

Sir John Carling (1828-1911)

Born in London Township, Carling succeeded his father as president of Carling Brewing and malting Co. Entering politics as a Conservative, he represented London in the Legislative Assembly of Canada (1857-1867), in the Provincial legislature (1867-1873) and in the House of Commons (1867-74, 1878-91, and 1892-95). Called to the Senate in 1891, he resigned the following year only to be reappointed in 1896. He held portfolios in several cabinets but his most significant contributions both provincially and federally were in agriculture. He was Instrumental in the founding of the Ontario Fruit growers Association, the Ontario Agricultural College and experimental farm and the Federal Agricultural Experimental Farms system. He was also responsible for the start of the elaborate agricultural drainage system in the vicinity of Chatham.