

ROSE'S NATIONAL BIOGRAPHICAL SERIES. I.

A CYCLOPÆDIA  
OF  
CANADIAN BIOGRAPHY:  
BEING  
CHIEFLY MEN OF THE TIME.

A COLLECTION OF PERSONS DISTINGUISHED IN PROFESSIONAL AND  
POLITICAL LIFE; LEADERS IN THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
OF CANADA; AND SUCCESSFUL PIONEERS.

---

EDITED BY  
GEO. MACLEAN ROSE.

---



Toronto:  
ROSE PUBLISHING COMPANY.  
1886.

UWO LIBRARY

tour through Manitoba and the North-West, being at this time interested in lands in that part of the Dominion. Mr. Hogg was brought up a Presbyterian, but he is not a member of any church. He believes that the Christian religion, although it has not accomplished all it might be supposed capable of, is the only religious system worthy the name of a religion. He was married on September 14th, 1875, to Louisa Agnes Ratray, third daughter of the late Dr. Charles Ratray, of Cornwall, Ontario. After admission to the bar, in 1874, Mr. Hogg became a partner with Daniel O'Connor, of Ottawa, barrister-at-law, and has continued to practice with him under the firm name of O'Connor & Hogg since that time. During the last few years he has been engaged before the Supreme and Exchequer courts at Ottawa, on behalf of the Crown, in a number of important cases, involving both prerogative and constitutional questions. Amongst such cases were the now somewhat celebrated ones of *Doutre vs. the Queen*, and *MacLean vs. the Queen*. Our subject was led to the study of law by the accidental circumstance of reading, when a boy, the life of the Honourable William Wirt, once attorney-general of the United States, whose career attracted his mind to the profession to which a man of such high moral character and great ability belonged. The late lamented James Bethune, Q.C., was married to Mr. Hogg's wife's sister, and for many years he had the great pleasure of being the intimate friend of that brilliant lawyer. Through his father, our subject is a relative of the "Ettrick Shepherd," the great Scottish poet, James Hogg. He has never taken any active interest or part in politics, but he believes in the efficacy of our colonial position, with the present form of government of the country.

**Patterson, Rev. Ephraim, M.A., R.D.,** Stratford, the subject of this sketch, was born in 1826, in the neighbourhood of Perth, County of Lanark, then a portion of the old Bathurst district. His father, George Patterson, was a native of the town of Perth, Scotland. He came to Canada in 1814 with his regiment, the 37th Regiment Foot, and took part in the struggle then going on with the United States. Before coming to Canada, he served with his regiment in the Peninsular war. With his wife Ann Mari-gold, a native of the city of Worcester, England, he settled at Perth, Ont., in 1816, when the site of that town was a forest. Our subject was educated at the Perth Grammar School, where he passed through a full

classical and mathematical course of study. From 1845 to 1849 he studied theology at the Diocesan Theological College, Cobourg, then under the management of Rev. Dr. Bethune, late Bishop of Toronto. While pursuing his studies at that institution, he gained on one occasion the "Kent Testimonial" prize for a theological essay, and stood first amongst the candidates for deacon's orders in the examination held at Cobourg, in 1849. He was ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Strachan in 1849, and was appointed curate of Cobourg, and classical tutor to the second division of theological students. In 1850 he was advanced to the priesthood, and appointed missionary at Portsmouth and Wolfe Island, in the County of Frontenac. In 1851 he removed to Stratford, having been appointed pastor of St. James' Church in that town, the incumbency of which he has held from that time to the present, a period of thirty-four years. He received the appointment of rural dean of the County of Perth, from Bishop Hellmuth. Having passed the B.A. examination at Trinity College, Toronto, he was admitted to that degree, and subsequently received the degree of M.A. from that University. In 1857 he took a prominent part in the controversy that arose between the friends of Dr. Cronyn and Dr. Bethune, in relation to the election to the first bishopric of the Huron Diocese, and in this controversy he exhibited a singularly effective and sound style of argument. For many years he was chairman of the Perth County Board of Grammar School Trustees, and of the County Board of Public Instruction for the granting of teachers' certificates of qualification. He was also repeatedly appointed by the county council as local superintendent of schools for several townships in the county, and public school inspector for the town of Stratford, by the Board of Education. The latter position he resigned in 1872, owing to the increasing pressure of parochial work. In 1852 he was married to Jane Wauchope, youngest daughter of Donald Mackenzie, Esq., formerly of Ottawa. Mr. Patterson is a devoted churchman and a tireless worker, and is gifted with very able intellectual parts.

**Steckel, Louis Joseph René,** Chief Clerk, Engineering Branch of the Public Works Department, Canada, was born on September 5, 1844, at Wintzenheim, Upper Rhine, Alsace, France. He is the third son of George Louis René Steckel, of Benfeld, Alsace, notary public, who was for many years assistant mayor of Wintzenheim, also

chef  
Franc  
Laufe  
family  
but le  
the fa  
Quebe  
was b  
young  
surgeo  
Schole  
second  
René S  
French  
Nation  
ment a  
Robesp  
brated  
Zurich  
Souwar  
1800 ag  
was the  
ter of  
and bo  
the late  
created  
The mo  
vember  
late Fr  
public, a  
of Lauf  
wealthy  
several  
Previous  
several  
late M. I  
France t  
Frankfo  
The gran  
sented th  
Council  
Louis Sc  
to repres  
Our subj  
German  
of drawi  
schools o  
ledge of  
tern state  
always g  
mathema  
member  
piccolo in  
himself s  
which are  
architects  
ing and a  
which he  
was admit  
in Lower

*chef de bataillon* of the National Guard of France, and Madeline Eugénie Scholer, of Laufen, Canton Berne, Switzerland. The family came to Quebec city in August, 1857, but left Canada for the Western States in the fall of 1858. Our subject returned to Quebec in the spring of 1860. His father was born August 20, 1814, and is the youngest son of the late Jean René Steckel, surgeon, of Benfeld, and Marie Genevieve Scholer, of Huningen, Alsace, who was his second wife. His grandfather was Jean René Steckel, who served as surgeon in the French regular army, and also in the *Garde Nationale*. He was on duty with the regiment around the scaffold at the execution of Robespierre, and took part, under the celebrated General Moreau, in the battle of Zurich in 1799, against the Russians under Souwarov, and in that of Hohenlinden in 1800 against the Austrians. His first wife was the late Marie Gabrielle Müller, daughter of the late Barthelemi Müller, notary and bourgmestre of Benfeld, and sister of the late Colonel Charles Müller, who was created a baron by Napoleon the First. The mother of our subject was born on November 4, 1817, and was a daughter of the late Francis Constantine Scholer, notary public, and the late Mary Ann Ricklin, both of Laufen, Switzerland. Her father was a wealthy owner of real estate, including several mills and a bathing establishment. Previous to his marriage he had acted for several years as secretary to his cousin, the late M. Bacher, who was then ambassador of France to the confederation of the Rhine at Frankfort, under the first French empire. The grandfather Scholer at one time represented the district of Laufen in the Federal Council of Switzerland at Berne, and his son Louis Scholer was also elected several times to represent that district in the said council. Our subject was educated in the French and German languages, and taught the rudiments of drawing, geometry, etc., in the cantonal schools of Benfeld. He acquired a knowledge of English at Quebec and in the western states by private tuition. He showed always great aptitude for drawing and mathematics, and he loved music; and was a member of the church choir, playing the piccolo in the school band. He applied himself strongly to master the sciences which are necessary for civil engineers and architects to be versed in, as civil engineering and architecture were the professions which he felt most inclined to follow. He was admitted to the study of land surveying in Lower Canada on the 8th of May, 1858,

after passing the ordinary examination. He followed lectures given in Laval University on natural philosophy, chemistry, geology and botany in 1860 and 1862. After his return to Canada from the western states, he continued his professional studies in the office of Charles Baillargé, the eminent engineer and architect, who is now city engineer of Quebec, and president of the Board of Examiners for land surveyors of Lower Canada, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and Knight of the order of St. Sauveur de Monte Reale, Italy, etc. He was employed as draughtsman, etc., on the Gaspé and Gulf Shore Road surveys ordered by the Public Works department of the old Province of Canada in 1861 and 1862. He furnished Mr. Charles Baillargé in 1862 several new and elegant geometrical solutions of difficult problems in land surveying, besides other novel geometrical propositions, which he published in 1866 in his treatise on geometry, trigonometry, etc. He was appointed draughtsman on the Public Buildings, Ottawa, April 26th, 1863, under John Page, the then chief engineer of Public Works. He was permanently appointed to the dominion department of Public Works, in the engineering branch, on the 1st January, 1870. He assisted George Frederick Baillargé, civil engineer, who is now deputy minister of the Public Works department, from 1870 to 1873, in the extensive surveys made by him on the isthmus of Chignecto for the projected Baie Verte canal from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Bay of Fundy, and also in connection with many other harbour and river works carried out in various parts of the dominion. He was appointed assistant engineer on the outside service of the Public Works department, August 4th, 1873. He surveyed several lines for the projected Cedars Canal on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, between Lakes St. Francis and St. Louis, from 1873 to 1875, and in 1876 the River St. Charles estuary, etc., in connection with the improvements which are being carried out on a large scale in that part of the harbour of Quebec and the new graving dock at Levis. He superintended the construction of the models of the new locks of the enlarged dominion canals which were sent by the Canadian Government to the Paris International Exhibition of 1877. The Public Works department was awarded a diploma of honour for these and other exhibits. He was appointed chief clerk of the engineering branch in the department of Public Works 1st July, 1880. He carried

on, under instructions from the chief engineer, H. F. Perley, in 1881 and 1882, extensive hydrographic surveys of the St. Lawrence ship channel between Quebec and Cap à la Roche; also in 1883 and 1884 geodetic levelling operations of precision along the rivers Richelieu and St. Lawrence, from Lake Champlain towards tide water in the gulf. The results of these surveys may be used with confidence, both for engineering and scientific purposes. He became a member of the Institut Canadien Français d'Ottawa, October 5th, 1865, being the first public officer admitted, and he has uninterruptedly kept up his connection with that institute to the present day. He was prominently connected with the Ottawa Musical Union from 1863 to 1865 as flutist and librarian, and he acted as conductor of the choir in the Cathedral of Ottawa from 1865 to 1867. In 1868 he made a three months' tour through England, France, Switzerland and Germany. He is a Roman catholic, and has never given much attention to purely political matters. He married on June 25th, 1873, Catherine O'Connor, youngest daughter of the late Daniel O'Connor and the late Margaret Power, both natives of the County of Tipperary, Ireland, and among the first settlers of old Bytown, founded in 1827, now the City of Ottawa. At his death, 1858, Mr. O'Connor was the oldest magistrate in the County of Carleton, also the oldest militia officer in the 4th Carleton, holding the rank of major in this regiment. His wife is a sister of Mrs. Friel, who is the first-born within the limits of the present city of Ottawa, and widow of the late mayor, H. J. Friel, of Ottawa.

**Wagner, Joseph**, Galt, the subject of this sketch, was born in Eich, Germany, in the year 1832. His father was Adam Wagner, and this gentleman, who had six children, left his native land in 1846, and taking passage with his wife Catherine and family, settled in Buffalo, New York state. There is no element in the United States, or in any of the colonies that more contributes towards a solid, frugal and valuable community than the German, and this fact receives abundance of testimony in some of the most thriving agricultural districts in the United States and Canada, where the German population predominates; and in the arts and manufactures of the cities, too, this is not less conspicuous. The father of the subject of our sketch exhibited well the characteristics of his people, and kept Joseph at school till he obtained education enough for business pursuits. At the age

of fifteen he began to learn the trade of tanning, and worked for some time in the City of Buffalo. In 1861, however, he resolved to try his fortune in Canada, and crossing the line, he went to Brantford, where he remained for a short time, and then removed to Dundas. After close upon two years he went to Galt, where he engaged in the tanning business with the late John Davidson, and subsequently entered into co-partnership with Mr. David Spiers, ex-mayor of Galt. His quick, accurate insight, and his inherent spirit of enterprise soon convinced him that he could make his way alone, so he dissolved partnership, and opened a business for himself in the manufacture of fine grades of leather, comprising morocco and fancy leathers. From the first his business, owing to his clear head, and excellent methods, began to grow apace, and in 1882 he took with him into partnership his son, Theodore Joseph Wagner, a young gentleman who gives evidence of the same superior qualifications that make the father conspicuous in business circles, and who attends to the books, and superintends the general business of the firm. He is quick and practical, and already has achieved a large share of popularity. But Joseph Wagner does not confine his attention solely to his own business, and for his own exclusive benefit. He has always been anxious to see public affairs efficiently and honestly managed, and perceiving this, the town-folk were desirous that he should represent them in some public capacity, therefore he was advised to allow himself to be put in nomination for the town councillorship, and consenting to do so, he was elected in 1885. The same qualities that he exhibited to such advantage in the management of his private affairs, were not lacking when he took his seat at the council board. Mr. Wagner is a staunch and respected member of the Roman catholic church. In politics he approves of the measures of Sir John Macdonald, believing that the national policy operates in the interests of the community at large. He was married first, in 1858, to Miss Madeline Dennier, of Buffalo, U.S.; but this lady died in 1873, leaving two children, of whom Theodore is one. He married again Miss Elizabeth Hays, of Guelph, by whom he has had three children. In social qualities Mr. Wagner is all that one would desire, being kind and large-hearted, and showing that friendly German spirit which characterizes the race with all those he comes in contact with.

An  
ject  
to  
ning  
was  
ceiv  
On lea  
lawyer's  
tention  
the view  
in this p  
Then, li  
he was s  
resolved  
Montrea  
that city  
arrival th  
lation of  
dry-goods  
of Ogilvy  
as one of  
all his en  
tions, and  
employers  
large prop  
ced, to u  
to open a  
of Toronto  
was carried  
then only  
pointed the  
business h  
Brechtin la  
nership in  
and most p  
the "Quee  
son is an a  
Trade; is a  
Society; a  
member of  
politics Mr.  
fails to see,  
that the cou  
national pol  
Presbyterian  
in 1874, the  
William Ing  
**Macdon**  
ario, was bo  
commercial c  
1828. Altho  
true Celt, a  
anders from  
all's father w  
powerful clan  
mother was  
Eastern Argy  
arlike Macgr  
Mrs. Macdoug