

T. Stewart and Co., in New York city, as a general salesman. He remained with them until the breaking out of the Southern Rebellion in 1861, when he accepted a situation with the wholesale Fur house of Foster and Galbraith, of Montreal, Canada. Their principal house was at Hamilton, Ont., and thither Mr. Gillespie was soon transferred. Two years later he engaged in business for himself, opening a dry goods commission house for the sale of American fancy goods. This business he carried on successfully until 1866, when it was merged into the wholesale hat, cap, fur and straw goods business, opened at 39 Yonge street, Toronto, under the firm-name of J. Gillespie and Co.; in this business he was joined by D. Galbraith of the firm of Foster and Galbraith.

In 1869, the business had enlarged so that a larger store was necessary, and the stock was removed to 64-68 Yonge street.

Mr. Galbraith only remained in the firm about a year, when Mr. Gillespie continued alone until 1870, when, on opening a branch store in New York city, he was again joined by Mr. Galbraith. On relinquishing this branch the two houses J. Gillespie and Co., of Toronto, and D. Galbraith and Co., of Hamilton, were united, taking in Mr. T. Christie of the latter house. The two houses were successfully maintained until 1875; the one at Hamilton under the name of T. Christie and Co., and the one at Toronto, under the name of J. Gillespie and Co. The partnership was then dissolved, since which time Mr. Gillespie has been alone. He is probably the leading representative of his line of trade in the Dominion, importing and manufacturing extensively every description and quality of hats and caps. During the season of 1879 he removed his business to a new and spacious building, put up expressly for his use on Wellington street, and is one of the finest stores in the city.

Establishing and maintaining a large business is not all that Mr. Gillespie has done for Toronto; he is actively interested in all matters that tend to benefit or enhance the prosperity and well being of the city. He is one of the Directors of the Bristol, West of England Mortgage Investment Company, the Hand in Hand Insurance Company, and on the consulting board of the Commercial Union; has been Treasurer of the Board of Trade for the last six years; is Government Trustee of the Toronto General Hospital; of the Church of St. James' Cathedral; is Secretary of the Church Association, and Director of the Bible Society, and the Tract Society, of the House of Industry, and of the Newsboys' Lodgings. He has always taken a great interest in Sunday schools, and for the last ten years has been the Superintendent of the St. James'. Under his able management the school has increased during that time from two hundred and fifty, to over twelve hundred scholars.

Mr. Gillespie was married at Guelph, in 1855, to Miss Esther Cunningham, of that place. She died in 1876, leaving four children.—one son and three daughters; Louisa, the eldest daughter was married in September, 1876, to Mr. Jeffrey H. Brock, a wholesale merchant, and respected citizen of Toronto; Frederick George is a student in Dr. Tassie's School, at Galt,