

town Mutual Fire Insurance Company ; a member of the independent order of Odd-fellows for many years, filling various offices in the local lodge and also in the Grand lodge and Grand encampment. He was chosen by his brethren to fill the position of grand master the year the Sovereign Grand lodge met in Toronto, and were entertained by their Ontario brethren. He has always taken an active part in everything that would advance the interests of his native town. In connection with the late Allan Turner, he worked for many years to obtain a system of water works for Brockville, and in 1881 they organized a company, consisting of Allan Turner, John McMullen, Thomas Gilmour, George A. Dana, and Wilmot H. Cole, to construct water works ; and as a result of the efforts of these gentlemen, Brockville has now a most excellent system of water supply for all purposes. Colonel Cole was elected a member of the Legislature of the Province of Ontario for the Brockville riding, in the Liberal interest, at the general elections in 1875, and was a warm supporter of the Mowat government. He received the appointment of registrar for the County of Leeds in February, 1882, which position he now holds. He is president of the Brockville Fair Ground Association, and a director in the Brockville Loan and Savings Company. Col. Cole is a member of the Methodist church, and for over twenty-five years has been a trustee of the Wall street church in Brockville, and is looked upon by his fellow church members as ready to assist in carrying forward all enterprises for the benefit of the church. Col. Cole married Jane Adelaide, youngest daughter of the late Abram Phillips, of New York. Their family consists of four children, two sons and two daughters. The sons, following the traditions of the family, entered the volunteer force very early. The eldest, Eugene Maurice Cole, was bugler in the Brockville Rifle company in 1866, and did duty with that company whenever on service; he subsequently became lieutenant, after which he resigned, having removed from Brockville. The youngest son, Capt. George Marshall Cole, is now captain of No. 4 company, 41st battalion. The latest enterprise with which Col. Cole has been connected is one that will eventually benefit his native town more than all others; that is, the Brockville, Westport and Sault Ste. Marie Railway. The idea of a railway from Brockville to Westport had been entertained, and a charter was procured, but nothing further was done, and after a time the

charter expired. Subsequently, Eugene M. Cole, who was in business in New York city, and having commercial relations with gentlemen interested in building railways and other public works, conceived the idea that a line of railway from Brockville to Sault Ste. Marie would prove an advantageous route in many ways, and at the same time benefit his native town. After much labour in gathering statistical information, he laid the whole matter before his father, who had it brought before the leading men of the County of Leeds, and the proposition made that if the municipalities would bear the expense of preliminary survey and obtain the charter, and also grant aid by way of bonus to the extent of \$125,000, Eugene M. Cole would work up the scheme and obtain the capital and contractors to build at least the first section of the road to Westport. This was agreed to, the last bonus by-law being passed on the 15th July, 1885, and work on the construction of the railway commenced on the 13th January, 1886. Although ably assisted by many persons in the County of Leeds in connection with the enterprise, the credit of the inception of the scheme, and the labour in working it up materially and financially, belong to Eugene M. Cole, who is still quite a young man.

Cook, Simon S., Morrisburg, Ontario, was born in the township of Williamsburgh, County of Dundas, on the 15th day of September, 1831, and is the fourth son of Captain George Cook, and his wife, Sarah Casselman. (*Vide sketch of Herman H. Cook, M.P.*, Toronto, page 114.) His parents are descended from United Empire loyalist stock. Simon S. Cook is a brother of the late J. W. Cook, who represented Dundas county in the Canadian Assembly from 1857 until 1861; and likewise of Herman H. Cook, who now represents East Simcoe in the House of Commons. Mr. Cook received his education at the Potsdam academy, in the town of Potsdam, State of New York. He was elected in 1867 a member of the first Provincial parliament of Ontario, for the County of Dundas, and was re-elected at the following general election; but was defeated at the general election of 1875. He was appointed registrar for the County of Dundas, in May, 1881, and has been for many years associated with his brothers, in the firm of Cook Brothers, in the lumber business. Mr. Cook married Emma M., eldest daughter of William Elliot, of Iroquois, County of Dundas, and has by this lady two children, a son and daughter.