

the Montreal, Ottawa and Occidental Railway, and in many ways has shown a commendable spirit of enterprise, and aided in pushing forward public improvements.

Mr. Ryan was first elected to Parliament by acclamation for Montreal West, in April, 1868, on the death, at the hand of an assassin, of Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, and was re-elected for the same division, in the same manner, 1872. At the general election in 1874, he contested Montreal Centre, and, as we learn from the "Parliamentary Companion," "defeated his opponent, Bernard Devlin, by 383 votes; was unseated and contested the seat again with the same opponent, and was defeated by seventy-three votes, and in 1878, was again elected for Montreal Centre, over Mr. Devlin, by a majority of 802 votes."

Mr. Ryan is a man of strong political convictions, and has been a steadfast Liberal Conservative from the time that Messrs. Baldwin and Lafontaine were great political leaders. He strongly advocates the principles of protection, because he believes that the industries of the country are in that way the most thoroughly fostered.

The wife of Mr. Ryan was Margaret Brennan, eldest daughter of Patrick Brennan, deceased, many years a merchant in Montreal. They were married in 1850, and have had one child, a son, whom they lost when quite young.

HENRY H. MILES, LL.D., D.C.L.,

QUEBEC.

HENRY HOPPER MILES, Secretary of the Department of Public Instruction for the Province of Quebec, representing the Protestant element of the population, and a writer of text-books for public schools, is well known throughout the Dominion for his invaluable labors in connection with the cause of education. He was born in London, England, on the 18th October, 1818, his father being Lieutenant Richard Miles, of the Royal Navy, who died at Deal, Kent, in 1822. The family belonged originally to the west of England, and a branch went over to Kent, in which county it is now not uncommon to meet with persons of the name of the subject of our sketch. His mother was Mary Hopper, which name was originally Hooper, one of her ancestors (the Protestant Bishop Hooper) having been burnt at the stake, after which the numerous immediate descendants of the martyr, finding their family name obnoxious to many of their neighbors and fellow-citizens, changed it to Hopper, and went away to settle in other counties.

Our subject was educated in part at the grammar school of Exeter, Devonshire, and finished in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, including medical studies; but finding the profession distasteful, he never took up the practice of it.

In 1845, by invitation, he came to Lennoxville to fill the chair of mathematics and natural philosophy in the university of Bishop's college, and also the office of vice-principal of that