

Armouries. The new club premises will doubtless provide better accommodation for our library, and eventually should become the headquarters of many other technical libraries.

We would suggest that the surveyors in each county should investigate the early surveys made in his county, exploratory, base-line work, or township subdivisions, secure such information as he can from descendants of the surveyors who made the surveys, and transmit this information to the Chairman of the Committee. The entire history of the early surveyors and those who made the surveys can never be properly written, but something can be done by the patient efforts of the members throughout the province, supplemented by research in the Crown Lands office.

Year by year a link with the past is forever lost, and what may be obtained to-day may be unattainable to-morrow.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIS CHIPMAN,

Chairman.

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COL. JOHN STAUGHTON DENNIS.

By Chas. Unwin, O.L.S.

Col. Dennis was the son of Joseph Dennis, who lived and died at "Buttonwood" near Weston. The old Dennis home was secured about ten years ago for the Weston Sanitarium. His grandfather, John Dennis, owned and lived on a plot of ground on the north side of King St., Toronto, between Yonge and Victoria.

Col. Dennis was a pupil of Charles Rankin, Deputy Surveyor, and was admitted to practice January 4th, 1842.

In addition to a large country practice he made important government surveys, among which may be mentioned the subdivision of the Indian Peninsula in the north side of Balsam Lake in the Township of Bexley; the northern parts of the Townships of Bentinck and Glenelg; and a number of Indian reserves on the north shores of Lake Huron and Lake Superior.

Mr. H. J. Cambie, of Victoria, B.C., who served his apprenticeship with Col. Dennis, 1857-1861, writes that shortly after

the completion of the Grand Trunk Railway from Montreal to Sarnia, and of the Great Western from Niagara Falls to Windsor, townsites of sufficient size for a city were laid out at many stations. Mr. Dennis was employed in this work. The boom soon burst and by 1861 land surveying was at a low ebb.

Vernon B. Wadsworth and Milner Hart were fellow pupils with Mr. Cambie.

J. S. Dennis, of C.P.R. Lands Department, Calgary, is a son.

Of subdivisions of private parties one of the largest was that of the Crookshanks estate, extending from Robinson St. a few yards north of Queen to Bloor St., and westerly from Crookshanks Lane (now Bathurst St.) to Hope St. (now Manning Ave.)

Mr. Chas. Unwin secured his apprenticeship with Col. Dennis, and after passing his final examination in April, 1852, laid out for Col. Dennis part of the village of Norval.

Col. Dennis married Miss Maria Oliver, of the city of Kingston, sister of Mr. Hugh Scott, of the firm of Scott and Walmsley.

A son of Henry Dennis, brother of Col. Dennis, resides on part of the old homestead at Mount Dennis, between Toronto and Weston.

In 1851-1852 Col. Dennis, William Hawkins, David Gibson and John Knatchbul Roche were appointed Examiners for Provincial Land Surveys.

At the time of his death on July 7th, 1885, which occurred at "The Bungalow," Chelsea, P.Q. (near Ottawa), Col. Dennis was Surveyor General for the Dominion of Canada, which office he had held for years. He was in his 65th year.

### **EDWARD ROBERT JONES, P.L.S.**

**By J. St. V. Caddy, O.L.S., Ottawa.**

Mr. Jones served his apprenticeship with the late Albert P. Salter, with whom he later went into partnership after passing his final examination July 9th, 1850, and practised in the Counties of Essex, Kent and Lambton, having their office at Chatham, Ont. In 1853 Mr. Jones married Miss M. L.