

FRANCIS BROWN DOUGLAS, Esq. By Professor Duns, D.D.

Francis Brown Douglas was born at Largs, Ayrshire, April 2, 1814. His father was Mr Archibald Douglas, advocate, Edinburgh, and his mother was a daughter of Dr Francis Brown of St Vincent. He was educated at the Edinburgh High School, and for a short time in England. In early youth he went to the West Indies, where he was soon called to undertake the management of family estates. On his return to Scotland he studied for the Scottish Bar, and was admitted an advocate in 1837. He practised at the Bar for a short time only. Having an ample private fortune, he felt himself at full liberty to follow pursuits to him more congenial than the hard work of his profession, and accordingly he devoted his time and energy earnestly to municipal, philanthropic, and religious work. He was elected a Fellow of this Society in 1839. A man of general culture, he was intimately acquainted with several branches of current literature, and took a warm interest in public education. He was elected a member of the Edinburgh School Board when it was formed in 1872, and continued to serve in it till last election. Mr Brown Douglas entered the Edinburgh Town Council in 1850, and, after having acted as a magistrate for several years, he was chosen Lord Provost of the city in 1859. Two events occurred in the course of his Lord Provostship which may be mentioned, viz., the passing of the Annuity Tax Act, and the laying of the foundation stones of the New Post Office and the National Museum by the Prince Consort. Mr Brown Douglas was a Liberal in politics. He stood for the representation of the city in 1856, but was defeated. Later, he became a candidate for the St Andrews Burghs, but was again unsuccessful.

It was, however, chiefly in connection with religious and philanthropic work that he stood prominently out before his fellow-citizens. For more than forty years his name was associated with almost all movements of this kind. He threw himself with great earnestness and zeal into the Scottish ecclesiastical controversies that characterised the decade ending in 1843. He continued till the time of his death in August 1885 to take the most active and cordial interest in the work of the Free Church, both at home and abroad,

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.

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