

promised God, on his knees, that he would serve in any other way. He would work a lifetime with his hands and give all save a bare living to his cause. And to keep faith with God he actually went to work upon the line of his promises. About ten miles from his home in a straight line, and double that by any passable roadway, there was a settlement without any kind of privileges for children. He saw work which he thought was within his capacity there. He could teach the children in a Sunday-school, and he set about it immediately. Securing at the settlement a deserted lumber shanty, he fitted it up with boards for seats and announced his first service, inviting all the children to be present. Sunday morning came and with it the young Sabbath school teacher, who, to his consternation, came face to face with not only the children, as he expected, but with all the grown people in the neighborhood likewise. He could not run away though that was his inclination; and so he was forced into the service that he was trying to avoid. All summer long he tramped that twenty miles to and from the settlement, fourteen of which could be crossed only by jumping from log to log. He still rebelled against the thought of the ministry, though conviction of duty increased rather than lessened until the conflict grew so severe and painful that his health was affected by the strain. The contest ended while he was busy at his work one day. Driving a load of hay upon a bush road, he stopped his team, fell upon his knees, and gave up to the will of God, and immediately received the assurance of the divine favor and rest of soul. The deep experiences of the three conflicts above alluded to had not a little to do with the forty-two years constant ministry and its tireless fidelity with an allusion to which this sketch began.

These conflicts over Mr. Dempsey now settled himself to preparation for his life work. There were difficulties in his way, many of them, but having settled his life calling with God he faced them with splendid courage. He had early learned the necessity of thorough preparation for the work which lay before him, and entering Montreal College he took the full course of four years of ten months each, and graduated June 1st, 1848, having made a record for earnest, patient and successful work. It may be that present day students and late graduates in our