

"skill, energy and constructive ability, have not been
"employed here and have gone to a foreign country.
"I believe, gentlemen, upon my soul, that the legis-
"lation of next session will bring back many a young
"Canadian who has been expatriated from his native
"land ; I believe that this country will have a new
"era of prosperity, will rise from its present slough of
"despond."

And this is the man who, for thirty-five years
has been a leading Spirit in Canadian politics. Neither
oratorical powers, administrative ability, or statesmanlike
acts have kept him in that position, but a combina-
tion of faculties more than ordinary and possessed by
few. An opponent—a life-long one—has enumerated
them as being: fertility of resource ; a very facile
temperament ; a mind always taking counsel with itself ;
a talent for effect ; a readiness to use the best means
at hand for the accomplishment of the purposes of
the moment ; a will unfettered by scruples when an
end is to be gained ; a genial manner and a ready
wit. Ambitious he has been, but he has displayed no
merely sordid selfishness. To-day, after so long a
public service, his friends truthfully boast that he is a
poor man, and many instances are related of his will-
ingness to forget self and his own pecuniary interests