

Mr. Strange served in the Canadian Forces under Sir Allan McNab in the Rebellion of 1837-38 and was taken prisoner at Detroit.

After passing his ninetieth Birthday, he surveyed property in Rockwood for Mr. Harvey, of Guelph.

He was highly respected, and his humorous jokes will long be remembered by those who knew him.

He died on November 9th, 1906.

Of his fourteen children, Elizabeth, Annie Florence, Ellen Louisa, Emily Augusta, Charles and Edward now survive. His eldest son, Henry, was a practicing physician at Hamilton Hospital and was instrumental in securing an Act of Parliament requiring the registration of Doctors, and was appointed the first medical registrar.

THOMAS FRASER GIBBS



THOMAS-FRASER GIBBS

In the Report for 1893, page 146, will be found a biographical sketch of Thomas F. Gibbs. We herewith present certain additional information with a portrait.

His father's name was Thomas David Gibbs, and his mother's maiden name Agnes Fraser. Thomas Fraser Gibbs was the only son, but there were two daughters. His father died in New York City, and his mother in Kingston shortly after arriving there.

When a youth, he developed a special talent for mathematics and mechanical drawing, and was in the employ of a firm of scientific Instrument Makers in New York, which occupation probably directed his attention to Land Surveying as a profession.

In 1840 he removed to Kingston, and on May 31st, 1841, he received his license as a Deputy Provincial Surveyor for Upper Canada. He studied with George Bruce (admitted January 7th, 1833) who practised in Leeds, Grenville and probably west of Kingston. He was then 29 years of age, and owing

to his professional attainments, soon become one of the most prominent surveyors in Kingston and vicinity.

He was employed for some years on surveys for the Rideau Canal Department, the Royal Engineers, the War Department and in surveying clergy reserves.

About 1860, Mr. Gibbs purchased a farm on the Bay of Quinte, in the Township of Adolphustown at the point where U. E. Loyalists landed under Major Vanalstine on the 16th of June, 1784. His son and namesake managed the farm while the father continued to practise surveying. He also built a steam saw-mill on a cove at the front of his farm and floated logs down the rivers that discharged into the Bay of Quinte, boomed them at his mill and manufactured them into lumber.

Mr. Gibbs was employed on the survey of several townships in the rear of the Midland district for the Government including Township of Hinchinbrooke 1854, Ashby 1856, Anglesea 1857, re-survey in Olden 1860, re-survey in Oso 1861, Township of Humphry 1866, road line from Hinchinbrooke to Madawaska 1852 and road lots Frontenac Rd. 1858.

His survey plans and reports were always made with care, and this systematic accuracy won the confidence of the Government, and all who were concerned in his work. He was appointed as a member of the Board of Examiners for the admission of Land Surveyors in 1864, and presented himself at the meeting of the Board on January 2nd, 1865, but it was not until July, 1872, that Mr. Gibbs was sworn in and took his place as a member of the Board.

Mr. Gibbs surveyed or subdivided many farms in Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, and many stone monuments and post were planted by him, which are in evidence to-day. He and Mr. A. B. Perry, of Ernestown were peacemakers in that large and prosperous district where fertile soil and valuable timber rendered a foot or two of land of importance to the owner. Occasionally, law-suits would ensue over a dispute, but usually these two grand old surveyors, whom all the farmers knew personally and highly respected, were appealed to to settle the points in dispute. The farmers learned to say of them what the good book says, "Blessed are the Peacemakers."

Mr. Gibbs continued to practise until his death on April 17th, 1893.

He married Susanna Crawford, daughter of the late George Crawford, of Kingston, by whom he had five children, one son and four daughters: Agnes, Thomas F., Susanna, Victoria and Minnie, of whom Thos. F. and Minnie now survive, and continue to reside on the old homestead in Adolphustown.