

a brilliant career at Oriel College, Oxford, where he took a first-class, and afterwards a fellowship, entered into educational and literary pursuits as a tutor of Mereton College and a writer of articles in the *Reviews*. Having attracted attention by the ability displayed in the latter, he was appointed an Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, and subsequently Chief Commissioner. On the reconstruction of the Poor Law Board in 1847, he received the government of New Brunswick, and in 1854 was promoted to be the Governor-General of Canada, from which office he retired in 1861.

Both in New Brunswick and Canada Sir Edmund was, as might have been expected, conspicuous as a patron of education, literature, and science; and was remarkable, not only for his readiness to give his countenance to every worthy undertaking, but for the judicious advice which he gave, and his willingness to devote time and thought to the consideration of the best means for advancing the interests in view.

In New Brunswick he more especially took a warm interest in the Provincial University, then in a languishing condition; and procured the appointment of a Commission to inquire into its deficiencies and difficulties, and the means for their remedy. The labours of this Commission (which consisted of the Honble. J. H. Gray of New Brunswick, Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Principal Dawson,—then Superintendent of Education in Nova Scotia,—and the Honbles. J. H. Saunders and James Brown of New Brunswick) resulted in the preparation of a scheme which, if fully carried out, would have placed New Brunswick far in advance of the other colonies in this respect. Sir Edmund was, however, soon after removed to Canada, and the plan devised was only partially acted on; but it has already given a new stimulus to higher education in New Brunswick, and has resulted in placing the University in a very satisfactory condition.

In Canada, though checked by the unsettled condition of political affairs and by the want of sympathy with his large views on the part of most of our public men, Sir Edmund did much for the promotion of his own favourite pursuits and for laying the foundation of a high educational culture. The educational measures adopted during his administration all more or less bore the impress of his mind, and the various Scientific and Literary Societies, and the Geological Survey, owe much to his personal influence. In this community, the McGill University, the