

McMASTER UNIVERSITY MONTHLY

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EBENEZER WILLIAM DADSON.

It was at prayer-meeting in the old Adelaide St. Church, during the early days of my residence in London, that I first met Mr. Dadson. He was then pastor in Denfield, and just a few years out of college. How brief those twenty years now seem! And yet they measure nearly all his ministry! Surely the time is short! Since that first meeting it has been my happy experience gradually to pass into the inner circle of his friends; and I count it a privilege, grief-clothed though it be, to pay my tribute to his memory in *THE MONTHLY*, as I attempt to tell the story of his work and worth.

Mr. Dadson belongs to that important class of Canadian preachers who have been born in Britain, but trained in Canada. The place of his birth was Cranbrook, Kent Co., England; the year, 1845. When three years old he came with the rest of the family to Toronto, where, with the exception of one year in St. Catharines and another in his native Cranbrook, he continued until he was sixteen. His early education was received in a four years' course in the Toronto Model School, and closed with his return to England at the age of twelve. On his return to Canada, he spent a year as errand boy in a King St. dry goods' store, another as office boy under Dr. Fyfe, the editor of the *Canadian Baptist*, and then a year and half in Mr. A. H. St. Germain's printing office, which he abandoned to rejoin the family in Guelph, and assist his father, who was a hatter, in his store in that city.