

To Mrs. Grover, of Toronto, who has allowed selections to be made from her "Recollections," my warmest thanks are given.

The first edition of "Laura Ingersoll Secord and Canadian Reminiscences" has revived the memory of an heroic woman, bringing to light letters and documents which otherwise might have passed into oblivion, and recalling the memory of others living in those troubled times. No doubt the day will come when the fragments will be brought together, and their place assigned them by the writers of Canadian history. Sir George Ross deserves the gratitude of Canadian women for placing in the Parliament Buildings of Ontario the portrait of Laura Ingersoll Secord, and procuring the grant from the Dominion Government which made the Memorial on Queenston Heights possible.

Descendants and friends have aided to the recollections gathered around her name. The letters and documents are copies of the originals. It is hoped this second publication will bring additional remembrances. With great difficulty the facts of Mrs. Secord's life have been collected. By most Canadians the Ingersoll family were classed with the U. E. Loyalists. That distinction they never claimed.

This is not a connected story. It is the gathered fragments of a well-spent life ever rising to the duty which occasion demanded. The fragments of Laura Ingersoll Secord's life, her own letters, those of her relatives and friends, the recollections of her grand-children, many years of whose life were spent under the roof of their grand-parents, the following facts have been gathered and are now presented to the public.

Mrs. Secord possessed courage which arose above danger and defeat, gifted with mental and physical resources, and love for her husband and children, and thought no toil too great that would minister to their comfort and promote their prosperity. Among families whose descendants are so numerous as the Ingersolls and Secords possibly more may be discovered, with relics bearing the impress when they were made and used. The difficulties under which the early settlers existed, the estrangement of families caused by the Revolution of 1776, the distances that separated them, the lack of materials for correspondence, the high rate of postage, all had their influence. The last and greatest was the poverty brought upon all by the War of 1812. The letters of that period are pitiful. That there are so few is no surprise. Many sent by private hands never reached their destination, and if received were passed from family to family and finally lost. The way in which these letters reached me may prove useful to bring others. During the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo pamphlets and information of various kinds were sent by the Dominion and Provincial Governments along with Canadian exhibits. Among other publications was "Women of