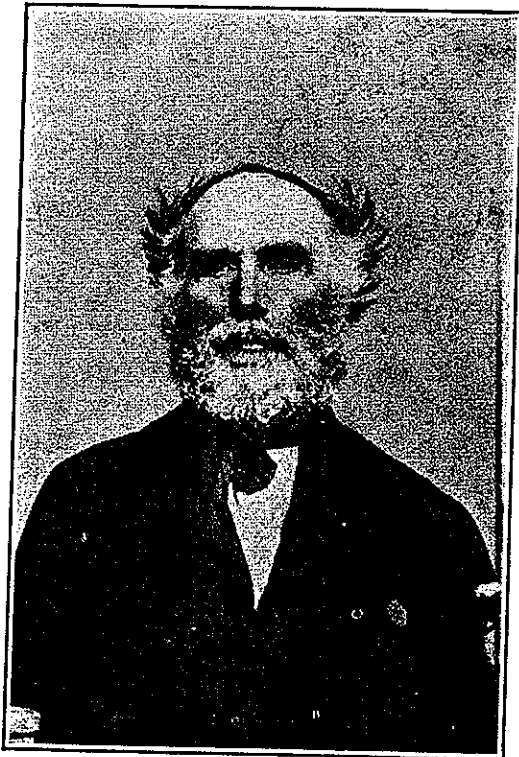


## ROBERT FORD LYNN

Was born in York, England, in 1800, and died in Collingwood, Ont., on May 8th, 1890, and was buried in the family plot at St. Vincent, Ont.

He was appointed a Land Surveyor on January 28th, 1835.



The name of his wife and date and place of his marriage cannot be found by the writer.

He had five daughters and one son, their names being Jane, Agnace, Amelia, Elizabeth, Levina and John.

Amelia, born in Eglinton—now part of Toronto—died recently in Collingwood, Ont., in her 85th year, and was buried in All Saints' Cemetery.

Her father, Robert Lynn, moved to Meaford, where she spent much of her girlhood, and about 45 years ago moved to Collingwood.

In a certified copy of testimonials respecting Mr. Robert F. Lynn, P.L.S. and C.E.

Thornhill, Yonge St., October 2nd, 1841.  
To Hon. J. H. Dunn,  
Receiver General.

Dear Sir:—We take the liberty to introduce to you Mr. Lynn, who has been employed on Yonge St. as Civil Engineer. Judging from the way he has conducted the very difficult work under his charge, we feel satisfied that he will be a fit person to recommend for the District Surveyor. If you can forward his views in any way, it would confer a favour on us, by recommending him to Mr. Harrison and Killiany, etc.

Sgd. Ben Thorne,  
Wm. Crookshank.

Toronto, October 2nd, 1850.

To Rev. Wm. Herkimer.

My Dear Brother:—Mr. Lynn is a P.L.S. and visits Saugeen on Government Business. Give him all assistance you can, and tell Mr. Cathey to do the same. He will want advice about employing hands, which you and Mr. Cathey will be able to give. His testimonials show him to be one whom all must respect. I shall be much pleased to know you and your people have treated him kindly. He has surveyed for the Credit Indians.

Affectionately yours,

Sgd. Enoch Wood.

Home District Office, November 18th, 1843.

To all whom it may concern:—

It being in contemplation to repeal the existing Municipal Law, and no provision being made in the new Corporation Laws for the appointment of District Surveyors; and whereas Mr. Robert Lynn, P.L.S., having been in the service of the Home District, in that capacity, since its incorporation as a Municipal body, we, the undersigned Warden and members of the Council, feeling interested in his prosperity and success, and being fully satisfied with his services, and the testimonials which he possesses, do therefore most cordially recommend him to all persons or bodies requiring the services of a person in his line of business.

Signed by Peter Perry, Kenneth Cameron, John McRae, M. P. Empey, J.P., J. P. Klery, W. Johnson, H. Stewart, Wm. Nelson, Joseph Gould, H. D. Willson, J. Elliot, Clerk of Home District, George Gurnett, Clerk Peace of Home District, E. W. Thompson, Warden H.D., J. W. Gamble, Franklin Jackes, and 14 others. And J. S. Howard, the Treasurer, adds his name. Please permit your Chairman to add that the Peter Perry who heads this list is a brother of his pioneer U.E.L. maternal ancestor.

Toronto, February 5th, 1859.

To all whom this may concern:—

We, the undersigned, ex-Commissioners of the late Easy York Turnpike Trust, hereby respectfully state that Mr. Robert F. Lynn, C.E. and P.L.S. of Canada West, was employed by our Trust in his professional capacity, and we have great pleasure in respectfully stating that we are fully aware

of his experience, economy and industry, as a road surveyor and supervisor, etc. Sgd. Chas. C. Small, James Beaty, Thomas Helliwell.

I certify that the within testimonials are true copies of the original. Sgd. D. L. Layton, J.P. at Meaford, December 15th, 1862.

All this indicates that Mr. Lynn was a thorough-going gentleman.

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### ROBERT LAIRD, O.L.S.

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By H. T. Routly

Robert Laird's father, Robert W. Laird, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, 1832, came to Montreal in 1859, and about two years later came to Toronto. He established the "Gallery of Arts", 79 King Street West, where he sold pictures, framing, engravings, water colours, fine glassware, etc. Here was the first Art Gallery in Toronto, and the works of many of our earlier artists were hung for exhibition and sale there. In 1870 a branch store was opened on Yonge Street and there was another branch in Montreal. The residence from 1876 was at 382 Carlton Street East. Mr. Laird in 1874-76 was Superintendent of the Agricultural and Arts Association and also an early director of the Crystal Palace, both of which institutions were absorbed into what has since become our Canadian National Exhibition. In 1878 the Art Store business was sold to Roberts and Son, and Mr. Laird became Bursar of Mercer Reformatory, which position he held for several years and probably until the time of his death, 1909.

