

elsewhere were honors of which any subject of her Majesty might well be proud. In this connection it may be stated that Mr. Mackenzie was twice offered the honor of knighthood by her Majesty but declined. His last visit to his native country was in 1881, and the genuine Scottish welcome was as warm as before. He was granted the freedom of the City of Inverness, and the places visited seemed to vie with each other in honoring him.

During Mr. Mackenzie's administration the final route for the Canadian Pacific Railway was adopted, and had he remained in power long enough to complete the work, the Dominion might have led the western nations in the ownership of a transcontinental railway. But two bad harvests following in succession at the close of the Parliamentary term were instrumental in bringing on a severe commercial depression—a state of things generally fatal to the party in power. The Conservative Opposition, under the late Sir John Macdonald, adopted the platform of a protective tariff for the encouragement of Canadian manufacturers. The people partly accepted the arguments, and many concluded that any change could not make matters worse. Although seeing the drift of public feeling, the staunch Premier refused to yield to what he knew to be contrary to the best interests of the Dominion. And time is now proving the soundness of his judgment. His Government was defeated at the general elections in 1878.

He again led the Opposition during that session, and made his influence felt by an able criticism of the new trade policy then inaugurated. One year after the defeat of his Administration he retired from the Opposition leadership in favor of Hon. Edward Blake. His subsequent political course is well known to all who are conversant with public affairs. He was three times elected to represent East York, and, although in late years his physical strength had been unequal to the task of taking part in the debates of the House, his mind retained its vigor and he kept a close watch on political affairs. He was the author of "Life and Speeches of Hon. George Brown," which was published in Toronto in 1882, and is a valuable contribution to the political history of the Dominion.

Mr. Mackenzie was twice married. His first wife was Helen, daughter of the late William Neil of Irvine, Scotland, who died January 2nd, 1852. The estimable lady who since presided over his household is Jane, eldest daughter of the late Robert Sym of Perthshire, Scotland, to whom he was married June 17, 1853. Mr. Mackenzie leaves only one child, daughter of his first wife, now the wife of Rev. John Thompson, Presbyterian minister at Sarnia.

#### KINGSTON HIS EARLY HOME.

Kingston, which has had part in the history of so many of Canada's eminent men, was the early home of Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, and this was remembered by him when on the 27th of June, 1877, he was called upon to reply to an address presented to him by the workmen of that city. "I will only say in response," said the Premier of the day, "a few words regarding the City of Kingston, my first Canadian home—(cheers)—and those local affairs in which I can never cease to take an active and lively interest. Standing before this assembled multitude I can recall many reminiscences of by-gone years, for it was in the County of Frontenac that I first tried my hand at chopping and farming—(hear, hear and cheers)—and it was in the City of Kingston where I have worked—if not with Mr. Robinson and his paint pots—(laughter)—yet at something of the same kind. It is a matter of deep gratification to myself to be present and hear your addresses in company with my old leader and valued friend, the Premier of Ontario; and whatever may be the future in store for either of us, neither he nor I, nor my colleague Mr. Cartwright, will ever forget the kindness which has prompted the writing and the presentation of these addresses. I shall to the utmost of my power endeavor to merit the approval not merely of the Kingstonians,

for they are only a part of the great continental empire which we are called upon to govern, but I hope to be able so to conduct myself in public life as to earn the approval of my fellow-countrymen, and especially of those who were formerly my fellow-citizens, and who have to-day in this demonstration, and by these addresses, given such flattering expressions of their kindly feeling toward us." (Loud cheers.)

#### MR. MACKENZIE AT KINGSTON.

KINGSTON, April 16.—(Special.)—Robt. Hendry, 92 years of age, came to Canada from Scotland with Mr. Mackenzie. They landed in Montreal in May, 1842, and came to Kingston. Mr. Mackenzie was then about 22 years of age, and was very quiet mannered. They crossed the ocean on a sailing vessel, and occupied four weeks in making the voyage. While the passengers were enjoying themselves at various games on board the vessel Mr. Mackenzie kept aloof, and was generally found in some corner reading a book. He wore a suit of moleskin clothes on leaving the old country, and did not change them until he reached Montreal. He was always retired in manner, but willing to give advice if asked. Before leaving Scotland he worked in Perthshire and Ayrshire at his trade as a stonemason. On coming to the city he secured work in connection with the erection of the city buildings, and afterwards became foreman. He superintended the erection of some of the Martello towers. He was more than an ordinary workman, being able to comprehend perfectly the plans of the works. The towers are all precisely built. He remained two years in the city and then moved west.

Alexander Cameron of Portsmouth was a life-long friend of the ex-Premier. He said:—"My first recollection of Mr. Mackenzie was while he was dressing stone for the front doors of St. Mary's Cathedral. The clergy reserves question was hotly discussed at that time and Mr. Mackenzie, as a Baptist, was in vigorous opposition. Because of his outspokenness one morning he went to work to find his stone damaged and defaced. After living here a brief time Mr. Mackenzie went to the Welland Canal as a foreman for the Haggerts of Perth, but soon returned to act as foreman for Allen & Matthews, who had the contracts for the Martello towers. Mr. Mackenzie had the responsibility for the construction of the Cedar Island and Point Frederick Towers. He thoroughly understood his work. He always had my sincerest gratitude for I learned much from him. He knew what he wanted and expressed his desires so clearly that I had no difficulty in providing what he required. Frequently my friends would ask me if Mr. Mackenzie was wealthy. I invariably said 'No, his character is against his being wealthy.' I can candidly say he was a most benevolent man. He was not a friend of 'beats' but when he met persons worthy of confidence and in misfortune he would give his last dollar to help them. Mr. Mackenzie was a clear Scotchman plain and true. He was reserved among strangers, but jovial and entertaining with intimates. No one enjoyed a laugh better than he. He was a real temperance man. He attended the Baptist church, located then as now. Mr. Mackenzie was always the same. When I met him here and in Ottawa in the height of his power he was the same plain, common sense Sandy Mackenzie. Whilst at work on the fortifications Mr. Mackenzie made the acquaintance of Sir John Macdonald, Sir Alexander Campbell and Hon. Oliver Mowat, each of whom became distinguished as politicians and statesmen. Mr. Mackenzie was twice offered the honor of knighthood by the Queen, whom he served so faithfully, but on both occasions with Hons. George Brown, Edward Blake and Oliver Mowat the honor was respectfully declined."

#### SPEECHES IN 1877.

EXTRACTS FROM ADDRESSES DELIVERED IN THE CAMPAIGN IN WHICH MR. MACKENZIE FELL FROM POWER.

Mr. Mackenzie and the principal members of his Government delivered a series of speeches through the Province of Ontario during the summer of 1877. Speaking at Fergus on July 7 he discussed the prin-