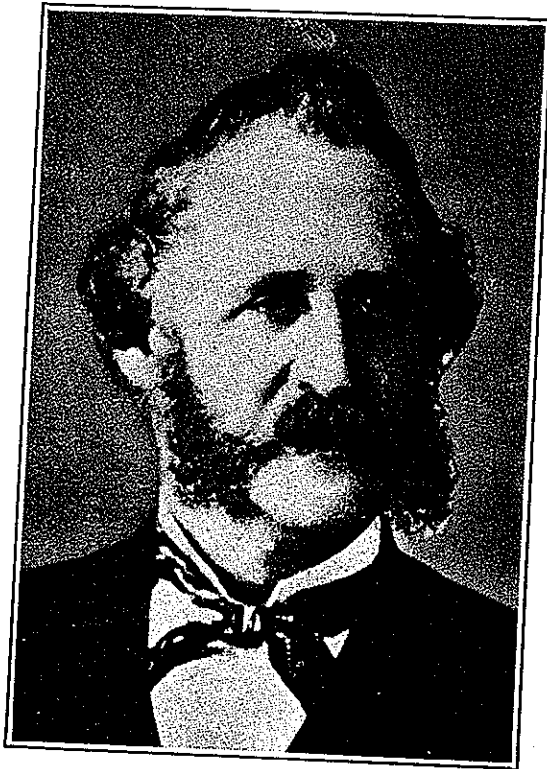


JAMES W. BRIDGLAND

Clark William Bridgland and his wife, Eleanor Bentom Bridgland, came to Canada in 18— from the County of Kent, England, and settled in the Township of York at Downsview. They had six children—four daughters and two sons. Lucy, married John Galbraith; Ellen, married John Bennett; Anne, married Robert Goulding; Martha, married first, William Galbraith, and second ——— Brown.



The two sons were Clark Bridgland, who was born in 1815, and James William Bridgland, the subject of this sketch.

Clark Bridgland lived in the old homestead at Downsview, where he erected a house known as "Tudor" Cottage. He had twelve children — five sons and seven daughters. He died at Downsview on February 16th, 1875. His widow died in 1890.

James William Bridgland was born at Downsview on April 9th, 1817. He became apprenticed to Col. John Stoughton Dennis, of Weston, and qualified as a Deputy Provincial Surveyor on May 6th, 1844.

In 1849 he married Maria Rebecca Dennis, a sister of Col. J. S. Dennis. She died in 1857, leaving one child, an infant daughter, Marie Eleanor, who married Mr. John W. Lawrence in 1880. Mr. Lawrence died on May 27, 1926, and his widow is now living in Toronto. We are indebted to Mrs. Lawrence for the greater part of the information given in this sketch, also for the photograph.

Mr. J. W. Bridgland married a second time, his wife being Martha Anne Jones, a daughter of Rev. Richard Jones of Cobourg, by whom he had the following children: Anna Sarah,

born 1860; Albert James, born 1862, died in 1865; Ella Mary, born 1864; Alice (died in infancy); Josephine, born 1870; and Mildred, born 1872.

Mr. J. W. Bridgland lived on Little Jarvis St., Toronto (now Asquith Ave.) until after the death of his first wife when he removed to "Tudor" Cottage, Downsview, where he resided until 1860. He then removed to the City of Quebec which was the seat of Government for a few years. He afterwards removed to Ottawa when the seat of Government was changed.

With the Confederation of the Provinces in 1867, Mr. Bridgland was appointed Superintendent of Colonization Roads for the Province of Ontario, and resided on Davenport Road. Shortly afterwards he built a home on Yorkville Avenue, No. 100, at which place he died on October 22nd, 1880. His widow sold this property and purchased a house at No. 30 Lowther Avenue, where she resided until her death.

The maternal grandmother of Mrs. Lawrence and the mother of Col. J. S. Dennis, was a sister of Bishop Richardson.

Mr. J. W. Bridgland performed the following surveys in the Province of Upper Canada:

Township of Mornington	1848
Residue Township of Kincardine	1850
Township of Carden and exploration	1852
Exploration line, Muskoka River	1852
Indian Reserve and Mining Locations, L. Superior.....	1853
Rama Island, L. Simcoe and part of Township	1860
Inspection survey Huron and Ottawa Territory 1861 and 1862	

The Annual Reports to the Minister of Crown Lands, 1869 to 1879, show the extent of work done by the Superintendent of Colonization Roads and the expenditures which may be summarized as follows:—

Year	Miles New Roads Con- structed	Miles Roads Repaired	Bridges Built	Bridges Repaired	Expendi- ture
1869 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 35,590
1870	79	205	.....	.....	50,000
1871 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	54,068
1872	151	204	8	.....	75,144
1873	236	357	10	2	147,000
1874	87	185	12	8	100,080

Year	Miles New Roads Con- structed	Miles Roads Repaired	Bridges Built	Bridges Repaired	Expendi- ture
1875	99	356	23	6	98,300
1876	156	221	.....	.....	86,264
1877	110	194	13	.....	77,531
1878	158	385	18	3	87,100
1879	240	380	16	2	11,903

In 1873 road construction was commenced in the Thunder Bay district. In the 1878 report the Superintendent states that before Confederation the district of Muskoka and Parry Sound were little known, but that owing to the construction of colonization roads, there was then a population of 30,000 in the district.
