

INTRODUCTION

It is impossible to write the history of an area of twenty-five square miles without delving deep into the past to try and find something about its earliest inhabitants.

Recent discoveries have proved that this area was inhabited previous to the birth of Christ.

An attempt has been made to show the relationship between our local history and the history of Canada.

The development of the community has been traced by a series of articles written by members of its pioneer families.

The Women's Institute gratefully acknowledge the following contributions made by the following, to this book: Miss Martha Hunter, for permission to use extracts from the book "Village Sites of Vespra and Flos" by her brother the late Andrew Hunter; Dr. Wilfred Jury and his wife Elsie McLeod Jury for use of their bulletin No. 11, Museum of Indian Archaeology; Mr. E.R. Channen for his articles, The Daris Huron Indian Site, Fort Willow, and other useful information; Mr. C.W.L. Parker; Mr. O.J. Tracey (Collingwood) and Mr. J.W. Standen (Toronto); who being pioneers gave valuable assistance.

We also acknowledge with thanks those who assisted in various ways in the making of this book.

This book is dedicated to the youth of the Minesing Community in the hope that the record of the sacrifices made by its early settlers and the privations they endured in redeeming it from the wilderness, may arouse in them a desire to emulate their self denying thrift and persevering industry. May it deepen their loyalty to the land of their birth and to the Empire.