

between Chicago, Duluth and Montreal. He then turned his attention to public works. He was a member of the firm which built the Buffalo, Waterloo & Lake Erie railway from Brantford to Waterford. He then drifted to the United States, and in the state of Missouri he constructed eleven miles of the Chicago, Santa Fe & California railway. Upon the completion of this railway he became interested in a large dredging plant in Southern Illinois, and operated there for a few years. In 1891 he returned to Thorold, and embarked in the coal, wood and ice business; and in 1895 his fellow-citizens honored him by electing him Deputy-Reeve. The following year his townsmen showed their further appreciation by conferring upon him the office of Reeve. In 1897 Mr. Battle was a candidate for the Mayoralty, but through dissensions among some of his supporters was defeated by Mr. J. H. Wilson by a majority of 35. The year following, 1898, Mr. Battle again entered the arena in the contest for the Mayoralty, and the citizens returned him as their chief magistrate. Mr. Battle is connected with the C. M. B. A., the Home Circle and the A. O. U. W. He is President of the Young Liberal Club of his native county, Welland, and is also a member of the Thorold Board of Trade. In 1887 the present Mayor of Thorold was married to Miss Matilda Freel, the issue of said union being two sons and three daughters. Mr. Battle is a Reformer in politics, and in religion a staunch adherent of the Roman Catholic faith.

James Battle, son of the late Mr. John Battle, was born at Thorold on November 29th, 1865. He was educated at the Separate school, Thorold, the Collegiate Institute, St. Catharines, and Upper Canada College, Toronto. In 1881 he entered the employ of his late father, who was the owner and proprietor of the Thorold Cement Works, his position being that of office boy, and he is now one of the principal advisers in the successful management of the estate. Mr. Battle was elected to represent St. Patrick's ward at the Town Council Board for the years 1888 and 1889; was promoted to the position of Deputy-Reeve for 1890 and 1891, and still further to that of Reeve for 1892, during which year he was chairman of the finance committee, and took a very prominent part in the work of the council. At the end of this time he retired from municipal politics, but has since held several responsible public positions, being a member of the Separate School Board for 1893, and for 1894 and 1895 was President of the Thorold Agricultural Society. He is also a member of the Public Library Board, and is on the council of the Thorold Board of Trade, being Treasurer of that body, in the deliberations of which he takes an active interest.