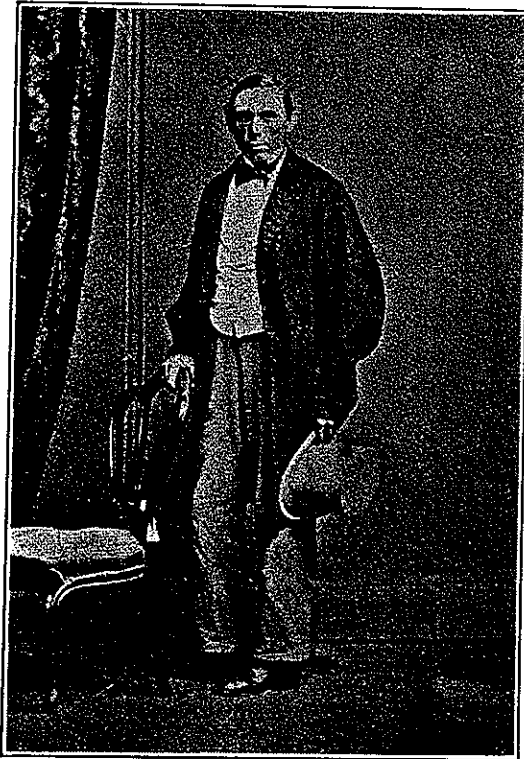


## DAVID CHARLES O'KEEFFE

The subject of this sketch was born in Cork, Ireland, in 1825. He graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, as B.A.C.E.

He was a son of Michael O'Keeffe, a land owner in Cork, Ireland, and of Ellen Courtney, formerly of Ballyrana County, of Limerick.



In about 1848 he was appointed County Surveyor for the south riding of Tipperary, Ireland, and had six or eight Deputy Surveyors under him with headquarters at Castel.

He came to Hamilton, Ont., with his brothers and sisters. The latter settled in the U.S.A.

On the 1st October, 1855, he married Margaret Campbell, who was born in Donegal, Ireland, and who was a daughter of Neil Campbell and Margaret Campbell, in St. Mary's Cathedral, Hamilton, Ont.

He articulated himself as a student at Surveying to William Boulton, of Hamilton, on February 14th, 1860, and was appointed a Land Surveyor for Ontario on the 6th July, 1861.

He resided in the stone residence he erected in the sixties on the Mountain brow, formerly in the township of Barton, in the County of Wentworth, now in the City of Hamilton, where Mr. James Chisholm, K.C., now resides. His office was on John Street, South Hamilton.

He enjoyed an extensive survey practice in the City of Hamilton and in the neighbouring municipalities throughout that region.

The children of David and Margaret were:

A. Mary Ellen O'Keeffe, born January 22nd, 1857, who married John Dillon of Bothwell, Ont. No children.

B. David John O'Keeffe, born June 21st, 1860, who married Mary Kavanagh on August 6th, 1888. Born to them were—

1. Mary Evelyn, who married Howard Bailey and now lives in Binscarth, Man.
2. Nora Stella—unmarried—now in an insurance office, and residing at 915 Seventh St., Santa Monica, Calif., U.S.A., with her mother.
3. Desmond Charles.

C. William Charles O'Keeffe, born May 26th, 1862, died in June, 1931. He married Gertrude O'Neill at Fort Ellice. Children born to them—

- 1, Mary Grace; 2, Margaret Agnes; 3, Francis William Charles; 4, Gertrude May; 5, Anna Dorothy; 6, Olive Cecelia; 7, David Charles. All living.

D. John Michael O'Keeffe, born September 4th, 1867, married Lucy Chatfield at Bexhill, England. Born to them were—

- 1, David; 2, Kathleen; (both deceased) 3, John Michael; 4, Margaret Mary; 5, Agnes Vera (living).

Francis W. C. O'Keeffe, who is the son of William Charles O'Keeffe, is now pre-empting the homestead that his father took up in 1880.

On the 26th May, 1879, Sandford Flemming, of Ottawa, Engineer-in-Chief of the Canadian Pacific Railway, issued a Memorandum of Instructions to David C. O'Keeffe, according to directions of the Hon. The Minister, to undertake an exploration in the Northwest Territories: "The tract to be examined is bounded on the south by the River Saskatchewan from Carleton to Cumberland House. On the west by the Hudson Bay route, extending from Carleton northerly, via Lake Pelican to the Isle-a-la-Crosse. And it may be considered to be bounded on the north by the English or Churchill River. One object of the examination is to gain information respecting the practicability of establishing a line of railway running easterly from about Pelican Lake to a good crossing of the Saskatchewan at or east of Fort-a-la-Corne. Special attention will therefore be directed to the topographical features of the country in that quarter whether or no obstacles to railway construction exist and if they be met the means by

which they may be avoided. Examination to be full and complete, embracing physical characteristics, nature of soil, sub-soil, whether prairie or timber and its character, the flora, water supply, presence of economic minerals, rainfall, dew, temperature, and general atmospheric conditions. The explorations to be made with the requisite attention to distances and direction that the several lines followed can be marked on the map, etc." No doubt the report of Mr. O'Keeffe may be found in the Dept. of Railways, Ottawa.

From and including 1880, the following is a list of the Dominion Land Surveys made by David C. O'Keeffe:

1880—Subdivision of townships 25 and 26, Ranges 1, 2, 3 and 4, West of 2nd Meridian.

1881—Subdivision of Tps. 26, ranges 29 and 30, West of the Principal Meridian. Subdivision of township 6, Ranges 1 to 10, West 2nd, Prin. Meridian.

1882—Subdivision of townships 29 to 32, Ranges 3 to 5, Townships 33 to 34, Range 3, West of 3rd Meridian and township outlines.

1883—Subdivision of townships 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, Ranges 24, 25 and 26, West of the Third Meridian.

1886—Survey of road in township 16, Range 28, and survey of lake in township 18, Range 28 W. of Prin. Meridian.

1888—Correction Survey—Removal of river lot posts and mounds West of the fourth Meridian.

1895—Survey of School site in township 25, Range 4, West of the second Meridian.

In about the year 1882 David C. O'Keeffe moved from Hamilton to the North Half of Sec. 35; Township 16; Range 28; West of the Prin. Mer., on the bank of the Assiniboine, overlooking the ancient Fort Ellice, Manitoba. And the children of his son William Charles O'Keeffe, are now living upon that homestead taken up fifty-three years ago.

William Charles and David John accompanied their father on surveys.

The City of Yorkton stands in one of the townships surveyed by him.

David C. O'Keeffe resided previous to his death with his son William Charles, and died on the 14th September, 1898, aged seventy-three, and his wife, Margaret, died on May 23rd,

1892, both being laid at rest in the little Catholic cemetery at the now-abandoned, historic Fort Ellice. The P.O. taking its place is St. Lazare on the C.N. Ry.

David C. O'Keeffe was a Roman Catholic in religion, and a Conservative in politics.

The writer met David John O'Keeffe in Saltcoats, Sask., in 1898, and passed the homestead of David C. O'Keeffe on the Assiniboine in August, 1910.