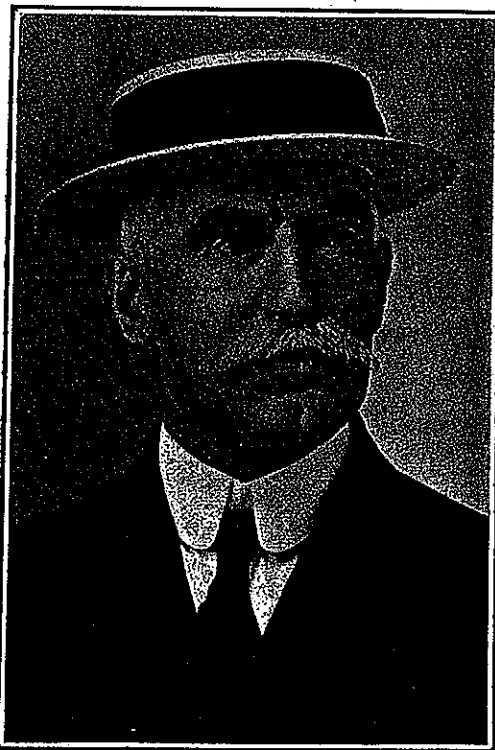


Both Mr. Browne's sons practised as Ontario Land Surveyors in Toronto, and their business is now carried on by a grandson, W. H. Browne, O.L.S., son of the late William Albert Browne.

HERBERT J. BOWMAN.

By W. H. Breithaupt.



HERBERT J. BOWMAN.

Herbert Joseph Bowman, elder son of Israel D. Bowman, was born June 18th, 1865, in Berlin, Canada West, now Kitchener, Ontario, where he died June 19th, 1916. He was a direct descendant of Wendel Baumann, a native of Switzerland, who came to Pennsylvania early in the eighteenth century. Between H. J. Bowman and his ancestor, Wendel Baumann, only four progenitors intervene: Jacob, Martin, Henry B., and Israel D., in order of descent. Henry B., grandfather, was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, in

1805, and came to Canada with his mother when a young man. In company with John Hoffman, he opened the second store in the then straggling Village of Berlin in 1837.

Israel D. Bowman was appointed County Clerk, March 27th, 1861, "during the pleasure of the Council," held the office thirty-five years, until his death in 1896, and was succeeded by Herbert J., who continued for twenty years. Father and son together thus held the County Clerkship of Waterloo County for all but eight years since the beginning of this office.

Our subject attended the public and high schools of his native place, matriculating in 1882, and entering the then recently instituted School of Practical Science, Toronto University, of which he was one of the first graduates, where he took the course in Civil Engineering. In 1883 he was engaged as assistant by Frank Purvis on Dominion Lands surveys, subdividing eighteen townships in the vicinity of Medicine Hat. In 1885, his last year at the University, he took part, as a member of the Queens' Own Rifles, in the suppression of the Riel Rebellion in the then Saskatchewan Territory, and was the only one from his home town to do so. On his return the Town Council gave him a public reception and a silver memorial watch. He soon became connected with the 29th Regiment of Waterloo County, in which he remained for nearly fifteen years, latterly as Commanding Officer.

Mr. Bowman served his apprenticeship as a Land Surveyor with the late Peter Silas Gibson, of Willowdale, and passed his final examination on January 7th, 1887. He also qualified as a Dominion Land Surveyor, and was in general practice as Land Surveyor and Civil Engineer at Berlin, now Kitchener, continuously. He was engaged on surveys of Dominion lands in Saskatchewan for the Federal Government in 1902 near Battleford, and in 1903 near Saskatoon. It does not appear that he performed any Crown Land surveys for the Provincial Government.

In 1892-93 he designed a system of sewers for the town, including sewage disposal works, which were carried out to completion. The Berlin filter beds were the first municipal sewage disposal works in the Province. Shortly afterward he designed similar works for the Town of Waterloo. He also acted as engineer for the town when the privately owned water works system was expropriated by the municipality in 1898, and in the following year Mr. Bowman was elected on the Board of Water Commissioners. He had acted as engineer and manager for the local water works company previous to the expropriation of the plant. He was re-elected as a member of the Board of Water Commissioners every year but one for the remainder of his life, his knowledge of the plant and attainments as an engineer being of special value to the public service.

He formed a partnership with Mr. Arthur W. Connor

on January 1st, 1908. They designed and constructed a number of waterworks systems, bridges, concrete buildings, etc., during the last eight years.

Mr. Bowman was elected an Associate Member of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers in 1888 and a member in 1896. He was President of the Ontario Land Surveyors Association in 1899.

Mr. Bowman's public spirit was further shown by his keen interest in the Good Roads Movement. In 1913 he visited England as delegate of the Ontario Good Roads Association to the Third International Congress in London. He was on the Executive of the Waterloo County Canadian Club, and was President in 1914; was Member of Council of the local Civic Association and of the Waterloo Historical Society.

Mr. Bowman's sterling patriotism is evinced by the fact that he was the first, shortly after the war broke out, to organize a local force. This was the 108th Militia Regiment, of which he remained Commanding Officer at the time of his death. This regiment supplied most of the officers and over two hundred and fifty men to the 118th Battalion, Overseas Forces. He also personally offered for active service in the war; failing health, developing later, prevented his assignment to active duty.

Col. Bowman was a Liberal in politics, and a member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist. In 1889 he married Edith Walker, of Hamilton, youngest sister of Sir Edmund Walker. His sorrowing wife, two daughters and two sons survive.