

Some of the Boys of Elmira, — Where They Are and What They Are Doing.



Mr. Augustus S. Vogt

Was born in Oxford County, August 14th, 1861. He moved to Elmira in 1864, attended the public schools here and took up music study under local teachers and the best available in Waterloo County. In 1873 was appointed organist of St. James Lutheran church, Elmira, Rev. Salinger being then in charge, and was known by that very musical clergyman as the "Herr Cantor." This was Mr. Vogt's first official title and at this early age was very impressive. It is still remembered by him as one of the most gratifying of his musical experiences.

In 1877 he attended school in Hamilton and took lessons in organ playing from the best masters then resident in that city. In 1878 he was appointed organist and choir-master of the First Methodist Church, St. Thomas, a position which was held by him for seven years with the exception of one year spent in Boston in study. In 1885 Mr. Vogt went to Leipzig, Saxony, in order to continue his musical studies under the greatest of German masters, studying under such men as Carl Reinecke, Saloman Jadassohn, Adolf Ruthardt and others. Upon his return to Canada in 1888, he received the important appointment of Organist and Choir-master at Jarvis St. Baptist Church, Toronto, a position which he has since held. Under his direction the Choir of Jarvis St. Church has attained a continental reputation and is regarded by competent critics as unquestionably the finest in the Dominion of Canada. In 1894, Mr. Vogt organized the Mendelssohn Choir of Toronto, an organization which has had a unique history. It is conceded to be the finest large body of singers in Canada, and, according to the testimony of leading American artists and musicians who have heard the Society, it has no equal, as to quality, in the United States. The concerts of the Society attract musicians from all parts of Ontario, and sometimes from other Provinces as well, and at the productions given last year a number of professional musicians from De-

troit, Pittsburg, Cleveland and Buffalo specially attended. Whilst Mr. Vogt's work in connection with the Mendelssohn Choir has brought him most prominently into public notice, he has done no less successful and far-reaching a work in his capacity as an instructor in piano and organ playing. Many of the most promising and most prominent of the rising musicians of Toronto and the Province generally, have received their inspiration from him.

The list of his pupils who are holding prominent positions in all parts of Canada is very large. Mr. Vogt's time is so fully in demand that he has been compelled to limit his teaching to piano pupils only. He has recently issued a work, "Modern Piano Technique" which is already in its fourth edition and is in great demand, both in Canada and the United States. Until compelled, by his many engagements, to discontinue literary work, he occupied a prominent position as a writer on musical matters in the press of the city.

Mr. Vogt is an enthusiastic Canadian, and a great admirer of the good County of Waterloo where he received his early inspirations. "The greatest tribute to his talents as a musician and his worth as a man may be summed up in the statement that no Canadian musician exerts a wider influence among the profession or enjoys the confidence of the public to a greater extent than this "Old Boy" from Elmira."

Mr. W. V. Uttley

Was born in Elmira, July 1st, 1865. He was educated in the public schools of the village and the Berlin High School. As a boy, he haunted the village printery, bound to become an editor. After leaving High School, he was public school teacher for four years. He studied Shorthand, privately, and graduated at the Toronto Business College. He began active newspaper work on the St. Louis Chronicle, in Missouri. In 1897 he, with others, was instrumental in founding the Berlin Daily Record. Later the plant of the oldest Daily in the County, the News, was acquired, amalgamated with the Record, and named "The News-Record." This paper and its editor are valued in Berlin for their loyalty to the town's interests and for their progressiveness in general. Thus far Mr. Uttley has declined public honors, but has consented to be a member of the Berlin Board of Trade.

Any success in life, attained by him, has come hard, being won in the face of difficulties on every side. But, energy, industry and perseverance will win. Of him, his fellow-citizens say: "He is a useful citizen," which is no mean tribute. For his native village, Mr. Uttley has always shown deep affection and a keen interest in its welfare. He was one of the first and most enthusiastic to take steps to bring about the Elmira Old Boys Reunion which is to take place in the near future.