

Victoria, B.C., born 1879. His widow lives with her son in Mexico.

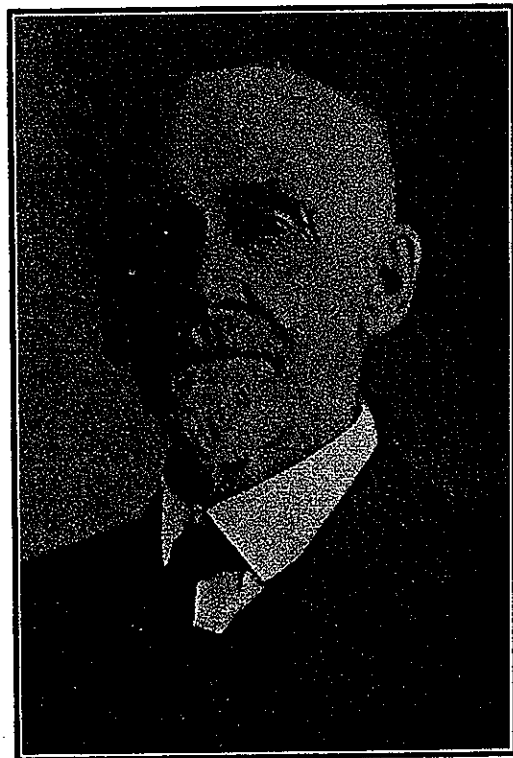
His brothers and sisters were as follows: Mrs. Harriet Hunt, born 1844, died 1918; Mrs. Anna Alexander, born 1846, died 1913; James Henry Gore, born in 1849, died 1885; Thomas Sinclair Gore, born 1851, P.L.S. and B.C. L.S., living in Victoria, B.C., who has contributed the material for this sketch, and Mrs. Mary Griffin born 1853, living in Portland, Oregon.

GEORGE EDWARDS.

In 1820 William Edwards of Portsea, Hants, England, emigrated to Canada with his parents, John and Margaret Edwards. They resided at Kingston for two years, then removed to the Township of Clarence on the Ottawa River. In 1837 he married Ann Cameron. He was a farmer and Justice of the Peace and took a prominent part in public affairs. He died on April 4th, 1881.

His children were as follows: John C., born 1838, now living in Ottawa; James, farmer (deceased); George (deceased); Alex. H., late of Carleton Place, now of Ottawa; Oliver C. (M.D.) of MacLeod, Alta. (deceased); William C., Senator, of Ottawa (deceased); Charles Fraser, merchant, (deceased); Mrs. M. E. Cole of Ottawa, widow; Mrs. (Dr.) Charles Jamieson, Winnipeg; and Miss Effie (deceased).

George Edwards, the subject of this sketch, was born on June 13th, 1842. He obtained his primary education at Ottawa and Peterboro, afterwards graduating at McGill University in Engineering in 1863. He served under articles with Lindsay A. Rus-



sell, and qualified as a P.L.S. on January 6th, 1866. When with Mr. Russell he assisted in the survey of a timber berth up the Coulonge River, about one hundred miles from the mouth, and of another at the mouth of the Amable-du-Fond and a traverse of the South part of Lake Temiscamingue.

Our first era of railway construction had ended, and there being little prospect for engineering work, Mr. Edwards decided, against his will, to enter the mercantile field, and in 1868 opened a general store in Thurso, Quebec, with outlying branch establishments in several Ontario and Quebec towns in the Ottawa valley. In 1896 a conflagration swept the County of Russell involving heavy losses in three towns where he was interested. After settling with his creditors he went to the Klondike in 1898, over the White Pass trail, with thousands of others. He was employed to promote a dredging proposition, but after four years in the country; he returned to Ponoka, Alberta, where he took up professional work—surveying mining claims, subdivision surveys, etc. For the Dominion Government he made the following surveys—In 1900, 1901 and 1902, mineral claims in the Yukon Territory. 1903—Surveys in Yukon and lots near Field, B.C., also subdivision Twps. 38 and 39 R. 7 and 8 W. of 4th; 1904, Subdivision Twp. 41 R. 5 and 6; Twps. 39 and 40, R. 6 and 7 W. of 5th, Rocky Mountain House; 1905, Subdivision Twp. 33, 34 and 35, R. 10 to 13 W. of 4th, E. of Sullivan Lake; 1906, Subdivision Twp. 7 to 11 R. 1, 11 and 12, R. 11 and 12, 10 and 11 R. 13, all W. of 3rd, Wood Mountain; 1907, Subdivision Twp. 27 to 30 R. 13 to 16, pt. 27 R. 17 and 18 W. of 4th, S. of Sullivan Lake; 1908, Subdivision Twp. 52 R. 7 and 8, pt. 52, R. 9, W. of 5th; 1909, Subdivision Twp. 47 R. 5, 47 and 48 R. 6 48 R. 7 W. of 5th; 1914-1916, Mineral claims in Beaver Lake district, Saskatchewan.

In 1916 he made his last survey for mining promoters, an interesting account of which he wrote a few weeks before his death, and gave permission for its publication.

In 1913 he was one of a company to secure a timber berth on Cold Lake, a body of water about 15 miles long and 10 miles wide, situated 60 miles North of the North Saskatchewan River, and on the boundary between the Province of Alberta and Saskatchewan. A projected railway was not built, and in May, 1919, a bush fire occurred that extended over hundreds of miles of area, and this limit was unfortunately involved. Mr. Edwards courageously undertook the salvaging of the damaged timber. In his last letter to the writer he stated that he was living alone in a log cabin in the bush and cooking his own meals, not an ideal kind of life, and that he was about tired of it. He further stated that as soon as his partners would permit he would retire and

he fixed this date as not longer than six months, after which he stated his future requirements were amply provided for.

"The worst feature in the new situation is the prospect of having nothing to do. I never was sick in my life, and feel as fit physically and mentally as I was twenty years ago. I hate inactivity as I do the devil, so what am I to do?"

"In November last I took the notion to row across to the West side of the Lake to get my mail. It involved a pull of eighteen miles for the round trip and I was not fatigued by the exercise. We generally make the trip by motor boat, but she had been laid up so I had to use a fishing boat."

It was thus he wrote on Dec. 30th, 1921.

On January 21st, Mr. Edwards drove over to Cold Lake P.O. with a neighbor, who was to return a little later. He decided to walk back and left the post office at 4 p.m. The trail back to his camp lead around a bay of the lake, and when within a mile and half of his cabin he tried to take a short cut, probably when the blizzard began, but swung too far North and walked six miles when he was overcome by the cold. The thermometer dropped to sixty below that night. His body was discovered by Indians.

The funeral took place at his home in Ponoka, Alta., on February 1st, the funeral service being conducted by Rev. S. Hassel of the Baptist Church. His six sons acted as pall-bearers. For thirty years Mr. Edwards had been superintendent of the Sunday School at Thurso, Que., and at one time he was a member of the Board of Governors of McMaster University.

On Sept. 26th, 1867, George Edwards married Harriet Louise Whitcomb of Lochaber, Que., who died on June 2nd, 1889, in her 47th year. Of this marriage there were ten children, as follows: Six sons—Fred R., b. July, 1868 and H. B., born Jan., 1879, of Ponoka, Alta.; Major G. D. b. Mar., 1877 of Calgary; Dr. A. F. b. Mar., 1872 of Seattle; Rev. R. G., b., Feb., 1882 of Kelowna, B.C., and H. L. b. May, 1889 of Victoria all of whom are now living, also four daughters—Maude M., b. 1870; K. Louise, b. 1875, d. 1886; Gertrude M., b. 1873, d. 1901; Gladys M., b. 1887, d. 1889. Maude M. is now Mrs. M. M. Hutchinson of Seattle.

There are now living two sons of John C. Edwards, six sons of Jas. Nelson Edwards and three sons of Charles Fraser Edwards.

Prof. Wm. Muir Edwards of Edmonton (deceased), was a son of Oliver Cromwell Edwards. The late Senator, W. C. Edwards, was childless.