

"A man of sound views and full of benevolence and energy."—*Alex Begg, C.C.*

**CROCKETT, Thomas**, railway supt., is the s. of Wm. and Mary Crockett, and was b. at Passekeag, King's Co., N.B., June 18, 1854. Ed. at the Grammar Sch., Hampton, he commenced his ry. career at St. John, N.B., 1873, and was subsequently for some yrs. chief despatcher on the Intercol. Ry., Rivière du Loup, P.Q. Apptd. Genl. Supdt. of the Temiscouata Ry., 1889, he continued as such until 1893, when he was chosen genl. mangr. This office he still holds. He constructed the St. Francis branch of the Temiscouata Ry. In religion, a Presb., he m. Jan., 1878, Elizabeth Dean, dau. of Thos. Seaton, of Bathurst, N.B.—*Rivière du Loup, en bas, P.Q.*

**CROFTON, Francis Blake**, author and librarian, is the young s. of the Rev. Wm. Crofton, rector of Skreen, Sligo, Irel., by his wife, a dau. of Rev. Hy. Woodward. B. at Crossboyne, Co. Mayo, 1842, he was ed. at the Royal Sch., Dunganion, and at Trinity Coll., Dublin (B.A., with honours in Eng. Lang. and Lit., and in Classics, 1862). Coming to Can., he filled the chair of Classics for a year at Bishop's Coll. Univ., Lennoxville. Subsequently, he lived for 10 yrs. in N.Y., where he was a contributor to the *Round Table*, the *St. Nicholas*, the *National Quarterly* and the *Evening Post*. He has also written literary, political, social and critical articles for Eng. periodicals and newspapers, and for the *Week* and the *Dom. Illustrated* in Can. He was specially distinguished for his warm advocacy of Imp. Federation, his articles in reference thereto being frequently quoted by the Eng. press. In 1897, under the title, "For Closer Union," he published in pamphlet form a number of these articles. Mr. C. was Cor.-Secy. of the N. S. Hist. Soc., 1888-94, and since Jan., 1883, has been Provl. Librarian of N. S. He has published in book form several humorous works: "The Bewildered Querists and other Non-

sense" (1875); "The Major's Big Talk Stories," illustrated (1881); and "Hair-Breadth Escapes of Major Mendax," illustrated (1889). Mr. C. is also the author of a study of "Haliburton, the Man and the Writer" (1889), the latter being the first of a series of papers published by the Haliburton Club, of N. S. As a supplement to his previous appreciation of the author of "Sam Slick," he has written quite recently "The Imperialism of Haliburton." He assisted Baedeker with his *Dom. Hand-Book*, 1894. He is a mem. of the Ch. of Eng., and was m. Dec., 1872, to Emma Katherine, dau. of the late Jas. F. Bradshaw, Quebec.—*Halifax, N.S.; Halifax Club; Royal N. S. Yacht Club.*

"In 'Sam Slick,' Nova Scotia gave to humour a writer racy of the soil. In Mr. Crofton she has given to Eng. literature another humorist, his peer in story-telling."—*Can. Monthly.*

**CROIL, James**, author, journalist and administrator, is the 3rd s. of the late James Croil, a W. I. merchant in Glasgow, Scot., and was b. in that city, Sept. 4, 1821. Ed. at the New Acad., Edinburgh; at the Grange Semy., Sunderland; and at Glasgow Univ., he, after 2 years' apprenticeship to a farmer, came to Can., 1841, and some yrs. later purchased the historic Chrysler's farm, Williamsburgh, Ont., the scene of the famous battle of 1813. Here he followed a farming life for 23 yrs. At a somewhat critical period in its history, Mr. C. accepted an appt. as Genl. Agent for the Ch. of Scot. in Can., and entered on the duties of that office, 1865, visiting during that year and part of 1866, the 120 congregations of the Ch., imparting to them sound advice, and receiving from them a fund of valuable information, subsequently published in the form of a historical and statistical report. In order to the better prosecution of the work, Mr. C., in 1869, sold his farm, removed with his family to Montreal, and was regularly installed in "The Church Agent's Office," which, from that