

vain, simply because they have been altogether powerless for good or evil. It is this powerlessness that has made these officials looked upon as worthless eaters out of the public crib. Give them authority to enforce the wise rules and regulations that may be established by a council of advanced educationists—to coerce teachers into imparting a fair knowledge of English before attempting to teach the classics, to see that their pupils are able to demonstrate the multiplication table before attempting to demonstrate the problems of Euclid, and to weed out the formalists who develop no capacity for teaching and are capable of no higher intellectual effort than hearing recitations. When we are blessed with a system that makes teaching respectable, and offers promotion to the successful, and sends the stupid and unqualified to other occupations, that establishes schools in which one head master can preside over the doings of a half dozen assistants,—when efficiency and economy are secured by means like these, all the children in the Province may be educated, and the tax required for the purpose would not be found oppressive.—*St. John Telegraph.*

IX. Biographical Sketches.

1. JAMES PRESTON, ESQ., B.A.

Much regret is felt at the death of Mr. James Preston, B.A., head-master of the Goderich High School. Mr. Preston was, three weeks previously, attacked with bleeding at the lungs, and gradually sank. He was only thirty-two years of age, and was the third son of the late Lieut-Col. Alex. Preston, of the Durham Battalion. He studied at Bishop's College, Lennoxville, intending to enter the Church, but, changing his mind, became grammar-school-teacher at Millbrook, Owen Sound, and Goderich. He was highly successful in his laborious vocation, and was universally esteemed and beloved.

2. THE BISHOP OF HURON.

The Right Reverend Dr. B. Cronyn, Bishop of Huron, was born in the year 1802, in the city of Kilkenny, Ireland, and was consequently in his 70th year, at his death. Very early in life he set himself apart for the ministry, entering Trinity College, Dublin, when he was only 15 years of age. Here he greatly distinguished himself and took his B.A. in 1824, and three years after was made Master of Arts, winning also in the same year the Regius Professor's prize for Divinity. In the subsequent year he was ordained deacon, and soon after officiated in the Diocese of Chester. In 1826 he was ordained priest, and did duty in the county of Longford, Ireland, up to the middle of the year 1832. About that time a large number of Irish gentlemen of good family emigrated to Canada, making their way to the township of Adelaide, then newly thrown open to settlement, under the especial patronage of Sir John Colborne, the Lieutenant Governor of that day. He took up some land there with the intention of settling in that township, but having favourably impressed the people of London—at that time comprising 150 souls—he was made rector of this parish. The cholera had just swept through the town, carrying off a large number of people, and many had left for the bush—for there was little in the way of settlement hereabouts at that time. Mr. Cronyn at once threw himself into active duties and became the most popular and successful preacher of the day, and for many years afterwards. Nor did he confine his labours to this immediate locality. He became a missionary as it were, and went through the country preaching, and officiating as he went. And his services were most acceptable. People who would have been glad to have been married had had no opportunity of conforming to the ceremony, and the baptism of children had been neglected from the same cause. He thus became the most influential among the clergy in the west, and his name was a "household word" in all this region. As population poured in, and other clergy became stationed, the duties of his position were confined more strictly to his parish. The church then in use by the congregation stood on a plot of ground now covered by the Royal Exchange Buildings. But a more suitable site being obtained, a new one was erected on the present cathedral plot, which was, however, burned down in 1844,—the present structure having been erected in 1847. In company with Col. Askin, Mr. Cronyn obtained a grant of 400 acres as a glebe from the Crown, to be used for rectory purposes, and this, like other rectory lands, was not swept away when the great Clergy Reserve reform took place in 1855. The diocese of Huron having been created, public attention was at once directed to the Rector of London as the one best suited and most entitled to fill the office of Bishop, and he was elected to that office in 1857; the Rev. Dr. Bethune, now Bishop of Toronto, being also a candidate. At that time no consecrations were pos-

sible in Canada, so that a journey to England was rendered necessary, and the new Bishop was consecrated in Westminster Abbey, in October of the same year. About the same time, an effort was made by him, in conjunction with the then Rev. Dr. Hellmuth, to establish a Theological College in London. This proved to be successful, and that useful institution was founded and endowed. Latterly, declining health and increasing years prevented the Bishop from taking any very active part in the duties of his office, so much so that quite recently a Coadjutor was appointed in the person of Dean Hellmuth, who now assumes full functions. Those of us who have been acquainted with the deceased during the past fifteen years, have formed, perhaps, but a partial idea of the valuable qualities which marked the young minister when, full of life and ardour, he threw himself into the work of the Church in Canada. His services were unremitting, and all objects of a religious kind, whether Bible societies, missionary societies, Sunday Schools, or other benevolent efforts, found their friend and earnest advocate in him. He was a favourite platform speaker on such occasions, and was willing to accept the hand of fellowship on the part of any helping to further such good works. Hospitality to the clergy was also a leading habit with him. The rectory was made the home of any of them that chose to present themselves. He paid considerable attention to the natural sciences, and had an inventive faculty which, under other circumstances, might have been usefully developed. In theology he ranked with what is known as the Low Church Party, and he was decidedly averse to the introduction of any usages that trenched upon simplicity. Strongly Protestant in his feelings, he never omitted a proper opportunity to uphold that branch of the Christian Church.—*Free Press.*

3. SIMEON MORRILL, ESQ.

Mr. Morrill was a native of the State of Vermont; was born in 1793; removed while yet young to Maine, thence to Kingston, Canada, in 1815, where he engaged in business as a tanner. In 1828 he removed to London, then a small village, where he erected a tannery, and continued in the tanning business until some two or three years ago. A man of considerable enterprise, he soon became one of the leading manufacturers as well as one of the leading citizens of the place, and has ever since been more or less intimately identified with movements having the advancement of the city in view. When London became incorporated as a town, in 1847, Mr. Morrill was elected its first Mayor, a position to which he was re-elected on several subsequent occasions. When the Great Western Railway was being built, Mr. Morrill took a very active interest in its behalf. Associated with several philanthropic movements, he was well known and highly respected all over Canada. "Father Morrill" is a familiar name in thousands of Canadian as well as American homes, and his sudden demise will carry sorrow to many Canadian hearts.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

4. THE HON. LOUIS JOSEPH PAPINEAU.

Mr. Papineau was born in Montreal in October, 1789, and was therefore in his eighty-second year at the time of his death. He belonged to a family which emigrated from the South of France in the seventeenth century. Educated in the Seminary of Quebec, and after studying for the law, he was called to the bar of Lower Canada in 1811. Previous to this he had taken an active interest in politics and was elected in 1809 to the Legislature of the Province for the County of Kent, afterwards called Chambly. After representing this constituency for two sessions, he was for twenty successive years representative of the west division of the city of Montreal. In 1817, he was elected Speaker of the Assembly; a position which he managed to occupy for twenty years at the comfortable salary of \$4,000 per annum. During all this time he was identified with the Opposition in the Legislature, to which the Government of the day was not responsible, and the majority, his party controlled in that body ensured his tenure of office as Speaker, notwithstanding the hostility of the Government and the refusal of Lord Dalhousie, in 1827, to acknowledge or sanction his election. Throughout his career in the Assembly he was a violent opponent of the Government and an agitator of the first quality. He sought to obstruct in every way the administrations of Lord Dalhousie and Lord Aylmer, and displayed a degree of discontent with British rule in Lower Canada that ultimately led him to republicanism and rebellion. In 1836 he made the famous declaration, which by a certain class is regarded as prophetic, that "not only were republican institutions to prevail throughout the whole of this continent, but America was destined to furnish at some future day republics to Europe." The history of those days is the history of a constant struggle between the ad-