THE CANADIAN BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

ists of the town; his accumulations are the fruit of his steady business tact, cautiously and honestly put forth, and are eminently creditable to his industry.

Mr. Baker is president of the Bank of Yarmouth and of the Marine Railway, vice-president of the Yarmouth agricultural society, and Yarmouth insurance company, and a president of the Western Counties Railway and vice-president of the "Mountain Cemetery Co.;" he is very enterprising and public-spirited and identifies himself with any movement likely to develop the national or other interests of the town, county or province. In 1872 he-founded a museum and public library together, which is free to the community, and open every Saturday for the drawing and exchange of books. In founding this institution Mr. Baker has shown himself a public benefactor, and his generosity is thoroughly appreciated by his fellow citizens. Ships sail from Yarmouth to every part of the world, and he has excellent facilities for enlarging the museum, which is growing every year. In it is the largest and best specimen of spar the writer ever saw—no doubt the most valuable in the Dominion of Canada. In all departments the samples are highly attractive, and the museum is becoming a favorable resort for strangers as well as citizens.

Mr. Baker was called to the Legislative Council on the 25th of February, 1878, and is consequently a comparatively new man in legislative experience. Judging from his business qualities and his brilliant success in managing his own personal matters, he is likely to make his mark in the Council.

Mr. Baker is a member of Trinity church and senior warden of the same, a liberal supporter of religious and benevolent institutions, and a man of unquestioned purity of character. He was first married, in 1857, to Mary E. daughter of Dr. J. B. Bond, of Yarmouth, she dying in 1868; the second time in 1870, to Frances J., daughter of H. G. Ferish, M.D., of Yarmouth she dying in 1871, and the third time, in-1873, to Mary I., daughter of George B. Creighton, Esq., of Dartmouth, N. S.; he has one child, a daughter, living, by his first wife, and three sons by the last.

HON. JOHN W. RITCHIE,

HALIFAX, N. S.

JOHN WILLIAM RITCHIE, one of the judges of the supreme court of Nova Scotia, was born at Annapolis, in this province, on the 26th of March, 1808; his father was Thomas Ritchie who was, for many years, an influential member of the legislature, and was subsequently appointed a judge; his grandfather, John Ritchie, came from Scotland, and after residing some time in New York, came to this province and settled at Annapolis several years before the commencement of the American revolution; his mother was Eliza Wildman Johnston, whose father and maternal grandfather resided in the Southern States, and adhering to the royal cause, they both obtained commissions and joined the army and continued with it till the close of the contest. Mrs. Ritchie was the sister of the Hon. James W. Johnston, judge in equity, who died a few years ago, upwards of 80 years of age. The subject of this sketch studied law under him and was admitted to the bar in 1831, and practised his profession in Halifax until he went on the bench.

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