In writing *Exile Within*, Thomas James set out, among other things, to use an illustration from the history of education to raise "questions about the uses of public authority in a democratic system of government" (p. 171). He has succeeded admirably. Moreover, although the education of the evacuated Japanese was a unique experience, it invites discussion across the border about differences in beliefs in the purposes of education, the possibilities of social engineering, ideas of democracy and citizenship, and concepts of Americanism and Canadianism. Though it was not his goal, James has also offered students of Canadian educational history a stimulating challenge.

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J. Keith Johnson. *Becoming Prominent: Regional Leadership in Upper Canada, 1791-1841.* Kingston and Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1989. Pp. 277, maps. $29.95.

In this work, Professor J. Keith Johnson of Carleton University's History Department applies his wide knowledge of Upper Canada to an analysis of the members of the House of Assembly in the colony's thirteen parliaments. From the sixteen members in Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe's first legislature in 1792 to the sixty members of the last parliament elected under Sir Francis Bond Head in 1836, a total of 283 members were elected. Their period was one of vast changes, politically, socially, and economically. Upper Canada in 1792 was a frontier wilderness with few roads, four scattered hamlets, and a population of some ten thousand. Socially, it was divided unevenly between a handful of appointed administrators and a large number of frequently subsistence farmers. Toronto was not founded for another year. The same province in 1841 had a population of 487,053, a fully fledged urban pattern that survives today, with Toronto as the "metropolis" and capital, and a diversified economy. Socially there was a vastly changed elite, with a flourishing middle class and a growing number of urban poor. Reasonably good roads and water transportation, too, had evolved for the era, and the first provincial railway, a harbinger of the network that was soon to arise, had made its appearance in 1839.

Like everything else in the province, the political picture had changed dramatically with some spectacular quarrels taking place along the way, and increasingly contentious issues coming to the fore in the 1820s. As a result, instead of remaining basically Tory, as had been the case from 1792 to 1828, the later parliaments alternated between Reform and Tory. Any formal pattern of parties had yet to develop—a factor that naturally has made Johnson's analysis far from easy.

For the historian of education, Upper Canada presents something of a morass. Almost all agreed that there should be a religious focus to education, but each denomination wanted to instil the tenets of its own

faith. Thus, there were endless debates over education, and the issue became intertwined with other major problems. By 1841, secondary education remained limited, the common schools were rudimentary, and the university had never opened. Few of the native-born legislators would boast of having received much of an education within the province.

Johnson selected the MHAs as a good subject for a case study in Upper Canadian collective biography for several reasons. They provided a province-wide sample, had at least some degree of prominence, particularly in their own areas, held important minor positions such as justices of the peace, and were officers in the militia. In preparing this study, Professor Johnson is continuing a type of research with which he has already had very considerable experience. The Public Archives of Canada's *The Canadian Directory of Parliament* (Ottawa, 1968), which contains biographies of all the Canadian members of the Senate and House of Commons from 1867 to 1967, was prepared under his editorship as the Public Archives of Canada's Confederation Centennial project. It must have provided an excellent bibliographic background for the present study. The Upper Canadian volume, which unlike the *Canadian Directory* does not provide biographies of the members of the Upper House, or Legislative Council, takes a gigantic step beyond its predecessor in that it moves beyond the biographical stage and adds an extensive analysis of the members of the house. This occupies the first two-thirds of the volume.

The biographical examination of the 283 members will be of immense assistance to all historians, political scientists, and educators who examine the era, as well as a major asset to those doing genealogical research. The information provided usually includes: dates; locations; family; details of education; religion; occupations; land holdings; military service; offices; parliaments; and politics. For important figures, such as John Beverley Robinson and William Lyon Mackenzie, biographical information has been carefully kept down in length (possibly too much so in the latter case). But details on such individuals are always easy to discover—most of them are in the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*. The greatest value of this collection is the vast amount of data which Johnson has managed to unearth on the secondary and downright obscure figures who, even briefly, had their moment of glory on the floor, or back benches, of Upper Canada's parliament.

I have been told by Keith, and others, that my *Handbook of Upper Canadian Chronology* has saved researchers endless hours; with *Becoming Prominent*, all aside from the interpretative sections, he himself has given researchers on the colony's history a book that not only will save endless hours, but will also provide a data bank for a vast number of both provincial studies and local investigations right across Ontario. A few citations are quite short; but these are the exceptions, and the fact that so

much information was obtained on so many obscure individuals is the point worth noting. Each entry is individually provided with a short bibliographical note.

Turning to the analytical material (which occupies the largest part of the book), Johnson provides an introduction and six chapters which investigate: occupations; landholdings and wealth; the stepping stones to political power; the wielding of power and patronage; the groupings and activities of the members of parliament; and how prominence was retained, or not retained, once achieved. Particular attention is paid to the changes that took place in the membership of the House over the years as the fledging colony evolved into a developed province. In order to make comparisons, the MHAs are grouped chronologically into three categories split at the dates 1820 and 1830, with some subdivisions, an organizational structure that Johnson correctly believes is necessary in order to make an analysis. He recognizes, however, that any grouping is arbitrary to some extent, and can cause problems. Special attention is paid to those members who fell into more than one group.

Today the question of how far quantification should be attempted invariably arises, particularly for a period where records are incomplete and often none too reliable, and when so many of the individuals involved were quite obscure. Johnson carefully discusses the problems of data insufficiencies and the difficulty of interpreting much of the information, which presents especially complex problems in such areas as "nationality" and education. He uses his statistics with care, noting that not much faith should be placed on "purely statistical results of collective analysis." He carefully records that the hypotheses he derives from this investigation "are not, and probably cannot be definitive conclusions." Although this may disappoint those who want to attempt universal quantification, his approach is a sound one: he does all that can be reasonably asked of an historian of the era.

The analysis of the occupational types in particular presents many complications, as so many individuals were successively or simultaneously engaged in several, frequently unrelated, activities. In some ways the demonstration of the diversity and complexity of the Upper Canadian middle and upper-class occupational pattern is one of the most important results from these tables. The religious statistics confirm the predominance of the Church of England. The considerable importance of the Presbyterians, despite the relatively small numbers of Scots in the province, is also apparent.

Education, regrettably, is not one of the main themes of analysis simply because of the lack of material available on the educational backgrounds of so many of the MHAs. In quite a few cases, they probably possessed only a rudimentary education from some small rural or parish school. Having noted this difficulty in his introduction, Johnson still manages to discuss the education of government officials and legislators to some extent. For instance, for the

Fifth Parliament (1808-1814), he notes that "the known level of education among the members was at an all-time low." He also records that it then improved till the Tenth Parliament! Legal education is really about the only type that can be discussed in some detail.

Professor Johnson is a well-known and highly regarded scholar in the Upper Canadian field and this work will certainly further enhance his reputation. He has provided us with an invaluable reference work which will supplement the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* for anyone investigating the ramifications of Upper Canadian politics. But beyond the biographical aspects of the volume, he provides an analysis of the MHA's background, personal characteristics, and political outlook, and gives careful consideration to the changes that took place in the composition of the House over the half century of Upper Canada's existence. At the same time, while his material is quantified when adequate data is available, great care is taken not to put forward unwarranted or unsubstantiated claims. *Becoming Prominent* then will take its place among the handful of major published resources on Upper Canadian history.

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Paul Axelrod and John G. Reid, eds. *Youth, University and Canadian Society: Essays in the Social History of Higher Education.* Kingston and Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1989. Pp. xxx, 381; $34.95 cloth, $16.95 paper.

This is an impressive collection of articles. The editors boldly claim in their introduction that there has been a flowering in the social history of Canadian education and that they have published this collection to show that a new generation of scholars is now producing significant work in the field of higher education. To a reviewer such an introduction is almost provocative but the evidence provided by the articles largely supports their claims.

As a minimum, the articles are all scholarly in the sense that the authors have posed valid questions, have gone to archival sources for information, and have based their conclusions on the evidence they have found. The questions were not always challenging and the answers are not often surprising, but the collection does show that higher education is now an established field of research in which the standards of scholarship are firmly fixed. And most of the articles deserve much more than this faint praise. They were written by productive scholars on subjects in which they have already established their expertise.

It is also noteworthy that this is not a collection of reprints. The editors give little information about the origins of the collection but they seem to have taken the initiative and asked their colleagues for submissions. Some of the articles are variations on themes already published, and others will eventually appear as chapters in books, but in the meantime, the volume does meet the editors' goal of acquainting readers with "new and