

"Have you not a word for Jesus?"

What shall be our word for Jesus? Master, give it day by day.

Ever as the need arises, teach Thy children what to say.

Give us holy love and patience; grant us deep humility,

That of self we may be emptied, and our hearts be full of Thee;

Give us zeal and faith and fervor, make us winning, make us wise.

Single-hearted, strong and fearless,—Thou hast called us, we will rise!

Let the might of Thy good spirit go with every loving word;

And by hearts prepared and opened be our message always heard!

Yes, we have a word for Jesus! we will bravely speak for Thee,

And Thy bold and faithful soldiers, Savior, we would henceforth be:

In Thy name set up our banners, while Thine own shall wave above,

With Thy crimson Name of Mercy, and Thy golden Name of Love.

Help us lovingly to labor, looking for Thy present smile,

Looking for Thy promised blessing through the brightening "little while."

Words for Thee in weakness spoken, Thou wilt here accept and own,

And confess them in Thy glory, when we see Thee on Thy throne.

Reminiscences.

AN INTERVIEW WITH COL. LAND.

Continued from last month.

"Were your people Methodists?"

No, they were all church of England, but there was no church below the mountain before the Methodist meeting house was put up, the nearest English church being over the mountain. My father was of the opinion that it did not matter much which road men travelled as long as they reached the right place, and the Methodists always had a good seat for him in their meeting house.

"Were the early settlers mostly Methodists?" "yes, for the most part they were," "who was the first preacher?" at first there was no regular minister appointed, the services being conducted by circuit speakers.

Among the first preachers were Elder Culp, William Ryerson, George Ryerson and later on Egerton Ryerson. The church belonged to the Episcopal Methodist persuasion and was controlled from the states.

There was afterwards, about the year 1824, a division and the Canada Wesleyan Church was formed, the chief promoter of which was Elder Ryan, who wanted the conference to be held in Canada, besides

other alterations being made in the composition of the conference. Richard Springer was the first class leader here, and the services used to be held in his house prior to the erection of the church. When Richard Springer died his class was carried on by his son David, who died a short time ago at Burlington. I can remember that the services in the early days were two or three weeks apart. There was a school-house built on the land my father gave to the Methodists, and it was built some five or six years before the meeting house was. Religious services used to be held in it before the church was erected." "It is currently reported that the first school-house was built on the spot occupied by Dr. Smith's drug store, is that incorrect?" "yes, the first school house stood near the meeting house on the land given by my father.

Speaking of some of the earlier preachers and workers in the church, Col. Land mentioned among those he could remember, William Case, and the five Ryersons, George, William, John, Edwin, and Egerton. Referring to his early reminiscences of Hamilton, he stated that there was principally oak timber where the city now stands, and that the trees about his own house are only the successors of the oak that formerly grew there. Upon being questioned as to his age, he informed us that he was in his 84th year, and that with the exception of his eyesight, his physical health was excellent. His eyesight has unfortunately failed him for the past three or four years. His mental faculties are vigorous, and his memory carries him back to the battle of Stoney Creek in 1812. He is the worthy descendant of a long-lived race of pioneers. His father attained the patriarchal age of ninety-five. The Colonel can remember George Hamilton, M. P. who in 1813 founded our city. Prior to the erection of the church on King St. in 1824, the nearest Methodist meeting house was at Stoney Creek, which was the oldest meeting house in this section of the province. Among the old Hamiltonians who are still alive the Colonel mentioned Dr. Case on King Street, eighty-six years of age, and Jacob Burkholder eighty-eight. George Hamilton purchased a farm from Capt. Durand and laid it out into town lots. We had an old Sunday School record dating back to 1826 with us, and questioned the Colonel about the names found therein. At the head of the list of boys stood the name of Quitton Price, upon this name being mentioned the Colonel smiled, and said that he remembered Quitton well.

He was the only son of Samuel Price the