

He was for some time a merchant at Cheltenham, Township of Chinguacousy, and while there was Reeve of the Township; and when the Grand Trunk Railway was building from Toronto to Guelph, he represented the stock of that township as Director of the Board.

In 1859 Col. Allan removed to Acton, County of Halton, continuing the mercantile business until 1861, when he retired, and gave his time exclusively to military matters, it being at the time of the Trent affair, when Mason and Slidell were seized by Capt. Wilkes, of the United States Navy. During that period of excitement Col. Allan was very busy in raising troops, and was on the front during the Fenian raid. He still holds his commission of Lieut.-Colonel in the active service.

He has held for a long time the offices of Magistrate and Commissioner in the Court of Queen's Bench, and is an efficient man in the discharge of duty, whether in a civil or military capacity. He is greatly esteemed by his fellow citizens.

In 1843 the Colonel married, at Toronto, Catharine, daughter of John Campbell, a native of the Island of Isley, Scotland; and they have lost one son, and have two daughters and one son living. Diana is the wife of Charles Sidney Smith, stock-raiser, at Acton; John C. is married and a druggist in Buffalo, N. Y., and Ellen F. is at home.

JOHN S. LARKE,

OSHAWA.

JOHN SHORT LARKE, editor and proprietor of *The Oshawa Vindicator*, an old and strong Conservative paper, is a native of Lancelles, Cornwall, dating his birth May 28, 1840. His ancestors, who belonged to the yeomanry of that part of England, were originally from Scotland, his parents being Charles and Grace (Yeo) Larke. When he was four years old the family emigrated to Canada West, settling near Oshawa, his father farming awhile, and then becoming a miller, being now still alive. The mother of John died in 1878, while on a visit to England.

After passing through the grammar school of Oshawa, our subject took an undergraduate course at Victoria College, Cobourg; subsequently was in the Bowmanville Post office a short time; was then relieving agent on the Grand Trunk Railway, and afterwards taught three years, the last year in the Oshawa High School.

In June, 1865, Mr. Larke purchased the interest of William H. Orr in the *Vindicator*, and in October, 1878, the interest of Samuel Luke, being since that date, its sole proprietor and conductor. It is an eight-column folio, neatly printed, and edited with marked ability, being an excellent country journal, a powerful exponent of the tenets of the Conservative party, and the oldest paper in the County of Ontario, being in its 24th volume.