

JOHN O. CONGER

By H. C. McMullen, Picton, Ont.



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John O. Conger was nephew to Wilson Conger. He was born at Hallowell on June 2nd, 1796. His death occurred on November 17th, 1874.

He and Miss Maria Wilson were married July 2nd, 1822. To them were born ten children, four sons and six daughters. Three died in infancy, and although the others arrived at quite mature years, only two are now living.

Mr. John O. Conger studying surveying chiefly under the guidance and assistance of his uncle, Wilson Conger and was admitted to practice on April 30th, 1844, as a Deputy Provincial Surveyor.

One surveyor, G. A. Simpson, served under articles to Mr. Conger, passing his final in 1864.

In the fifties of the last century, he did a large amount of professional work in the county of Grey, near Owen Sound. He and the other members of the Conger families made quite large purchases of land there.

Although the greater part of the farm surveying in Prince Edward was done before he entered the profession, he did a large amount of work in making sub-divisions in towns and villages between 1851 and 1872, especially after the death of his uncle. The writer, when a lad in his teens, assisted him as chain bearer, while surveying a considerable portion of the Western part of Picton.

He was not a rapid worker, but extremely careful and painstaking.

Two of his sons were for many years, the owners and publishers of the "Picton Gazette."