

Mr. Little wrote very little, and in the fact that so many years were allowed to elapse between his death and the commencement of the present work. One of his closest friends, Mrs. (Rev.) W. H. Shaw, writes: "He was not a man that ever put on paper a mite of either speech or sermon, and when away he was a very poor correspondent." At this date many who might have rendered almost invaluable assistance are with us no more, but, we trust, have joined him in the "nobler, sweeter song" of the redeemed in heaven.

The writer spent eight years in association with the work in Lambton County, and during that time heard so many good things of the grand old pioneer that he thought that the world would be the loser if they were not put in some permanent form. Therefore, the present work was decided upon. We are quite conscious of the fact that much important matter might have been secured at an earlier date which is unavailable at the present time; matter which has been lost as the old pioneers have gone to their rest. Each succeeding year but increased the loss. Material for this volume has been received from various sections of the entire country, literally from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from Ireland as well. We have endeavored to present this as nearly as possible as it came from its almost innumerable sources, and this may explain, in part at least, a somewhat scrappy style. Considerable effort has been put forth to verify the information received that it might be sent forth with a good degree of confidence.

It may not be out of place to mention here the work