

OLD DAYS ON THE FARM

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Old days on the farm by A. C. Wood

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A. C. WOOD

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"THE WAYSIDE ELM."

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BY
A. C. WOOD

"Verily there are things no man can take from you, and among these are recollections and remembrances, and in your reflective years you will be happy or sad according as your recollections are pleasant or otherwise."

THE RURAL PHILOSOPHER

McCLELLAND, GOODCHILD & STEWART
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TO THE BALKING BUYER

*If rustic joys and rural themes,
Adventures with the old ox-teams,
And keen delights of hunting 'coons,
And dances to the old-time tunes,
Have charms to please you yet
Come, join with me, and, in this book,
Let's wander back and take a look
At country scenes of earlier days,
Before our artificial ways
Had caused their sun to set.*

PREFACE

A SON of the soil, born in a log cabin and bred on a bush farm, should have pleasurable recollections of boyhood days. Gazing into the misty mirror of the past, I have endeavoured, in these sketches, in some measure to pay the debt of gratitude I owe the Goddess of Fortune for starting me off on life's journey amid such surroundings. I hold to the belief that one born and raised in the country—it may be in a log cabin and on a bush farm—has a distinct advantage over those unfortunates who, from infancy, have been doomed to artificial ways—city pavements—and so missed the delights of woodland places, hawthorn lanes and the innumerable joys that pertain to rural life.

Canada still has vast stretches of forest and plain invitingly awaiting the coming of the home-makers. And those dear, if homely and natural, pleasures that I have essayed to recall in these "Old Days on the Farm" chapters, are still, in a degree, to be found and enjoyed by those who may adventure in the field of pioneer agriculture.

It is not my purpose, in this volume, to assist in effecting a back-to-the-land movement, but rather to present, in, it is hoped, an entertaining way, the pleasurable side of farm life, as I knew it, as a boy and youth.

A. C. WOOD.

ST. MARYS, ONT.,
CANADA.