

HON. HUGH MACMAHON.

No compendium such as the province of this work defines in its essential limitations would be complete without extended reference to Judge Hugh MacMahon, whose career has reflected credit and honor upon the province and the country that has honored him. Endowed by nature with high intellectual qualities, he has so developed his powers as to gain recognition as one of the foremost lawyers and jurists in the Dominion, and one whose entire life has not an esoteric phase, being an open scroll inviting the closest scrutiny. True, his have been "massive deeds and great" in one sense, and yet his entire life accomplishment but represents the result of the fit utilization for the innate talent which is his and the directing of his efforts in those lines where matured judgment and rare discrimination lead the way.

Born in Guelph, Ontario, his natal day, March 6, 1836, he is a son of the late Hugh MacMahon, P.L.S., a native of Cootehill, county Cavan, Ireland, who in the year 1819 came to Canada. The family belonged originally to Monaghan, and during the troublous times of the last of the reigning Stuarts held important positions in their native country. Two members of the family were Colonel Art Oge MacMahon, who was James II.'s Lord Lieutenant of Monaghan, and Hugh MacMahon, who was lieutenant-colonel of Gordon O'Neil's Charlemont Regiment of Foot. This member was engaged afterward in the service of France and belonged to the famous Irish Brigade.

Hugh MacMahon wedded Anne McGovern. A man of high scholastic attainments, he personally superintended the education of his son and namesake, who, on laying aside his text-books, entered public service as an assistant engineer under the late Lieutenant-Colonel Gallwey, C.E. He was employed on the survey of the Prince Ottawa ship canal and afterward on the work of construction on that portion of the line at Chats Rapids, but while making rapid and substantial advancement in the profession of civil engineering he determined to direct his labors into other channels, and in 1857 began preparation for the practice of law.