

the Premiership with the portfolio of Atty.-Genl. (Resigned, Oct., 1897.) He was apptd. a Senator of N. B. Univ., 1889. In religious faith, a Presb., he m. Dec., 1873, Mary Anne, dau. of L. Ryder, St. Stephen, N.B. —*Fredericton; St. Stephen.*

MITCHELL, Hon. Peter, statesman, is the s. of Scottish parents, who settled on the Miramichi River, N. B., 1818. B. at Newcastle, N.B., Jan. 4, 1824, he was ed. at the Grammar Sch. there, and was called to the bar, 1848. Not long afterwards he became engaged in lumbering, shipbuilding and other industrial pursuits. Returned to the Legislature, 1856, he remained a mem. of the Assembly till 1860, when he entered the Leg. Council. At Confederation he was apptd. to the Senate of Can. by Royal Proclamation, and became one of the Govt. leaders in that chamber. He resigned from the Senate, 1874, and was elected to the Ho. of Commons. Defeated at the g. e. 1878, he was again elected at the g. e. 1882, and continued to sit in the Commons up to the g. e. 1891. Since then he has not sat in Parlt. He was a candidate for his old constituency at the g. e. 1896, but was defeated by a majority of 507. Mr. M. entered the Govt. of N. B., 1858, and was a colleague of Messrs. Tilley, Ritchie, Johnson, Fisher, and other. Fathers of Responsible Govt. in that Province. He and his friends also took the lead in securing the construction of Provl. rys., and in effecting other beneficial legislation. When the time arrived for discussing the union of the Maritime Provinces, 1864, he was selected to serve as a del. to the Charlottetown Conf., where Messrs. John A. Macdonald, Cartier, Brown, and others appeared to urge the larger union of B. N. A. In the same year he attended the Quebec Conf., which drafted the terms of union; and, later, 1866, he was sent to Eng. to serve as a mem. of the London Conf. on the same subject. In London he stood by Sir Geo. Cartier as against

Sir John Macdonald on the question of a Provl. union instead of a Leg. union. "In all these confs. and consultations," says the *Montreal Star*, "Mr. M. took an active part, his practical, well-balanced mind being fertile in suggestion, and of great service in the very important negotiations with which the delegates were charged by their respective Govts. In the g. e. in N. B., which followed the passing of this Act, Mr. M. took an active part; and although the anti-Confederates won the day, Mr. M. persisted, during the darkest hours, in urging the Legislature and the people to accept the Union. His speeches during the interval between the first and second confederation elections were masterpieces of political oratory, and with the influence which his abilities enabled him to exercise over the Lt.-Gov. of the day, and over an anti-Union Legislature and the more moderate mems. of the anti-Union party, they were beyond all question the most important factors in securing the success of Confederation at the polls in the second great campaign, and thus by bringing N. B. into line with the other provinces of the mainland, made the Confederation an accomplished fact. When the first Govt. of Can. was formed, Mr. M. with Mr. Tilley, was summoned to Ottawa to take his place in the first Dom. Cabinet, being assigned the portfolio of Marine and Fisheries, a dept. which he personally organized for the first time and administered with the greatest ability and success, as all who are interested in shipping, lighthouses, and lake and coast navigation will cheerfully testify. Under his direction the first fleet of cruisers for the protection of our Atlantic fisheries was organized, and rendered great service in its special line of duty; and as Mr. of Marine and Fisheries he was equally successful in defending the policy of the Govt. regarding the fisheries against both the reflections of Presdt. Grant in