

was a conductor on the Great Western railway. The old gentleman died in 1878, while Mrs. Blaicher is still living at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. The latter comes of a good old Scottish family, three brothers of whom came out from Argyshire, Scotland, in the early settlement of New Brunswick, to engage in lumbering, and of one of these she is a descendant. Young Peter Blaicher was educated at the public school, and in 1854 he commenced teaching in Seneca township, Haldimand, having obtained a first-class Co. Board certificate. This he subsequently replaced with a second-class Provincial, and finally with a first-class grade A, at the Normal school, Toronto, the last qualifying him for the position of public school inspector. Mr. Blaicher spent, in all, thirteen years teaching, and in each place in which he taught he won the highest encomiums for the ability he displayed in his profession. In 1865 he abandoned teaching in favour of commerce, and entered the drug business. This he has followed ever since, the whole period, with the exception of about two years, being spent in Hamilton. His business career has been uniformly successful, and he occupies a high place in social and commercial circles. Mr. Blaicher's active connection with public affairs in the city dates back to 1879, when he was elected member of the Board of Education, in which position he did good service for several years, the work being one for which his long experience as a teacher rendered him eminently fit. In 1880 he was elected alderman for No. 2 ward. He continued on the board until the end of 1887. During five years of this period he was chairman of the Hospital Committee, and it is to his credit that under his management the present city hospital with its excellent service was established. In 1888 he was a candidate for the mayoralty, but was defeated by thirty-two votes in a triangular contest. Again, in 1890 he was elected alderman for his old ward, and once more (by acclamation) in 1891, serving during the two years as chairman of finance, a most important position in a city like Hamilton. In 1892, the present year, he was elected mayor of the city. He has been a member of the Masonic body (blue) over thirty years, and has gone through most of the chairs. He also belongs to the A.O.U.W., being a charter member of Dixon Lodge. Naturally he has taken an active part in the Hamilton Pharmaceutical Society, of which he has filled the office of president for a number of years. In politics, he has always been a staunch supporter of the Liberal-Conservative party, and one of its hardest workers, and it was only by the narrow minority of one vote that he failed to receive the party nomination for the Dominion Parliament in 1891. In religion,

Mr. Blaicher is a member of the Church of England, though without a particle of bigotry towards other denominations. In 1861 he married Jenima, daughter of the late James Biggar, of Trafalgar, the union having been a most happy one. His only daughter, Clara, a highly accomplished lady, was married in 1883 to Mr. S. N. Sterling, formerly a well-known Hamilton merchant, and now member of the firm of Sterling Bros., London, Ont. He has also two sons, who are at present pursuing their studies at Bishop Ridley College, St. Catharines. In private life, Mr. Blaicher is known as a man of generous nature and the strictest integrity of character, and as such he is highly esteemed by all classes.

HON. C. E. CASGRAIN, M.D.,

*Windsor, Ont.*

HON. CHARLES EUSEBE CASGRAIN, C.M., M.D., member of the Dominion Senate, was born in the city of Quebec, August 5th, 1825, and both on his father's and his mother's side is descended from old and distinguished French ancestry. His paternal ancestors belonged to an ancient family at Ervault, in Poutou, while through his mother he can claim connection with Jacques Babie de Ranville, an officer of the regiment of Carignan-Salieres, who landed in Quebec in 1665, and whose descendants of that name have occupied high and responsible positions in the country. His father was the late Hon. Chas. Eusebe Casgrain, a lawyer in Quebec, who represented Cornwallis in the Lower Canada Assembly from 1830 to 1834, was a member of the Special Council of Lower Canada from 1838 to 1840, and at the time of his death held the office of assistant-commissioner of public works. His mother was Anne Elizabeth, daughter of the late Hon. James Baby, at one time Speaker of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. The subject of our sketch received a classical education at the College of St. Anne's, Quebec, afterwards taking a complete medical course at McGill University, Montreal, where he graduated in 1851 as Master of Surgery and Doctor of Medicine. In the course of the same year he began the practice of his profession in Detroit, where he remained until 1856, when, at the request of the people of Windsor, he removed to the latter place and took up his permanent residence. Shortly afterwards he was appointed coroner and jail surgeon for the county of Essex, which positions he still holds. During all these years Mr. Casgrain has lived an energetic and useful life, and in every way has proved himself a model citizen. On the formation of the Essex battalion in 1860, he was gazetted captain of the Sandwich com-