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ARCHIBALD MACALLUM, M.A., LL.B.,  
LATE INSPECTOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS, HAMILTON.

There are few names that have been so long known to the teachers of Ontario as that which stands at the head of this sketch. For more than thirty years Mr. Macallum occupied a prominent position among the teachers of this Province, and now that his labor is done he will be missed as an earnest promoter of all that was calculated to advance the best interests of education.

Mr. Macallum was born at Point Fortune, on the Ottawa River, in 1824, and died after a lingering illness of several months on the 30th ult. For the first twelve years of his life he had not the advantages of a thorough Canadian education, as he spoke only the Gaelic language during that period. His advancement

was very marked, however, when he had the opportunity of attending school. He first entered the lumber business, which was the great trade of his native district, but continued to make manly efforts to secure an education. He afterwards entered into business in Montreal. He remained there only a short time, as his ardent desire to be a teacher soon led him to devote himself to what eventually became his life work. He entered the Toronto Normal School, and obtained in its ninth session the first First-Class Certificate ever granted by the Department. He was soon appointed to the position of Principal of the Provincial Model School in connection with the institution in which he had received his training. Nothing could more fully show the high esteem in which he was held by the instructors of the school, and by Dr. Ryerson, who at that time took a direct personal interest in the welfare of the Normal and Model Schools. He remained in Toronto until the year 1858, when he removed to Hamilton to take charge of the Public Schools of that city, as the successor of Dr. Sangster. He was Principal of the Central School until the passing of the School Law of 1871, when the name of his office was changed to Public School Inspector. For twenty-one years he remained at the head of the school system of Hamilton, and its citizens had great reason to be satisfied with the marked progress of the schools under his charge. The large number of flags flying "at half-mast," and the universal regret manifested on the occasion of his funeral, showed how his work has been, and is, appreciated by those among whom he has so long lived and laboured. Hamilton mourns for him as for one of its most honored fathers. To the

present generation of its citizens he has been in many respects more than a father.

Mr. Macallum did not cease to be a student when he became a teacher. In 1864 he took the degree of B.A. in Toronto University. He obtained his M.A. in 1866, and LL.B. in 1877.

In 1878 he wrote an English Literature Primer for use in the Fourth Classes of the schools of his native Province. Its merit is clearly shown by the manner in which it has been received by his fellow teachers; it having within one year run through five editions.

It was not only as a noble worker in his chosen profession that he was known and valued in the city which had so long been his home. He was a willing worker in every good cause. The following selection from the beautiful and appropriate remarks of his

pastor, Rev. Mr. Williams, at his funeral, truly define the relationships which he held to his fellow-citizens:—"He being dead yet speaketh." Good men never die. Their bodies may die; but they live on—live in the words they have spoken, in the acts they have performed, and in the precious memories they have engraven on the hearts of those they have left behind them. Our departed brother still speaks to us—speaks of the power which a man has of endowment naturally. Largely self-educated, self-developed, our brother brought to bear, with intellectual life, strong moral and mental life. He has left his impress on society generally, as one who has taken God's gifts as they were given to him, and made them grand and glorious and mighty in self-development. He speaks to us powerfully by the influence of his meek and quiet spirit. Very quietly did Mr. Macallum pass on life's pathway. No harshness fell from



his lips. As the sun builds the flowers, and works its mission quietly, so did our departed friend move in and out of his home, in the church and in the world—working out quietly, gently and beautifully, all the resources of a life grand in its symmetry and perfect in its material beauty. To young men there is the lesson from his life to be gained, that the most extensive and varied scientific knowledge may be combined with piety. We miss him in the church. You, dear friends, will miss him here. Quietly he passed up the church aisles; quietly he helped others to feel at home in the church. But these quiet steps are now passing along the golden streets. . . . How his family will miss him! He was a quiet, gentle, loving father and a kind husband. He was ever ready to give place to others, and yield