

form of arresting and capturing several Canadian subjects and imprisoning them in Fort Garry. The Governor, Sir William McDougall, turned back from his journey at Pembina, with Colonel Dennis, Surveyor General, before reaching Portage la Prairie, and returned to Ottawa. Major Webb and Colonel Boulton decided to proceed to Fort Garry with their respective companies, to release the prisoners. When they had arrived within two or three miles of the Fort, they were overtaken by a terrific blizzard, which compelled the whole party to seek shelter in an old mission church, and whilst there, Riel was informed of their presence and intercepted them while they were proceeding towards the Fort. In the parley that ensued, Major Webb and Colonel Boulton promised to return to Portage la Prairie on the strength of promises favorable to the prisoners which Riel made them. Colonel Boulton passed quite near the Fort on his return, and he with his whole company were surrounded and made prisoners. Scott, who was one of the company, was afterwards shot. Major Webb, who had no confidence in Riel's promises, made a wider detour with his company, and so escaped.

But this was not the only occasion on which Riel and Major Webb came in contact, and it is related that in one instance Riel temporarily stopped the survey and set his foot on the survey chain to prevent further progress by Major Webb. Major Webb's experience as a surveyor in that part of the Northwest was one made up of arduous toil and hardship, exposed to the most inclement weather and through districts where all available water was impregnated with alkali. He made the most important early surveys in that vast district, and his presence in the Northwest was almost continuously required from 1868 to the time of his last departure after the termination of the Riel Rebellion of 1885. The inroads made upon his constitution by so many years of strenuous life caused his return home to Brighton in 1886, invalided, from which condition he never fully recovered, dying in 1896.

It was Major Webb who laid out the town of Brighton, the present map of which is entirely founded on the plans of his survey. For many years he was a member of the Board of Examiners for Surveyors in Toronto and Ottawa. He was president of the Conservative Association, of which political party he was always a staunch supporter, and during the campaign an active worker.

In 1875 he married Miss Theresa E. Sanford, daughter of the

late T. D. Sanford, Esq., of Brighton, and who still survives him and resides in their old home at Brighton. The children by this union were born in the following order:—

(1) Dennis R. S. Webb (namesake of the late Colonel Dennis who figured conspicuously in the early history of our Northwest Territories), born 1876, entered the Toronto University 1898, taking a course in Arts, but died of typhoid fever in his third year (1901).

(2) Dr. Adam Lindsay Webb, born 1879, received his preliminary education in the public and high schools of Brighton, entered the Medical School of Toronto University in 1899, and graduated in 1903, obtaining the degree of M.B.

(3) Rosaline May Webb, the youngest of Major Webb's children, resides with her mother at their villa residence, Brighton.

William Wilson Webb, Esq., a son of the Pioneer, was a leading merchant in Brighton for a great many years. He represented Northumberland during the later years of the old John Sanfield McDonald Government, whose policy he opposed, and it was by the reason of his vote on a division that the Government was defeated or overthrown. He has a son a leading lawyer in Colborne, and a daughter who married Dr. R. C. Wade, of Brighton. His eldest son and youngest daughter reside in Toronto; the former being a stock and share broker. The latter married Dr. Fred Warner of that city. The first five of William W. Webb's children died either quite young or in infancy.

In 1851 W. W. Webb and his brother George started for the California gold fields by way of the Isthmus of Panama, but before they reached there they were shipwrecked and managed to reach an island nearby. They were hospitably received by the natives and taken care of, and soon afterwards brought off by a ship belonging to the British Government that forwarded them on to the Isthmus. Here Wilson was attacked by yellow fever and his brother George thought of making arrangements to send him back home to Canada, but could not think of leaving him alone without care, so he himself resolved to return with him, which he accordingly did. Their people at home read of the shipwreck and saw among the list of passengers drowned, the names of George and Wilson Webb, and, of course, gave them up as dead. When George appeared on the old farm at Salem, his mother for a mo-