

and five girls—of whom two boys and four girls are still living. As a youth, Henry Binkley received for a time such schooling as was available in the country districts in those days, and at an early age he had to take his share of work on the farm. On reaching his majority, he agreed with his father to work the farm on shares, and this arrangement he continued for several years, when he purchased 200 acres of it for \$5,000. This he augmented on the death of his father, in April, 1852, by purchasing the family homestead and outbuildings for \$3,350, by which he became possessor of 117 acres of excellent land, which he has since retained. While engaged in agricultural pursuits he was always industrious and thrifty, and thus he reaped merited success. But while giving the requisite amount of attention to his private affairs, he, for a number of years, took a hearty interest in public matters. He was elected a councillor in his native township in 1859, as well as in the following two years. He also served in that capacity during 1875 and 1876, besides filling the position of deputy reeve, doing good service for his constituents. He has also been a justice of the peace for many years, and has frequently served on the bench in Dundas and other places. In politics he is, like his ancestors, a staunch Reformer, and fought strongly against the old family compact, though, at the time of the rebellion of 1837, his brothers were out with the militia on the loyalist side. This was different from 1812, as Mr. Binkley humorously remarks, when his father and two uncles, John and George Binkley, were confined in the guard-house at Niagara for six weeks because they refused to take the oath of allegiance to Great Britain. In religion, Mr. Binkley is a Presbyterian, and is connected with the church of that denomination in Dundas, though brought up a Methodist. On March 15th, 1849, he married Marilla, daughter of the late Lewis Smith, of Glanford, and has had issue ten children, of whom three boys and two girls are still living. These are Hiram, the eldest, who lives at the homestead; Lewis H., who married a daughter of Mr. Henry McNally, of Waterloo township; Martha M. (Mrs. Geo. Smoke, of Hamilton); Phoebe L. (Mrs. Frank Lennard, of Dundas); and James, who resides at home. In closing this notice, a brief reference may be made to Mr. Hiram Binkley, who has from early youth been an able assistant to his father. He now owns and works the farm of 145 acres, operating extensively in market gardening and dealing in produce on a large scale. He also engages extensively in the real estate business, and with signal success in every transaction. Like his father, he is also well known as an honourable and upright man, with excellent prospects for the future.

DONALD J. O'BRIEN,

Hamilton, Ont.

DONALD JOSEPH O'BRIEN, Fellow of the Society of Science, Letters and Art, London, England; Fellow of the College of Organists for Canada, and Principal of the Hamilton College of Music, of which he was the founder, is well-known, and has a high reputation in musical circles throughout Ontario. He was born at Burlington Heights, adjoining Hamilton, Feb. 3rd, 1854, his parents having emigrated from Ireland to Canada some years before. He was educated at St. Michael's College, Toronto, which he attended a number of years, and acquired such proficiency in classics and music, that in the beginning of 1869 he was enabled to take a position as instructor in a college in Louisville, Ohio. After managing there a year, he went to France for the purpose of studying medicine. In a short time, however, his love of music predominated, and for nearly two years he gave his whole attention to that science, studying with eminent professors at the "gay capital," and making excellent progress. His stay in Paris being cut short by the Franco-German war, he returned to Canada in December, 1871, coming directly to Hamilton. On his arrival, he was installed as organist in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, which position he has filled with the greatest possible credit to himself, and to the complete satisfaction of the members of the congregation. In the early part of 1890 he was appointed musical director of St. Mary's choir, entirely reconstructing it, and ultimately placing it on such a footing that at the present time it is second to no other church choir in the province. Mr. O'Brien's musical talent and ability as a leader and instructor has long been recognized as of a high order, and the justness of this estimate has been repeatedly attested by the successes he has achieved. He was a leading member of the Hamilton Philharmonic Society while Mr. Torrington was conductor, and during one year he was vice-president. Since his return to Hamilton, in 1871, he has been constantly engaged in teaching, and the fact that he has numbered among his pupils some of the leading professional musicians of Canada and the United States, speaks much in praise of his skill. In 1889, he established the Hamilton College of Music, an outgrowth of the Hamilton Musical Institute, and under his directorship it has already attained a position in the front rank among the institutions of this class in the Dominion, its reputation for thoroughness being a marked feature. The faculty of the college is composed of highly accomplished musicians, all of whom are eminently qualified to give instruction in their special branches.