

that he was in their employ. Donald McInnes (now Senator McInnes), offered Mr. Brown a position of responsibility in his firm in Hamilton, which he accepted, and left Montreal in the winter of 1850 for Hamilton. After spending some time with D. McInnes & Co., the late W. P. McLaren offered him a position in his wholesale grocery house, which he accepted. Soon after he was admitted as a partner, and continued in the firm until Mr. McLaren retired, when he became the principal of the firm of Brown, Gillespie & Co., who succeeded W. P. McLaren & Co.; and has continued the business under different partnerships since, being now the head of Brown, Balfour & Co. Mr. Brown was connected with the Mercantile Library Association of Montreal, and at the time of his leaving that city was vice-president; and carried with him to his new home a letter of commendation from that association. He was one of the original founders in Montreal of the Athenæum Club, a debating society which counted among its members many young men who have since been in parliament, and some who have become ministers of the crown, and others now occupying very high positions at Ottawa. While yet a young man, Mr. Brown took an active part in the debates; and in 1848 he delivered the inaugural address as president. The society had rooms in what is now Nordheimer's Hall, Great St. James street, Montreal, and on public nights the large hall used to be crowded. It was in connection with this society that Mr. Brown first tested his powers as a public speaker. To the strength and readiness gained by taking part in its debates, are no doubt due the fluent and polished qualities which mark his public speeches. When a young man, he received a commission as ensign in the militia regiment of which the late Hon. George Moffatt was colonel. On his arrival in Hamilton, he was exchanged to the Hamilton battalion, and subsequently retired with the rank of major. He has never been connected with the active militia. With respect to Mr. Brown's public offices, it may be said that he has been secretary and president of the Board of Trade; was president of the Dominion Board of Trade; and the year previous to his election as president, moved the resolution approving the national policy, which was carried. He was commissioner and chairman of water works; and presented the address to the Prince of Wales when His Royal Highness turned the water on to the city. He has likewise been president of the Wellington,

Grey and Bruce Railway. Mr. Brown was president of the Northern and Pacific Junction Railway, connecting Ontario with the Canadian Pacific Railway, until the same was leased to the Northern and Northwestern Railway. He is now a director of the Northern and Pacific Junction road, and was on the first train which ran over the road, on the 23rd of January, 1886, connecting Ontario with the Pacific Ocean. He likewise is a director of the Great North-Western Telegraph Company; is a trustee for the bondholders of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway; was vice-president of the St. Andrew's Society; and chief of the Caledonian Society; and has lent a helping hand to many a Scotchman arriving in distress. He was appointed vice-consul for the kingdom of Hawaii in 1884. In politics Mr. Brown is a staunch Conservative. He ran for Hamilton for the Local Legislature. He was elected president of the Conservative Association, and still continues his connection with that organization. He was originally a Presbyterian, but for the last thirty years has been a member of the Church of England. He has been a delegate to the diocesan and provincial synods ever since both were organized. Mr. Brown was married, in 1852, to Maria Z. Evatt, second daughter of the late Captain Evatt. His second marriage was in 1862, to Mary Kough, eldest daughter of the late Thomas Harley Kough, of Shrewsbury, England. There are four sons living by the first marriage, and three sons and two daughters by the second marriage. Mr. Brown is a ready, careful, comprehensive, and exceedingly effective speaker. His speech in advocacy of the national policy before the Dominion Board of Trade was an exceedingly able deliverance, and attracted considerable attention, and was published in pamphlet form. His oratorical ability was further shown in his inaugural address when he became president of the Dominion Board of Trade. In 1878 he addressed the great Conservative Convention at Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, and his speech was regarded as one of the most exhaustive and telling utterances on that important occasion. It will be remembered that at the commencement of the American civil war, the American government prohibited the export of live hogs, which embargo would have the effect of killing the packing trade at Hamilton. Mr. Brown was dispatched to Washington to confer with the authorities there, with a view to rescinding the order; and with such force and tact did he present the case, that