

INTRODUCTION

Through all ages the world has recognized the Hero. In the earlier days of Mankind it was the man who fought the bravest fight and did the noblest deeds in war who was the Hero. Ideals, however, changed, and in later periods it was the men and women who willingly sacrificed themselves for others who were the heroes. It is of the self-sacrificing labors of the latter class we desire to make mention in these pages. The early pioneers of these Eastern townships of Ontario, who came into the forests to hew out homes for themselves, build churches and schools, open up roads and clear the farms, are no less Heroes than they who have won fame in war in any age of the world. We of the

present day recognize that to us has been given the solemn custody of a rich tradition, a sacred deposit of thought and prayer, and aspiration and achievement. It is good to encircle the walls of Zion, to tell her towers and bulwarks, to sing as we make the joyful round. May the purpose of this celebration be to enable us to enter new covenants and march on with re-inspired hearts into fields of nobler service. Let us be responsive to the Divine claim and we shall be receptive to the Divine Power and be willing to share the Divine travail for souls, thus spiritual life will be quickened and our semi-centennial will be as springtime with promise of an abundant harvest.