

Mr. White was educated in the Montreal high school, and in 1846 entered the establishment of the late T. C. Panton, to learn the grocery business. He served his apprenticeship of three years, and in May, 1849, went to Brantford, Ontario; spent a few months in the store of E. Roy and Company, and before the close of that year proceeded thence to Peterboro', and continued in the capacity of clerk a few months longer; but he does not seem to have liked the business. In 1850 we find him in the Queen's printing office, Toronto, where he learned the printer's trade, accompanying that office on its removal to Quebec in 1851. There in 1852, he was engaged to assist in editing the *Quebec Gazette*, the late Mr. Stewart Derbyshire being editor-in-chief. The next year Mr. White returned to Peterboro', and started the *Review*, semi-weekly at first, but soon changed it into a weekly, which was all that Peterboro' was able to support in those days. The paper is now a daily.

In 1860, our subject entered the law office of Hon. Sidney Smith, of Cobourg, passing his examination for admission to the Law Society of Upper Canada, and studied for four years; but his love for journalism was evidently greater than for the law; and in 1864 he and his brother, Richard White, purchased the *Hamilton Spectator*, and conducted it until 1870, when our subject returned to Montreal, and became one of the editors and proprietors of the *Gazette*, the oldest newspaper in Canada, the leading Conservative English journal in the province.

While at Peterboro' and Hamilton, Mr. White served on the grammar school boards; he was also for some time reeve of the town of Peterboro'. During the last decade, he has been a very prominent member of the Montreal Board of Trade. He represented it a number of years in the Dominion Board; was for three years a member of the executive council of the Dominion Board, and for five years represented that body at the meetings of the National Board of Trade of the United States. He is well known among commercial men and journalists in the United States.

Mr. White was a candidate for South Wentworth for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, in 1867; for the House of Commons for the county of Prescott, Ontario, in 1874, and for Montreal West in 1874 and 1875; and it is noteworthy that the aggregate majorities against him in the first three elections was only sixteen votes. Once he came within three votes of being returned, and at his first contest in Montreal, actually polled a majority of fourteen of the votes, but was thrown out by the returning officers, on account of spoiled ballots. In 1878 he contested Cardwell, and was successful. He is a Conservative, a thorough protectionist, and his first speech made in Parliament (1879), was on the tariff question, in which he ably advocated what is known as the "National Policy" inaugurated by his party. He also spoke during that first session of the fourth Parliament in favor of removing Lieut.-Gov. Letellier. In the session of 1880 his ablest speech was on the Pacific railway question, mainly in reply to Hon. Edward Blake. It was the good fortune of the writer of this sketch to be present and hear most of Mr. White's speech, which was one of the most logical, pointed and incisive made during the debate on that question. He stands in the front rank of debaters in the House.