

A few months later, in reply to a special note of inquiry from Dr. Ryerson, of Toronto, Chief Superintendent of Education, as to Mr. Cockburn's Latin scholarship, Dr. Schmitz said, that "all the points stated in Mr. Cockburn's testimonial in reference to his scholarship, apply in the same, if not in a higher degree to Latin as to Greek, and that he regarded Mr. Cockburn as one of the best Latin scholars that Scotland has produced." It is enough to say that the expectations raised by such testimonials have been fully realized in the successful career of our subject.

Principal Cockburn is a member of the Church of England, and a Christian gentleman of the purest type. In 1866 he married Mary, sole surviving daughter of Hampden Zane and Emily St. Aubert Churchill Zane, and thus became connected with two of the oldest and most influential families in Virginia and Kentucky, many members of which have been prominent Southern politicians and leading members of the Legislature.

DAVID BLAIN, LL.D.,

TORONTO.

DAVID BLAIN, ex-member of Parliament for the constituency of West York, Ont., is a native of Scotland, and was born on Brown Carrick-hill, near Ayr, on the 15th of August, 1832. The Blain family were originally French, but sometime during the early wars between France and England, they settled on the border lands between Scotland and England, whence descendants have spread to different parts of the world. The grandfather of our subject spelled the name Blaine, and the final e is still retained by some branches of the family. David Blain was the fourth of six sons, his father being John Blain, J. P., a manufacturer of agricultural implements in Ayrshire, Scotland, but who came to this country in 1842, to engage in farming and obtain lands for his boys. He located first in King, County of York, Ont., but subsequently removed to South Easthope, Perth, and later to Stratford, in the same province, where he died in 1870. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Elizabeth McCutcheon, of a well-known Scotch family of that name. David Blain received his primary education at his native place, and at the Provincial Normal School, Toronto, obtaining a first-class certificate from the latter school; afterwards entered the University of Toronto, whence he was graduated in 1860, taking the degree of LL.B. In 1870 he received from the same institution his degree of LL.D. In 1856, he became a student-at-law with Alexander Macdonald, of Messrs. Macdonald and Brother, and was called to the Bar, U. C., in Trinity term, 1860. Immediately commenced the practice of his profession in Toronto, first alone, and subsequently in partnership with the late Albert Prince; later he became the senior member of the law firm of Messrs. Blain, Ferguson and Parkinson, and remained such until he retired from practice in 1868. At the