

## WILLIAM MERCER

The subject of this sketch was born on the estate of his father, Graeme Mercer, "Mavishbank", Polton, near Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1883.

Graeme Mercer, the father, was for years British resident of the Province of Scindia, India, and later accompanied Lord Lake to Turkey, and was made a Noble for his services to the Court. The Mercers are a Perthshire (Scotland) family, dating their residence there before the year 1200.



William Mercer came to Canada in 1849 from Scotland, where he had studied surveying and civil engineering.

He articulated himself to William Walsh, of Simcoe, Ont., and on the 12th July, 1856, was appointed a Land Surveyor for Ontario. He was in partnership with Mr. Walsh for a few years.

In 1857 he was married at Simcoe, Ont., to Miss Anna Burnside.

In 1863 he located at Bay City, Mich.

The issue of William and Anna were:

Henry G., born in Canada, May 3rd, 1858.

Charlotte E., born in Bay City, Oct., 1860, married Edward Forsyth, Cheboygan, Mich., had one son Oscar, who died young. Charlotte died March, 1928.

Adelaide M., born Bay City, April 6th, 1864.

George B., born Bay City, Oct. 4th., 1867, married Leona Martin of Michigan. No children.

Frederick W., born Bay City, Aug. 16th, 1870.

Walter, born Bay City, Feb. 3rd, 1873.

Capt. Arthur E., born Bay City, July 2nd, 1876. Killed in France, 1915.

Jessie L., born Bay City, July 2nd, 1876. Died Windsor Sept. 26th, 1924.

The brothers and sisters of William Mercer are: George Graeme Mercer; Lawrence Mercer; John Mercer; Thomas J. Mercer; Elizabeth Mercer; Annie Mercer; all deceased.

In 1877 William Mercer was in charge of the rebuilding of the Pinconning and Glencoe Railway which was named Saginaw Bay and North Western. He was Superintendent of the reorganized road until 1879, when he became chief engineer of the Quincy Vandalia and Eastern Railway of Illinois. He held this position until the fall of 1882, when he returned to Bay City and was made President of the Pinconning Manufacturing Co. Engaged in lumbering operations.

He died in Bay City on March 28th, 1889.

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