

the construction of the Wellington, Grey & Bruce, Hamilton & Lake Erie, and Hamilton & North-Western Railways. He was also chairman of the building committee, under which the present court house was erected, and lent material aid in providing a suitable building. In the year 1889 Mr. O'Reilly was appointed by the city council its representative on the free library board, and in the year 1890 was elected chairman of the board, of which he still continues a member. He joined the Masonic Order about thirty years ago, is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and of the Royal Templars of Temperance, and was one of the original organizers of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society in Hamilton. In religion he is a Protestant and a member of the Church of England. On Sept. 4th, 1862, Mr. O'Reilly married Emilia Sophia Dundas Maingay, a lineal descendant of the Bruce family, so renowned in Scottish history, and has issue seven children—six daughters and one son—all of whom are living. In his public and official career, as well as in private life, Mr. O'Reilly's course has been singularly free from reproach, and there are few who possess in a higher degree the confidence and esteem of the people.

#### DAVID McLELLAN,

*Hamilton, Ont.*

IN the pages of Canadian biography the name of David McLellan, of the city of Hamilton, is for many reasons well worthy a place, and a sketch of his career, however brief, cannot but be of especial interest to Canadians. David McLellan was born in Toronto, Jan. 11th, 1841. His father, Malcolm McLellan, was born in Islay, Argyshire, Scotland, and his mother, whose maiden name was Agnes Bennett, was also a native of the "land o' the heather," having been born in Glasgow. Many years ago they came to Canada and settled in Toronto. There were twelve children born in the family, of whom the subject of our sketch was the ninth. Up to the age of fourteen young David was a diligent student at the public schools, and thus acquired something more than the rudiments of a good English education. After spending some four years in the employ of Robert Walker & Sons in his native city, he went to Buffalo, and thence to Louisville, Ky., from which place he was summoned to the death-bed of his brother James. Having made up his mind to remain in Canada, he entered the employ of Robt. H. Gray, by whom, after several years' faithful service, he was taken into partnership, and was sent to open a branch of the business in Hamilton, in which city he arrived on St. Andrew's Day, 1871. Since that time Mr. McLellan's career

has been of such a prosperous nature as men of his sterling qualities merit and deserve. In December, 1877, he retired from the firm with which he had been so long connected, having been appointed agent of the Royal Insurance Company of England. This business he has carried on successfully ever since, and now has full charge of a district. He also represents the Dominion Plate Glass Insurance Co'y, and is agent for the Dominion Steamship Co'y. But it is in connection with public matters that David McLellan is best known, and surely his record for the past twenty years in this respect is a most creditable one. Possessed of a right manly spirit, and having at heart the welfare of the city in which he resides, he has been indefatigable in his efforts to promote the progress of her institutions, and the advancement of every good cause. The first public office held by Mr. McLellan was that of member of the School Board, to which he was elected in 1875, when the city was divided into seven wards. At the end of the year he went on a trip to Great Britain, and during his absence he was elected alderman. This position he held for the ensuing three years, during the latter two of which he was chairman of the Market, Fire and Police committee, and in connection with which he was instrumental in bringing about many important improvements. In 1879 he retired from the council and returned to the Board of Education, where he remained continuously for nine years. During this period he was for three years—'80, '81 and '85—chairman of the Finance Committee; in 1882 he was chairman of the Internal Management Committee, and in the following year he was chairman of the Board. In 1888 and 1889 he was again a member of the Aldermanic Board, and in 1890 he was first elected mayor by a pronounced majority, a position to which he was re-elected in 1891 by acclamation, and one which he well and worthily filled during his term of office. As an evidence of his popularity, it may be remarked that twice when running for alderman and once for mayor, he headed the polls—on the last-named occasion receiving the highest vote ever given any candidate in the city. But while devoting attention to civic and educational matters, the benefit of Mr. McLellan's assistance in connection with other matters affecting the public weal was not lacking. He always took a great interest in the U. C. Bible Society, of which he filled the office of President and Secretary, and is now one of the Vice-Presidents. He has been for three years a director of the Y. M. C. A., and is filling his third year as Treasurer of the institution. He is a life member and director of the Hamilton Art School, and also of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,