

DAVID A. BEATTIE, president of the board of education of Atlanta, Ga., is a native of Argyle, Washington Co., N. Y., having been born May 19, 1833. Until twenty years of age he resided in the place of his nativity, studying in the

Memoirs of Georgia, Fulton County Sketches (1895)

common schools and academy of Argyle, Hebron, and showing an aptitude for educational training that promised a future of rich returns. During 1853 he came south, located in Henry county, Ga., and for the succeeding five years taught school in Henry, Fayette and Newton counties. With a hope of increased financial prosperity he went to La Grange, Tenn., entered the mercantile business, and conducted the same with profit for several years. He was compelled to suspend when the hostilities of war became imminent, and thereupon engaged in general trading, which continued until the close of the civil conflict. Then Mr. Beattie returned to Georgia, settled in Atlanta, interested himself in the live stock business, and now follows that occupation. He was one of the initial promoters of the Union Stockyards Dairy and Manufacturing company, and held the presidency for one year. He was one of the original stockholders in the Capital City Land and Improvement company, and when this combine was succeeded by the Capital City bank, Mr. Beattie was chosen a director. He has been a distinguished factor in Atlanta's growth and improvement since the war. In the city council his efforts met with a hearty co-operation, and numerous improvements were completed. He served as a member of this body in 1873, again in 1875-76, 1881-82, 1885-86, and 1893-94, and is now the honored presiding officer of the board of education, having been elected to this board four separate times. His work for the developing of the public school system has been effectual and continued, and gathering for him friends and admirers by the score. Mr. Beattie belongs to the Presbyterian church, was superintendent of the Sunday school for a number of years, and after holding the office of deacon for many years, was elected elder, and fills that responsible position with a devout religious enthusiasm. Mr. Beattie was married, on August 30, 1860, in Newton county, Ga., to Mary Letitia, daughter of Alfred Livingston. Her father is still living at the age of ninety-two years. To this marriage were born seven children: John L., William D., Etta L., Edward B., James T., David L. and Nellie M. Mr. Beattie's father was John Beattie, born in the state of New York (1803) an officer in the war of 1812. His mother's maiden name was Hannah Lytle. His grandfather was a native of north Ireland, who emigrated to New York in his early manhood, and by thrift and perseverance made a record that posterity will envy.