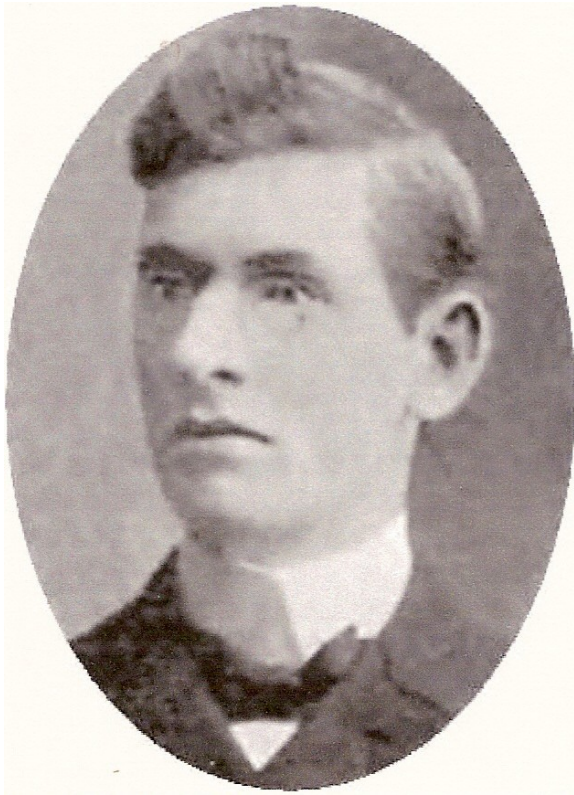


D. H. Stirling



Duncan Howard Stirling, the son of Duncan Stirling and Harriet Ann Trout, was born 17 July 1872 Meaford, Grey Co., Ontario and died 12 July 1902 St. Catharines, Ontario

Married Louisa Victoria Campbell McClure 07 Mar 1896 in Toronto, York Co., Ontario.

She was born 04 Feb 1871 in Scarborough Twp., York Co, Ontario

Attended the Nashville Bible School 1895-96. Listed as from East Toronto, Ontario

1888

Howard Stirling

August 16

D. Stirling baptized removed to Toronto
Dec 1888 died in St. Catharines
The Meaford Journals, 1848-1998, p. 41

Jordan church stands well in that it has kept records almost from the first, which can be said of few older churches. . . . Jordan furnishes a list of evangelists since 1854, which is revealing. . . . Other names are: . . . Duncan H. Stirling, W. M. Wright, H. M. Evans, D. H. Jackson, C. G. McPhee, R. K. Akers*, O. H. Tallman, A. Stewart.

The Disciples of Christ in Canada since 1830, by Reuben Butchart. Toronto: Canadian Headquarters' Publications Churches of Christ (Disciples), 1949, p. 426.

Hamilton, Wentworth County, Ontario
At first but five persons met at the home of Bro. Wright; in 1899, they were assisted by J. Howard Stirling for a time and H. M. Evans also served them as evangelist. Others who served in this way were C. Tallman, S. M. Jones, and a meeting was held by C. G. McPhee in 1922. This was after the congregation had secured a very suitable building, used formerly by St. Peters' Anglican church at 77 Sanford Avenue S.
The Disciples of Christ in Canada since 1830, by Reuben Butchart. Toronto: Canadian Headquarters' Publications Churches of Christ (Disciples), 1949, p. 559
<http://www.mun.ca/rels/restmov/texts/rbutchart/dcc/DCC25.HTM>

...

After Sherman left, preachers of a more conservative bent came to Beamsville. Besides W. D. Campbell, these included H. F. Stevens, H. M. Evans, Samuel Keffer, Howard Stirling, Samuel Whitfield and S. M. Jones. ... Stirling, Whitfield, and Jones were all young men who had attended

Nashville Bible School in Tennessee and were strongly opposed to instrumental music and missionary societies, where were subjects of great controversy in the brotherhood at that time. ... These Nashville trained preachers were also intensely evangelistic, and these were years of long and successful gospel meetings.

...

A Church upon the New Testament Alone: the History of the Beamsville Church of Christ, 1832-1982. Beamsville, Ont.: Beamsville Church of Christ, 1982, p. 9-11.

Stirling

W. F. Neal

It is with feelings of sorrow that I have been called upon, from a sense of duty, to record the untimely transition of the spirit of our beloved brother, D. Howard Stirling. On February 12, 1902, the grim monster kissed the eyelids down, and I verily believe the angels bore his spirit home to paradise. It was my good fortune to have been intimately associated with Brother Howard. I knew him to be a zealous, loyal advocate for the "old paths." Last spring, when he extended an invitation to the writer to come to Canada and hold a series of meetings, and to be present at the June meeting, he was quite desirous that I should know that this meeting was not for the purpose of legislating, but of social intercourse among the brethren of Ontario. His work was truly a work and labor of love. When seeing him so desirous of the advancement and perpetuation of the cause in Ontario, and specially in the Niagara peninsula, I was reminded of the great apostle's care of the churches, and were it Scriptural it would

have seemed that he was the bishop of the diocese. A good man has fallen. A work well begun, though the worker has been called to another field, yet his good works still follow him. Brother Stirling will be missed, the church at St. Catharines and Jordan, for whom he has been laboring for the past three years, and who appreciated his labors, will feel their loss. The June meeting in the Niagara peninsula, which he revived, and of which he was the leading spirit, will mourn his untimely call. Only six years a preacher of righteousness. Only six years a husband. A wife (nee Mary McClure, of Toronto), a devout, loving Christian companion, and two sweet girls, Marjorie and Gladys, are bereft of husband and father. May our heavenly Father, in his infinite love, have mercy on this stricken household. His father, Brother D. Stirling, of Toronto, and his mother, Sister Hattie Stirling, both prostrated with bodily afflictions, had it not been for their Christian fortitude, could not have borne this sudden shock. You, dear brother editor of the Way, as well as myself, have enjoyed the hospitality of their home, and love them as Christians, and we can fully sympathize with them in this their sad hour of bereavement. His dear wife said to the writer that he told her a few moments before his departure from this life, that if it was the Lord's will he was ready. Let us emulate his example. The esteem in which he was held was attested by the large attendance at his funeral in St. Catharines, preached by two of his fellow Nashville Bible School mates, Brother Jones and Wright. At Toronto, Brother Barclay, Campbell, Forrester and the writer took part in his funeral service, and a large concourse of appreciative brethren and friends being

present, the last rites were paid, and all that was mortal of Brother Howard Stirling was consigned to the charnel house of the dead. As an acquaintance and friend I feel that I am a better man by having known our dead brother. May we all who feel our loss so live and emulate this example that on the golden shore of eternity we may meet our brother and together bask in the sunshine of the presence of our Savior, and where faith will be exchanged for sight and hope lost in sweet fruition around the great white throne, enjoy the presence of the Redeemer forever.

Werford, Ont.

The Way, April 10, 1902, p. 15-16

STIRLING

On February 12, 1902, another good and useful man went from us in the person of Brother D. H. Stirling. Being only twenty-nine years of age, he was just entering upon what might have been, and likely would have been, the most useful years of his life. He has accomplished much good where he labored; and although he now rests from the toils and cares of earth, his works will follow him. He was a good preacher—mild, yet firm and true; full of hope and trust. But few men would have accomplished the same amount of work as he in the same physical condition. One of his favorite and best sermons was from this text: “Blessed are they that do his commandments.” One with such a thought uppermost in his life will not wander very far from the path of rectitude. Ere this he has realized the meaning of that glorious promise. Faith is now lost in sight, and hope is changed into sweet fruition. Tired? No, not tired now, but resting where joy is unalloyed and bliss is forever sweet. The greater part of his work was done in and around Beamsville, St. Catharines, and Jordan—all in Ontario, Canada. My first acquaintance with Brother Stirling was at the Nashville Bible School, in 1896. Since

1898 I have been intimately acquainted, with him. I knew him to be a faithful worker and a true Christian. He leaves a young widow and two sweet little girls, a father and mother, a brother and sister, and a host of friends to mourn his departure. S. M. JONES.

Gospel Advocate, 1902, p. 314

Howard Stirling.—The following on the life of Brother Howard Stirling, written by Brother Madison Wright, is from *The Way*: “‘She hath done what she could,’ said the Savior of one who had served him. This is truly a commendation to be coveted; it tells a story of earnest effort. Such, I believe, was the life of D. H. Stirling. He was the son of consecrated parents. His father, Duncan Stirling, spent the best part of his life preaching the word. Howard was born in St. Vincent, Gray County, Ontario, Canada, on July 17, 1872; began preaching in Nashville, Tenn., in the winter of 1896; and died at St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, on February 12, 1902. He leaves a young wife and two baby girls to mourn their loss. Being his roommate at the Nashville Bible School, present when he preached his first discourse, and his coworker, I can testify in harmony with the testimony of his life’s work: he did what he could. He contended earnestly and fearlessly for the faith once delivered to the saints; and with that record to leave behind him, and that account to render to his Judge, he left the world. ‘And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.’ (Rev. 14:13.) The blessed reward of faithfulness, the sweet fruition of earnestness! O may we each so work that Jesus may say in the end, when he takes all into consideration: ‘He hath done what he could!’”

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I knew Brother Stirling, and loved him for his work's sake. He was a pure, good, and true man. When I was in Ontario I had the pleasure of hearing him preach and of being with him in his Christian home. He was held in high esteem by the churches where he labored, because he had the cause of the Master at heart and worked in self-sacrifice for its advancement. He was faithful in service and loyal to the work of God. A valiant soldier has laid his armor by and an untiring worker has gone to rest—we believe, into that rest that remains for the people of God. It looks sad to us that one so young, and whose life was so full of promise, should fall a victim thus early to death; yet “we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose.” We deeply sympathize with Sister Stirling and her fatherless children, and commend them to him who is “a father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows.”
Gospel Advocate, 1902, p. 257

News of City and Vicinity

Rev. D. H. Stirling, pastor of the Christian church, passed away at his Queen street home on Wednesday evening after suffering for two weeks with an acute attack of la grippe. The deceased was a native of Meaford, and has been a resident of this city for between two and three years. He was a devout disciple of the Master he loved, and his consistent Christian life won for him the respect and regard, not only of his congregation, but of all who knew him. A sorrowing widow and two small children are left to mourn the loss of a loving and tender husband and father.

St. Catharines Standard, Feb. 12, 1902, p. 3

Died.

STIRLING – In this city, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 12th, 1902, D. H. Stirling, Disciple minister, aged 29 years.

The funeral will take place on Friday afternoon, the 14th inst., at 2 o'clock, from his late residence, Queenston street, to the Church of Christ, corner of Raymond and Beecher streets, where a religious service will be held. Interment at Toronto.

St. Catharines Standard, Feb. 12, 1902, p. 3

An Earnest Life Madison Wright

“She hath done what she could,” said the Savior of one who had served him. This is truly a commendation to be coveted. It tells a story of earnest effort. Such, I believe, was the life of D. H. Stirling. He was the son of consecrated parents. His father, Duncan Stirling, spent the best of his life preaching the Word. Howard was born in St. Vincent, Grey county, Ontario, Canada, July 17, 1872; began preaching in Nashville, Tenn., in the winter of 1896; and died at St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, February 12, 1902. He leaves a young wife and two baby girls to mourn his loss. Being a room-mate at the Nashville Bible School, present when he preached his first discourse, and his coworker, I can testify in harmony with the testimony of his life's work – he did what he could. He contended earnestly and fearlessly for the faith once delivered to the saints; and with that record to leave behind him, and that account to render to his Judge, he left the world, “And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from thenceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them” (Rev. 14:13). The blessed reward of faithfulness! the sweet fruition of earnestness! Oh, may we each so work that Jesus may say in the end when he takes all into consideration, “He hath done

what he could.”

The Way, April 10, 1902, p. 13

Ontario Marriage Registration: 15033-96
Duncan STERLING, 23, clergyman,
Meaford, Cleveland Ohio, s/o Duncan
STERLING & Harriet TROUT?, married
Louisa **McCLURE**, 25, Scarborough,
Peterborough, d/o Joseph McCLURE &
Jane GUNN, witn: Christena YOUNG &
Sarah WAUGH, both of Toronto, 7 March
1896