

schools of Moulin, Dunkeld and Perth. M. 1st, Helen, dau. of the late Mr. Wm. Neill, of Irvine, Scot. (she d. 2 Jan., 1852) ; 2nd, 17 June, 1853, Jane, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Robert Sym, of Perthshire, Scot. In youth learned the business of a builder and architect, and after arrival in Can. became a contractor. For some years edited the *Lambton Shield*, a Reform journal. Is Presdt. of the North American Life Ins. Co., and a dir. of the Building and Loan Assoc. Was Major 27th Lambton Batt. of V. I. for some years, up to Oct., 1874, when he resigned. Was a mem. of the Ex. Council and Treas. of Ont. (in Mr. Blake's administration), from 21 Dec., 1871, until Oct., 1872, when he retired with Mr. Blake for the purpose of confining themselves entirely to Dominion politics. Declined a seat in the Can. Cabinet on the occasion of the retirement of Mr. Brown, 1865. Was leader of Ontario Reform Opposition in House of Commons from the Union until 1873, when elected leader of the whole Opposition party, and continued in that position until 5 Nov., 1873, when, owing to the resignation of Sir John Macdonald, he was called on to form a new administration, a duty he succeeded in accomplishing on the 7th of the same month, when he and his colleagues were sworn of the Privy Council, he (Mr. M.) taking the office of Minister of Public Works, which he held until he resigned, with the other members of the Ministry, Oct. 1878. Proceeded to the Mother Country in June, 1875, and whilst there was presented with the freedom of Irvine, Dundee and Perth, and visited Her Majesty at Windsor Castle. During a visit to Scot., 1881, for the benefit of his health, was presented with the freedom of Inverness. Sat for present seat in Can. Assem. from 1861 until the Union. Returned to Commons at g.e. 1867, and at g.e. 1872 ; again at g.e. 1874 ; re-elected by acclamation on his appt. to office ; and again at g.e. 1878. Elected for present seat at g.e. 1882, 1887 and 1891. Represented West Middlesex in Local House from g.e. 1871 until Oct. 1872, when he resigned. Several important measures owe their existence to Mr. M. as a private mem., viz. : the Act amending the Assessment Act of U.C. (1863) ; that consolidating and amending the Acts relating to the Assessment of Property, U.C. (1866) ; and the highly useful measure for providing means of egress from Public Buildings (1866). As Chairman of Committee on Municipal and Assessment Laws (1866), wrote and framed the greater part of the General Act on Municipal Corporation, etc. All the