

PREFACE.

I have read with interest the little book herewith offered to the public by my esteemed and venerable parishioner, Bro. Alex. E. Forsyth, and take a great deal of pleasure in introducing the reader, at the author's request, to the narrative of early Methodism, its growth and development in the Eastern part of Ontario, which he has given us in the following pages. Nor would it be proper for me to occupy the reader's time with more than the mere formalities of such an introduction, as the reader will be better able to read and judge the little book for himself. My good friend has shewn a great deal of care in his researches and has most loyally adhered to the most reliable authorities for his information, while at the same time giving us a great deal of folk-lore and tradition concerning some of those old-time Methodist preachers, which, it is safe to say, can be found nowhere else in print, and which it were a pity to suffer to be lost. The book will be of especial interest to all who are connected in any way, or who ever have been, with the old Methodist Circuit, one of the very oldest appointments of the Methodist Church in Canada, and to friends of the circuit, as well as to those acquainted in any way with the fine old types of Methodist preachers herein portrayed, the book will especially appeal. I have suffered my worthy friend to tell his own story in his own quaint way, and without the modern embellishments of completed sentences and chosen diction. In our day of almost perfect phraseology, it is refreshing to turn to the clear, cool waters