

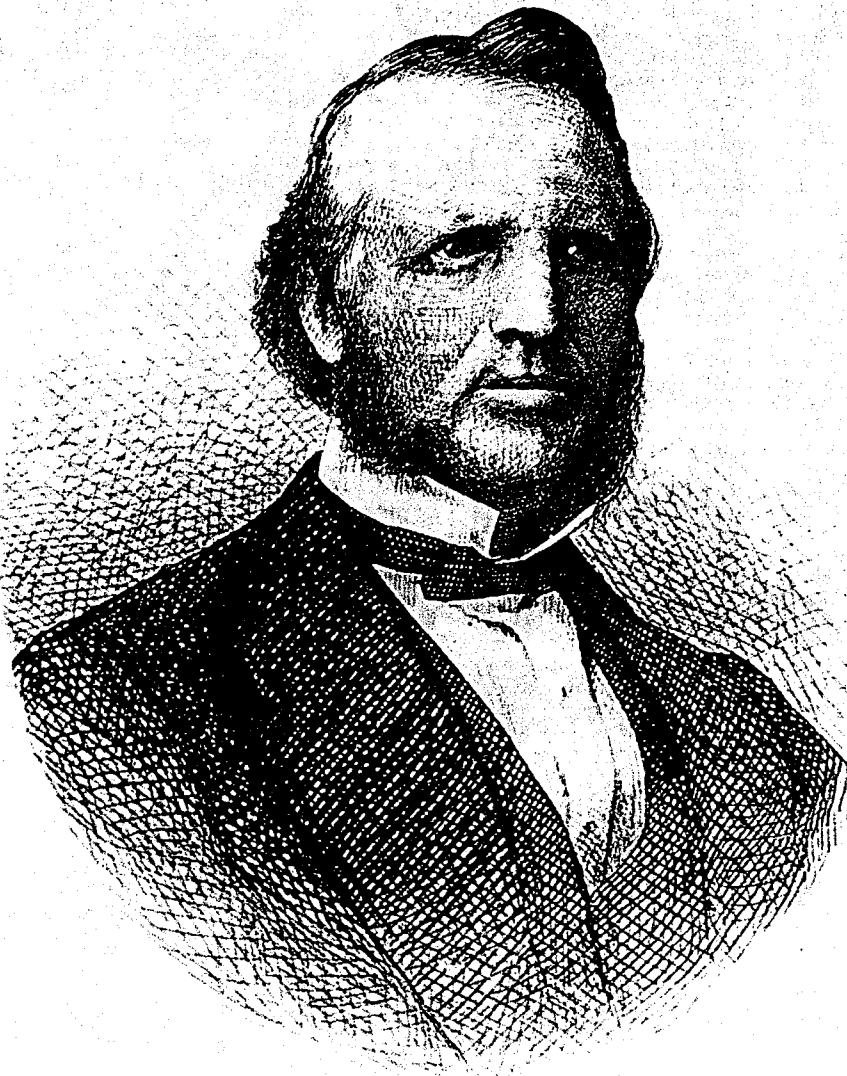
**HON. DONALD ALEXANDER MAC-
DONALD.**

This gentleman belongs to the distinguished family of the Macdonalds of Glengarry, whose fame has been established throughout the country by the eldest brother, the late John Sandfield Macdonald. The youngest brother, Alexander Francis, is also in public life, being member of Parliament for Cornwall. The subject of our present sketch was born at St. Raphael's, Glengarry, Ontario, and educated at the Cornwall Grammar School. His youth was spent in mercantile pursuits. In these, he was so successful that, in the course of a busy life, he has amassed considerable wealth. He was also a contractor on the Grand Trunk Railway, and built the aqueduct for the Water Works of Montreal. He has been Warden for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry; is Lieutenant Colonel, commanding the Glengarry Reserve Militia; President of the Montreal and Ottawa Junction and Director of the Ontario Bank. Mr. Macdonald served in Parliament for many years, but never rose to office till the advent of the present administration, when he was sworn of the Privy Council and appointed Post Master General, on the 7th November 1873. He has represented his native Glengarry in Parliament since 1857. In appearance, Mr. Macdonald recalls his more distinguished brother, John Sandfield, in size, build, and expression of countenance. As a departmental officer, he has displayed rare qualities of firmness, industry and care. Economy has been his rule of action, and by its gradual enforcement, he has succeeded in reforming several abuses of long standing. Towards the members of his branch of the service, he is represented as just and polite. Among the improvements which are due to his administration, we may mention the introduction of the free delivery system in several of our principal cities. But the circumstance which will mark an era in his career of public usefulness is the new postal convention between the United States and Canada, whereby the most palpable benefits will accrue to the inhabitants of both countries. Mr. Macdonald's name will be long remembered in connection with this public boon.

THE CHILDREN'S HOME.

This Institution was established some five years since, in one of the lowest parts of London, England, by the Rev. T. Bowman Stephenson, B.A., and a few friends. Its object was to rescue children who by the death, vice, or extreme poverty of their parents, were in danger of falling into criminal ways.

The beginning was small—a cottage was rented capable of receiving some 10 to 20 boys, who were employed in chopping firewood, &c. It has since gradually increased, until at the present



HON. D. A. MACDONALD, POST MASTER GENERAL OF CANADA.

—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY TOPLEY.

moment between three and four hundred boys and girls have been received.

The Institution consists of—

1. The "Home" in London, which is now being enlarged to make it capable of accommodating two hundred children, in which the children are received; and those who are not adapted for agriculture are taught trades, as carpentry, printing, book-binding, &c.

2. A farm of 100 acres in Lancashire, at which another two hundred, who have passed through the London branch, receive schooling and training in farm work.

3. The Home, Main Street, Hamilton. This property was purchased about a year since, at a cost of \$10,000—about \$5,000 having been subscribed during the visit of Rev. T. Bowman Stephenson in 1872, who has since been specially appointed to the Home work by the Wesleyan Conference.

The property consists of 7½ acres of rich garden land, pleasantly situated in the extreme limits of the city. An acre and a half is tastefully laid out with lawn, avenue, and shade trees; there is an orchard of about 2½ acres, bearing some of the choicest fruit in the neighbourhood, and the remainder of the land is worked as a market garden.

The buildings consist of a large brick house, which will be used as a school and officers' residence; a brick cottage, to be used as a dormitory for girls; and spacious outbuildings, which, during the present season, have been made capable of receiving and training one hundred children, in addition to affording a home to those who are sick or changing situations.

More than one hundred and fifty children are already provided with comfortable homes in this country, and two or three parties will arrive during every season. The younger of these children are sent out to farmers and others who can satisfy the Committee as to their fitness to accept the charge, and receive clothing and schooling in return for their services. Those trained to farm work receive wages varying from \$3 to \$6 per month, according to age and ability. Employers are required to purchase the necessary clothing, &c., and remit the balance of wages in June and December, together with a report on the conduct of the child. The money is placed to the credit of the child in the Hamilton Provident and Loan Society Savings Bank, and handed back whenever it is thought a proper use will be made of it.

No application for children is entertained that is not accompanied by a letter from the applicant's pastor, giving the positive assurance of the applicant being a member in good standing of his church, and that his home is a desirable one for the child.

Publications fully explaining this work can be obtained at the Home, or the Wesleyan Book Room, Toronto.



FANCY COSTUMES FOR CHILDREN.