

necessity of applying the English principle of responsibility to the Executive. Glenelg, of course, did not permit Mr. Baldwin to be admitted to his presence, he being a Colonist, and not a Crown tool; but he allowed him to address him in writing. Mr. Baldwin's claim for Executive responsibility, his "one idea," as the Tories jeeringly called it, found a powerful advocate in Lord Durham; and it may be said that the publication of the Earl's report was the doom-sound of the oligarchical system. Yet responsibility did not come for many a weary year after this. Lord Metcalf, after the resignation of the Baldwin-Lafontaine Cabinet in November, was nine months without a Ministry. He had declared that he would only consult his advisers on "adequate occasions." Mr. Baldwin was first sworn in an Executive Councillor, on Feb. 18th, 1836; and in 1840 he became Solicitor-General in Mr. Draper's Cabinet. In 1842, he became Premier and Attorney-General for Upper Canada, in the Baldwin-Lafontaine Administration, and this position he maintained till his rupture with Metcalf the following year. He resumed office again in 1848, the date of the virtual downfall of the Tory fabric. In 1851, he quitted ministerial life for ever. His death took place at his residence, Spadina, near Toronto, on the 9th of December, 1858. Mr. Baldwin married a sister of the Hon. Robert Sullivan, who bore him several children. Robert Baldwin was a moderate Reformer, capable of progress to a certain limit, but incapable of it beyond that point. The vital principle of government, however, that of giving the governing power into the hands of a majority of the people, he devoted his life to advocate, and this, in the eyes of history, makes amends for his attitude towards the question of the Clergy Reserves. He was not a fluent speaker, but he was a convincing one, and although he never flattered, and had not the gift of geniality and *bonhomie*, all who knew him in private life or politically were one in regarding him as a sincere patriot, and a worthy high-minded man.

Blake, The Hon. Edward, Q.C., eldest son of William Hume Blake, was born at Bear Creek, now known respectively as Cairngorm, Katesville and Mount Hope, in the County of Middlesex, Upper Canada, on the 13th of October, 1833. He was christened Dominick Edward, after his paternal grandfather, but the first part of the name was never practically adopted. When Edward was only a few months old, his father, tired of the privations and hardships incident to

a life in the backwoods, removed to Toronto, which was thereafter to be the dwelling-place of the gifted and high-minded Liberal statesman. When a very young lad, Edward Blake is said to have given evidence of the great mental powers that he was afterwards to bring to the service of his country. He was a rapid and omnivorous reader, and is said to have had unusual capacity for assimilation, and also an excellent memory. The family lived at Woodlawn, a tasteful and comfortable residence on Yonge Street, and there Edward Blake received his early education. He was instructed by a private tutor; and this was supplemented by the supervision of his classical studies by his excellent father. On Sunday evenings it was the wont of William Hume Blake to cause his sons to read aloud to him from the Scriptures and the sacred poets; and in this way Edward, at an early age, acquired the clearness and accuracy in delivery which are so prominent now in his public speaking. Mr. Courtenay was Edward's first tutor, and this instructor was succeeded by Messrs. Wedd & Brown, who afterwards became teachers in Upper Canada College. The latter institution he entered in his eleventh year, and at this time it is said he had read and digested a number of books. Among his classmates he did not stand conspicuously superior, but his mental parts were solid, and of that class which watchful masters say will endure. To get his lesson was a slight effort; so extraordinary was his memory that he could announce early in the evening that his tasks were completed, and he was prepared to read aloud. After some time, as the business of Edward's father increased, the family moved into the city, taking up their abode in the house on the south of Wellington and Bay Streets, and on the site occupied now by Messrs. Wyld, Brock & Co. When Edward was in his fourteenth year, he accompanied his father to the mother country, after which they visited Paris. After his return Master Blake again applied himself diligently to his studies, and was a successful competitor for the Governor-General's prize, for which he was complimented by Lord Elgin. He subsequently entered the Toronto University and duly graduated. His inclination being for the legal profession, he was articled to Mr. Alexander Macdonnell; was admitted as an Attorney in Trinity Term, 1856, and the following Michaelmas Term was called to the bar. He carried on business for some time alone, and then entered into