

months on the Pacific coast. In February, 1884, he accepted the office which he now holds, that of superintendent of the Erie and Huron Railway.

Manning, Alexander, ex-Mayor of the City of Toronto, was born in Ireland, and came to Canada when a young man. Having some friends in Toronto, he remained in that city for a short time, and then went to the Western States. After spending a short time in the west, and having made some money, he returned to Toronto, where he took up his permanent abode. Ambition, industry, and a capable head soon brought him to the front, and ere long Mr. Manning became a successful contractor. His large property stakes in Toronto induced him to give some attention to municipal affairs, and in 1856-7 he entered the city council as alderman for St. Lawrence ward, and he was returned eight years in succession to the aldermanic board. In 1873 he was elected mayor; and in 1885 he was chosen to fill the same high position. In 1886 he again offered himself for election, but to the great regret of his many friends, he was defeated by W. H. Howland after a very exciting contest. To show the high respect in which Mr. Manning was held by the members of the city council, the following resolution was unanimously passed by them when he retired from the chair in January, 1886:—"That this council cannot adjourn without placing on record and conveying to His Worship the Mayor, Alexander Manning, their high sense of the ability, care and impartiality with which he has presided over the deliberations of the council during a year of marked effort and progress, and of the earnest zeal he has conspicuously manifested to watch over the city's interests in every matter, whether of large or minute detail, sparing neither time nor effort to ensure a faithful administration of civic expenditure. They beg further to assure His Worship that he takes with him on leaving the chair the respectful, heartfelt and lasting good wishes of every member of the council. That a copy of this resolution be suitably engrossed and presented to His Worship." During one of Mr. Manning's terms of the mayoralty, he entertained the Duke of Manchester; and he placed his handsome residence on Wellington street, with its commodious grounds, at the disposal of Lord Dufferin, when he, as governor-general, was visiting Toronto. "Knowing how expensive politics are," says Mr. Davin, in the 'Irishman in Canada,' "he has hitherto kept out of those engulfing waters. He has a

reputation it would take a Rembrandt to paint. Beneath the shrewdness and determination without which wealth cannot be made, there is a tender heart and, in the midst of shading, which would seem to indicate hardness of character, shine out one or two large acts of spirited and apparently even reckless generosity. A deviser of schemes, he has learned how to use men; and always on the alert to put a little train of one kind or another in motion, he is suspicious lest he himself should be taken in and too cheaply used. When addressing the electors at one of the hotels, during a contest for the mayoralty, he properly boasted that he had been a working-man. There could not be a better instance than is furnished by Alexander Manning of what Canada can do for persons with brains and thrift. Mr. Manning has been a useful citizen, and may yet play a more prominent part in politics when, satisfied with the wealth he has acquired, he throws contracting aside." Mr. Manning is an extensive dealer in real estate, and has erected some splendid buildings in the City of Toronto. Among these may be mentioned the Arcade, which, at the time of writing, is in course of erection on King street. The Grand Opera House is also the property of Mr. Manning.

Christie, Hon. J. W., Brockville, was born at Fort Albany, East Hudson Bay, on the 19th January, 1824. His father entered the Hudson Bay Company's service in 1809, and rose rapidly, being chief factor in 1821. He was subsequently given charge of York Factory, Moose and Fort Garry; and he was for many years governor of the Assiniboine district, now Manitoba. He retired in 1849, and died in his native country, Scotland, aged eighty-nine, leaving a name honoured to this day throughout the North-West. J. W. Christie, we learn from an account lying before us, was sent to Aberdeen, Scotland, to be educated, and returned to this continent with Sir George Simpson, in 1841, almost immediately entering the service at Lake Superior. In 1843 he went to the northern department, and was one year at Rocky Mountain house, trading with Blackfoot Indians. He was next stationed at York Factory, where he stayed four years, being thence promoted to Fort Churchill, H. B., where he remained four years, and was transferred to the Swan River district, Fort Pelly; after six years he was promoted to the charge of the Saskatchewan district, which he retained fourteen years, when in 1872, upon the re-organization of the Hud-