

Messrs. Bryson & Ferrin, in Montreal. Before this engagement expired, however, the firm decided to go out of business, and they procured a situation for him in the works of the Montreal Gas Company. Having served his time there, the company transferred the gas-fitting part of their business to Mr. Mitchell, and he thus embarked on a fine and lucrative business on his own account.

Commencing this business in 1851, its increase was steady and rapid, necessitating at different times his removal into larger and more commodious quarters, until at this time he owns what is said to be the largest business of the kind in the Dominion. The leading lines of goods manufactured by this concern include all manner of brass castings; coppersmiths', steam-fitters' and gas-fitters' supplies; automatic sprinklers for fire protection in mills and factories; gas meters, etc. His works give employment to about three hundred skilled workmen.

Mr. Mitchell is one of the solid men of Montreal. Loved and respected by all who know him, his energy and perseverance has been awarded with a large share of the good things of life; and he prefers to continue along the old and familiar paths rather than to venture into the field of politics or to seek civic honors and emoluments. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, always taking great interest in that body as the exponent of the ideas that have lifted Canada to the high plane it occupies as a self-contained manufacturing nation. It is just such men as Robert Mitchell, of Montreal, who have made the Dominion of Canada what it is to-day.

HENRY BICKFORD.

HENRY BICKFORD, of the firm of Messrs. S. Lennard, Sons & Bickford, proprietors of the Dundas Knitting Mills, Dundas, Ont., was born in the City of London, England, March 2, 1842, and at an early age was taken by his parents to the town of Newton Abbot in the County of Devon, where he received his scholastic preparation for after-life under the tuition of the Rev. John N. Lightfoot, M.A., the present rector of Moreton-Hampstead, in that county. Having tried farming for some time he thought to improve his fortunes by removing to London, but not being satisfied with intra-mural life, determined to visit the Great Lakes region of Canada, and sailed for this country in 1867.

Arriving in Canada Mr. Bickford soon found employment as "a white-winged angel of commerce," and for a couple of years was a commercial traveller for a large wholesale grocery concern of Toronto. In 1869 he became head book-keeper and manager for the firm of Messrs. N. & F. Rooney, of Toronto, where he continued until the dissolution of that concern in 1879. At this time a fine business opportunity was presented to him in the town of Dundas, Ont., and to that place he went, and became a partner in the firm of Messrs. S. Lennard & Sons, now so familiarly known to the wholesale dry goods trade of the whole Dominion, as Messrs. S. Lennard, Sons & Bickford, probably the oldest and largest manufacturers of hosiery in Canada, the firm being the patentees of what is known to the trade as "Elysian" seamless hosiery.

Soon after his removal to Dundas Mr. Bickford was elected a member of the Board of Education of that town, on which he has served seven years, one year as chairman. He has also been a member of the Town Council as councillor; has been deputy-reeve and reeve; and at this time is mayor. In 1886 he received the nomination of the Liberal-Conservative party of North Wentworth for the Legislative Assembly, but considering that active participation in politics interfered injuriously with his business interests retired from the contest.

By education and natural instincts Mr. Bickford is a gentleman well fitted to perform any and all civic and social duties that may devolve upon him, his experience in successfully conducting a large and important manufacturing industry, and his natural force of character making him a most valuable citizen. For years a member of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, his presence at all the important meetings thereof is signalized by his expressions of strong common-sense arguments and reasoning, and a comprehensive grasp of such important questions as may be presented. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Association, and a member of the Textile Fabrics section of the Association's Tariff Committee.

JAMES KENDREY.

JAMES KENDREY, manager of the Auburn Woolen Company's Mills at Peterborough, Ont., was born at Oshawa, Ont., in March, 1845, and during his boyhood and until thirteen years of age received such schooling as the public schools afforded. In 1858 he commenced working in the woolen mills of Messrs. Barber Brothers, at Streetsville, Ont., where he remained until that establishment was destroyed by fire in 1860. He then obtained a situation in the woolen mills of Messrs. Robinson & Howell, in Galt, Ont., going from there to the Hunt & Elliot woolen mills, in Preston, Ont. After remaining in these places for a short time he left Canada, going to New England, where he worked for about five years in one of the largest woolen mills in the Nangatuck Valley, Connecticut. He returned to Canada, and being then proficient in his business, in 1874 was entrusted with the management of the Clyde Woolen Mills at Lanark, Ont. In 1876 he left Lanark and took charge of the Glen Tay Woolen Mills, at Glen Tay, near Perth, Ont., where he remained until 1879, when he accepted the management of the Auburn Woolen Mills at Peterborough, which position he now holds, being one of the stockholders and general manager of the Auburn Woolen Company.

Mr. Kendrey is emphatically and in all respects a self-made man, who has turned to good advantage all the favorable opportunities of his life. Left at an early age to depend upon his own efforts for his welfare, he devoted his energies to acquire a thorough practical knowledge of all the details of the business of manufacturing woolen cloths; and it may be truthfully said that his adaptability to the business, and his mechanical skill and artistic tastes, have enabled him to absorb and appropriate to his own use and advantage about all that was to be learned in the very best woolen-mill practice in Canada and the United States. Being now but in the very prime of life, his active mind is quick to seize upon any new ideas advanced by which the styles and quality of the products of his mills may be im-