada from September, 1863 till the Union. He was called to the Senate in January 1873. Mr. Vidal has championed the cause of Temperance in the Senate, and was Chairman of the Prohibition Convention which met in Montreal last week.