

they knew, and the country in which they reared their humble dwelling is now the home of 40,000 prosperous and intelligent people, while the direct descendants of these brave pioneers are numbered among the most respected members of the community. It is certainly a fitting thing that a systematic effort should be made in this centenary year to rescue from oblivion the records of the early days of the community, to the end that our people may appreciate the work done by their forefathers, and may be inspired to assume, on their part, those responsibilities which to-day devolve upon them. Although these responsibilities are distinct from those which fell to the lot of the men whose axes first broke the silence of the solitude of Elgin, even as the conditions of life are different, we cannot do better than devote ourselves to the tasks at our hands with the same perseverance and fidelity with which the men of one hundred years ago met and overcame the obstacles and problems that confronted them.