

THE STRONG MEN OF CANADA.

THE POLITICAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND FINANCIAL LEADERS OF THE CANADIAN DOMINION—TRAITS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MEN WHO ARE MOLDING THE DESTINIES OF OUR GREAT NORTHERN NEIGHBOR.

THE political generation that saw the Canadian colonies welded into a unified state, vast in extent and boundless in its hopes of coming development, is now rapidly passing away. Of the foremost public men of the first period of the Dominion's history, Macdonald, Mackenzie, Cartier, and Brown are no longer living, while Blake has forsaken the country of his birth for that of his ancestors and become one of Ireland's representatives at Westminster. It is the successors of this group of leaders who now control the destinies of a land that covers half the North American continent, and whose citizens, akin in blood, speech, and institutions to those of the United States, are also their close neighbors along three thousand miles of the imaginary geographical line that marks the dividing frontier.

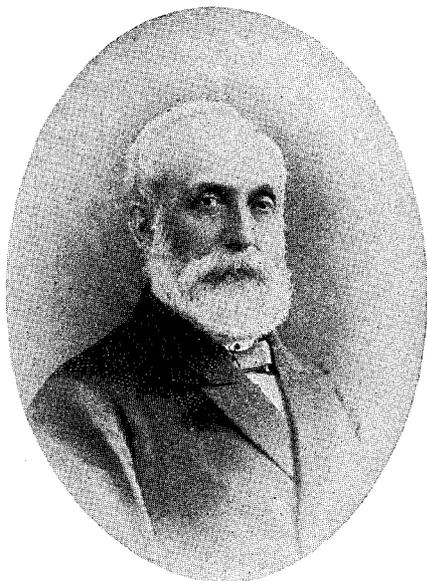
Of the heads of the two great political parties in Canada brief sketches have already been given in this magazine (June and August, 1895). Since that time, Sir Mackenzie Bowell has shown a somewhat unexpected strength in his grasp upon the premiership—to which post he succeeded at the sudden death of the late Sir John Thompson a year ago last December. Exclusion from office has long been the lot of his Liberal antagonists, at whose head Wilfred Laurier has stood since Mr. Blake's withdrawal; but the general elections about to be held may possibly reverse the present order of things, and for the first time in eighteen years place the Reformers on the treasury benches. In such an event Mr. Laurier's accession to the premiership will be significant, owing to the fact that heretofore no French Canadian has ever held that important post. His friends predict that his very broad ideas, and particularly the fearless stand he took upon the Manitoba school question, will insure for him a greater support from the Anglo Saxon element than from his own countrymen.

Though his career has fallen upon the rocky path of opposition, while others, per-

haps less deserving, have luxuriated in the rose scented ways of power, Mr. Laurier is one of the most respected personalities in the Dominion. His most notable gift is that of oratory, which has won for him the title of the "silver tongued." His French parentage has not debarred him from reaching greater perfection in the English tongue than any of his Anglo Saxon rivals. In the musical language of his own race he must, perhaps, share honors with Chapleau, once the magnetic leader of the Quebec Conservatives, but now a "sulking Achilles," who has laid aside his coat of mail and donned the purple robes of the lieutenant governorship. Impressive in appearance and courteous in manner, Mr. Chapleau is the idol of the French, and could, if he wished, wield as great an influence as did Honoré Mercier in the palmy days of his invincibility.

One day, a good many years ago, the late Sir George Cartier was attempting to address his constituents at an open air meeting. His efforts were in vain; the crowd hooted and hissed their well meaning chieftain. The situation was critical, for a hearing was necessary to explain away numerous false charges that had been made against the promoters of the confederation movement. Suddenly the pale, handsome face of a beardless youth appeared at the window of a carriage, and as if by magic imposed silence upon the angry crowd. Then in the midst of the calm rang out the clear tones of the young orator, and in that maiden speech Chapleau saved his leader from defeat.

On the government benches Chapleau was always powerful, but his ambitions were of Cæsarian amplitude, and are credited with estranging him from his colleagues—who now, rumor says, have become fully alive to his loss. When Sir Charles Tupper relinquished his comfortable post of Canadian high commissioner in London, it was whispered that his design was to relieve Sir Mackenzie Bowell of the arduous duties of



Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Premier of Canada.*

From a photograph by Topley, Ottawa.



Wilfrid Laurier, Leader of the Canadian Liberals.

From a photograph by Topley, Ottawa.

the premiership; and part of the plan, it was said, was the nomination of Mr. Chapleau as his chief lieutenant. Sir Mackenzie, however, declined to abandon his position, whereupon seven members of his cabinet resigned. The crisis ended, however, in a compromise, and in the temporary triumph of the veteran premier.

Chief of the repentant seceders were Messrs. Foster and Haggart. The former first gained prominence as a temperance lecturer, and the late Sir John A. Macdonald held the opinion that any one who could command an audience's attention on such a doughty subject should be a valuable man to have in the government. As usual, his judgment was correct; and though Mr. Foster has since then given up cold water effusions he is quite as successful in the dry intricacies of budget speeches, which as finance minister fall to his lot. An ardent love of power has fed his imagination to such an extent that he dreams of the premiership, but it is likely that his lack of popularity will prevent such a dream from taking a more material form.

It is worthy of mention that Mr. Foster is the gentleman who recently spoke of "Eng-



J. W. Longley, Attorney General of Nova Scotia.

From a photograph by Gawvin & Gentzel, Halifax.

* As we go to press, it is announced that Sir Mackenzie Bowell has resigned the premiership, and that Sir Charles Tupper succeeds him.



Sir Richard Cartwright, K. C. M. G., a Prominent Canadian Liberal.

From a photograph by Topley, Ottawa.

the shot had come, captured his would be assassin. The story is characteristic of the man, in political as well as private life. During the past session he has done little to immortalize himself, and the heat he displayed in handling the vexed question of the Manitoba schools gave offense to many of his followers.

One of Sir Charles' best works is his son, Charles Hibbert Tupper, the clever lawyer whose services as counsel for the Dominion in the celebrated Bering Sea case were recognized in the usual way, with a knighthood. It is true that he has not escaped the inheritance of his father's powers of enlargement, and that in the midst of a speech his imagination sometimes parts company with probability; but withal he is able, energetic, and determined. He is, furthermore, not so much given to the use of the first person singular as is his sire; and never takes unto himself the credit of bountiful harvests and other gifts of nature. Sir Hibbert was one of the seven seceding ministers, and later re-

land's splendid isolation"—a phrase for which a London correspondent claimed that its author deserved knightly recognition. In that case the editor of a certain Canadian journal would be the rightful recipient of the honor, and not the statesman who so paternally adopted the idea.

As secretary of state and leader of the House, Sir Charles Tupper is a very influential member of the Bowell ministry—more influential, some say, than his nominal chief, and should the government be successful at the polls he will probably be the next premier. At seventy five, he is still the "war horse" of his party, as keen and plucky a fighter as ever. Once, as he was driving along a lonely road, a shot was fired at him. Instead of giving the whip to his horse, he jumped from the carriage, and, rushing towards the spot whence



Thomas Greenway, Premier of Manitoba.

From a photograph by Topley, Ottawa.

signed in real earnest to make way for the "Star in the East," as one enthusiastic parliamentarian has dubbed the elder Tupper. Many Conservatives see in the son a future premier of Canada.

In the event of Mr. Chapleau reëntering the government, his place as lieutenant governor of Quebec would probably be taken by Sir Adolphe Caron, now the Dominion's postmaster general. The wearer of a monocle which he balances with Chamberlainian skill, and attired according to the strictest mandates of fashion, Sir Adolphe is famed at Ottawa as the Beau Brummel of the House.

It is unquestionably true that the Canadian people, as a whole, are stanchly loyal to their present political connections, and any "annexation" ideas that may be expressed by men of advanced opinions are likely to be received with audible disapproval. Hence it is that Professor Goldwin Smith's well known opinions debar him from the homage and



Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., Secretary of State of the Dominion.

From a photograph by Netman, Montreal.

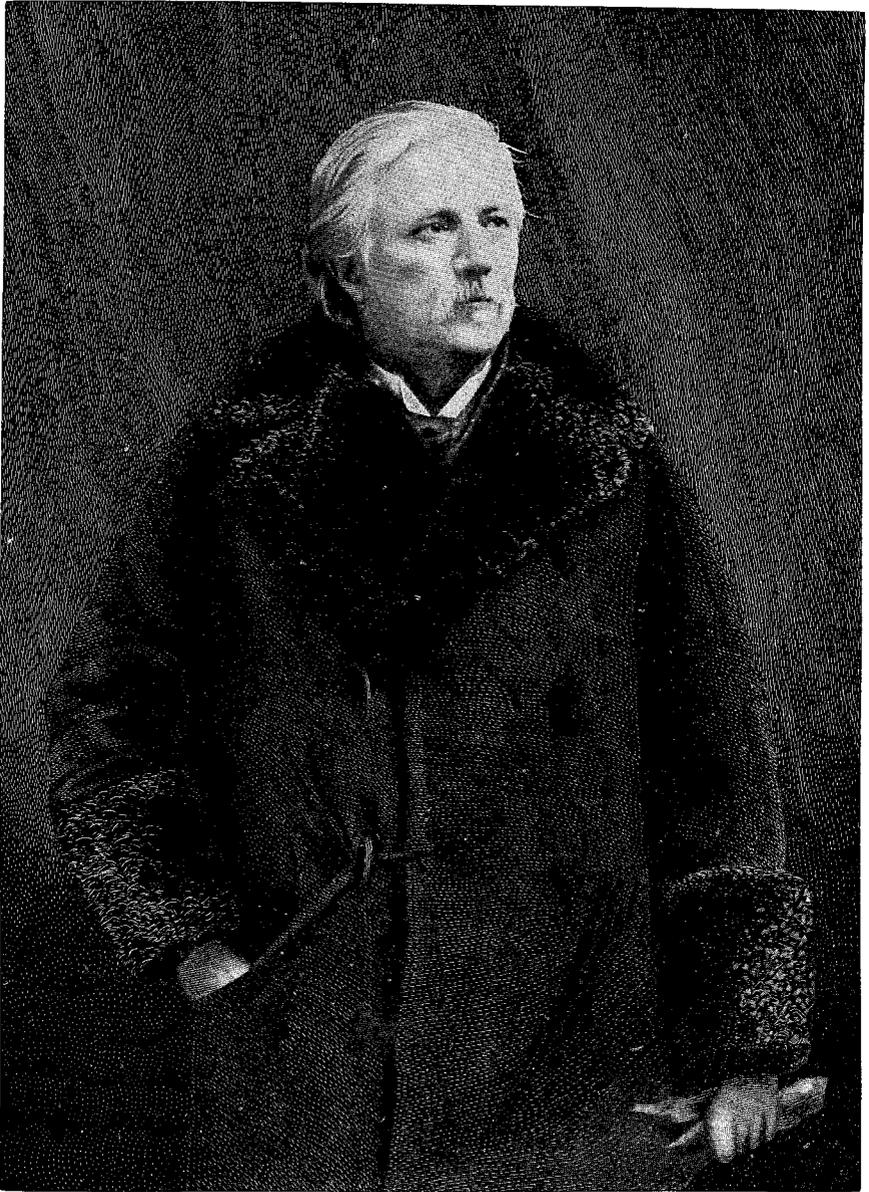


Major General Gascoigne, Commander of the Forces in Canada.

From a photograph by Topley, Ottawa.

popularity that might otherwise be his. The Dominion cannot claim this shining man of letters as its own, which, considering the country's comparative barrenness of literary ability, is a fact to be regretted. No less an authority than Mr. Frederic Harrison credits Mr. Smith with being "master of a power of expression which has scarcely a rival among us," but in spite of all his qualifications he is showered with Anglo Saxon abuse because of his faith in unpopular political principles. He is chiefly known to Americans through his connection with Cornell University, though previous to that time he had distinguished himself as a professor at Oxford. A celebrated cartoonist has depicted him *plus* a liver pad, thus mildly suggesting the cause of his apparently pessimistic tendencies; but this is an injustice, as Mr. Smith is in reality an earnest optimist.

The same may be said of Sir Richard Cartwright, a political



J. A. Chapleau, Lieutenant Governor of Quebec.

From a photograph by Quiry Bros., Montreal.

leader with whom he is to a certain extent in sympathy. Sir Richard is not an annexationist, but he is one of the strongest advocates of close commercial relations with the United States, and on this account has time and time again been called upon to repudiate the baseless charge of disloyalty. With the possible exception of Goldwin Smith, he is the most maligned man in Canada. He is, however,

well able to defend himself, and, though not always judicious in his remarks, never engages in a tilt without leaving a mark upon his adversary. His chief *bête noir* is Sir Charles Tupper, upon whom he recently made a bitter attack on the floor of the House. In many respects he resembles his antagonist—mainly in his love for a fight, and in the bulldog persistency with which he sticks to it. It must be admitted that he

seems to have become soured by his years of honest yet thankless work in the interests of his country.

Of the same stripe of politics, but almost ignorant of the trials of opposition, is Sir Oliver Mowat, the unobtrusive little gentleman who for twenty four years has presided at the head of Ontario affairs. Sir Oliver is a Liberal, but a Liberal of the most conservative order, and his long rule has been so uneventfully successful that it looks as if only death or resignation can depose him from his place of eminence. It might be thought that a man of his advanced years would hesitate before surrendering the comfortable sinecure of a provincial premiership, but Sir Oliver is apparently ready to sacrifice this and more for his party, and it is said he will join forces with Mr. Laurier at the approaching federal contest. His assistance will be of incalculable value to the



L. O. Taillon, Premier of Quebec.

From a photograph by Netman, Montreal.

Liberal chieftain, who, should he be successful, will reward such devotion with



Sir Adolphe Caron, Postmaster General of Canada.

From a photograph by Netman, Montreal.

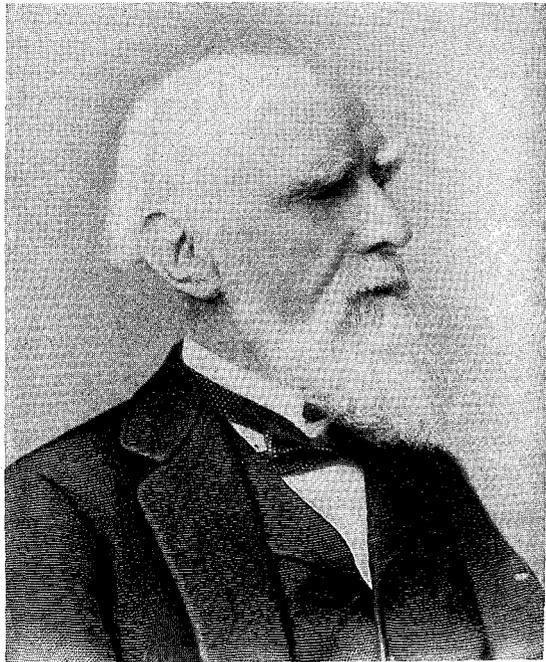


Dr. William Peterson, President of McGill University.
From a photograph by Notman, Montreal.

nothing less than the justice department. Sir Oliver is a striking contrast to Mr. Taillon, premier of the older but less progressive province of Quebec, who is a man of commanding stature, and blessed with a strong, clear delivery linked with an effective command of the graceful gesticulations characteristic of the French race. Mr. Taillon lacks the brilliancy and dash of his meteoric predecessor, Honoré Mercier; but in his freedom from self assurance he differs from his Ontario contemporary, whose confidence in his own powers is quite as strong as that felt in him by the electorate. The "little premier" is not a great orator, but he is always heard with interest by his supporters. Being a prominent member of the Presbyterian denomination, he can always count upon the "low church" vote, and with no little diplomatic skill he makes extremes meet at the polls, where he secures the almost unbroken

support of the Roman Catholic electors.

In Ontario the latter have become quite an important factor; but in the prairie province of Manitoba they are in a small minority. It is in Manitoba that "the farmer premier," as Thomas Greenway is called, has, by his action in abolishing the Roman Catholic separate schools, given rise to one of the most aggravating questions that has ever threatened the confederation. Every pressure has been brought to bear against him, the last session of the Dominion legislature having been convened to discountenance his action by the passage of a remedial bill—a measure left stranded by the death of parliament. But Mr. Greenway is determined in his stand, and is backed up by three quarters of the population in his refusal to reestablish a double educational system. He is a man of iron—a veritable Cromwell—but his position is a trying one. Rumor says that



Sir Donald A. Smith, K.C.M.G., Canada's Wealthiest Citizen.
From a photograph by Notman, Montreal.

like Sir Oliver Mowat he will engage in the impending electoral contest as a lieutenant of Mr. Laurier.

The cause of Protestantism is at all times well fought at Ottawa by the leader of the so called Third Party, Mr. D'Alton McCarthy. This gentleman is without doubt an agitator; he cannot escape the epithet, and in this respect resembles the strife stirring

having forged his way to the top has signified his intention of seeking the wider range open in the federal House. In the event of the Liberals being returned to power, he would doubtless receive an important portfolio. He has been accused of annexation tendencies, a charge which has subjected him to ferocious attacks, but which as yet has neither deposed him from a foremost



Sir William C. Van Horne, K. C. M. G., President of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

From a photograph by Notman, Montreal.

Mercier. He is no such political gambler as the late French leader, but he is no less inspired with the antagonism of Canada's races, and equally willing to ferment the feeling, already too strong, that rises up as a wall between the two peoples. He has even gone so far as to state publicly that "as members of the body politic they (the French) are the great danger to the confederacy." It is impossible to say whether Mr. McCarthy will ever attain a high political position, or whether he will always mark time to the march past of others.

Rivaling Mr. McCarthy in ability, energy, and perseverance, and superior to him in point of diplomacy, is J. W. Longley, the popular attorney general of Nova Scotia. For some years past Mr. Longley has played a prominent part in provincial politics, and

place in his province nor checked the growth of his popularity.

The great majority of Canadians who have won fame in the speculative world of politics, or in the less perilous though less interesting mazes of commerce, are Scotchmen by either birth or descent. Sir Donald Smith and his cousin, Lord Mount Stephen, who have amassed fortunes unequalled in the Dominion, are of the number. As a boy, Sir Donald was in the employ of the Hudson Bay Company, of which he is now the head. At one time, when stationed in far off Labrador, he was smitten with snow blindness, and threatened with the loss of his sight. The nearest doctor was several hundreds of miles distant, but the sufferer determined to reach him. In company with two half breed



Sir Charles H. Tupper, Q. C., K. C. M. G.

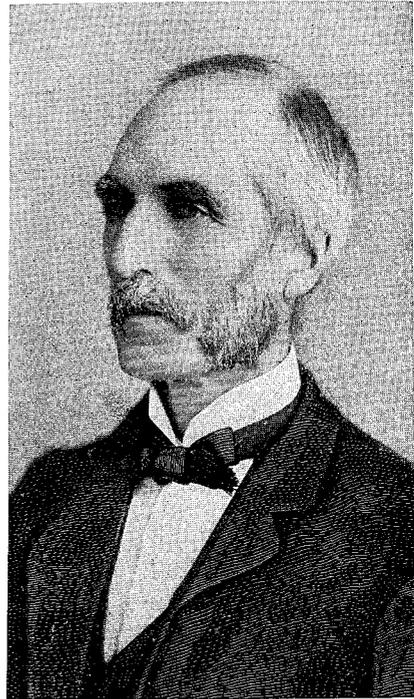
From a photograph by Topley, Ottawa.

guides, he successfully accomplished the journey, and obtained the needed medical aid. On the return, the weather became so violent and cold that both guides succumbed, but young Smith struggled on alone, arriving at his destination more dead than alive.

It is commonly stated that he was knighted for services rendered in the first Northwest rebellion; but as the honor only reached him six years after that event, it may be conjectured that his connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway had something to do with it. He and Lord Mount Stephen (then plain George Stephen) were the promoters mainly interested in the construction of the road, for which—and partly, no doubt, because his childlessness obviated any possible objection to the creation of a hereditary peerage in Canada—the latter received the unprecedented distinction of a barony. It is not impossible that Lord Mount Stephen may be the next Canadian governor general, and certainly no one would be more welcomed by the people. Both he and Sir Donald, though more particularly the latter, are pleasantly noted for their philanthropy. Among their many beneficent acts, they built and endowed a hospital in Montreal a

few years ago, which cost more than a million dollars.

The Canadian Pacific owes its existence to the above named capitalists and the Dominion government, but much of its success is due to the present president and general manager, Sir William Van Horne. Like Mr. Hays, the recently appointed head of the Grand Trunk, Sir William was born in the State of Illinois, and his railroading experience was gained in the American West. He was general superintendent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul when he resigned to take hold of the embryonic C. P. R. Having been duly naturalized, he later received a knighthood of the order of St. Michael and St. George—a requisite which seems to go with the prominent positions in the company. A great part of his leisure is spent in painting, one of his favorite jokes being to put fictitious names on works from his own brush and then invite criticisms. It is said that his salary is fifty thousand dollars a year—about one third more than the amount which tempted Mr. Hays from his command of the Wabash system to take charge of the Grand Trunk. Whether this latter gentleman will follow Sir William's example by becoming a British

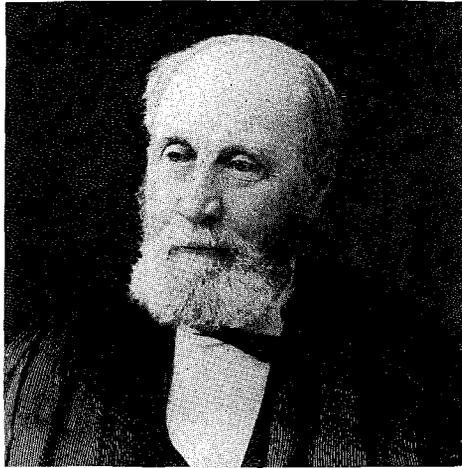


Professor Goldwin Smith.

From a photograph by Bruce, Toronto, Ont.

subject, and incidentally, perhaps, a K. C. M. G., is a thing that the future holds secret.

The institution that comes in for the lion's share of Sir Donald Smith's munificence is McGill University, the Oxford of Canada. For many years the well known geologist, Sir William Dawson, was the university's principal, and it was chiefly through his management that it attained its present development. His successor, Dr. Peterson, hails from Scotland—a fact which, considering that Sir William was a Canadian born, is scarcely a compliment to the Dominion's progress in the world of science and learning. Previous to his appointment to McGill, Dr. Peterson had been principal of University College, Dundee, having reached



Sir J. W. Dawson, C. M. G., Formerly President of McGill University

From a photograph by Notman, Montreal.



Lora Mount Stephen, the Only Canadian Peer.

From a photograph by Notman, Montreal.

that position at the remarkably early age of twenty five.

Sir William Dawson is a peaceful old gentleman, whose retirement is devoted to scientific research and literary work, his favorite topic being the question of man's first appearance on earth, and the apparent conflict between biblical history and the facts of geology. He is quite unlike the clerical principal of Queen's University, the Rev. George Grant, who, aside from his collegiate duties, exercises a considerable influence in the political arena. Principal Grant is a strong advocate of imperial federation, and expresses his views forcibly. "The annexationist," he once declared, "at the outset surrenders

the name of Canada, with all it involves—its history, its constitution, its past struggles, its present life, its hopes and aims—as things absolutely worthless. Of course, to some men—and all cattle—such things are worthless."

Mr. Chamberlain and other English statesmen are displaying at least an academic interest in Mr. Grant's pet scheme, but its realization is probably far distant. It looks, however, as if the present Canadian government is prepared to move toward it, the first indication being to vote three million dollars for the thorough rearming of the colonial militia. The forces of the Dominion are under the command of Major General Gascoigne, who was appointed last summer, and has so far created a favorable im-



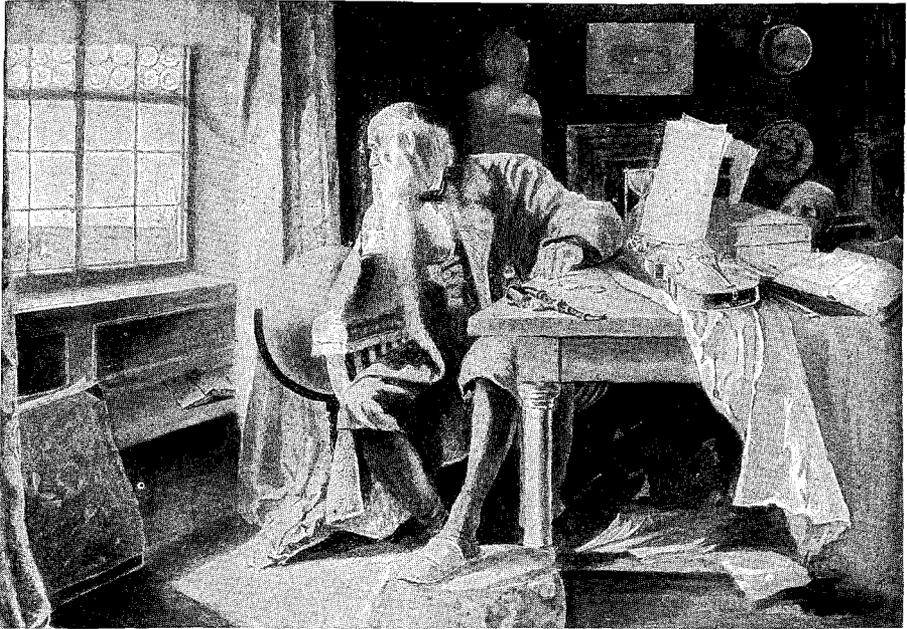
Charles M. Hays, Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway.

From a photograph by Robertson, St. Louis.

pression. He has seen service with the British army in Egypt and in the Soudan, and amongst other engagements was present at Tel-el-Kebir.

Other prominent Canadians might with justice be mentioned, did not lack of space make it necessary to draw the line where notability ceases and importance begins.

Edgar Maurice Smith.



A SONG OF LONGING.

WHERE I with spring erewhile
Kept golden comradeship,
And saw her kindling smile
Illumine stream and tree,

Behold, is set the sign
Of one with numbing breath,
Who holds, through power malign,
White brotherhood with death!

Hushed is the lyric bough,
And not a ripple runs
To stir the reed bed now
With silvery benisons.

I list, and list in vain
For melody and mirth;
O give me back again
The ardors of the earth!

Give me the fields I knew,
And not this blank despair—
The sun divine, the blue
Sweet vastitudes of air!

And then to crown my bliss,
To seal my rapturing,
Ah! let me know her kiss,
The love kiss of the spring!

Clinton Scollard.

