

more than his share in earning honors for that celebrated school during his university course at Oxford, where his career was remarkably successful. He first entered as an undergraduate of Christ Church, but being elected to a Demyship in Magdalen, he completed his course in that College. His assiduity won for him the Hertford and Ireland scholarships, and he ranked first-class in classics when he graduated B.A. in 1845, obtaining the Chancellor's prizes for Latin verse, and for the Latin and English essays, thus early giving evidence of that great ability to use the English language which has since earned for him so distinguished a place among the writers of modern times. Two years after graduating he received a Fellowship in University College, of which he became Tutor. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1847, but never practised law. In University College he earned for himself a position, and became recognised as an independent and practical thinker, capable of grappling with great problems beyond those which lay immediately in his path. The Government early appreciated and rewarded his ability by appointing him, in 1850, Assistant Secretary of the Royal Commission to enquire into the general condition of the University of Oxford, especially in relation to its revenues, discipline, and studies. Of the second Commission appointed to report in regard to the same institution, he acted as Secretary. He was also honored with a place on the Royal Commission to examine into the state of Popular Education in England. In this position he did good service, at the same time availing himself of the opportunity of acquiring a thorough practical acquaintance with the condition and needs of the English Schools. The knowledge then gained has since enabled him to deal intelligently with the educational problems of both his native and adopted lands. In 1858 he became Professor of Modern History at Oxford, which position he filled until 1866, fulfilling its duties in such a manner as to attract the attention of the highest authorities in England. During this time his reputation crossed the Atlantic, and his decided stand in favor of liberal reforms in educational and religious matters gained for him many admirers in America. He first visited this country in 1864, and received from Brown University the honorary degree of LL.D. He was a warm supporter of the North during the American civil war, and wrote and spoke strongly in favor of the abolition of slavery. Early in 1868 he was appointed Lecturer in English and Constitutional History in Cornell University at Ithaca, New York, an office which he still holds, although since 1872 he has been a resident of Toronto. After coming to Canada, Mr. Smith at once took a prominent position in educational circles. He was appointed a member of the Senate of Toronto University, and was elected by the Public School Teachers of Ontario their first representative on the Council of Public Instruction. He was for two years President of the Provincial Teachers' Association, in which capacity he gave very general satisfaction. In addition to the many public lectures which he has delivered on educational subjects, he has identified himself with public education in his adopted country by his course of Lectures on History, given to the ladies of Toronto and