HENRY R. McEVOY

John Henry McEvoy was born in Ireland, but in early life went to England. He married there Margaret Robertson. Henry Robertson McEvoy, the subject of this sketch was born at Barnstable, Devon, on September 11th, 1849. When he was a child he came to the United States with his parents. Shortly after coming to America, his father left for Australia and never returned. One daughter, Margaret, was born in the United States. Mrs. J. H. McEvoy then moved to St. Mary's, Upper Canada, where her sister lived, and remained there until her death.

Henry R., obtained his elementary education at the Public School and High School at St. Mary's. He then qualified as a school teacher and taught in his home town for some years. His sister, Margaret, married the prominent Land Surveyor, Alexander Niven, on August 17th, 1869. Henry R. became articled to Mr. Niven, but was articled to Wadsworth and Unwin, Toronto, for last of the three years term, and qualified as a Provincial Land Surveyor on July 10th, 1875. He also qualified as a Dominion Land Surveyor.

He opened an office at St. Mary's, and for many years did the town engineering. He resided with his widowed mother and was unmarried. Some years later he opened an office at Sturgeon Falls.

For the Dominion Government he made the following surveys:

Mr. McEvoy surveyed the following townships for the Ontario Government:

1881—Field.
1882—Durnet.
1891—Bastedo.
1898—Parkln.
He died at St. Mary's on October 3rd, 1915.

The following extracts are taken from obituary notices that appeared in local newspapers:—

"'Harry' McEvoy is dead. Few men were better known in St. Mary's and vicinity than Harry McEvoy, civil engineer, and few men would be missed more from the street than he. Well posted on every matter concerning the town, always ready and anxious to discuss any matter on which he was posted, his presence on the street was always welcomed, and speaking as he usually did as a man of authority his statements were convincing, and at election times made him a factor of no small importance in many a contest."

"The beauty of these summer days with the luxuriance of the foliage has brought new hope and increased joy into many lives, and yet many a home in a town the size of St. Mary's has its sadness. The cheery face and sparkling eye and ready tongue of a clever and widely known citizen, Mr. H. R. McEvoy, C.E., is missed from the streets where his witty replies and ready repartee in debate were the common delight of all. For weeks he has been in the hands of a trained nurse under medical care at his home on Church St."