

CHARLES BEERMAN, who is perhaps as well known as any citizen of Atlanta, not only for his long residence, but enterprising spirit, was born in Hanover, Germany, April 17, 1833. During the first twenty years of his life he remained in his native country, attending the educational institutions of that highly civilized nation, and prepared his mind for the graver duties of the future. He emigrated in 1853 to America, landing at Charleston, S. C., with a large number of rare singing birds that commanded a good price and ready sales. He traveled over Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama, disposing of this stock. In January, 1855, having sold his last songster, he removed to Atlanta and engaged in the cigar business for five years. Then he undertook the manufacture of cigars in connection with a retail store. When the war was over he resumed the wholesale and retail cigar trade and prosecuted this with signal success until August, 1882, when he disposed of his interest at a good price and took a lease of the old Kimball house, and began its control under the most favorable circumstances, but on the eleventh day after assuming this responsible management the house was destroyed by fire. He immediately organized a stock company to rebuild, but the enterprise failed, and, together with Gen. Robert Toombs, Joseph Thompson, L. W. Scoville and H. L. Kimball formed a syndicate and erected the present Kimball house, at a cost of \$643,000. When completed, Messrs. Scoville, Beerman & Co. took charge, and a year later Mr. Scoville retired, and Charles Beerman & Co. have conducted it since January, 1885. In 1889 Mr. Beerman leased the Markham house, another Atlanta hotel, and Beerman & Co. (the "Co." being Joseph Thompson) manage this in connection with their other interests. For a long while these were the only prominent hostelries in the city. The Kimball house, especially, has gained a favorable reputation throughout the southern states. Mr. Beerman is president of the Atlanta Brewing and Ice company, having begun as treasurer; a director of the American Trust and Banking company, and largely connected with several building and loan associations, now paid out. He served in the city council as alderman for three years, and acquired great popularity and respect. Mr. Beerman has been married three times, and has four children: Margaret, wife of John Elvers, of Atlanta; Henry C. Mamie, wife of H. Haupt, of Hamburg, Germany, and Walter B., child of his last wife. Mr. Beerman united with the Lutherans in religious faith, and belongs to the Capital City and Concordia clubs of Atlanta. Mr. Beerman has few equals as a strong-minded business man, possessed of a disposition that

invites companionship, and the courage, energy and boldness of adventure that attain success.