

the most thoroughly trained man in all Canada for the Education department; and is the ablest and most thorough administrator of a public department of any man whom I have met. I think he has not been appreciated according to his merits; but should you create and fill the office of Minister of Public Instruction, you may safely confide the ordinary administration of the Education department to Dr. Hodgins, with the title of my office." Dr. Hodgins had laboured under Dr. Ryerson for thirty-three years; whence it will be seen how important the tribute is that we have reproduced. Dr. Hodgins is an extensive writer on educational topics. He is the author of "Lovell's General Geography," "First Steps in General Geography," "School History of Canada, and of the other British North American Provinces." He published likewise the "Canadian School Speaker and Reciter," the "School Manual," "Lectures on School Law," "Sketches and Anecdotes of the Queen," and "The School House." A very noted work of his too, was a "Report of the Educational Features of the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia." The writings of Dr. Hodgins are characterised by wide learning, accurate care, and profound consideration. His style is searching, clear and incisive, and you are never permitted to lose sight of the individuality of the man whose pages you are perusing. And what a charm this is in a writer. But the same fertile and restless pen has been busy in the periodical press on educational, historical, commercial and social topics, and always is the same power seen as we have just specified. Dr. Hodgins was one of the gentlemen under whose supervision the work "The Story of My life," by Dr. Ryerson, was published, and he is author of several papers on the life and labours of the late great educationist. There is one admirably written memoir in the *Canada School Journal*, and there is a pamphlet entitled "Ryerson Memorial," from the same sympathetic and capable pen. (See memoir of Dr. Ryerson elsewhere in these pages.) With respect to the value of the works contributed to educational literature by Dr. Hodgins, we may say that they are scarcely less important than the life-long service which he has devoted to practical education itself; and the highest authorities in the country, heads of the proper department and governors-general, have been frequent with testimony of commendation and of admiration. It is easy for us in these days, when the educational system is in a state of perfect

organization, and the wheels are turning of their own accord without jar or jolt, to underestimate what a task it was to create, from the incoherent fragments of the educational order that prevailed when Dr. Hodgins came upon the scene, the smoothly moving and harmonious system of to-day. Side by side with his great chief has Dr. Hodgins ever striven in the cause of education; and we have attributed so much to him, because upon his shoulders devolved for so long a period the actual and immediate administration of the department. In social life, Dr. Hodgins is genial; and he is a gentleman of great culture. In benevolent or Christian work he is at the front whenever the occasion arises. He has been secretary of the Bible Society since 1860, and of the Anglican Synod of the diocese of Toronto since 1870, except for one year; and he was president of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society in 1875. Dr. Hodgins married in 1840, at Dublin, Ireland, Frances Rachel, eldest daughter of James Doyle, of Cloyne, County of Cork, by which union he has four sons living. The eldest is in the department of Justice, at Ottawa; the third is a barrister at Toronto; the fourth is a mechanical engineer; and the fifth is an under graduate of Toronto University. The second son is dead. Dr. Hodgins took part in the formation of the Queen's Own Rifles, and was appointed lieutenant in that corps 14th March, 1862, and captain in No. 9 company, East Toronto, on the 8th March, 1869. He holds a second class certificate from the Military school, Toronto, dated the 8th September, 1866. In 1879 Dr. Hodgins received a decoration in gold, "Order of the Palm Leaf," from the French Minister of Public Instruction; in 1885 he was elected a "corresponding fellow of the Academy of Sciences," New Orleans; and in the same year he received from Lord Lansdowne a confederation medal, in appreciation of "Services as Public Officer and a Man of Letters."

Baker, Rev. J. Stammers, Port Hope. This able divine was born at Bandon, Ireland, in the year 1827, and he received his education at the school of Duke of Devonshire, Bandon. In 1861 he was ordained deacon, and in 1863 he received the order of priesthood. He was appointed by the Lord Bishop of Huron to Wyoming and the parts adjacent; and by Bishop Strachan as curate of St. James, Toronto. He afterwards became, in succession, incumbent of Cambellford, of Cookstown, and then rector of St. Marks, Port Hope.