

LITTLE BELLEVILLE SATURDAY READER

VOL. III.—No. 54. FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 15, 1866. SEVEN CENTS.



WILLIAM WORKMAN, Esq.

IN pursuance of our plan, as announced in a former number, of giving from time to time, sketches and portraits of "Men who have Risen" in our community, we publish to-day that of Mr. William Workman. This plan, let us here premise, is entirely of our own creation, the parties themselves have no hand in its initiation, our object being to direct attention, and especially of the young and the rising generation in Mercantile life, to men in our community, who, occupying prominent positions, have risen to these positions, and gained the summit of success in life, by their own industry. We believe, that in placing prominently before the young men in our community, such results, we can best incite their emulation towards a similar course of action, and thus promote their best interests.

The subject of our notice to-day, is, we understand, the fifth of a family of eight sons who

emigrated to this country, now, nearly forty years ago. Although brought up to business in his native town, Lisburn, near Belfast, in the North of Ireland, his *début* in Canada was in connection with the press, having, in company with his brother, conducted for a short time one of the oldest journals in the city—the *Canadian Courant*—but finding that the returns from this field of labor were not in consonance with his ideas of compensation for the capital and energy it required, he soon abandoned the walks of literature and letters for those of the counter and the counting-house. In the year 1830 he entered the employment of the highly respectable hardware and iron house in this city, J. & J. M. Frothingham, and after six years' service, he received on the 1st of April, 1836, a partnership under the firm of Frothingham & Workman.

If, in life's voyage, it is good fortune to strike the current of the "tide in the affairs of men," which the immortal Bard says, if taken at the flood, leads on to fortune, it requires no less

good judgment and quick discernment to keep the lead and mark the true direction of the current towards the point of success. In this the subject of our notice was well aided by the kindness and conferences of his excellent associate in business, John Frothingham, who retired from the firm along with him in the year 1859, after nearly 30 years of one of the most successful careers in that line of business, perhaps in British America.

Although few men could have applied themselves more unreservedly, late and early, to business than Mr. Workman did, his known energy and quick appreciation in all matters of business placed him constantly in the foreground of all the public movements and undertakings in the country, as well social as commercial; he was President of the St. Patrick's Society, at one time, when the two Societies, Protestant and Catholic, were united in one. He has been an active Director in almost every Railway in the country, President of a Steamboat company, one of the founders and we believe the chief of that