

LAURA SECORD.

I — **Who was she ?** This Canadian heroine was the eldest daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Dewey Ingersoll, and was born at Great Barrington, Mass., in December, 1775. After the Revolution her father becoming dissatisfied with the vagaries of the new Government and attracted by Governor Simcoe's offer of lands, removed to Upper Canada, now Ontario, where he settled on the banks of the River La Tranche, now the Thames, on the site of the thriving town of Ingersoll, which was named after him by his eldest son, Charles.

The Ingersolls always were mighty men of valour. Charles, the brother of Laura, in company with the Honorable William Hamilton Merritt, raised a troop of Provincial Light Dragoons for the war of 1812. He fought at Queenston Heights and Lundy's Lane, served in the Royal Army until the end of the war, and received valuable grants of land from the Government for his loyal and patriotic services.

His eldest sister, Laura, also inherited the family spirit. After her arrival in Canada she married James Secord, U.E.L., a successful merchant of Queenston, where, after a residence for a time at the hamlet of St. Davids, they made their home. Laura Secord was a very prepossessing woman, and is said to have been one of the reigning belles in the early days of this Province.