

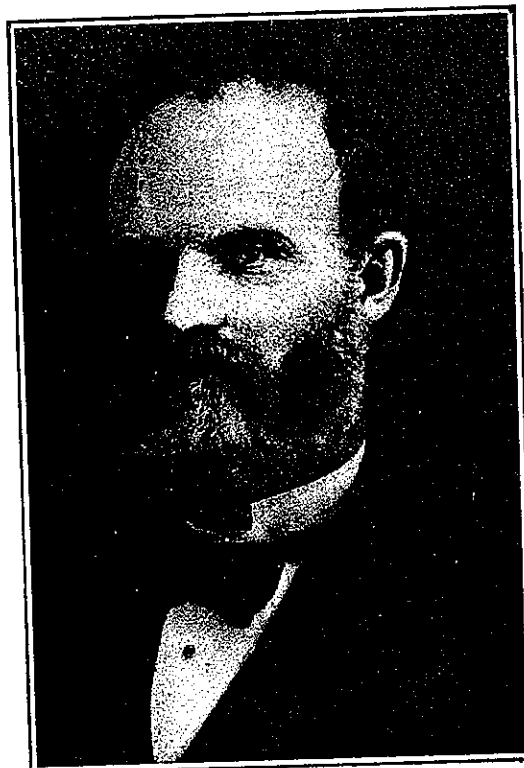
SAMUEL PETERS

Samuel Peters was born on September 13, A.D. 1822, at Willingdon, Devonshire, England. His father, John Peters, was a successful contractor. He married at the age of twenty-three, and five years later came to Canada and settled in the town of London, Ontario.

As a civil engineer he had the very valuable experience of working under two very distinguished men, Sir Marc Isambard Brunel and his son, Isambard Kingdom Brunel, who built the Great Western Railway in England, and it was on this particular work that Mr. Peters was engaged before coming to Canada.

Mr. Peters received his commission as a Provincial Land Surveyor shortly after coming to Canada, April 25th, 1851. He was a man of great ability, indomitable energy and enterprise. In his professional work, while holding the position of city engineer of London, Ontario, in the year 1855, he designed and erected the City Hall, which is still standing on Richmond Street, and now occupied by the Royal Bank of Canada. It is a fine example of classic architecture. He also planned and directed the laying of the sewer system of the city. These and other public works made for Mr. Peters such an enviable reputation that he was compelled to retire from his official position as city engineer to look after his private interests. He held the position of city engineer of the city from 1855 to 1859.

In the early sixties he made several municipal surveys for the Government of Upper Canada. The boundary lines of certain concession lots and side lines of the township of North



Dorchester were established by him, and these surveys and others made by the late William McMillan were confirmed by an Act of Parliament, 26 Vic., chap. 50, 1863. While city engineer he made a very valuable survey of the city of London under the authority of a resolution of the city council. Stone monuments were planted at the intersection of the centre lines of nearly all the streets in the city. These monuments have been recognized and used by the Ontario Land Surveyors in their practice.

Up to the time of his death he continued in active practice as a land surveyor, civil engineer and architect. He also held the important position of valuator and agent of a trust and loan company. His practice as a land surveyor in the city of London and other parts of the province was very extensive. His reputation with the legal profession for accuracy and reliability stood very high.

Mr. Peters took an active part in promoting the interests of the community. In politics he was a Liberal, and was at one time a candidate to represent the city of London in the House of Commons. At the time of his death he was chairman of the Board of License Commissioners. He was an active worker in the Queen's Avenue Methodist Church, and was a trustee and treasurer at the time of his death.

Mr. Peters died at London, Ontario, on February 2nd, 1882. It was while surveying the route of a projected new railway from London to connect with the Canada Southern Railway that he contracted the illness that led to his death. He was survived by his widow and four daughters, who are still living; also by two sons, who followed their father in the profession of architecture. Frank, the elder, studied his profession in the office of Mr. Irving, a leading architect in the city of Toronto. He practised for several years in the city of London. He served with the 7th Battalion in the North West Rebellion in the year 1885, through which he had the great misfortune to lose an arm. He removed to Winnipeg, where he had a successful practice until his death about two years ago.

Mr. Wesley Peters is engaged in his profession at present in the vicinity of Buffalo, New York.