

of Port Colborne, born the 9th of October, 1865; Mrs. R. G. Davis, of Port Hope (widow), born the 25th of December, 1871; Mrs. W. J. Christie of Ottawa, born the 28th of March, 1864, and the Rev. (Dr.) W. J. Macdonald of Springfield Gardens, Long Island, N.Y., born the 15th of June, 1876.

Mr. Macdonald was prominent in church circles, taking a special interest in the Sunday School, and in all philanthropic and evangelical work.

JOHN DECEW.



John DeCew was the eldest son of Edmund DeCew, a biographical sketch of whom is published in this Report. He was born at his father's farm near DeCewsville in September 27th, 1835. His preliminary education was obtained at the DeCewsville Public School and the Cayuga High School. He then took a course at Victoria University, Cobourg.

He became apprenticed to his father and qualified as a Provincial Land Surveyor on July 13th, 1857, and shortly afterwards opened an office in Cayuga, the County Town of Haldimand, where he enjoyed a lucrative practice including farm and municipal surveys,

chiefly in the counties of Haldimand and Welland. He was also well and favorably known as a competent drainage engineer, and was frequently employed by municipal councils to design different kinds of municipal works, as well as to superintend their construction. The large number of subdivision and municipal plans filed in the registry offices at Welland and Cayuga by John DeCew and by E. and J. DeCew, show the extent of their practice.

John DeCew, like his father Edmund, held the confidence and esteem of the members of the various municipal councils, by which he was from time to time employed, and it is unnecessary to say that he was likewise so regarded by his other clients and the public in general, as he was a man of superior ability and sterling character.

Also, like his father, he was greatly interested in geology. As mentioned in the biographical sketch of Edmund DeCew, they in common sent collections of fossils of Ontario to several of the public institutions of this Province. One fossil, *Pleuronotis Decewi*, was so named in honor of the collector.

John DeCew held a prominent position in the Methodist Church and was also local preacher.

In September, 1866, John DeCew received instructions to run an exploration line from Michipocoten to the Montreal River, which apparently he did not perform.

He received his commission as a D.L.S. in April, 1872, and in 1884 made miscellaneous surveys in Twp. 8, R. 8 West of Principal Meridian.

About 1881 he obtained employment at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba and in May, 1882, he took up his residence there. The C.P. Railway was constructed westward from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie in 1880, the line passing six miles North of the village. In the following year this line was changed to its present location through the Portage. He surveyed subdivisions in the town for T. A. Garland, and made many other surveys in the vicinity.

In the Summer of 1884, being in poor health, he determined to return to his old home at Cayuga to see his father, who was then living. He, his wife and daughter Henrietta, started on their journey and stopped off on the way at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, to visit relatives of his wife, expecting to remain only a few days. He became seriously ill there and died at his brother-in-law's house, Wm. Sutor, on September 21st, 1884, and was buried at LaCrosse. His widow and daughter remained in Wisconsin.

On January 13th, 1859, he married Ann Sutor of Haldimand County, by whom he had eight children, of whom five died in infancy and two during childhood.

The only child surviving is Henrietta Elizabeth, who married Benjamin V. Hole, formerly of London, Ont., and Calgary, Alta., but now living at Burlingame, California.

The widow of John DeCew died at London, Ont., on Nov. 30th, 1905.