

From Dr. Whiteaves's obituary notice of Elkanah Billings the following extracts are made :

"Elkanah Billings, our esteemed associate for so many years, was born at the family homestead on the 8th of May, 1820. His first teacher was a governess, Miss Burritt, his next a family tutor named Maitland, and he afterwards went to three small schools in the neighborhood kept respectively by Messrs. Colquhoun, Collins and Fairfield. In 1832 the youth was placed at Rev. D. Turner's school in Bytown as a day pupil, and after 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 Brainerd 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 1845 Mr. Billings married a Toronto lady, a sister of the Hon. Judge Adam Wilson. Between 1845 and 1848 he practised law in Bytown, having been called to the Bar in 1845. In 1849, however, he removed to Renfrew, where he practised his profession until June, 1852, when he returned to Bytown where most of his time was engaged in journalistic and scientific pursuits. He occupied the editorial chair of "The Citizen" from the fall of 1852 until late in 1855. Many of Mr. Billings's leading articles in "The Citizen" of those days comprised popular disquisitions on geological topics and natural history subjects, which served to indicate