

travels, makes a very agreeable companion of a modest and retiring disposition. In politics, he is and always has been a strong Conservative, and an adherent of the Church of England.

WILLIAM DORAN,

Hamilton, Ont.

WILLIAM DORAN, the subject of this sketch, is a native Canadian, having been born at Grimsby, county of Lincoln, on the 13th November, 1834. Some sixteen years before, his parents—Sylvester Doran and his wife, Elizabeth, *née* Doyle—both of the county Carlow, Ireland, came to Canada and settled at Grimsby, and in 1828 they purchased a farm near that village. As young William grew up he attended first the public school in his section, and afterwards the Grimsby grammar school, betimes working on the farm. Being possessed of plenty of pluck and energy, and of studious habits, withal, he soon succeeded in getting a certificate as a public school teacher, and for several winters he followed the teaching profession. In 1866 he came to Hamilton, and commenced business in the grocery line, which he carried on successfully until 1875, when he was joined by his brother Michael, and they bought out the vinegar works of Williamson & Co. The new firm started under the name of Doran Bros., and such it still retains, well and favourably known throughout Canada. The business has been carried on very successfully, and will compare favourably with any other in the same line in Ontario. While attending diligently to his business, Mr. Doran, at the same time, gave a large share of attention to public affairs. For eight years he was one of the aldermen for No. 5 ward. In 1888, he was elected mayor, and to the same position he was re-elected by acclamation in the following year. During his term of office, as chief magistrate of Hamilton, the business of the city was well carried on. In 1888 he laid the corner stone of the new city hall, which he opened in 1889. He was also associated with Senator Sanford and the late Senator Turner as a deputation to wait upon the Governor-General at Ottawa to invite him to open the famous art exposition in aid of the Hamilton Art School, a ceremony which His Excellency performed with great impressiveness. On account of his official position, Mayor Doran was naturally a leading figure in connection with the great summer carnival of 1889, and as chairman of the citizens' committee he worked energetically to make that demonstration a success. In 1890 he was appointed Justice of the Peace. As a public servant, Mr. Doran won golden opinions; in all his business relations he

has been distinguished as an honourable and square-dealing man. In private life, his character is also irreproachable, and he numbers his friends by thousands. In politics, he has been a life-long Reformer, and at the general elections, 1891, was the unanimous choice of the Reform Convention to contest Hamilton for a seat in the Dominion Parliament, but was defeated. In religion, Mr. Doran is a Nonconformist. In 1867 he married Sarah Cecilia, daughter of the late Abishai Morse, of Smithville, by whom he has had six children, five of whom—two boys and three girls—are still living.

ROBERT EVANS,

Hamilton, Ont.

IN business and commercial circles generally, and in an especial degree among the agricultural community throughout the Dominion, the gentleman whose name appears above is well and honourably known. Robert Evans was born in Dublin, Ireland, on June 18, 1843, his parents, Richard and Mary Ann (Hatton) Evans, being natives of the same city. In 1847 the family emigrated to Canada and settled in Toronto, where shortly afterwards the mother died. In the following year the remainder of the family removed to Hamilton, where Mr. Evans, sr., established himself in his avocation as a professional gardener, which he followed for a number of years in that city. About the year 1860 he removed to the Western States, under the impression that that region offered a better field for his labours. But a comparatively brief residence in Uncle Sam's territory was sufficient to satisfy him, and his love for British institutions was so strong that he soon returned to Canada, this time settling in London, where he remained until he died, March 21, 1885. Meantime, young Robert, who had been attending the central school in Hamilton, and at which he received a good practical education, began at the age of twelve to learn the seed business, that occupation being the one most congenial to his youthful tastes. For fifteen years he laboured assiduously, perfecting himself in all the details of the trade, and then, in 1870, he commenced business for himself, founding the well-known firm of Robert Evans & Co., in the premises which he has occupied continuously from that time until the present. Mr. Evans started with a moderate capital and in a modest way, but he was possessed of the pluck, energy and ability necessary to command success. His trade has since gradually expanded until it has reached the position which it holds to-day—one of the best of its kind in Canada. A large