

Barrington, and brought a reply from him. Without his friendly aid these reminiscences would have been impossible. Mr. Taylor's truthful work deserves the highest appreciation. As the birth-place of Laura Ingersoll Secord it is inseparably connected with Canadian history. Of this gentleman's kindness to a total stranger, whom he had never seen—the time he has given, the researches he has made in helping through many difficulties—I cannot speak in too grateful terms.

Colonel Dunn and Mrs. Dunn, of Toronto, have also been efficient helpers, in furnishing documents, history, letters and memoranda relating to the Secord family, and to Laura Secord also. The granddaughters of Mrs. Secord, Miss Louisa Smith and Mrs. Cockburn, have also furnished valuable information. When it was necessary, J. Hamilton Ingersoll, Esq., of St. Catharines, has written many letters.

Miss Woodruff, of Chicago, has furnished much valuable information in regard to her grandfather and grandmother, Mr. and Mrs. David Secord, also valuable autographs; Mr. Henry Woodruff, of St. Davids, Mrs. Thorn, of Princeton, and Mrs. Saxon, of St. Catharines, important letters; Mrs. Norton, of Westfield, Mass., and Mrs. Hitchcock, of Amherst, Mass., have assisted in information regarding the Ingersolls.

My old friend, Mr. Kirby, author of "*Chien d'Or*," has contributed an article upon the Whitmore family, with whom he is connected by marriage, and which is a valuable addition to the history of the early settlement of Upper Canada.

Miss Janet Carnochan has also given much information in regard to the local history of Niagara.

To Miss Bothwell, of Lockport, and many others who have done much to help me, my grateful thanks are given.

The portrait of Mrs. Secord, which is the frontispiece of this work, is from a plate furnished by the late Rev. Canon Bull, of Niagara Falls South. The late Mr. Joel Lyons, of Chippewa, had a likeness of Mrs. Secord, taken in what year is not known, and from this the plate was made.

The likeness of Mrs. Secord which is in "*Lossing's Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812*," and this are the only ones known to have been made. The autograph of Laura Secord accompanies the likeness. It is the only autograph known to be in existence. In a footnote, page 621, Mr. Lossing says that Mrs. Secord wrote to him on February 18th, 1861. In 1867 he speaks of her as being ninety-two years of age, and her mental faculties in full play, her eyesight so perfect that she could read without spectacles. Mrs. Gregory, her niece, who saw her in her last illness, and but three days before her death, bears testimony to the wonderful preservation of her mind.