

REMINISCENSES OF MY MINISTRY

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I N agreeing to give some reminiscences of my ministry reaching back over a period of about forty-five years, I found on trying to gather up the threads of the past, that I had made a very rash agreement. My life has been very much like that of a limpet, and let me explain for the benefit of those present who are not familiar with the science of Conchology, that a limpet is a specimen of shell fish that sticks firmly to the particular rock on which its lot is cast. So that having spent forty-three years out of the forty-five of my ministerial life in this one place, my experience so far as it is, except of a personal character, is neither very extensive nor varied. At the same time I have seen many changes and have been brought into close contact with many persons who have exercised very great influence in the history and progress of the Church in this part of Canada. Most of them have passed away and their works do follow them. Of those who were my contemporaries in the early days of my ministry, there are only three I believe left, in these parts at any rate. The venerable Archdeacon, the Rev. Thomas Chapman and the Rev. John Foster. The two former are my seniors by some years—the latter tho' a year or two older, was not ordained for some years later. My old Professor and very dear friend, to whose teaching and guidance in my early days I owe a life long debt, Canon Thompson of Datchet, is still living tho' in very feeble health.* These are all that are left. I came down to Lower Canada (as it was then called) from Toronto in May, 1855, where I had been a student for the

*Canon Thompson passed away very shortly after the above was in print.