

## FOREWORD

FATHER LACOMBE's peculiarly vivid intellect—which even yet seizes upon every detail in events and people that touch on his life—holds the Past as in a mirror. To avail myself of this knowledge in securing quite accurate pictures of early Western periods and incidents I have for some years submitted this venerable man month after month to what he laughingly termed “inquisitions.”

Some others of the few real Old-Timers remaining have likewise submitted to my “inquisitions,” and generously contributed to my knowledge of details. Their names occur in the narrative; I desire to thank them here for their valuable assistance.

I would also acknowledge my indebtedness to my friends—Bishop Legal, who opened to me the Archives of St. Albert and his letters from Father Lacombe, the Hon. Alexander Rutherford, who gave me access to his library of rare Canadiana, and others.

K. H.