

and power, that Mr. Cooper came to Canada. In 1843 our young country presented a striking contrast to the ancient land which he had left. Our deep forests, our stumpy clearings, our small log cabins, our scattered settlements, our rough roads, could not have been inviting. Our schools were few, and the instruction imparted in them imperfect. A chapel, small and rudely furnished, was now and then to be found in the villages springing up in the wilderness and along the waterways. Barns, dwelling-houses, schoolhouses and the woods were the common meeting places for worship. The people were poor; the moral condition of many neighborhoods was low and sinking lower; the spiritual destitution was appalling. The Baptists were a very feeble folk, despised and hated for their tenets and practices. Our pastors—to whom we and our country owe an unspeakable debt for their fidelity to principle in trying times—were few, and many of them were illiterate. Nevertheless our principles were taking root and growing vigorously in many places, both East and West. In the Ottawa region, John Gilmour, John Edwards, Wm. Fraser and Daniel McPhail had carried the good news wherever their swift feet could run. The importance of a ministry to shepherd these weak and scattered flocks was sorely felt. In answer to prayer such young men as John Dempsey, W. K. Anderson, John Cameron, Aaron Slaght and Thos. L. Davidson were either attending the Montreal College or about to go there. The Rev. R. A. Fyfe had organized the infant church at Perth and been its pastor for about a year, when his appointment to the temporary principalship of Montreal College, in the autumn of 1843, left the little band without a leader. It was about this time that Mr. Cooper reached this country, and he was soon installed in the oversight of the young interest, receiving a salary of \$240. This was the day of small stipends and great devotion. In this charge he remained a little over three years, laying strong and deep foundations. In 1847 he assumed the pastorate of the South Gower Church, residing the while in Kemptville, where there was a branch church. He had already identified himself with the then Canada Baptist Missionary Society, acting on deputations, and otherwise seeking to spread the good work more widely. About 1850 he accepted a call to Brockville, where he was the successor of Robert Boyd. His life here was compara-