

THE WORLD has pleasure in introducing to its readers His Worship Mayor Oppenheimer and the Aldermen-elect for the ensuing year in the following brief biographical sketches of their lives. It will be observed that they are all men who have risen from the ranks—men who have fought their way up from small beginnings. Enduring many hardships in early days, but being possessed of pluck and perseverance they overcame all difficulties and obstacles and are now in a position to take matters somewhat easier than in the past. First on the list, as a matter of course, comes the Mayor. The others appear in rotation by wards and the position they stood in when the ballots were counted by the returning officers:—

was born in Bavaria, Germany, 1834, and spent his boyhood on the classic banks of the river Rhine. Although the family were living in affluent circumstances, His Worship and his brother, Alderman Isaac Oppenheimer, attracted by the glaring accounts from the United States, left their fatherland and landed in New Orleans in 1848. After spending a few years in that city they went to Lafayette where they commenced business in 1853. From Lafayette to San Francisco, and from San Francisco to Sacramento where they resumed business. In 1860 they came to British Columbia, shortly after the Fraser river excitement began. They opened a store in Victoria and established branches throughout the province. At the time the Canadian Pacific Railway proposed Vancouver as their Pacific terminus, Messrs. Oppenheimer decided upon finally settling in the new place with which they are so essentially amalgamated that the names Vancouver and Oppenheimer are almost synonymous. Mayor Oppenheimer was the first one to clear the city front site. As Alderman for Ward 5 and Chairman of the Finance Committee he was the life of the Council. Mayor Oppenheimer has a large individual interest in the city. He is a member of the Board of Trade, of which he is president; He has a large interest in the Vancouver Improvement Co.; the Hastings Saw Mill; and the Electric Light Company. The city wharf, the whole system of grading and opening up our streets and highways; the False Creek bridge and North Arm Road; the sewerage system and the frontage tax are all matters which have been taken up during his regime of office in 1888. He is recognized as one of the promoters of the Fruit Grower's Association; the Sugar Beet industry; and the formation of the Street Railway Co. He worked indefatigably for Vancouver's interests in connection with the British Columbia exhibit sent to Toronto last September and also in reference to mail communication between this city and Nanaimo. We are indebted to for our Stanley Park and the new park in the east end. He has shown himself as being always on the look out to protect the interest of Vancouver in connection with the subject of waterworks, fortification and other matters of public interest. During his regime the \$150,000 loan was successsfully floated. In fact Mayor Oppenheimer may be said to have worked hard during his past term of office and now that he has been re-elected by acclamation for the year 1889, will continue to use his endeavours and best judgment in the interest of Vancouver. His German fellow burghers have recently presented him with a unanimously signed congratulatory address on his re-election. In fact he may be said to enjoy the utmost confidence of a very large proportion of the citizens of this important city.