

or Mr. Meredith. But his position, character, and prestige always gain him a respectful hearing, so that whatever he has to say is ever sure of receiving all the attention which its intrinsic merit and frequently its intrinsic excellence, deserves. Mr. Mowat's voice has been "lifted up" in divers capacities. He was for two years a member of the city council of Toronto. The eloquence evoked by the themes usually discussed by municipal councils is not of a Ciceronian kind, and it is not needful, for any elucidation of Mr. Mowat's positive or putative excellence as a speaker, to dwell, even did time and space permit, upon this phase of his eminent career. But in that phase, as in all the phases of his life, the sterling good qualities which are at the base of his greatness were as evident, so far as they could manifest themselves, in the small theatre of the city council, as on the larger stage of the provincial assembly. Mr. Mowat has also filled the chair of president of the Canadian institute, Toronto, and, for more than twenty years, has been president of the Evangelical alliance of Ontario.

What, however, is much more important to note is that the Ontario premier is one of the fathers of confederation. He sat in the Quebec union conference of 1864. But, just as the glory of Shakespeare eclipses the lustre of the other great dramatists of his era, so does the splendour of Sir John Macdonald's work in the formation and consolidation of the new Dominion dim the merit, no matter how eminent, of all his co-workers. Providence, truly, has blessed each in his place, each being pre-eminent in his place, with success and with honour in over-measure of whatever might have been the most sanguine expectation.

Authorship of a limited range has been essayed by Mr. Mowat. His latest effort of this kind is called "Evidences of Christianity,"—a sort of presbyterian pastoral, as it has been not inaptly termed. This was originally an address delivered before some body or society of an evangelical kind in Woodstock, and its publication took place, it appears, by request of the organization in question. I do not think that Mr. Mowat's fame has been materially enhanced by this publication. The most pleasing thing about it is the evidence that Mr. Mowat himself is a sincere believer in christianity and is proud and glad to confess himself as such. But, otherwise, there is nothing to be specially grateful for as regards his "Evidences of Christianity." There is really nothing original in the publication, nothing that has