

CAPT. CHARLES FREDERICK COX

By Mr. R. P. Fairbairn

Charles F. Cox, son of Mr. George Cox and Emma Sleeman, was born on the 10th day of August, 1858, in the City of London, Ontario. His parents came to Canada from England early in the history of the provinces. His father was



employed in the Post Office Inspector's Department at Montreal. He was transferred to the Post Office Inspector's Office at London in the year 1854 where he remained for upwards of forty years.

Charles was educated at Hellmuth College in the City of London, and after spending a short time in a bank, he entered the office of the City Engineer, London, Mr. William Robinson, a Provincial Land Surveyor, Architect and Engineer.

Fellow students with him in the office of Messrs. Robinson, Tracy & Fairbairn were Acquilla O. Graydon, John M. Moore, Richard C. Wright, Harry Scatchard and Charles Murphy, all of whom became

land surveyors except Mr. Scatchard who left land surveying for banking.

Mr. Cox obtained his licence as an Ontario Land Surveyor in the year 1881. After completing his apprenticeship he went to the City of New York and was employed for some time as an architectural draughtsman in the office of a leading New York Architect. He returned to London where he practiced his profession in partnership with Acquilla O. Graydon.

He received his first appointment in the Department of Marine and Fisheries in Ottawa on the 24th of October, 1887, and was appointed Assistant Engineer of the Hydrographic Survey Branch on the 1st of July, 1894. He was a gifted

draughtsman, a clever cartoonist and beautiful engrosser. He was called upon to make many engrossed addresses for inclusion in the portfolio of addresses which Lord Dufferin took from Canada on completing his term as Governor-General.

Mr. Cox took great interest in military affairs and served as a lieutenant in the 7th Battalion throughout the North-West Rebellion in 1885. He was an officer in the 7th Battalion in London in 1885-86 and in the 43rd Battalion in Ottawa from June 20th, 1890, being a captain at the time of his death.

He was drowned on the 1st of August, 1895, while swimming in the Ottawa River near Rockcliffe. His body was found on the 4th August, his funeral took place on the 6th, interment was made in Woodland Cemetery, London. The body was met on the arrival of the train from Ottawa by fifteen ex-members of No. 4 Company of the 7th Battalion who had been with him during the North-West Rebellion. Several of the pall-bearers had been fellow officers.

Mr. Cox had three brothers and one sister. He was survived by his father, his widow, one daughter and three brothers. His father died on February 17th, 1907; his mother died on February 28th, 1895.

His elder brother, George M. Cox, studied law and practiced for several years in Windsor, Chatham and London. He left the practice of law and was ordained an Anglican clergyman. His death occurred on March 23rd, 1920. A younger brother, Alford Beverly, also studied law and practiced in London, he died on May 1st, 1904. An elder brother, Willis T. S. Cox, died on April 12th, 1917, being survived by a son, Mr. Charles B. Cox, who is now practicing the profession of an architect in Victoria, B.C., and a daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Raymar, who is residing at Victoria, B.C. His widow and daughter are also residing at Victoria, B.C.