

and exhibits two separate coats of arms in the book of heraldry. My mother, whose maiden name was Lamira Dow, was, I think, of Irish extraction on her mother's side and of Scotch on her father's, so you see we have pretty nearly the whole British Empire at our backs. My grandfather was a Dr. Elkanah Billings who settled near Brockville and practised there until he died. My father was born in the State of Massachusetts and my mother in the State of New York."

Elkanah Billings, our esteemed associate for so many years, was born at the family homestead, on the fifth of May, 1820. His first teacher was a governess (Miss Burrit) his next a family tutor named Maitland, and he afterwards went to three small schools in the neighbourhood kept respectively by Messrs. Colquhoun, Collins and Fairfield. In 1832 the youth was placed at the Rev. D. Turner's school in Bytown as a day pupil, and after a four years' interval, during which he remained at home on the farm, his parents sent him in 1837 to the St. Lawrence Academy at Potsdam in the State of New York, of which the Rev. Asa Brainard was principal.

On leaving this institution Mr. Billings entered the Law Society of Upper Canada as a student in 1839 and was articled to Mr. James McIntosh, a barrister in Bytown. Mr. McIntosh died in the same year and was succeeded by Mr. Augustus Keefer, with whom Mr. Billings remained for nearly four years; and it appears that he was for a short time also in the office of the late Mr. George Byron Lyon Fellowes, in the same town. In 1843 he went to Toronto and studied for a twelvemonth longer with the legal firm of Baldwin & Wilson, and was admitted to practice as an attorney in the fall of 1844. Soon after this he returned to Bytown and entered into partnership with Mr. Christopher Armstrong, who was then one of the judges of the County Court, but a law having been passed prohibiting judges from pleading, the partnership was dissolved after having lasted only six months.

In the summer of 1845 Mr. Billings went to Toronto where, having first been called to the bar, he married a sister of Mr. Adam Wilson, the junior partner of the firm previously mentioned, now the Hon. Judge Wilson. From August 1845 until about the end of 1848 he practiced his profession in Bytown partly alone and partly in partnership with Mr. Robert Hervey. In 1849 he removed to Renfrew, and remained there, still practico-