

members of the legal and medical profession, ministers of the gospel, retired gentlemen, merchants, farmers and others.

For several years the society has been presided over by the Rev. H. Scadding, D.D., author of "Toronto of Old," and to whose untiring efforts we are indebted for the monument lately erected on the Toronto Exhibition grounds, showing the exact spot on which the first white settlers commenced to trade with the aborigines when Toronto was an Indian camping ground. Those early French settlers called their stockade "Fort Rouille" or "Fort Toronto," which was the nucleus of our Queen City of the West, and consequently a place of interest to the present generation.

As above stated the members of the association at their meetings read interesting papers about the early settlers, many of whom were the U. E. Loyalists who were driven from their homes at the time of the American Revolution, but found an asylum under the British flag, and for their loyalty were rewarded by grants of wild land which has now become valuable to their descendants.

At one of those meetings the writer was requested to contribute a paper, and he condensed his ideas in the following lines which we reproduce, entitled :

YORK PIONEERS,

Instituted 1869.

(This poem, by E. M. Morphy, one of the York Pioneers, was respectfully dedicated to Rev. H. Scadding, D.D., on his being unanimously elected as president of the society for the fifth term in succession, March 2nd, 1886.

When but a lad and in my teens some fifty years ago
I bade farewell to Erin's bowers and mountains crowned with snow,
Then westward steered for Canada with mingled hopes and fears
To join the youths now grown to men and called "The York Pioneers."

A name derived from town of York and county of the same,
Once an Indian camping ground, but now of city fame ;
Whose growth of late unparallelled both stimulates and cheers
Our revered worthy president and all the "York Pioneers."

The writer planted on this soil like sapling soon took root,
And now the branches of the tree have yielded plenteous fruit ;
Who, proud of their Canadian birth, all hope to spend their years
In Canada, their native land, and home of "York Pioneers."

A country blessed with inland seas and rivers long and wide,
Broad prairies, mines and timberland, our heritage and pride ;
While farms so rich produce such crops her sons need have no fears,
But faith in God of Providence and join the "York Pioneers."

Nor do we trust in this alone, but trade and commerce too—
Our factories are numerous and exports not a few ;
Of fruit and dairy produce, good horses and fat steers,
The product of our cultured fields and skill of "York Pioneers."