

nada's most distinguished men. He took an active part in the debating and literary clubs, was one of the most faithful workers in the Berkeley-st. Methodist church, with which he has been identified from boyhood, and was an enthusiastic though humble member of the gallant Law Students Company of the Queen's Own Rifles. He took an active part in politics also. He was one of the founders and the treasurer of the Young Men's Conservative Association, formed in 1878, and which took an active part in the memorable campaign of that year. It was largely through the untiring exertions of such men as Mr. Coatsworth that the Toronto amphitheatre, where political questions were discussed at great meetings for the whole of that summer, was established and maintained. Mr. Coatsworth was called to the bar in 1879, and at once became a member of the firm with whom he studied, where he continued until 1883, when he established an office of his own. His excellent connection, and the reputation he had already won, brought him ample practice, and his business-like, methodical habits, his sound judgment and knowledge of his profession, enabled him to hold his business and constantly to add to his clientele. In July, 1884, he was joined professionally by Mr. Frank E. Hodgins, the partnership being known as Coatsworth & Hodgins. Subsequently Mr. Walter A. Geddes entered the firm, the partnership becoming Coatsworth, Hodgins & Co. About the beginning of 1891, an arrangement was made with Messrs. McMurrich & Urquhart, well-known barristers, under which the two firms were united. The amalgamated firm is now one of the strongest in the Province, and occupies extensive offices. When the intended retirement of Mr. John Small from the representation of E. Toronto became known, the Conservatives of the riding at once began to cast about for a good man to succeed him. There was no lack of material, for the nomination of the party convention was known to be equivalent to election. The choice fell upon Mr. Coatsworth, who had been President of the Conservative Association of St. David's Ward. The Liberals nominated their very strongest man, Mr. Alexander Wheeler, who worked night and day throughout the campaign, backed by the whole machinery of his party. The Liberals confidently looked for a great reduction of the Conservative majority, but the result showed that their candidate was over 1,400 votes behind in the race. These figures are eloquent of Mr. Coatsworth's personal popularity in the city in which he was born and where he has spent his life. The country and the House have not yet had the opportunity to judge what figure Mr. Coatsworth will make as a legislator, but high expectations are formed of him by his friends. He brings to

the consideration of public affairs knowledge gained by the study of men as well as the study of books. He has travelled throughout nearly the whole of Canada, and has seen much also of the United States and of Europe. On the platform, he is a clear and forcible speaker, showing those qualities which should make him strong in the discussion of questions in the House. Mr. Coatsworth is, in religious persuasion, a member of the Methodist Church, in which he holds many offices of trust. He is a member of several secret societies, including the Independent Order of Foresters, the Sons of England, and the Loyal Orange Society. Mr. Coatsworth was married on the 19th September, 1883, to Miss Helen Robertson, of De Cew Falls, Ont., and their family consists of two children.

JOHN BATTLE,

Thorold, Ont.

ON February 26th, 1891, there died in the town of Thorold, Welland county, a man who had been a familiar figure among the people for nearly half a century. This was John Battle, who during almost the whole of that long period had been intimately connected with the material progress and welfare of his county, to promote which he did probably more than any other single individual. Mr. Battle was essentially a self-made man, the architect of his own fortunes. The record of his career furnishes a notable example of what may be done in this country by one who is willing to work and who possesses ability and the determination to succeed. When he came to Canada, some fifty years ago, he was a poor boy, but by talents, combined with energy and perseverance, he raised himself to a position of affluence, and exercised a wide influence in the community in which he lived. He died universally respected. He was born at Ballymote, county of Sligo, Ireland, February 2nd, 1824, his parents being John Battle and his wife, Bridget, whose maiden name was Healey. Of his youthful days little can be said further than that he plodded along in his native land until he was about eighteen years of age, when he emigrated to this country, whither his father had preceded him some two years previously. In 1842, he settled in Thorold, and there, with the exception of one year, spent in St. Catharines, he lived the remainder of his life. He first went to work as a day labourer on the second Welland canal then in course of construction. For this he received the munificent wages of five York shillings (62½ cents) *per diem*. In spite of many discouragements he worked on steadily, and in due time had saved enough money to purchase a team of horses, which he employed tow-