

*A Log Temple.*

The first church in the township of Huron was built by the poor Lewis people, and it was such a unique edifice that its fame went abroad in the land. It was built of hewed logs and had eight corners outside and four inside, or twelve in all. The early settlers did not believe in mortgaged churches; in fact, no one there in those days had ever heard of such a thing, and the Lewis people built this big church with their own labour, and almost without the expenditure of any money. They cut down hemlock trees (no pine there) in the woods around, hewed them on two sides, and then hauled them out through the deep snow. In one case, the man's wife went ahead of the oxen with a sheaf of oats to make them pull right, as her husband did not know how to drive very well.

People nowadays want cushioned seats in church, but the seats in this church, as in all churches in the backwoods at first, were made of split basswood slabs, resting on a big log at each end, and some of the old women on crowded days would carry in blocks of wood to sit on in the aisles during the long service, often three or four hours at a stretch. But even this big church was too small for the large audiences at sacrament time, which was the great religious gathering of the year, and lasted five whole days, from Thursday morning till Monday evening. Outside people came from far and near, and most of the meetings had to be held in a hardwood grove near by. Every house in the neighbourhood was open and free