

"There are few men in Canada, who have rendered such zealous service to the public as Mr. McKellar. I have had the pleasure personally of co-operating with him in public affairs for a quarter of a century, and I probably know Mr. McKellar better than any other man in Canada,—an intimacy which has led to the highest appreciation of, and admiration for, his unselfish zeal on behalf of his country."

Further comment than this on his public life would be superfluous.

Sheriff McKellar is connected with the Presbyterian church, and has always been from principle abstemious in his habits, never having used either tobacco or strong drink.

He was first married at Niagara, in 1836, to Lucy McNabb, who died in 1857. In May, 1875, he married Mrs. Kate Mercer, daughter of Judge Powell, of Toronto. He has three sons and three daughters living, the eldest son being Registrar of Kent, and the other two farming at the old homestead.

MILES O'REILLY, Q.C.,

HAMILTON.

THIS gentleman is of Irish extraction, but was born near Niagara Falls, on the 18th of May, 1806. He was chiefly educated at the Niagara Grammar School, there being no colleges or universities in the country at that early day. He commenced the study of the law with the late John Breakenridge, in the old town of Niagara, then the commercial rival of Little York (now Toronto), and at an early period the capital of Upper Canada. On the death of Mr. Breakenridge, in 1828, Mr. O'Reilly went to Toronto, and completed his legal education in the office of the late Messrs. Baldwin and Son; and was called to the Bar in June, 1830. He is consequently now the oldest practising barrister in Ontario. He very soon acquired a very extensive practice, and became the leading counsel on the Niagara and London circuits. He was always a staunch Loyalist; and as one of the "men of Gore" (as they were then called), he took part in the battle of Vinegar Hill, near Toronto, on the 7th of December, 1837; and at the trial in the following spring, of the 106 prisoners confined in the Hamilton gaol, charged with high treason, Mr. O'Reilly, unaided and alone, defended the whole of them. That was a very exciting period in the history of Upper Canada. The prisoners were tried before that excellent Judge, the late Chief Justice Macaulay, sitting under a special commission; and the late Chief Justice Draper, and Sir A. N. MacNab prosecuted for the Crown. As public feeling (so soon after the rebellion) was still very bitter, and the prosecutions conducted with great ability and zeal, it was considered a very remarkable circumstance that not one of the prisoners was convicted of the higher offence: some of them would undoubtedly have been promptly executed if they had been convicted. The result of these trials, which occupied over two months called forth at the close of the court a most elaborate compliment from the learned judge upon Mr. O'Reilly's conduct and learning, and placed him in the front rank of his brethren of that