

and succeeded Mr David Maclagan in the convenership of its Continental Committee.

Mr Brown Douglas devoted a great deal of time and attention to some aspects of philanthropy which do not bulk largely in the public eye, but are full of good to many. He was for forty years president of the District Sick Society. He took an active share in the Society for Teaching the Blind in their own houses, in the Indigent Old Men's Society, and other kindred institutions—bringing, as director or as member, to their affairs sound practical wisdom, excellent business habits, wide views, keen sympathy, and helpful liberality.

Mr Brown Douglas was twice married—first in 1845, to Mary, second daughter of the late Charles Maitland Christie, Esq. of Durie, and again, in 1852, to Marianne, second daughter of the late Hon. Alexander Leslie Melville, who, with four sons and six daughters, survives him.

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DAVID MACLAGAN, F.R.S.E. By Professor Duns, D.D.

David Maclagan was born in Edinburgh on the 9th of October 1824. His father, Dr Maclagan, a distinguished physician, had retired from the Army Medical Service after a noted career, and had settled down to a highly successful civil practice in Edinburgh. His mother was Miss Whiteside of Ayr. David was the fourth of seven sons, six of whom survive—Professor Douglas Maclagan, M.D., Dr Philip Whiteside Maclagan, Berwick-on-Tweed, General Maclagan, R.E., William Dalrymple Maclagan, Lord Bishop of Lichfield, John Thomson Maclagan, Secretary of the Church of Scotland's Widows' Fund, and Dr J. M'Grigor Maclagan, Riding Mill-on-Tyne. Mr Maclagan was educated at the Edinburgh High School. He began business life in the office of "The Scottish Union Insurance Company," and was appointed manager of "The Insurance Company of Scotland" in 1847. He was an original member of the Society of Accountants, a body which was incorporated by charter in 1854. Mr Maclagan removed to London in 1862, on his appointment as secretary to "The Alliance Fire and Life Insurance Company." In this position, his business associations

brought him into close relations with the Rothschilds, Mr Goschen, Sir Moses Montefiore, and other well-known financiers. His acquaintanceship with Sir Moses soon ripened into intimate and lasting friendship. Mr Maclagan returned to Edinburgh in 1866, and entered on the managership of the Edinburgh Life Assurance Company, an office which he retained till his death on the 30th of March 1883, at Mentone, whither, for health's sake, he had gone to spend the winter. In 1848 Mr Maclagan married Miss Jane Finlay, who, with five sons, still survives.

On his return to his native city he threw himself with great heartiness and zeal into religious and philanthropic work. He was one of the most earnest promoters of the Apprentice School Association, a society which at the time did much good, both by supplying the means of education to a much neglected class, and also by leading the way to better arrangements for the same purpose. Mr Maclagan was elected a Fellow of this Society in 1872.

A man of academic tastes, fond of literature, the intimate friend of many engaged in literary and scientific work, and himself earnestly interested in the growth of knowledge, he yet found himself, in a great measure, precluded from practical literary effort by the onerous duties of his business position, and the devotion to work necessary to success in his profession. He had, however, as a relaxation and a delight, early cultivated the habit of the pen, and he has left good evidence of his scholarly accomplishments, intellectual vigour, and fine taste. From boyhood almost Mr Maclagan had taken great interest in Scottish religious and ecclesiastical movements. The stirring events which preceded and immediately followed the Scottish Church crisis of 1843 greatly influenced him. He entered into them with an earnestness and fervour in strong contrast with his wonted quiet and placid habits of thought. And though some rough points of his churchism may have afterwards been a good deal smoothed down, there was not, through life, any abatement of his early enthusiasm and zeal. Yet few men were freer from sectarian narrowness. His toleration for the views of others was as characteristic of him as the firmness with which he held his own. The writer, as Secretary of the Free Church College Committee, was associated for more than ten years with Mr Maclagan in work in which he had good opportunity to observe the breadth and the balance of his well-

stored mind, the singular wisdom of his counsel, his sound judgment, and practical sagacity. Mr Maclagan was for many years a member of this Committee, and the Convener of its Finance Sub-Committee by which the Committee itself is guided in its administration of College property and finance. Reference is made to this to indicate the great business ability, tact, and shrewdness which Mr Maclagan brought to bear on it. Mr Maclagan was also for several years Convener of the Free Church's Continental Committee—an office which had been previously held by Sheriff Jameson, and, later, by Sheriff Cleghorn. He was an effective public speaker, and never spoke on any question of interest but when he had something to say, while his utterances were always clear, pointed, earnest, and telling. Notwithstanding the engrossment of business life, he did a good deal of literary work, mostly of a biographical kind. His last effort was a brief, but hearty, appreciative notice of his friend the late Mr Samuel Raleigh, written at the request of the Council of this Society. The death of Mr Maclagan was the removal from a wide circle of friends, and from the Fellows of this Society, of an accomplished Christian gentleman. In his able and touching "Memorial Sketch" of Thomas Cleghorn, "one of his dearest and truest friends," Mr Maclagan wrote of Sheriff Jameson in terms singularly applicable to himself:—"A mind well cultivated, and always fresh in thought and feeling—a decision in religious matters, thorough and uncompromising, united with a large toleration of the views of others—characterised him; while he was a lover of all good men, and the blithest of companions in hours of relaxation and social fellowship."

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Dr JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH. By Professor Duns, D.D.

John Alexander Smith was born in Hope Street, Edinburgh, in June 1818. His father was the late James Smith, a well-known Edinburgh architect. Mr Smith was educated at the High School and the University of Edinburgh. While still a student he became a Fellow of the Royal Physical Society. He graduated in medicine in 1840, was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1847, a Fellow of this Society in 1863, a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 1865, and succeeded the late Dr