

Introduction

THROUGH all ages the world has recognized the Hero. For many centuries it was the man who fought the bravest fight and did the noblest deeds in war who alone was the Hero. In later periods it was the men or women who willingly sacrificed themselves for others who were the Heroes, and it is of this class we desire to make mention of in the following pages, for the early pioneers of Fios who came into the forests of the township to hew out homes for themselves, and built churches and schools, and opened up the roads and cleared the farms, are no less Heroes than they who have won fame in war, because all battles are but struggles of endurance and bravery. And surely they were brave hearts that entered the unbroken forests and there built their homes and patiently endured hardships and privations that their children might be provided for both bodily and spiritually. And we who today enjoy many blessings and privileges because of the self-sacrificing lives of those who are gone before, feel that it is our duty at least to historically record their names. Knowing that many interesting events in the history of our township are being obliterated and forgotten because of the passing away of those who took part in them, and as no effort is being made to collect and record these things so that their memories might be kept green, we have felt that the principal events in the half century's life of our congregation should be embodied in one book and preserved, and though imperfect in many respects, we have endeavored to note impartially all that has transpired. Besides those of our own congregation whose names are mentioned in this