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Sommario/riassunto	"Gentlemen Engineers tells the engaging story of the working lives of Frank and Walter Shanly, two well-connected nineteenth-century Canadian civil engineers and businessmen who worked on many of the significant projects of the age. Drawing on rich documentary sources, Richard White reveals details of their work, not just in the office and in the field, but in their homes and private studies as well." "The most striking discovery White makes is that when the brothers entered the civil engineering profession in the 1840s, it was already an established profession with a fairly high social status. The Shanlys were from an old Irish gentry family, but found the profession quite compatible with their

social position and gentry culture. The author thoroughly explores the connection between the Shanlys as engineers and as gentlemen." "White finds another unexpected theme in the Shanlys' lives. In much of the recent social history of business, studies of elite nineteenth-century businessmen have tended to concentrate on how these men acquired, consolidated, and transmitted power and status over generations. But the careers of Frank and Walter Shanly were, in fact, full of hard work, struggle, and disappointment." "This study is an important contribution to our understanding of the professionalization of civil engineering, and to the modernization of business practices in nineteenth-century Canada."--Jacket.
