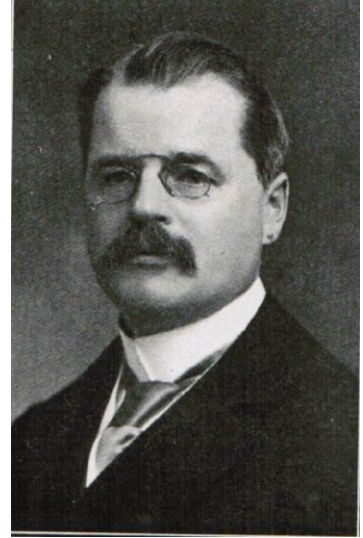


CHARLES CANNIFF JAMES, LLD, CMG

Inducted 2010

Charles Canniff James was born in Napanee, Ontario on June 14, 1863 to Charles James, who was a Justice of the Peace and later Mayor of Napanee, and his wife Ellen Canniff. Through the Canniff line, he was a descendant of Loyalists Solomon Huff and David Dulmage. James was educated at Napanee High School and Victoria College in Cobourg where he received a Bachelor degree in 1883 and Masters in 1885. He was appointed as Assistant Master of Cobourg Collegiate Institute from 1883 to 1886, then served as Professor of Chemistry at the Agricultural College in Guelph from 1886 to 1891. In June of 1891 he was appointed as Deputy Minister of Agriculture and held that position until 1912, when he was appointed as Commissioner to administer the new Dominion Agricultural Act from 1912 to 1914.



In a varied career, James also was elected as Director of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, and served as President of the Ontario Historical Society from 1902 to 1904. He was appointed a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1905, member of the Canadian Olympic Committee in 1908, and Member of the Senate of the University of Toronto's Victoria College. He received a Gold medal in Natural Science from Victoria College in 1883, and an honorary Doctorate from the University of Toronto in 1912. He was created a Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George in 1911.

This true Renaissance Man was also an author, publishing *Agriculture* in 1898, *A Bibliography of Canadian Poetry* in 1899, *The First Legislature of Upper Canada* in 1902, the *Downfall of the Huron Nation* in 1907 and Biographies of William Dummer Powell and David William Smith. On his death, his papers and collections were donated to the Library of Victoria College held today as the Charles Canniff James Fonds.

He was married to Frances Lillian Crossen in 1887 and had one son, Wilfred Crossen James.

Charles Canniff James died in St. Catharines, Ontario on June 23, 1916 and was buried in Cobourg.