

has strongly supported protection to native industry as opposed to commercial union or unrestricted reciprocity. In religion, he is a Protestant, being a member of the First Presbyterian Church. In February, 1863, he married Allie Anne, daughter of James Harris, of St. Catharines. By this union he has had issue nine children—six sons and three daughters—of whom all but three sons are still living. Personally, Mr. Patterson is a man of the most genial disposition, affable, courteous and generous, and held in high esteem by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

#### C. DONOVAN, M.A.,

*Hamilton, Ont.*

CORNELIUS DONOVAN, M.A., Inspector of Separate Schools for the Province of Ontario, is a life-long resident of Hamilton, in which city he was born, Oct. 16th, 1847. His parents, Patrick Donovan, and his wife, Mary Ann McCarthy, were both natives of historic Bantry, in the County of Cork, Ireland. They came to Canada just three weeks prior to the birth of the subject of this sketch. From his childhood, he developed a strong taste for literary pursuits, and the success he has since achieved in this direction reflects high credit upon himself. Not only does this evidence natural ability far above the average but an energy and determination sufficient to overcome all disadvantages with which he had to contend in acquiring, first, an education, and afterwards a position in life. He attended St. Patrick's Separate School until he was about fifteen years old, after which he was apprenticed to the printing trade in the office of the *Hamilton Times*. Prior to this he had for some time been a carrier boy in the employment of this newspaper. Altogether he spent twelve years in the *Times*' establishment, during the last five of which he was foreman of the job department. Through all this period his leisure moments were devoted to private study, and, as subsequent events showed, he made good progress. In 1873, he left the *Times* office to take charge of St. Patrick's School, having previously taken a 1st class A certificate (provincial), for which he had prepared himself entirely without assistance. He remained at the head of St. Patrick's until 1875, when he was appointed head master over all the separate schools of the city. In this position he continued to labour until the fall of 1883, when ill health compelled him to resign. While engaged in teaching, he had kept up his private reading, with the result that between 1877 and 1881 he passed the necessary examinations at Toronto University and obtained the degrees of B.A. and M.A.,

graduating with honours. After withdrawing from teaching, Mr. Donovan spent the winter of 1883-84, in Colorado, and on his return, in April of the latter year, he was appointed Provincial Inspector, a position for which his practical experience as a teacher, his high literary attainments, and his deep interest in the cause of education, rendered him eminently fitted, and the duties of which he still discharges with great ability as well as with decided advantage to the separate school system of the Province. Since connecting himself with educational affairs he has had numerous offers of positions which would have been of greater financial advantage to him; but these he has steadfastly refused, preferring to use his energies in advancing the cause of education. As Inspector, he is distinguished for his untiring efforts to increase the efficiency of the schools. At one time it appeared as if Mr. Donovan would turn his attention entirely to newspaper enterprise. While working at the printing business he acquired a knowledge of shorthand, and he frequently acted in the capacity of reporter, while occasionally contributing original articles to the local press. Before entering upon the teaching profession, he published for a year a monthly periodical called *The Lamp*, which was chiefly devoted to Catholic literature; having an intense love for the land of his forefathers he was in the habit of issuing on anniversary occasions, such as St. Patrick's Day, special papers dealing with the history, traditions and current events in Ireland. Subsequently he published *The Harp*, the contents of which consisted principally of literature of an Irish character, but this also he was compelled to abandon owing to ill health. In this connection it may be mentioned that he was for a long period correspondent of the *Catholic Record* of London, and his "Clancahill" letters in the *Hamilton Times* attracted wide attention. In 1875, he visited Europe and spent three months, chiefly in Ireland, assisting at the O'Connell Centennial celebration that year. In the following year he travelled considerably in the United States, visiting several of the battle grounds of the civil war, and his description of his experience on both these trips formed a series of highly interesting letters. In various affairs of a local character in Hamilton, Mr. Donovan has for years taken considerable interest. He assisted in founding the Printers' Union, of which he was president for a term, and in the old days he was president of the St. Patrick's Society and leader of the band for a considerable period. He was also secretary of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, a leading member of the Catholic Literary Society, and was president of the Trades Assembly during its existence in 1872, and it stands to his credit that he did