

and a little time in Owen Sound at night school,—for my cravings for knowledge were not light—I was anxiously desirous of obtaining a larger knowledge of the world. I continued my schooling until some other circumstances arose that led me into other channels. During my stay in that section of the country I had an invitation to a watch-night meeting by one of the preachers in the Tara circuit. Invited to give a short address, I thereafter made my personal acquaintance one of interest to the family of the Wilsons, who resided there and before leaving that night for my quarters, I had an invitation to the home. In due course I accepted the invitation and found myself amid surroundings very agreeable as a resting place, and a home. The family was composed of a widowed mother, a daughter, the oldest of the family then at home, and six brothers. Very naturally, the daughter was the one to occupy my attentions. To her I paid my addresses, which ripened into conjugal felicity.

Having weighed the suggestion of the ministry, and the question of my activities in life apart from the ministry, I came to the decision to owe no man anything but goodwill; to earn my living and to obtain a comfortable one, and to aid the church of my choice to the best of my ability, as such men were very much needed in the church, and thus decided my destiny to labor with my hands as well as my head, to secure a competency and serve my generation. I then withdrew from my school, made preparations for marriage, continued to contract and build for a number of years, and was married in the year 1859 on the 18th of September, uniting my fortunes with my well-beloved Miss Wilson, who has been my partner and almoner, my helpmeet, spiritually and financially, and to-day, at the ripe age of almost eighty-four, in good health and soundness of mind, joins me most of all in looking forward to the happy release we shall have from earth, and a reunion in Heaven, which is not far in the distance.

In the year of 1864, at the close of the American War, during a barren financial period in Canada, I went over to Brother Jonathan, to pitch my fortune in that land with a view finally to make it my