

585. Hon. P. C. Hill died on 13th September, 1894. He was born in Halifax, was seventy-three years of age at the time of his death, and was a son of the late Captain N. T. Hill of the Royal Staff Corps. He became a barrister in 1844, was appointed a member of the Executive Council of Nova Scotia in 1867, but was defeated in the first Provincial Elections after Confederation. In December, 1874, he was appointed Provincial Secretary, and in May 1875, he became Premier and President of the Council in a Ministry whose primal idea was complete disavowal of Provincial from Dominion politics. His Government was defeated in 1878, when he retired from public life. At the time of his death he resided in England and was one of the earlier members of the Royal Colonial Institute. He was the author of several theological and philanthropic pamphlets. One of his most important contributions to theological controversy is a *brochure* of some fifty pages, which ran through several editions and is entitled "Drifting Away," a reply to Professor Drummond's "Natural Law in the Spiritual world."

586. Hon. Honoré Mercier, ex-Premier of Quebec, died on 30th October, 1894. He was born 15th October, 1840, educated at the Jesuits' College of Montreal, studied law and was admitted to the Bar of Lower Canada in 1865.

Mr. Mercier was elected to Parliament for Rouville in 1872, and held his seat until 1873, when the Mackenzie Government appealed to the country, Mr. Mercier giving place to Mr. Cheval. In 1878 he offered for Parliament, the chance presenting itself in St. Hyacinthe, but was defeated by six. In 1879 he was invited by Hon. Mr. Joly to fill a vacancy in the Executive of the Province of Quebec and became Solicitor-General. The Joly administration was defeated in 1879, and Mr. Mercier became leader of the Opposition. In 1887, the Ross-Taillon Government was defeated and Mr. Mercier became Premier. On 17th June, 1890, Mr. Mercier was again triumphant in the Provincial elections. Accusations of corrupt practices having been made against Mr. Mercier and his colleagues, an investigation was held, the result of which was that a majority of the judges forming the Royal Commission reported that Mr. Mercier was deserving of condemnation, and on the 15th December, 1891, he was accordingly dismissed from the Government. M. de Boucherville then formed a Government. A second Royal Commission made further investigations, and as a result of the general provincial elections held on March 8th, 1892, Mr. Mercier found himself with only seventeen supporters in a House of seventy-three members. He did not take his seat in the session of 1892, but did so in the session of 1893, taking however, little part in the discussions.

587. The Right Hon. Sir John S. D. Thompson, K.C.M.G., Premier of the fifth Ministry of the Dominion, was born in Halifax, N. S., 10th November, 1844, and died suddenly in Windsor Castle, December 12th, 1894, shortly after being installed a member of the Queen's most honourable Privy Council. He was called to the Bar of Nova Scotia, July, 1865, and appointed a Queen's Counsel in May, 1879. His first political appointment was member of the Executive Council and Attorney-General, Nova Scotia, which was made in October, 1878, he having been elected a member of the