

CHAPTER III.

THE SECRETARY AND HIS FRIEND THE INVENTOR. A CLASSICAL CHAPTER.

Heu ! domus antiqua !

Quam dispari dominaris domino !—Horace.

Three members of the old Irish family of Gwynne were long well known in Canadian professional circles.

John Wellington Gwynne, son of Rev. William Gwynne, D.D., of Dublin, was, from the 12th of November, 1868, to the 14th of January, 1879, a Judge of the Common Pleas; he was then transferred to the Supreme Court at Ottawa where he passed away but a few months since full of years and of honour. His brother, Dr. Gwynne, came to Toronto with him and practised here for many years successfully. He was professor of anatomy and kindred subjects in the University in the forties. His skill, happiness of expression and progressive spirit made him deservedly esteemed.

Hugh Nelson Gwynne, another brother, was a scholar of Trinity College, Dublin, and for a time a master in Upper Canada College.

In 1840 he became Secretary and Librarian of the Law Society and so continued for thirty-two years. He was also sub-treasurer and examiner of the students under the direction of the Benchers.

Mr. Gwynne was of more than medium stature, his fine head crowned with snow-white hair, which protruded from under a russet wig. He was clean shaven, observant, and ready in reply