

Street and Chandler were shaping the destinies of his province. The story of the battle for responsible government had, doubtless, been often dinned into his ear, and nerved him in the resolve to add his name to the long list of colonial statesmen, as soon as he had come to manhood's estate. This he did not do, however, as soon as he expected, for it was not until he had reached his thirty-fourth year that he entered the political arena for the first time.

Andrew George Blair was born in Fredericton, York county, New-Brunswick, on the 7th March, 1844. The family came originally from Scotland. The lad was carefully educated at the Collegiate School in his native city — an institution which has turned out many men of promise — and made rapid progress with his studies. He had many brilliant school-mates during the years he spent at his *alma mater*, but none of them seem to have got on better than he. He chose a professional career, and though medicine and engineering offered their advantages to the young student, his predilection for the law gained the mastery, and he made up his mind to embrace it. He left school for the lawyer's office, was duly articled to a solicitor, and, after spending the usual time in study, was called before the Board of Law examiners to give an account of his apprenticeship. His examination was searching and severe, for in those days the old lawyers had ideas of their own as regards the men they would admit to their ranks as equals. They put young Blair through an ordeal which lasted a long while. They plied him with questions innumerable, and tried, in vain, to puzzle him. Then, when all was over, he had the happiness to be shaken warmly by the hand and congratulated on the very successful manner in which he had acquitted himself. Enrolled an attorney, he was in due time called to the Bar of New-Brunswick. This was in April, 1867. Having many friends and being well-known, it was not long before he dropped into a good and lucrative practice. He associated with him Mr. George F. Gregory, afterwards mayor of Fredericton and a member of the New-Brunswick legislature. The partnership, which lasted several years, was only terminated a few years ago. On the 31st of October, 1866, Mr. Blair married Miss Annie E. Thompson, elder daughter of George Thompson, Esq., of the Educational Department at Fredericton, by whom he has had a large family.

In 1878, there was a general election in the province of New-