

REMINISCENCES

OF THE

Past and Present of the Early Formation of the Methodist Church in Eastern Ontario.

CHAPTER I.

How gloriously and wondrously grand was the way and manner that Methodism was planted in this beloved Canada of ours, "by the hand of God," in the person of that God-fearing and God-loving woman, called Barbara Heck, who by His guiding hand and protecting care, with her dear husband, whom God had so graciously baptised with His regenerating power to prepare the place, like "John the Baptist," for one that was mightier than he, in the person of the Rev. William Losee, the first Methodist Minister that first proclaimed the unsearchable riches of Christ and His power to save unto the uttermost, unfurling the blood-stained banner of the Cross of a once crucified, but now risen and triumphant Christ.

This Mother in Israel and pioneer of early Methodism, Barbara Heck, (her maiden name was Barbara Ruckle), was born in the year 1734. In the eighteenth year of her age she gave her heart to God, and her influence, power and life to His cause. Her German Bible was her guide-book. On a lovely spring morning in 1760 this honored instrument of God, with her beloved husband, Paul Heck, the Emburys, Lawrences, Ruckles, and some other Irish palatines, left the beautiful