

HISTORICAL SKETCH

BY REV. J. A. FORD, B. A.

THE life of a Church for half a century presents a variety of interesting and instructive features. It is no small privilege to be permitted to enjoy a continuous existence of fifty years. Add to this a large degree of influence in moulding public opinion, in uplifting and strengthening the lives of men, in fostering goodness and truth, and putting down error and evil, and there is presented a history too stimulating and sacred to be hastily passed over and forgotten. We should study the past, not live in it. The former days are not better than these, but they are full of instruction. There are storied lives and fragrant memories within the scope of fifty years that afford needed inspiration. As we pause to-day, to look into the records of the past, may it be with the prayer that the forces which steadied and exalted the lives of the fathers and mothers of this Church may be gathered into our own lives, developing in us a zeal and purpose even greater than their's.

The Carleton Baptist Church was organized on the sixteenth of May, 1841, with a membership of twenty-nine. The first officers were :

Deacons—John Christopher and William Colwell.

Treasurer and Clerk—I. O. Beateay,

The following is a list of the original members :

John Christopher, Sr.,	Millicent Colwell,
William Colwell,	Mary Christopher,
Samuel Godfrey,	Mary Godfrey,
Elijah Spragg,	Mary Baker,
John Christopher, Jr.,	Rebecca Pratt,
John Kindred,	Margaret Compton,
Jacob Christopher,	Phœbe Kindred,
Edward Tcole,	Mary A. Wiley,
Elijah Crabb,	Catherine Christopher,
Jacob Richard,	Susan Theall,
E. J. Crawford,	Catherine Hampton,