

the excellent work performed by Sir William Logan and Mr. E. Billings.

Notwithstanding all the attacks that had been made upon the validity of that term and the discussions on its significance, it is as truly a natural group or division in the succession of palæozoic sediments in Eastern Canada to-day as it was in the 50's and 60's, and the chapters devoted to this most important study in the "Geology of Canada" for 1863, are replete with wisdom and forethought.

On several occasions Mr. Billings made extensive collections in the Silurian as well as in the Devonian formations of Ontario and in the vicinity of Montreal, as can be seen from the collections now in the Geological Department, but the bulk of his time was devoted to the determination of geological horizons for mapping purposes and the description of new genera and species brought into the Department by the various field-geologists. Of genera new to science, Mr. Billings described no less than sixty-one and in all described 1065 new species of fossil organic remains from various horizons in the Palæozoic of Canada. He also contributed many papers on natural history and zoology.

He did much in assisting Sir William Logan to establish and build up the Geological Museum ; for, besides the large number of type species which he described, he identified as many more again, species from Canada with forms previously described by Conrad, Hall, Emmons, Vanuxem, Sowerby, and other palæontologists of America and Europe.

His writings indicate a clear and precise mind, coupled with a rare judgment, couched in a phraseology simple and to the point. He published upwards of 170 distinct papers, memoirs, or reports, many of which are now very difficult to obtain or entirely out of print. The bulk of his writings are embodied in the reports of the Geological Survey of Canada, comprising the figures and descriptions of Canadian fossil organic remains. or "Decades I, III, and IV, the Palæozoic Fossils, vol. i., parts 1 to 5 ; Pal. Fos. vol. iii, part 1" ; part 3 of which is still unpublished. While residing in Montreal he was a constant contributor to the "Canadian Naturalist" ; he also wrote important papers in the