

LOUIS OLIVIER TAILLON

Tall and vigorous, with open countenance and waving beard, Mr. Taillon is a man whose appearance naturally attracts attention.

When he speaks, his sonorous voice is animated, now by the accents of deep rooted conviction, now by honest indignation, now by an ardent enthusiasm for the cause which he pleads. It is not easy for his hearers to withhold their assent from the views which he expresses, and his sincerity is beyond the reach of doubt. He impresses one as a man who says what he thinks and who says it because he thinks it. In a word, and I think it sums up the characteristics of the man, Mr. Taillon is a man of conviction and therefore a man of strength.

In this country the entrance into the political arena is made at an early age. Scarcely out of college, the young man enrolls himself in one of those armies which are called political parties. In the ranks at first, he soon aspires to a less insignificant grade. Not long after, he makes his début in Parliament, and, if talent and character are his, he will take his place, while still young, on the ministerial benches. Such precocious success is not without its counterpart in England, where William Pitt, at the age of twenty-four, formed a ministry, and where the present prime minister (Mr. Gladstone) has been nearly seventy years in public life.

Mr. Taillon is still in the prime of life, and yet his career has already been a long one. He was born at Terrebonne, birthplace of numerous statesmen, on September 26th, 1840. He studied at Masson College, and, on leaving that institution, embraced the legal