

Fennell John, Berlin, Ontario, was born at Cobourg, Northumberland county, Ontario, on the 8th of August, 1837. He is a son of Simon and Martha, the maiden name of his mother being McCamus. Simon Fennell was born in the County of Kildare, Ireland, in 1798, and came to America when he was twenty-one years old. He travelled through the United States and the Maritime provinces, and afterwards, turning his steps westward, settled at the lugubriously named place, Hardscrabble, now Cobourg, in 1821, and the house that he erected was among the first built in that village. He married in 1824, his wife's parents having, with a large family, arrived some time before from County Cavan, Ireland. Port Hope at this period was known by the somewhat vague and general title of Smith's Creek. After some years residence in Cobourg, he settled on a farm situate on the front road between Cobourg and Port Hope. Our subject was born in that stormy year that saw William Lyon Mackenzie unfold his banner of rebellion; and Mr. Fennell, who was a devoted adherent of the authority of the Crown, was found active in the cavalry forces in stamping out the insurrection. The family consisted of three boys and three girls. When young John had completed his primary studies at the public schools, he was sent, as his brother, the Rev. Joseph Fennell, an Episcopal clergyman now at St. Catharines, also was, to Victoria College, Cobourg. In 1863 our subject, who had become thoroughly conversant with the hardware business, established himself in that enterprise at Berlin. Before he launched into the undertaking he had made up his mind that success in business is only achieved by pursuing sound business principles, by industry and by unvarying attention. These resolutions Mr. Fennell carried out fully, and the fruit now is an important, reputable, and profitable business. He was a member of the town council and a sturdy advocate of municipal improvement; and for the last sixteen years he has been connected with the school board as member and as chairman. Since 1878 he has at intervals been very active in the political sphere, exerting himself in favour of the cause of Liberal-Conservatism. He has been president of the Liberal-Conservative Association of the North Riding of Waterloo for a number of years. As we have said, he has always taken an active interest in the welfare of the town, and has done a great deal in promoting its material interests. He is a prominent member of St. John's (Episco-

pal) Church, and has been for a number of years churchwarden and lay delegate to the Synod of Huron diocese; and it may be stated that Mr. Fennell staunchly holds the views of the Evangelical party of the Church of England. He married in 1864, Alicia Jackson, of Stratford, Ont., whose family were amongst the earliest and most respected settlers in that now young city, and there is a family of four girls and one boy. The latter is attending University College, Toronto. In the summer of 1880 Mr. Fennell and his wife travelled through Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, and France, visiting the principal places of interest in these countries. He has been a Freemason since 1863. His mother still lives, and resides with her daughter, Mrs. George O. Stanton, of Montreal. She is in her eighty-first year.

Dawson, S. J., M.P. for Algoma, Ontario, was born in Scotland, and came to Canada when a boy. He is connected on both his father's and mother's sides with old historic families, his maternal grandfather having been for a long period heir presumptive to the estates and honours of the ancient house of Glengarry. He is unmarried, and by profession a civil engineer. He was appointed by the government, in 1851, to plan and superintend the construction of extensive works then contemplated on the St. Maurice, to open up the vast pine regions of that river and its tributaries to commercial enterprise, which works he carried out successfully. In 1857 he was appointed to explore the country from Lake Superior westward to the Saskatchewan, and report upon its adaptability for settlement and the practicability of opening up communication therewith. The reports of his explorations while on this service drew general attention to the North-West territories, at that time but little known, and did much to dispel the then prevalent idea that they were in great part sterile, and to a large extent within the regions of perpetual frost, as had been asserted by different writers who, in the interests of the fur traders, wished to exclude settlement. He resigned this office after completing his reports, and returned to Three Rivers, the people of that city having in the meantime shown their appreciation of his former services in opening up their great river, by sending his brother, who was until then personally unknown to them, to represent them in parliament. In 1867, he again visited Lake Superior, at the request of the government, to indicate the proper starting place of a then contemplated road to the interior, and