

## RICHARD COTSMAN WRIGHT

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Richard Cotsmán Wright—son of John Wright and Jane Cotsmán Wright—was born on the fifth of January in London, Ontario, in the year 1860. His parents were of Irish birth, coming to Canada in 1832. They settled in London district, being among its earliest pioneers. He afterwards joined with James Durand, forming the long established firm of Wright and Durand, builders and contractors, which was well known in London and the surrounding country for the erection of churches and public buildings. Richard Cotsmán Wright received his primary education in the Separate School under the instruction of Mr. Samuel Brown, later continuing his studies in the private school of Mr. Thompson. In his seventeenth year he entered, as a student, the office of Messrs. Wm. Robinson and Thos. Tracey, Provincial Land Surveyors and Architects. On January 6th, 1881, he passed his final examination in Toronto as Provincial Land Surveyor, and later in the year left London for New York. Twenty-five years were spent in New York City, Brooklyn and Springfield, Mass., where he held important positions with many of the leading architects. On a visit to London he was offered by Hon. Mr. Hyman, Minister of Public Works, Ottawa, the position of Assistant Chief Architect, which he accepted, and in 1906 took up his work in the Department of Public Works. He spent two years in Toronto superintending the Government wing of the terminal station. He was then recalled to Ottawa to resume his position as Assistant Chief, when the following day he was installed as Chief Architect, which position he held up to the time of his death. Richard C. Wright devoted his service to the work of the department, as



the important structures in Ottawa and throughout the Dominion bear evidence. His last work was a design for the "Canadian Women's Memorial Building." Richard C. Wright died January 18th, 1927. He was unmarried.

Two sisters survive him—Miss Jennie Wright and Mrs. M. P. McDonagh, London, Ontario.

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