

his faithful cashier for twelve years, was given a partnership in the Eastern branch, which was conducted at Montreal under the name of Orr & Christmas, while Mr. Orr removed to Toronto early in 1878, the better to reorganize and develop the Western Canada Branch. Five years later, both branches having grown amazingly, his eastern interest was disposed of to Mr. Christmas. He is now pushing the *Ætna Life's* business on to the westward, occupying the handsomest life insurance office in the city, at No. 9 Toronto Street, Toronto. He is ably seconded by his two sons, both of whom have been educated and trained to the work; also by a carefully selected staff of assistants and general travelling agents. No one is employed, as a rule, in the office or in the field, who is not a practical temperance man, and who does not devote his entire time and energies to the work assigned him. Our subject comes of Presbyterian stock, but he is a Methodist, and one of the leaders and officials of the Metropolitan Church, near which he resides, in Toronto. He takes a warm interest in all temperance, benevolent and reform movements, and was one of the originators of the coffee house enterprizes both in Montreal and Toronto.

**Harston, Charles Grenville**, Toronto, the subject of this sketch, was born at Tamworth, Staffordshire, England, on August 10th, 1844. His father, Edward Harston, was a member of the Church of England, rector of Tamworth, and the first known man there in connection with the High Church movement. Young Harston was educated for a soldier, many of his relatives being connected with the army. At twelve he was captain of a boys infantry corps, showing soldierly proclivities at this early age. He was subsequently employed in Russia, Roumania and Turkey, and has served and travelled, knowing every inch of the ground, from Russia down to Gibraltar. After having retired from service in the Royal marines, with rank and title of captain, he came to Canada in 1876, and went first to Muskoka, where he established a settlement known as Ilfracombe. He brought out twenty-five young Englishmen to this settlement and an Episcopal clergyman, and built a church in it and a grist mill. He sold out in November, 1884, and came to Toronto, taking the management of the Standard Life Assurance Company of Ontario. He is in command of E Company of Grenadiers, and commanded No. 4 Company Royal Grenadiers during the late rebellion in the North-West. This company

led the famous charge at Batoche on 12th May, 1885, and for the work done that day Capt. Harston was promoted to be brigade major of Col. Straubenzie's, or "the fighting brigade" which staff appointment he held during the rest of the campaign. Mr. Harston is a Freemason; greatly devoted to athletic sports, and very fond of shooting, being the originator of a new game law for the better protection of game. He is also secretary of the Dominion Kennel Club, and much of the success of the exhibition last year is said to have been due to him. He has invented a new rifle, the "Harston," which some authorities think will supersede the "Martini-Henry." He is a staunch member of the Church of England, and a strong tory, but he, however, favours judicial reforms in Canada, and abominates everything in the shape of bribery or corruption. He was married in 1870 to Mary Regina Ellis, whose father was a large ship-owner of London, England. Mr. Harston has re-visited England since he came out, and on the last occasion was the guest of his brother officers, and visited Alexandria ten days after the bombardment in 1882. It may be said that Captain Harston is one of those active, generous hearted, public-spirited men of whom any community has reason to be proud. The following historic facts may prove interesting:—The family came originally from Harston, in Cambridgeshire. It was once called Hartston, so the family crest was naturally a hart (or stag); but our subject's paternal grandmother was a Jervis-Cooke, descended on through a female line of the Ellis' of Kedal Hall, Yorkshire, and through them from the Earl de Gray and Ripon up to Edward, the Black Prince. Through this line came to the family a curious old piece of plate, a cruet with silver bottles and thereon a crest of a naked woman with her hair all down. This has been the crest of that line for ages, but has been modernised into a mermaid. Tradition says they came by it in the following way:—Ages ago, in the days of Robin Hood, bandits, robbers, etc., there dwelt on the estate adjoining that of the family's ancestors, in Yorkshire, a beautiful and rich lady who lived alone in her castle and loved to roam through her forest and lands. One day as one ancestor was riding home through the woods from hunting, he heard the screams of a woman, and with the gallantry of the time, immediately rode to succour the damsel. He presently found himself in a small glade, and perceived his lovely neighbour stripped