

PREFACE

THERE are some men moving in the comparatively limited sphere of ordinary life, with objects neither very ambitious nor very extensive, who, nevertheless, perform their share of the world's work with such energy, thoroughness and devotion as to appreciably enrich the community in which they live, and leave behind them far greater legacies of good, than many who have filled more conspicuous places, and loomed larger in the national eye. Such a man was IGNATIUS COCKSHUTT.

Materials for a Memoir were rather scanty. Mr. Cockshutt had kept no written record of his life, but if ever the life of any member of this community should be written, it is that of Ignatius Cockshutt. He stood in many respects alone. Under a somewhat abrupt manner, associated with an original mode of speech, the inner man was far above the average of the age. One had to know him intimately to appreciate the merit and nobility of his character.

These pages may stimulate others to follow in the footsteps of one who,

"Armoured in honest thought and speech,
He saw, and said, and wrought his best."

Brantford, April 4, 1903.