

PROEM

into a unifying force, which shall blend "our little systems" into one coming higher union of heart. Then men shall "see eye to eye" in essentials, and weave the numberless variations of living thought into one garment of beauty.

About one-third of the nineteenth century had passed when a young man and a young woman founded a home in one of the backwoods settlements in Ontario. He was a carpenter, the son of one of the families of the Waldenses, who, persecuted in the homeland, had wandered through Switzerland from the sunny south into the German regions of the north, had been transported to Pennsylvania, and eventually transplanted, a century ago, to the county of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. His tall form, well-developed nose and dark eyes indicated his southern origin. In his family line, and in that of his people generally, there are no records of wealthy or great men so far as this world's estimation goes. But there is a record of over three hundred years of men and women who stood for high ideals, some of whom were very prominent preachers of righteousness. His life was an expression of tenderness and strength in work on unselfish lines, which made for a good reputation but not for success in the eyes of the world. His wife had come from one of the cottage homes of England. In her were blended perfection of form and the classic features of the Norman, with a temperament molded by generations of the home-life, the spiritual tenets and the refining influences of the splendid schools of the placid Friends in Old England.

It was the era of the great pioneer preachers of Methodism in Canada; the time of great camp-meetings in