JAMES MARSHALL

There passed away on September 7th, 1929, at the home of his nephew, in East Wawanosh, a most respected resident, in the person of James Marshall. For some time it was known that his life tenure was short, owing to his advanced age, and his death was looked forward to for some days. On July 3rd, he was confined to his bed, and from then forward he gradually became weaker, until the end came.

In the death of James Marshall is closed a long and useful life. His parents, James Marshall, who died in 1877, and his mother, Catharine Taylor Marshall, who died in 1889, came from England, and settled in Ramsey township, in Lanark County, Ont., where James, the subject of this sketch, was born in 1840.

He remained there with his three brothers, two of whom were William and Robert, and three sisters, Mary, Euphenis and Jane. The three sisters now reside in Lanark County, near Almonte. William moved to a farm in Morris township, in Huron County, after his marriage to Rachel Code, who was an aunt of the distinguished Code family of Land Surveyors. Robert resided in East Wawanosh Township, with whom James made his home in later years.

James decided to locate in Bruce County, where he secured a position as school teacher, at Kinlough, in about the year 1860. He made the journey from Lanark to Kingston by wagon, and by boat to Hamilton; by conveyance and on foot to Kinlough. He engaged at teaching and farming and helping on surveys. This was his initial step to studying surveying with Robert Bell, P.L.S., and he was appointed a Land
Surveyor on October 6th, 1866, the year preceding Confederation.

He remained at Kinlough for twelve years, during which time he secured a number of farm lots around Hollyrood, which he worked on "Shares." In about 1873 he went West, and was for some years engaged at Surveying land in Manitoba and at the head of Lake Superior, in Ontario. Here he continued Surveying for many years, during which time he underwent the many hardships and inconveniences incident to the life of a Surveyor, in the early days, when all the lines were run through the forest primeval. In later years he often recorded some of the instances where he remained at his work through snow and rain, which would have undermined other than a robust constitution.

Mr. Marshall later returned to Bruce County and for a number of years was employed as Surveyor and Civil Engineer for the townships of Kinloss, Culross, East and West Wawanosh, and Morris. He followed this until about twenty years ago, when he retired.

Mr. Marshall was a man held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. He possessed a most remarkable memory, was a keen observer of human nature, and along with this had a fine sense of humor, which made him an inimitable story teller, and his visits to relatives and neighbors alike were anticipated with pleasure.

Mr. Marshall was never married, was a staunch Liberal in politics, and a life long member of the Anglican Church, being a Warden for years in the Kinlough Church, and he was buried in the Union Cemetery.

Quoting Mrs. William Laidlaw, of Blyth, Ont., who is not a relation of James, but whose father was his personal friend, and who so kindly contributed this biography, she writes: "Mr. James Marshall had quite a considerable wealth, which was divided between his nephews, nieces and nieces' children. I shouldn't wonder, having no children to help him spend, was the reason he died wealthy. Or do all Surveyors amass a fortune?"