

upon the death of Mr. Breakenbridge, in 1828, Mr. O'Reilley went to Toronto, where he completed his studies in the office of the late Messrs. Baldwin & Son. He was called to the bar in 1830, whence it will be seen that he is now the oldest practising barrister in Ontario. Through his wide and sound knowledge of the law and his natural brilliancy, he soon secured an extensive practice. He was one of Sir Allan MacNab's "Men of Gore," who quenched the insurrectionary flame at Montgomery's tavern, near Toronto; and at the trial, in the following spring, of the 106 prisoners confined in the Hamilton jail, charged with high treason, Mr. O'Reilley, unaided and alone, defended the whole of them. The late Chief-Justice Draper, and Mr. (afterwards Sir) Allan MacNab prosecuted for the Crown, Chief-Justice Macaulay hearing the case. Though public feeling was highly strained at the time, and though the prosecution was conducted with marked ability, the remarkable fact remains that not one of the whole number was convicted of the higher offence. The learned judge, at the close, paid Mr. O'Reilley an elaborate compliment on the ability and zeal with which he had conducted his case. On the 7th of February Mr. O'Reilley was appointed judge of the district court of the district of Gore, then embracing Wentworth, Halton, and Brant, and portions of Waterloo, Wellington, and Haldimand. In 1853, he resigned this office, and returned to practice in the courts, taking charge for a short period of the legal department of the Great Western Railway Company, whose affairs were then considerably embarrassed. Mr. O'Reilley was largely instrumental in bringing the affairs of the company back to a prosperous and satisfactory condition. Naturally, from what is known of Mr. O'Reilley personally and as a practitioner, we might expect to hear that he was, while upon the bench, an ideal judge. His quick and accurate insight, his command of legal principles, and his wide information, endowed him with the highest capacity for judicial administration. He was at the same time dignified and courteous, and a Brutus in his adherence to the line of justice. In 1856 he was appointed Q.C., and in 1871 a master in Chancery. In 1880, being the fiftieth anniversary of his call to the bar, the legal profession of the County of Wentworth presented him with a handsome service of plate, and an address signed by the members of the bar in the county. The presentation was made in the new court house,

in the City of Hamilton, in presence of a very large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, the law students presenting him, on the same occasion, with a fine pipe of mammoth size, and a piece of tobacco of corresponding dimensions. At this date (1886) Mr. and Mrs. O'Reilley, although well advanced in years, still enjoy good health, and are probably the oldest surviving inhabitants of the City of Hamilton, where they have resided since 1831, and celebrated their golden wedding in 1883, at their house (The Willows), where they have lived for over fifty years. Mrs. O'Reilley is the second daughter of the late James Rany, late of Mount Pleasant, County of Brant, formerly of the City of Bath, England.

**Bellemare, Raphael**, Inspector of Inland Revenue, District of Montreal, is descended from an old and honourable French family, which came from France to Canada about 1650, his father being Paul Bellemare, of Yamachiche, where Raphael was born on the 22nd February, 1821. His mother, Marguerite Gelas, was sprung from the same old stock. Raphael Bellemare received his primary education at his parent's home, and was sent to the College of Nicolet, to follow a course of classical studies. He was afterwards, from 1845 to 1847, professor of Belles Lettres in that illustrious institution. Leaving college, he began the study of law, repairing for that purpose to Montreal, and entered the office of the late P. R. Lafrenaye, A.C. He was subsequently transferred to the office of Judge Coursol, where he concluded his course of study. During the same time he, from 1847 to 1855, succeeded to the editorship of *La Minerve*, then the principal organ of the Lafontaine-Morin, or Reform party. As a writer he displayed great gifts, and there were always present in his contributions force and brilliancy, and a powerful logic. Through all the great questions that were discussed with such stormy temper, such as public schools, the secularization of the clergy reserves, and the representation by population, *La Minerve* was to the fore front, and the able pen of Mr. Bellemare conspicuously active. Abuse was hurled at him by *L'Avenir*, by *Le Moniteur* and by *Le Pays*, but he kept his temper, held his ground, and with dignity and ability fought his battle, winning the admiration and the gratitude of his friends. Mr. Bellemare being a devoted son of his church, therefore, favoured the continuance of religious instruction in schools, contending that without such instruction the nation must event-