

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

This sketch, designed as an humble tribute to the Beckwith pioneers and their first minister, is published in response to numerous requests. The men and women who braved the privations of life in the backwoods, enduring hardships of which the present generation has little conception, deserve a warm place in the hearts of their successors. To them the whole country owes a debt of gratitude. Heroes without epaulettes, they performed their duty nobly, bearing a heavy burden for the sake of those who should come after them. Although the snows of many winters have drifted over their graves, let not their memory be forgotten.