

learn of his beginnings, and to know the history of his career. But only briefly is it allowed to us to deal with William Christie. He was born, we learn, in Huntly, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, on January 5th, 1829; and is a son of John Christie, of the same place. Mr. Christie, senior, was not blessed with wealth, but he enjoyed the respect of his fellows, and he had the same sterling qualities which it is well-known are the inheritance of his son. Our subject did not receive an elaborate education, but he obtained considerable schooling. Like the sons of so many in the old country as well as in Canada, who have not means to bring up their families in luxury, young Christie was obliged to take any honest employment that offered. It is related that he was not above at one time occupying himself as a herd-laddie. But this was only a make-shift, and the young man was determined, through endeavour in an honest calling, to see if the world would not be made to yield him the living that it owed him. So casting about him as to what trade he would learn, it occurred to him that that of baker would not be the least profitable. Then, while acquiring this trade he used to think of the new country, Canada, rapidly growing; and was convinced that in a community devoid of a sufficiency of skilled labour there was a field for himself. To Canada, therefore, he came, in 1848; and on his arrival he promptly rolled up his sleeves and took employment in the calling that he had chosen for himself. He was now only in his nineteenth year, but he was hearty, full of enterprise, hope and ambition. He worked patiently in Toronto for a period, and then resolved to begin business upon his own part-responsibility. So in 1851 he entered into partnership with Mr. Brown, a well-known business man; but the name of Mr. Christie did not appear in the title of the firm. The business with which the new establishment concerned itself was the baking of biscuits and a general trade. From the day that the shutters of the new concern were opened up to this time, success has awaited upon the proprietors, and every day sees a further spread of the business. When Mr. Brown retired from the house, Mr. Christie took in Mr. Maver, and the firm was known for a period as Christie & Maver. In 1854 reverses came to the fortunes of Mr. Christie. He had been endorsing the paper of a friend, but evil days were in store; fire came and swept away the possessions of his friend, and after that the sheriff's figure was a familiar one for

many years. Old friends had lost faith, but he found one man, Alex. Brown, who had confidence in his honesty and ability, notwithstanding that some wise and far-seeing ones shook their heads. Mr. Christie finds much satisfaction in looking back now upon this period of trial, for the successes that he has since achieved may well give him cause for self-congratulation. His business house is situate in the City of Toronto, and it would well repay the visitor to spend an hour in passing from one of the fine, bustling, airy, cleanly kept departments of the establishment to another. For the greater part our subject has been a devoted business man, attending to the general management, as well as the details of the wide-spread house, but he has been enabled, nevertheless, to give some of his attention to worthy and unselfish objects. He has been intimately and conspicuously connected with the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association, and is also an active member of the council of the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto. To enlarge his knowledge and experience he has travelled through the greater part of the United States, and he has visited all the chief places in Canada. Most of those who come to us from Scotland, ask upon landing where the kirk is, and this did our subject too, upon his arrival. But in these later years he has refused rigidly to be bound by any ecclesiastical doctrine, and in religion, as in human and state polity, is satisfied with nothing that is narrow—seeking the broad and the liberal. It is hardly necessary in the light of these facts to tell our readers that in politics Mr. Christie is a Reformer; but his policy would be one of wise restraint, with the ultimate well-being of our country as his aim. Mr. Christie married on the 21st March, 1855, Miss J. McMullin, of York county, Ontario, and the fruits of this union has been four children, three daughters and a son. Mr. Christie is a gentleman of very few words, save when circumstances demand it, then you find yourself listening to a man who has thought deeply and observed closely. He has a tall, fine presence, and his hair is sprinkled with gray. No pen can touch a history of the business growth of Canada, and leave from the pages the name of William Christie.

**Atkinson, Charles Richard**, Chatham, Ont., was born in London, England, on May 4th, 1828. In his sixteenth year his father emigrated with his family to Canada, and settled in Oxford, then a wilderness, and thus gained some experience of