

PREFACE

As to who were the first English-speaking family, or families, that settled at Yamaska Mountain and the date, there is no reliable record so far as I know; but it must have been early in the Nineteenth Century, and for the lack of such records this sketch is incomplete.

Whoever they were, if one had in detail the privations they must have endured in following a blazed trail through the wilderness and establishing a home by building a log cabin, cooking over an open fireplace, with no means of lighting a fire except by the use of flint and steel, and no furniture except home-made of a very primitive character, one cannot but wonder at, and admire the dauntless courage that possessed the pioneer settlers of this country.

In coming to Canada from the New England States, my grandfather, Cotton Fisk, first took up land in East Bolton, but did not remain there, and when coming to Yamaska Mountain, in passing through what is now the thriving town of Granby, there was but one log house occupied by an English-speaking family by the name of Horner; also my grandfather, John Whitney, first took up land in the Township of Stukely, and his eldest daughter (Elizabeth) was the first white child born in the Township of Stukely.

It is to be regretted that we have not the exact dates of these and other events to record, which would be most interesting.

J. M. F.