

in after life greatly distinguished themselves, such as, among others, the late Hon. Louis Wallbridge, the late Hon. Thomas White, Senator Chaffers, Senator Murphy, Senator Clemow, Julius C. Scriver, M.P., Richard White (of the *Montreal Gazette*). In 1845 he removed to Ottawa and, in company with Edward Griffin, founded the hardware establishment of Workman & Griffin. The business, which has always been a success, is still carried on under the title of Alexander Workman & Co., Mr. Griffin having retired in 1867. At present, and for several years past, its active management has been in the hands of Mr. Workman's nephew, Thomas, son of Dr. Joseph Workman. In local matters of importance to the city, Mr. Workman always took an active interest. For three years subsequent to his arrival he acted as a member of the school board and superintendent of the schools. During his term of office many improvements were made in the teaching system, and a number of good school-houses were erected. He also served in the council for fourteen years as alderman, and was, for a time, mayor. During his term as chief magistrate he had the honour of entertaining the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred on their respective visits to Ottawa. All his life Mr. Workman has been a strong advocate of temperance. He joined the first teetotal society organized in Montreal, sixty years ago, and he still staunchly adheres to teetotal principles. In politics he is a Conservative and was a true friend and adviser of Sir John Macdonald. In religion he is a Unitarian. In 1820, Mr. Workman married Mary, daughter of Lieut. Francis Abbott, of H. M. 10th Royals, a regiment that took part in the war of 1812. This officer subsequently died in Quebec. The result of the union was a family of two daughters and two sons; one died at the age of four years. Alexander, the younger son, was connected with his father in business for a time, but died some years ago. The old gentleman, though now in his ninety-fourth year, is still possessed of remarkable vigour, and as he daily passes along the streets in the city of his adoption he contemplates with pleasure the many evidences of the material and moral progress which has been made since his arrival on the scene nearly three-quarters of a century ago. As a citizen, he is universally esteemed for his unblemished character; and the good works he has done, and is generally greatly beloved. In private life he is kind and generous, ever the courteous and refined gentleman, and has a host of sincere admirers.

[OBITU.—Since the above was written, Mr. Workman died (December 12th, 1891) after an illness of only five days duration.]

JOHN IRA FLATT,

Hamilton, Ont.

THE name of John Ira Flatt is one of the best known in Western Canada in connection with the timber trade, and in the list of energetic and successful workers in this country during the past half century that gentleman holds a high place. His father, Robert Flatt, was a native of Scotland and came to Canada in 1805, settling in the township of East Flamboro', county of Wentworth. He married Mary, daughter of the late Abram Baker, of the same township, and they had a family of twelve children—seven boys and five girls—of whom the subject of our sketch was the seventh, born July 2nd, 1834. Of these, five of the boys and all the girls are still living. Up to the age of sixteen John attended the common school in the neighborhood of his home, and then for four years more he worked steadily on his father's farm. The succeeding ten years he worked for himself on a rented farm, and to this he added the lumber business in 1865. Six years later he formed a partnership with the late Robert Thompson, of Lynden, with whom he operated for five years, and then, a dissolution taking place, the firm of Flatt & Bradley, one of the most noted in the annals of the lumber trade in Canada was formed. For sixteen years they have carried on the business with great success, and in that time the original field which took in a few townships around Hamilton, has been much enlarged. Some eight years ago the firm established a branch of their business at Castleman, Russell county, which they have been conducting successfully ever since. Apart from his connection with Mr. Bradley, Mr. Flatt is the business manager of the firm of J. & W. Flatt, in which his sons, Jacob and William, are associated with him, and they carry on a very extensive business in heavy timber and masts, their chief centres being Houghton, Michigan and Toledo, Ohio. In brief, it may be said that, west of Toronto, no house in Canada carries on lumbering operations so extensively as those firms of which Mr. John Ira Flatt is prominently connected. In public affairs, Mr. Flatt has also borne his part worthily and well, his sterling integrity, uprightness of character and business ability making him conspicuous among his fellow men. In 1860 he was elected a member of the West Flamboro' council, in which he served for seven years continuously. During the years, 1886-'87 and '88 he was reeve of East Flamboro' township, and in the last he held the honorable position of warden of the county of Wentworth. At the close of his term of office as warden he retired from active municipal politics, though he still takes a keen interest in the administration of affairs in the municipali-