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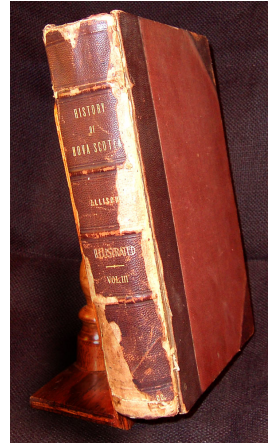
History of Nova Scotia - 1916

Volume III; Biographical Sketches

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HISTORY
OF
NOVA SCOTIA

Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens
and Genealogical Records of
the Old Families

VOLUME III

ILLUSTRATED

1916
A. W. BOWEN & CO.
Halifax, Nova Scotia

PREFACE

There is a proverb that "truth is stranger than fiction;" and truth of the nature embraced in this volume has not only the attraction of strangeness and novelty, but the main reason for its existence in this form and promulgation, lies in the evidence of great pains having been taken to go back of ordinary modern expression of judgment and opinions, deducted from alleged circumstances, to original sources of information, in the way of names, dates, or circumstances; but to show on the face of the material, that facts have been substantiated to the best degree of accuracy, and nothing accepted on probabilities or suppositions.

Dr. David Allison, author of the first two volumes of this work, had no part in the preparation of this volume, the biographical sketches having been written by Clyde Edwin Tuck, from data furnished by the various families represented herein. Every sketch in this work was submitted to the party interested, for correction, and therefore any error of fact, if there be any, is due to the person for whom the sketch was prepared. The publishers desire to extend their thanks to the citizens of Nova Scotia for the uniform kindness with which they have regarded this undertaking, and for their many services rendered in obtaining the necessary information.

Respectfully,

THE PUBLISHERS.

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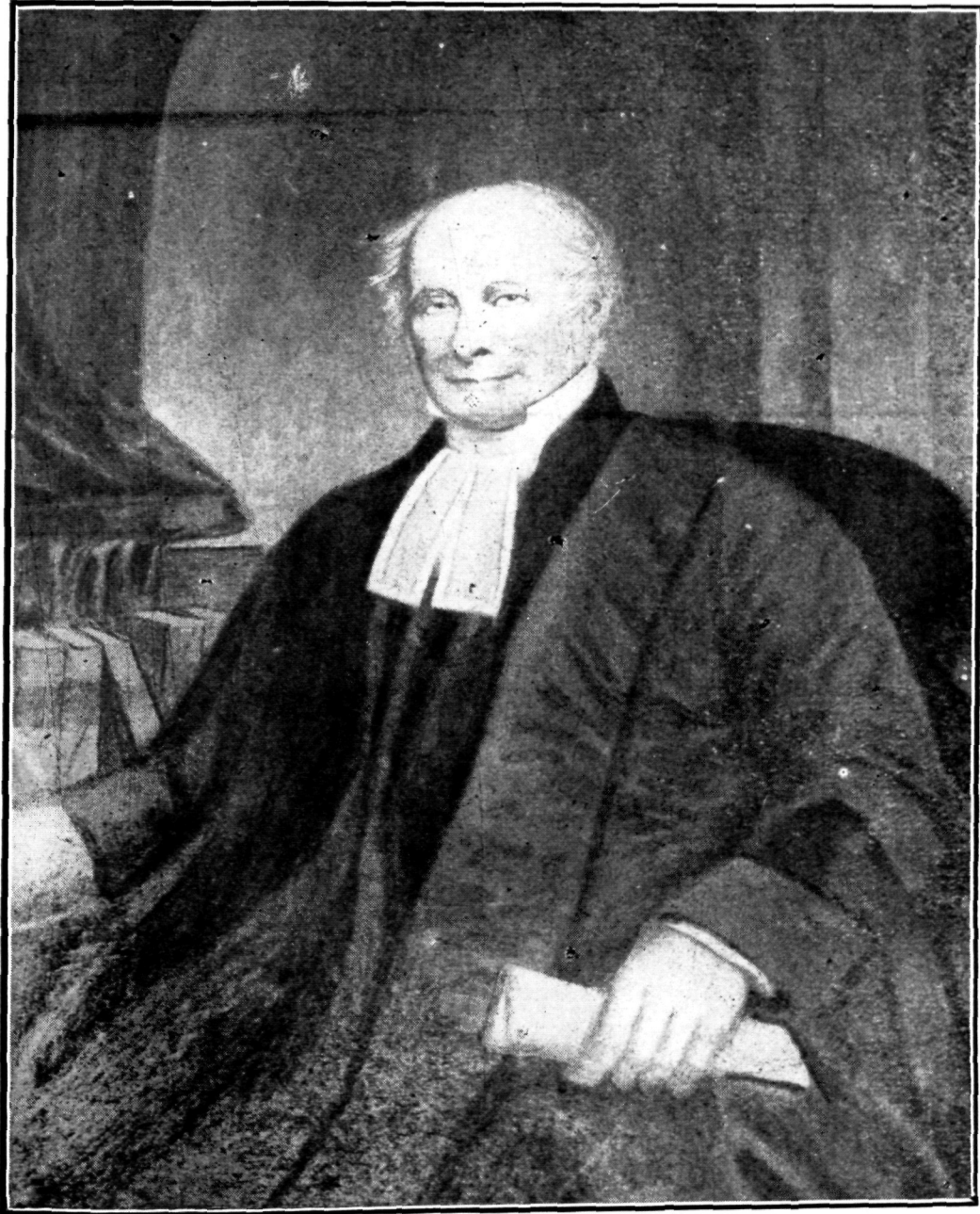
natives of Nova Scotia, the father born in Newport and the mother in Kent. Thomas Woolaver the grandfather, was also a native of Newport. Her ancestors came from Pennsylvania and were among the very earliest settlers in Newport. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Churchill: Valentyne married Lieutenant R. S. Parsons; Alfred is at present a lieutenant with the Nova Scotia Fortieth Battalion; George, who is a highly skilled mechanical engineer, living in Amherst, is a lieutenant in the Sixty-third Rifles; Windston is attending King's College School at Windsor; Frances is at Edgehill School, Windsor.

THOMAS CHANDLER HALIBURTON.

The father of American humor and one of the foremost literary men Canada has ever produced was Thomas Chandler Haliburton, who did much to give the Dominion a distinctive literature of its own, and he is being more fully appreciated as the years go by. His work shows talent of a very high order.

Mr. Haliburton was born at Windsor, Nova Scotia, in December, 1796, and there received the primary portion of his education. He there attended the University of King's College, and graduated with high honors in 1824. At an early period of his college course he showed a decided taste for literary pursuits, and took many prizes, among them the English essay prize, which he succeeded in wresting from the expectant grasp of several able competitors. On leaving college he turned his attention to law, entered the legal profession and practiced at Annapolis, where he had a large and lucrative clientage. He then, at the earnest solicitation of friends, entered the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia, as a member for the county of Annapolis, and here his fine intellect and good debating powers soon gave him a leading position. As an orator he is said to have been "earnest, impressive and dignified, though he often showed a strong propensity for wit and humor." In 1828 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and discharged the duties of his position with great ability until 1840, when he was transferred to the Supreme Court. In February, 1856, he resigned his office, left his native land, and found a home in England, where he spent the remainder of his days.

At the general elections in 1859 he entered the Imperial Parliament as a member for Lancaster. Here he joined in some of the debates, but parliamentary life appears to have become irksome to him,



THOMAS CHANDLER HALIBURTON,
"Sam Slick,"
Author and Jurist.

a past master, as are also his three brothers, although each have belonged to separate lodges. Our subject and wife are members of the Knox Presbyterian church.

ALEXANDER MATHESON.

Alex. Matheson was born at St. Esprit, Richmond County, Nova Scotia, March 27, 1846. He is a son of Duncan and Jessie (MacLennan) Matheson. The father was born at Plockton, Ross-shire, Scotland, and came with his parents to this country in 1820, the mother was born at Malagawatch, Cape Breton.

Our subject was educated in the schools of Sydney, and there engaged in business until 1880 when he was appointed postmaster at that place, which position he has held ever since. He is a Presbyterian, a member of St. Andrews church, Sydney. He is unmarried.

CONRAD O. H. WEBSTER, D. D. S.

Few professions have been characterized by greater strides during the past two decades than dentistry. In order to meet the requirements, thinking men have devoted their attention to this subject, great institutions have been established and the race has been greatly blessed along these lines. One of the exponents of this science in Pictou County is Dr. Conrad O. H. Webster of the city of Pictou. He is a descendant of the prominent old Webster family of Nova Scotia, and he was born at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, July 12, 1873. He is a son of Dr. J. L. R. Webster, a native of Yarmouth and for many years a leading physician of that place. The mother of our subject was Helen O. Geddes, eldest daughter of Dr. T. O. Geddes of Barrington, this Province.

Dr. Webster grew to manhood in his native town and there received his early education in the public schools. Deciding to take up the dental profession he went to Boston, Massachusetts, where he took the course at the Boston Dental College, from which institution he was graduated in 1895, and took a post-graduate course at the Harvard Dental School, a department of Harvard University, in 1912. After graduating he returned to Nova Scotia and began the practice of his profession at Pictou, where he has remained to the present time. He has enjoyed a large and growing practice all the while and occupies a prominent position in the ranks of his professional brethren in that part of the Province.

him some years ago, "He possesses an extensive knowledge of law, and is a man of great industry and good temper." Fraternally, he belongs to Highland Society of Antigonish, North British Society, Clan Macdonnell, Society of Scottish Clans, the Knights of Columbus. He was reared in the faith of the Catholic church.

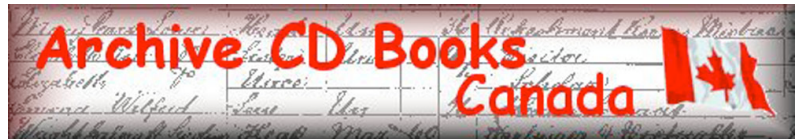
NORMAN H. PHINNEY.

A great writer recently said that the one great drama of life is the struggle of the individual man toward perfect adjustment with his environment; that according as he comes into correspondence and harmony with his environment, by that much does he succeed. The career of Norman H. Phinney, a successful business man and member of the Legislative Assembly from Lawrencetown, Annapolis County, would indicate that he has been fortunate in adjusting himself to his environment, making the most of his surroundings and opportunities at all times. He was born in the above named town and county, on August 7, 1850, and is a son of Elijah and Mary Elizabeth Phinney.

Mr. Phinney received his education in the public schools of Lawrencetown, where he grew to manhood and there he began his business career when but a boy. He has been very successful in his chosen field of endeavor and is now president of the N. H. Phinney & Company, Ltd., of that place, well known dealers in pianos, organs, phonographs, sewing machines, and a number of other things of a similar nature. The firm has many branches throughout the Province and is doing a large and rapidly growing annual business.

Mr. Phinney was married March 11, 1874, to Jessie Wheelock, a daughter of Altimus Wheelock and wife. To this union four children were born: Harvey Tremaine, Horton Wheelock, Edith Maud and Annie Ethel. Mrs. Phinney died March 11, 1900, and December 18, 1901, Mr. Phinney married Mrs. Emma M. Bishop, the widow of the late George I. Bishop and the daughter of the late David N. and Emeline G. Fitzrandolph.

Politically, Mr. Phinney is a Conservative. He has been active and influential in party affairs for some time. He was first elected to the Legislative Assembly at the general election of 1911 and he has filled this position ever since, discharging his duties in a manner that has reflected much credit upon his ability and public spirit. Religiously, he belongs to the Baptist church.



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