

PREFACE

Had I not consented to undertake the task of writing a history of Lennox and Addington, before I began to look about me for material, I would probably not have given that consent quite so readily. Those only who have attempted a work of this character can appreciate the difficulties that lie in the way of the amateur historian. Many hours of fruitless research may often be spent in an effort to fix a date or to ascertain a name, and very frequently what appears to be reliable authority may upon closer examination be found to be far astray in the information so confidently communicated. All the depositories appeared to be empty, many of the old residents had recently departed this life, and such records as could be found were very incomplete. Old minute books which had served their original purpose have been destroyed or are still concealed among the rubbish of some unknown attic. If municipal clerks and secretaries of public bodies had only been taught to preserve all the books and documents appertaining to their office the work of the historian would be greatly lightened. Yet with the assistance of many willing helpers I have endeavoured to unearth all the available data that I considered within the scope of my inquiry.

To Mr. Clarence M. Warner, President of the Lennox and Addington Historical Society, I desire especially to acknowledge my gratitude for his never failing courtesy in placing at my disposal his own well selected library and the files of the Society. He has directed my attention to many items that otherwise would have escaped my notice. I received many valuable suggestions from Prof. W. L. Grant of Queen's University. I am also deeply indebted to the gentlemen whose papers are reproduced in this volume, namely: Mr. E. R. Checkley, Geo. Anson Aylesworth, Paul Stein, and J. P. Lochhead. The following have also cheerfully rendered all the assistance in their power:—Robert Cox, A. C. Warner, C. R. Jones, P. F. Carscallen, P. W. Dafoc, Daniel Davern, Dr. H. S. Northmore, Ira Hudgins, Jno. A. Timmerman, T. S. Henry, Alfred Knight, Jno. M. Wallace, Jno. T. Grange, Abraham E. Loucks, Isaac Lockwood, E. O. Clark, Miss Helen Merrill, James S. Cartwright, K.C., and Rev. James Cumberland. In short, on every hand where I have sought for information I have found an eagerness to help. But for such encouragement I would long ago have felt disposed to abandon the undertaking. My thanks are due to the Hon-