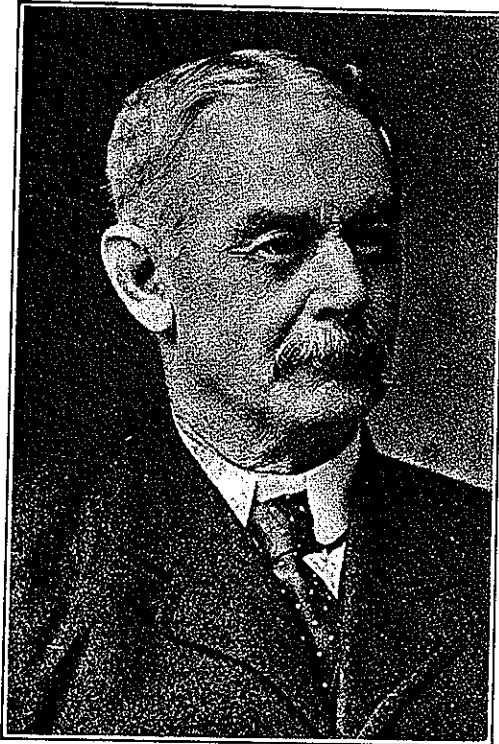


MAURICE GAVILLER

In the death of Maurice Gaviller on January 18th, 1928, the association has lost a staunch supporter and the older members of the association a true friend. Although Mr. Gaviller did not attend the inaugural meeting held on February 23rd, 1886, he joined the new association. Until recent years he attended the annual meetings regularly, took an active part in the discussions and in the work of committees. His last attendance was in 1920.



In 1894 he was elected vice-president and in 1895 president of the association. At the annual dinner on February 26th, 1896, at McConkey's (King St. W.), Mr. Gaviller presided. In his retiring address appeared the following sage paragraph:

"Whilst the prosperity and fellowship of an association such as ours depends largely upon the judgment shown by the executive, its life and develop-

ment depend, if anything, still more, on the activity of the different committees."

The following valuable papers were contributed to the proceedings by Mr. Gaviller: Descriptions, 1891; Original Land Marks, 1889; Road or Not a Road, 1896; Drainage Act, 1902; Double Front Concessions, 1916.

The immediate ancestors of Maurice Gaviller in the male line were as follows:—

Great grandfather, George, married Barbara Wales.

Grandfather, George, of London, England, married Anna Styles. He died there in 1827. They had four sons: George, Augustine, Alexander and Thomas. The two last mentioned came to Canada and took up land near Bond Head, C.W.

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Alexander married Charlotte Williams in 1839, and came to Canada in 1844. His brother Thomas came out in 1845. Alexander had three sons and one daughter. (1) Edwin A. Gaviller, M.D., of Hamilton, Ont., who died in August, 1914, leaving one daughter, Amy. (2) Maurice. (3) George Joseph, who died about 1904, leaving no family, and (4) Henrietta, died 1915.

Thomas Gaviller had three sons: (1) Thomas Frederick, Toronto; (2) Archibald Charles (deceased), (3) George Herbert (Rev.), Buffalo, and four daughters. Dr. Charles Gaviller, of Owen Sound, is the only son of Archibald Charles.

Maurice was born in London, England, on August 12th, 1842, and came to Canada with his parents in 1844. They settled in the vicinity of Bond Head, and from 1851 to 1859, he attended schools at Bond Head, Newmarket and the Barrie Grammar School. He matriculated in Toronto University in 1859, obtaining honours and a scholarship. As, however, he had decided upon Engineering and Surveying as a profession, and as there was no course in these subjects in Toronto, he entered McGill University in 1860, and graduated therefrom in Civil Engineering in 1863.

In the Autumn of 1860, during the U. S. Rebellion friction arose between Great Britain and the United States over the seizure of two delegates from the Southern States who were proceeding to England in the H.M.S. "Trent". They were released in January, 1861, but at the time war between the two countries appeared imminent. British Troops marched overland from Halifax to Montreal in the winter. Mr. Gaviller had joined the "Victoria Rifles" before this, and was present at the reception of the British Troops. He was on military duty in 1863, and was granted a special examination in the autumn with J. L. Reid, but was not required to attend lectures. Walter Shanly set the paper on Engineering which Mr. Gaviller stated was a most practical and sensible document.

After the final examination at McGill, he stopped with Mr. Reid at Bowmanville, awaiting the results, and when there, the "Rossin House," Toronto, was burned.

For the three following years, he was employed in the office of Dennis and Gossage, Toronto, and passed his final examination as a Provincial Land Surveyor on January 6th, 1866. From January to August, 1866, he was employed on the Survey of the Township of Cardwell, as Assistant to Fred A. Baldwin,

P.L.S. In the latter part of the year they made a survey of "Bow Park," near Brantford, for the Hon. George Brown.

In 1867-1868, he was in partnership with H. A. F. MacLeod and Henry Carre, with offices at Belleville and Madoc. In 1869 on Eldorado Gold Mine, N.S., and in 1870-1871 in England and in Toronto.

In January, 1872, he opened an office at Barrie with Shearman G. Bird and Augustus C. Thompson as partners, which partnership continued until the end of 1879.

In 1879-1880, he made a journey around the world, by railway to San Francisco, thence to Hawaiian Islands, New Zealand, Australia, Ceylon, India, Egypt, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, France, Blegium, England and Scotland.

In 1881-82-83 he was employed on Surveys at Clifton and Drummondville (Now Niagara Falls, Ont.), on the International Park and on the Canada Southern Railway.

In 1884, he removed to Collingwood, where he opened an office, and where he resided until his death.

He devoted his attention chiefly to Land Surveying and Drainage Works, and was appointed Engineer for a number of Municipalities, some fourteen in all.

Mr. Gaviller performed the following Municipal Surveys for the Provincial Government:—

March, 1885, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, south half 14 West Gwillimbury.

April, 1891, line between concessions 6 and 7, Tiny Township.

December, 1899, side road between lots 20 and 21, 13th concession, West Gwillimbury.

December, 1909, 12th concession line Nottawasaga.

Owing to failing health he resigned all his official appointments in 1918, after half a century of continuous practice.

Since the summer of 1921 he spent the winter months in Toronto, with the exception of two months in the winter of 1923, when he and Mrs. Gaviller were in Bermuda.

Maurice Gaviller married Catherine Marie Holt, who died at Collingwood on August, 16th, 1923.

Mr. Elihu Stewart contributes the following:—

“As a close friend and fellow practitioner in the same town with Mr. Gaviller I desire to say that his death is to me a bereavement. His long practice as a Surveyor made him an authority on many points connected with his profession, while his social qualities were such as made him a most valued companion.”

“The now well known Osler family came to Canada a short time after and settled on land close to the Gavillers. Rev. Canon Osler was the Rector of the Anglican Church in the village and Mr. Gaviller, senior, was a prominent member of his congregation, as well as an intimate friend of the family.”

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