

## ANDREW BAY, P.L.S.

A comprehensive sketch of the life of Mr. Bay is contained in the following Obituary Notice that was published in the Clinton "New Era" at the time of his death:—

"Mr. Andrew Bay . . . . was one of the most able and experienced Engineers and Surveyors of this Province. He was born in Kelso, Scotland, and studied in Edinburgh. After acquiring a thorough knowledge of his profession, he was for some years engaged in important public works, both in England and Scotland. In 1851 he emigrated with his family to Canada. He resided for three years in Toronto, where he was employed in the earlier surveys for the Northern Railway. He then removed to London, and was for a time connected in business with the late Samuel Peters, the well known Civil Engineer. He was appointed a Land Surveyor April 7th, 1855. In 1857 he came to this county

(Huron) and was almost immediately appointed to the office of County Surveyor. This responsible and laborious office he held for the long term of twenty-two years, being annually re-appointed by the County Council as a matter of course. His ability, carefulness and fidelity in the performance of the duties of his office were recognized by all. For several years both Huron and Bruce were under his charge, and the labour involved in superintending the roads, bridges and other public works of these extensive counties was very great. In this duty Mr. Bay was indefatigable; he shrank from no toil or exposure, and was constantly on the road, visiting the various points at which his presence was required. Our splendid system of gravel roads was carried out entirely under his superintendence and it is mainly to his skill and diligence that



the County of Huron is indebted for the best communications of that description in the Province. Owing to increasing infirmities, Mr. Bay retired from public duties about three years before his death. Though reserved in manner, he was a man of kind disposition and feeling heart. His probity was unquestioned. No man in any public capacity was more entirely trusted. In all private relations he was wholly unselfish, cheerfully devoting all his time and means to the benefit of those who were dependent on him. He was a sincere Christian, both in profession and practice. He leaves the record of a useful and well-spent life as a consolation to his family and his friends for their great loss."

In connection with this biographical sketch of the late Mr. Bay, it is not out of place to include the following, also taken from the Clinton "New Era", a piece of unpublished Canadian History:—

"One would have believed that all the facts and incidents connected with the Fenian Raid of '66 would have been, ere this, thoroughly canvassed and made public. But our reporter, the other day, stumbled upon a most thrilling incident connected with that event, which, we believe, has never been published, and which is of special local interest. The Fenians were marshalling their forces and drilling them at Buffalo, preparatory to the attack upon Canada. On the night that they crossed into Canada the telegraphic wires were cut on the Canadian side so as to prevent advice as to their movements. But they reckoned without their host; in one of the telegraphic offices in Buffalo was engaged a young Canadian, James Bay, a son of the late Andrew Bay, P.L.S. of this place. On the night the Fenians marched out of Buffalo for Canada, he, with another Canadian, happened to be on night duty, during the night heard an unusually steady tramp along the street, and looking out beheld what they took to be and what turned out to be the Fenians on the march for Canada. Awaiting the hour of his release, Bay, with his companion, taking along an electric battery and a key, hurried off to the Canadian boundary, and crossing the river near Fort Erie. they tapped the telegraphic line beyond the point where it was cut, and thus succeeded in giving the alarm. Such a heroic and patriotic act deserves to be recorded and is worthy of a place alongside of that other genial service rendered to the Canadian nation at another crisis in her history, by the heroine, Mrs. Secord. Poor Bay is now beyond the reach of any reward from his native land."

Mr. Bay married Harriet Campbell and they had a family of ten children:—William, Isabella, Harriet, James, Ellen, Mary, Caroline, John H., Margaret M., and George A.

The Committee are much indebted to Miss Margaret M. Bay—the only surviving member of this “numerous family”—for the photograph of her father, accompanied by her brother, George, and the excerpts from the “New Era”.

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### JOHN DONALD BAIKIE

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Was a son of Peter Baikie, who died in St. Thomas on September 21st, 1872, aged 77 years, and his wife, Jane Sutherland, who died in St. Thomas on January 2nd, 1890, aged 90 years, both were buried in St. Thomas Cemetery, where a tombstone marks their resting place, and both were natives of Orkney, Scotland.

They had five children, viz:—(1) James P. Baikie, born in 1840, who was educated at Knox College for a Presbyterian Minister, where he graduated in 1868. He was stationed first at Ancaster, then at Port Stanley, and died on July 30th, 1878, aged 38 years. (2) Anna Louise Baikie, born 1842, and died April 27th, 1904, aged 62. (3) Jessie G. F. Baikie, died May 2nd, 1834, in her 5th year. (4) John Donald Baikie, the subject of this sketch, was born in 1837, and died March 9th, 1891, in his 54th year. (5) Jane D. Baikie, born at Niagara in 1836, and died in Toronto in 1910, aged 74.

None of the five children ever married.

John Donald Baikie articed himself to F. F. Passmore for three years on October 1st, 1866, and was appointed a Land Surveyor on April 9th, 1864.

