

tirement of Mr. Baker, the sitting member. This position he consented to accept only after having been repeatedly urged to do so by his fellow-electors, for he had no desire for political preferment. Indeed, it was on account of his high standing as a man and a citizen, rather than his political affiliations, that the people chose him as their representative in the House of Commons; they had confidence that he could be trusted, and they believed that if he accepted the position he would faithfully discharge the duties which it involved. Subsequent events have shown that such confidence was not misplaced. While not attempting to figure as a debater, Mr. Earle's sound sense and large business experience have enabled him to render excellent service in connection with the business of Parliament. At the general election in 1891, Mr. Earle and his colleague from Victoria (Col. Pryor), were elected by overwhelming majorities, neither of their opponents being able to save his deposit. In 1875, January 18th, Mr. Earle married Elizabeth, daughter of Jesse Mason, Esq., of Victoria, and a native of Kent county, England, who came to Canada in 1860. The result of this union was a family of five children, of whom four are still living—three daughters and a son.

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ALFRED RICHARD CECIL SELWYN, C.M.G., LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., Member of the Legion of Honour, Director of the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, is a native of England, where he was born in July, 1824. His father was Reverend Townshend Selwyn, Canon of Gloucester Cathedral, and his mother, the daughter of Lord George Murray, Bishop of St. David's, and granddaughter of John, fourth Duke of Athol. As a lad, he was instructed at home by tutors, and was afterwards sent to Switzerland to complete his education. He early manifested a decided inclination toward the study of natural science, and distinguished himself even as a youth in the extent of his reading, and the soundness of his own observations. His talents and attainments soon attracted the attention of eminent men, and when only twenty-one years of age, in the year 1845, he was offered and accepted the position of assistant geologist on the Geological Survey of Great Britain. Since that time Dr. Selwyn has been uninterruptedly in the public service of Britain or the colonies, and his careful, painstaking, and accurate work, has added not a little to the store of knowledge possessed by mankind concerning the physical character of the world. In 1852, the Lieutenant-Governor

of the colony of Victoria wrote to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, asking his assistance in securing for the colony the services of a competent scientist to make a geological examination of Victoria, especially of the gold fields then attracting such general attention. Sir Henry T. De la Buche, director of the British Geological Survey, was asked to nominate a man, and he offered the position to Mr. J. B. Jukes, a thoroughly competent man, but Mr. Jukes, having but recently returned from Australia, preferred not to undertake another long voyage, with such arduous duties at the end of it. The appointment was then offered to Mr. Selwyn, who accepted it, and started at once for his new field of labour. He remained in the Australian colonies for seventeen years. After he had been at work in Victoria for two years, the Government of Tasmania asked to be allowed to avail itself of his services for the examination of coal fields in that colony. He made an exhaustive and valuable report upon this subject after full examination. In 1859 he undertook a similar work for the Government of South Australia. He brought to the performance of his duties the same diligence and aptitude that he had shown in his work in England, together with the knowledge and experience gained in his own country. The fact that he was employed successively by the several colonies named is proof that his work was well done. It was necessary for Dr. Selwyn to do his own field work, and his travelling gave him such an intimate and extensive knowledge of Australia and Van Dieman's Land as few men have possessed. In such an office as that he filled, the life of the scientist is strongly blended with that of the frontiersman and explorer. Dr. Selwyn had many adventures in different parts of the country then almost unknown. During a long tour in the forest regions of Gipps Land, Victoria, he was obliged to sustain life for a time on lizards, iguanas, and native bears, a species of sloth indigenous to that country. On another occasion, on the South Australian side of what was then known as the great Australian Desert, he cut his finger while skinning a small kangaroo he had shot. Water was far too precious a commodity to be used even in washing a cut finger, and the wound, left without proper care, began to fester. Dr. Selwyn reached Adelaide barely in time, as the physician told him, to save the necessity of amputation of the whole arm. Dr. Selwyn was also just in time to miss the steamer for Melbourne, which he thought exceedingly unfortunate until he learned, a few weeks later, that the ship had been lost in Bass's Straits, with all on board, save one man, whose rescue seemed little less than miraculous. These are but incidents in a career which was full of adventure and excitement. As a scientist, Dr. Selwyn not only did