

Education department, under Dr. Ryerson, and in 1858 succeeded Thomas Hodgins as chief clerk. He was entered, after examination, as a student and member of the Law Society, but his official duties did not allow his advance to the bar. He, however, proceeded to the degree of LL. B. in the University of Toronto. Mr. Marling joined the volunteer force at the time of the *Trent* affair, and was for some years a member of the Victoria rifles, and of the Queen's Own regiment from the formation of the battalion. He also passed through the military school under H. M. 47th regiment, and received the second class or captain's certificate. On the appointment of the Hon. Adam Crooks as first minister of Education, Mr. Marling was commissioned as secretary of the department, in the work of which he had gained a long and practical experience. He is editor of the *Canada Educational Year Book*—a neat and skilful compilation of information respecting the educational system and *personnel* in each province of the Dominion, and we understand that he intends to continue the periodical publication of this excellent volume. He is a member of the Anglican church and synod, and an advocate of efficient religious instruction so far as it can be practically introduced, whether in private, public or Sunday schools. In 1859 he married Julia, daughter of the late H. Hewlett, and has three surviving children. He was left a widower in 1878.

**Cassils, William**, Montreal, was born at Denny, Stirlingshire, Scotland, on the 25th of June, 1832, being the eldest son of John Cassils and Margaret Murray. The family removed in 1835 to Renton, a village in the vale of Leven, Dumbartonshire, where his boyhood was spent, and where in the parochial school he was educated in such branches as were then taught in that institution. Having relatives in Canada who urged that he should proceed thither, he sailed from Glasgow in the barque *Euclid* on April 5th, 1851, arriving at Quebec in the first week of May. On reaching Montreal a couple of days later, and hearing that a young man was wanted to learn operating in the office of the Montreal Telegraph Company, he applied for the situation and was accepted. The company was then in its infancy; it owned a single line extending along the highway from Toronto to Quebec, and had fourteen offices in all, between these two points. In November, 1853, Mr. Cassils took charge of the Quebec office, and three years later, the company having acquired the lines of the British American Telegraph Co., was

appointed eastern divisional superintendent. On the 11th June, 1856, he married Agnes Simpson, daughter of the late William Hossack of Quebec. Resigning the position of telegraph superintendent in November, 1866, Mr. Cassils removed to Montreal, becoming a member of a commercial firm, from which he retired ten years later. While a resident of Quebec Mr. Cassils commanded the esteem of a wide circle of acquaintances, and in addition to active participation in church and charitable work, was chosen secretary-treasurer of the board of Protestant School Commissioners of that city, which position he held during several years. Shortly after retiring from the wholesale trade in Montreal, he became president of the Canada Central Railway Co., which position he retained for three or four years, until 1881, when the line became part of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's system. His careful and methodical habits of business becoming known, his services were in request by other public companies. He subsequently became Receiver of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway Company, and now occupies the presidency of the following: the Dominion Transport Company, limited; (the cartage agents of the Canadian Pacific railway company) the Canadian District Telegraph Company, limited; and of the Electro-Mechanical Clock Company, limited. He is also, we believe, vice-president of the British American Ranche company, limited; and director of the Montreal *Herald* printing and publishing company, limited. By no means least in importance of the positions held by Mr. Cassils in connection with public companies is his directorship in the Montreal Telegraph Company, which has 1680 offices and 30,000 miles of wire scattered over Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick, as well as over large parts of Vermont and New York and touching Michigan. His fifteen years of experience in the early days of telegraphy, form an interesting chapter in his life. Thirty-three years ago, before the time of submarine cables, the wires were stretched across the St. Lawrence, near Montreal; in summer, masts 210 feet high being set on either shore, while in winter they were strung on poles stuck in the ice. There were but fourteen offices in the five hundred miles between Quebec and Toronto, and telegram from the latter city to Montreal cost 3s. 9d. currency. The modes of transmission, such as the Bain and the House systems, as well as the more successful Morse system, had not then passed the