

CHAPTER IV.

MY SCHOOL DAYS.

“ Previous to 1838 there were only three schools in the township; one on lot eight, concession eight, known as Piper McKay’s school, taught by Hugh Gordon. The trustees were John Dent and George McDonald. Another was in the south-west corner of the sideline and the fourth concession south of Embro, taught by Lewis Hyde. The trustees were Leonard Lewis, O. Lewis and G. W. Harris. The third was taught by Hugh Matheson in the first log house built by Squire Gordon, situated on the old Squire Gordon farm. The trustees of that school were L. Crittenden, Alexander Wood and Wm. Walsh. When Hugh Matheson considered he had the necessary qualifications to teach, he applied to the Rev. Donald McKenzie for permission to teach in the old log church. Mr. McKenzie was willing so far as he was concerned, but he thought it would be better to submit it to the church officers. So, telling Hugh Matheson there would be a monthly prayer meeting in the near future, and for him to attend, Mr. McKenzie promised he would lay the matter before them. Hugh Matheson attended that night, and, when the meeting was dismissed, Mr. McKenzie requested the trustees and elders to remain for a few minutes, as he had some business to submit to them. He told them in a few words and asked them their opinion on the matter. One speaker said the proposition was too ridiculous to think of; another spoke up and said this was God’s temple and his house of prayer, and by giving in