

practised the profession he has passed several of the preliminary examinations, and in 1879 wrote for and obtained from the Albert University the degree of LL B. For many years Mr. Ross has been an enthusiastic leader in Temperance and Prohibitory movements in Canada, and in the House of Commons, as well as in the Ontario Legislature, has earnestly advocated the cause of Temperance and taken active part in its legislation. In 1879 he was elected Most Worthy Patriarch of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance of North America, and for two years presided over their deliberations at Washington and at Cincinnati. In Reform politics Mr. Ross has for years been a well known and distinguished figure. A ready debater and a lucid and incisive speaker he has again and again been of yeoman service to his party and done much to advance the cause of Liberalism throughout Ontario. "As a public speaker," remarks the authority we have already quoted, "Mr. Ross has a remarkable faculty of grouping his facts and presenting his arguments in clear, logical order, in which we find the influence of his early training as a teacher. He is quick at repartee, possesses a retentive memory, and a contagious enthusiasm which frequently expresses itself in genuine eloquence. He has the ardour and impulsiveness of a Celt combined with much prudence and sound judgment. He is a living example of the power of continuity of purpose and indomitable will, when linked with intelligence and high motive." Mr. Ross was first elected representative of West Middlesex in the House of Commons in 1872; two years afterwards, at the general election, he was returned by acclamation; he was again returned in the years 1878 and 1882, though in the following year he was unfortunate to lose his seat in consequence of bribery by agents. In Nov., 1883, he was appointed Minister of Education for Ontario, as successor to the Hon. Adam Crooks, Q.C., and in the following month was elected to the Legislative Assembly for his present seat, West Middlesex. To his important office Mr. Ross brings a strong, clear, and well stored mind, wide experience in teaching, a hearty enthusiasm in educational matters, and sterling qualities as a departmental administrator and public officer. He strikes the interviewer at once by his clear-headed practical view of things, and gives the impression of an eminently safe man, a cautious but vigorous administrator, with no fads or crotchets, but with abounding energy, un-

flagging purpose, and strong common sense. Mr. Ross married Christina, fourth daughter of Duncan Campbell, Esq., of Middlesex, who however died in 1872. In 1875 he again married, Miss Boston, of Lobo, County Middlesex, becoming his wife.

Sheppard, Edmund, Bowmanville, the subject of this biographical paper, was born at Newark, Nottinghamshire, England, on the 3rd of February, 1823. His parents were Christopher Hancer Sheppard, and his mother Maria, *nee* Stevenson. His father, it may be said, took a prominent interest in politics in England, and was one of the foremost supporters of Sergt. Wild, the Reform candidate, who ran in opposition for Newark to Mr. (now the Hon.) W. E. Gladstone, who was, in these early days, a Conservative. Our subject received his primary education at Newark, and he afterwards attended Bethany College, Virginia, United States. He was, in early life, a strict member of the Church of England, but, in 1842, he deserted, uniting himself with the Christian church (Disciples) in Nottingham. From information published in the historical Atlas of the County of Elgin, and from other sources the following is gleaned respecting our subject: "He is a man of no ordinary cast of mind . . . and it is chiefly because his many friends in Western Ontario will read with interest the plainest facts of his history that they are recorded here. His public labours have been extensive, and mainly in two fields, educational and evangelic. Mr. Sheppard was born in Newark, England, in 1823, and emigrated to Canada in the Spring of 1843. He commenced school teaching in the township of Marcham, in the year 1844, attended Bethany College for some time, and settled in South Dorchester in 1848. Mr. Sheppard early recognised the importance of our national system of education, and the share of its administration which devolved upon him, was performed with ability and zeal. His first appointment to the office of Local Superintendent of Schools was upon the recommendation of Judge Elliott, of London (who had held the office of District Supt.), for North and South Dorchester in 1850. In that year he assisted in organizing the Board of Public Instruction for the United Counties of Middlesex and Elgin. His colleagues were:—Mr. French of London, the late Bishop Cronyn, the late Mr. Silcox of Southwold, and the late Judge Wilson. In 1859 he was appointed Supt. of Schools for the Eastern Riding of Elgin, and upon the death of John S. McColl, in March, 1866, he was ap-

nted El
est El
e who
turing
alth, a
d in S
chers
vice a
schme
d good
rd was
o of E
and-da
though
e cause
nself b
life w
ristian
oneer o
les of
Wester
esting
ntrover
s are t
rker, —
r relax
loves."
nville
stor of
ich the
ember.
bruary.
Shepp
e Toron
ughters.
uth Dor
me. Th
mily of
ancy.
Dwight
rn at H
rk, on I
d mothe
is fathe
e Dwight
as educ
use in O
14 to se
oyed in
ained f
opportunit
en in its
acements
nd secure
elegraph
ationed a
nce was
moved to
chief opera
three years