

Ottawa), then only a small place, and commenced business for himself. His operations were at first modest. Mr. Bangs, however, had not only energy but perseverance, and in spite of active competition and numerous other difficulties his trade grew steadily until it attained large proportions. Altogether his career in trade was an eminently successful one, and when he retired in 1877, it was with an honourable business record and a well-earned independence. But it was not alone in connection with business that Mr. Bangs displayed those features of character which made him a prominent figure in Ottawa. He always took an interest in any movement designed to benefit the city, and it is not surprising that a man whose ability in the management of his own affairs was so marked should be chosen to look after those of the corporation. In 1870 he was elected alderman for Wellington ward, a position which he filled for nine years to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. In 1878 he was elected to the mayoralty, an office he filled with dignity, as well as with high executive ability. In politics, he has always been a staunch Reformer. At the general election of 1878, he was chosen by his party for the representation of Ottawa in the Dominion parliament, but was defeated. Party feeling running high in those days, he was also defeated for the mayoralty, on offering himself for re-election in 1879, although he polled a very large vote. In 1867, Mr. Bangs was mainly instrumental in organizing the Buckingham Manufacturing Company, which operated extensively in lumber, and of which he was for many years president. In benevolent society circles, Mr. Bangs is known as a member of the Masonic fraternity, which he joined many years ago. In religion, he is a worthy member and adherent of the Presbyterian Church, of whose institutions, as indeed of all religious and philanthropic enterprises, he has always been a liberal supporter. In 1849, Mr. Bangs married Elizabeth, daughter of the late William Kirby, of Hawkesbury, who was a native of Yorkshire, England. The issue of this union, which has been a happy one, is a family consisting of four sons and four daughters. Of these, William Chauncey, the eldest son, is a member of the firm of Bangs & Co., forwarders; Thomas Jefferson is a clerk in the city engineer's office; John Adams is manager of the Bank of Ottawa at Carleton Place; Chauncey Ward, jr., is clerk for the firm of Bangs & Co.; Elizabeth Jane is married to Mr. David Gardiner, of Ottawa; Emma Smith to William R. Gardiner, of Brockville; Lucy Burnham to Dr. Wm. Klock, of Ottawa, and Maria Louisa, the youngest, still resides with her parents at the family residence. Mr. Bangs, though in his seventy-eighth year, is possessed of extraordinary vitality, and still

attends to his extensive property and other interests with unabated vigour. As a man of exalted character and most generous nature, he is held in universal esteem.

#### JOHN ASKWITH,

*Ottawa, Ont.*

AN old and much respected citizen of Ottawa is John Askwith, who has been continuously a resident of the city for over fifty years. He was born at Great Osborne, Yorkshire, England, Jan. 10, 1813, his parents being John and Anna (Raynor) Askwith, the former a native of Yorkshire, and the latter a native of Lincolnshire. Our subject attended the national school in York until he was fourteen years of age, after which he served an apprenticeship of seven years at the trade of a joiner. At the close of this period, being then just twenty-one years old, he decided on emigrating to the new world, and in due time landed in Quebec. Thence he shortly after proceeded to Montreal, where he worked at his trade a couple of years. At the termination of that period, namely, September, 1835, he removed to Bytown and settled there permanently. This was shortly before the rebellion of 1837, and when the troubles broke out Mr. Askwith was among the first to volunteer on the loyal side. He served at Hamilton under the late Sir Allan MacNab, and was with the troops opposite Navy Island when the *Caroline* was cut loose and sent blazing over Niagara Falls. Subsequently he enlisted in the Niagara regiment of infantry, under Col. Kirby, and served for a time at Fort Erie. In 1838 he received his discharge and returned to Bytown to resume his ordinary occupation, which he continued successfully until 1876, when he withdrew from it and established himself as a money broker, in which vocation he is still engaged. During this period Mr. Askwith gave further evidence of his patriotic zeal by joining the volunteers when the "Trent Affair" threatened our peaceful relations with the United States. While engaged at his trade he did considerable work for the Public Works Department in connection with the fitting up of the Parliament buildings as well as in the erection of many other important edifices in Ottawa and the surrounding country. In public affairs he has never taken a prominent part, his chief experience in this capacity being a three years term of service on the school board of New Edinburgh prior to that municipality being incorporated with the city of Ottawa. Mr. Askwith joined the Independent Order of Odd-fellows some forty years ago, and is also a member of the Orange Order, in connection with which he was twice elected W. M. of New