

5th of that year. He was an active member of the Board until his untimely death. He was then employed by the Government to survey and lay off a continuation of the Colonization Road (the Bobcageon Road), commencing at Bell's Line, between the Counties of Victoria and Peterboro, to Lake Nipissing, thus to open up the Ottawa Valley through that route. Mr. Roche had been with his party on this work since the middle of July and was on his return to report progress to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, when, on Tuesday, the 13th September, 1859, whilst crossing Balsam Lake in a bark canoe during a gale of wind, the canoe was upset, and he was unfortunately drowned, his own canoemen being only able to save themselves by swimming. His men endeavored to dissuade him from attempting to cross the lake during the storm, but he urged them to proceed, saying his business was of importance. Mr. Roche was a gentleman of great urbanity of manners, of high integrity, much ability in his profession, and was held in general esteem by all who knew him.

Mr. Roche was survived by a wife, three sons, John, William Hardie, and Frederick, and by one daughter, Annie Elizabeth, at present living at Cobourg, now the only surviving member of the family.

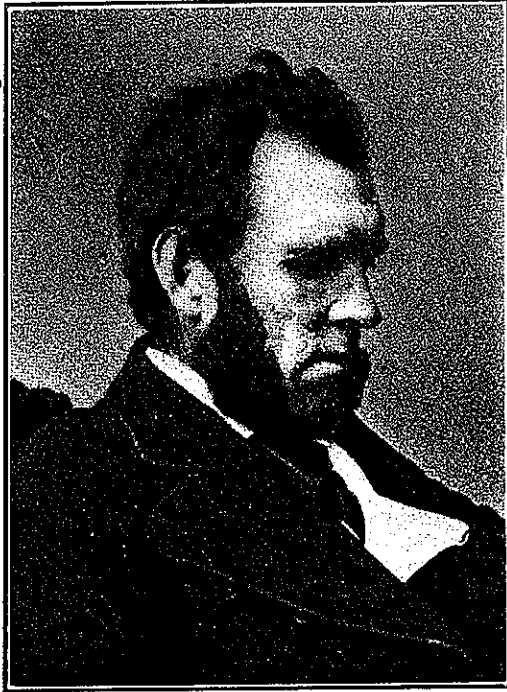
### **BOLTON MAGRATH.**

By Charles A. Magrath.

The subject of this sketch was born at Tynan, County Armagh, Ireland, August, 1824. Educated Royal School, Armagh, and private tuition. For five years he was employed as an assistant in a private astronomical observatory at Markee Castle, near Sligo, Ireland, and then engaged on railway construction in England for at least two years under an elder brother, who was a civil engineer.

Emigrating to the United States in the early fifties, he was engaged on engineering works in various parts of that country until about 1857, when, being offered a permanent position that would in time have necessitated his renouncing his British citizenship, he came to Canada and for a short time was employed as an engineer on the Grand Trunk Railway.

In or about 1858 he started to teach school in Aylmer, near Ottawa, and was appointed inspector of Protestant Schools



BOLTON MAGRATH

for the Counties of Ottawa and Pontiac, in what was then Lower Canada in April, 1865, and held that position until his death in October, 1895. As inspector of Schools he had considerable freedom, and for fully twenty years after his appointment as such he prepared very many students for their examinations as land surveyors, as well as others taking up civil engineering. He became a P.L.S. for Upper Canada in January, 1866, and for Lower Canada in January, 1873. He was for many years one of the examiners for D. L. Surveyors. He was essentially an educator. He gave up the

very best in himself towards improving educational work in the Province of Quebec. Morgan, in his 1912 edition of "Canadian Men and Women of the Time," refers to him as "a famous mathematician," and in J. L. Gourlay's "History of the Ottawa Valley," it is stated: "He was succeeded by Bolton Magrath, a great mathematician, full of originality, almost to explosiveness. His field is nearly as large as an European kingdom, and to the shame of the Government be it spoken, his salary is as meagre as his labor is immense."

His son, Charles A. Magrath, is now Chairman of the Canadian Section of the International Joint Commission on the Pollution of Boundary Waters.

### JOHN BOOTH.

The family name of Booth can be traced back six hundred years to Adam de Boothe, of Lancaster, England. Several of the name were knighted. Henry Booth, second Lord Delamere, was one of a committee of three to demand of King James II. that he remove from the Kingdom.

The first of the name who came to America was