



# The Orangeman: The Life & Times of Ogle Gowan

*Donald Akenson*

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## **The Orangeman: The Life & Times of Ogle Gowan** Donald Akenson

Ogle Gowan - the Irish upstart who turned Ontario Orange - was a self-seeking, treacherous scoundrel who brought his tattered reputation to the raw frontier of Upper Canada, and built the powerful Protestant machine that shaped Canadian history for more than one hundred years.

Ogle Gowan was a bastard, a bigot and a brawler, yet his silver-tongued oratory and ruthless political skills made him more than a match for his enemies. Whether crossing swords with the fiery William Lyon Mackenzie or pub-crawling with the young John A. Macdonald he remained, always, slightly larger than life.

Don Akenson draws on his talents as both an historian and a novelist to bring the brutal politics of nineteenth-century Ireland and Canada to unforgettable life. In *The Orangeman* he gives us an extraordinary portrait of a political parvenu whose behaviour was a scandal in his own time, and who left an indelible mark on Canadian history.

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