



NEIL McCALDER
An Old Member

pages will doubtless recall the events of by-gone days, the faces and forms of those who took a prominent and useful part in the making of the church, and whose names are now lettered on their grave-stones. At the half century mile-stone we survey the present with gratitude to God, and look into the future with a greater hope and with a stronger faith.

First Things

The church of Brock, Reach, and Mariposa was originally composed of emigrants from Argyleshire, Scotland, who began to settle in these townships as early as the years 1836-7-8.

This section of the country was then almost an unbroken wilderness, and consequently the new settlers had many hardships to encounter,—the want of roads, distance from market, and other difficulties incident to new settlements. But these trials of a worldly nature, great as they were, were nothing compared with their spiritual destitution, the want of a preached Gospel and Gospel ordinances. They had all been favored in their native land with hearing the Gospel proclaimed every Sabbath in their own tongue, by men distinguished for talent, learning and piety, to whom they had become ardently attached, so that when they left their Highland homes for new homes in the wilds of Canada, they were like the Jews by the river of Babylon, far removed from Zion that they loved. They heaved many a heavy sigh, and shed many a sorrowful tear at the remembrance of what they once enjoyed, but now enjoyed no more.