

RISE OF THE KIRK.

Interesting Sketch of Presbyterianism in Fredericton Since the Organization of St. Paul's Church in 1829.

Seventy-seven years ago, when the rear of the city presented a much more rural aspect than it does at present, on a lot on a field on the corner of George and York streets, a church of modest dimensions was being erected.

This was the first and only Presbyterian church in Fredericton, until the erection of the Free Kirk on Brunswick street, and that owing to the union of all the Presbyterian bodies in Canada, is now no more. Previous to 1829-1830, adherents to the Presbyterian faith, possessed no church or regular ministrations, but the nucleus of a congregation, was wont to meet in the old Tank House, which stood on the site of the City Hall, when the services of clergymen could be engaged. Mr. Howden, a lay preacher, used to hold forth with much acceptance there.

The erection of St. Paul's was proceeded with, pursuant to a resolution passed at a meeting of the Presbyterians held on February 17th, 1829, and William Taylor, Thomas Stewart, Thomas Aitken, Thomas C. Everett and James Wilcox, with James Taylor as secretary, and Thos. R. Robertson as treasurer, were appointed a committee to carry it into effect.

The lot on which the church was built was the property and the free gift of William Taylor, whose energy and liberality did much to form and sustain the church, and the memory of whose good deeds is kept alive by the tablet on the right of the pulpit, the only memorial stone in the sacred building.

PROMINENT KIRKMEN.

Fifty years ago and more, the Scotch were a prominent element in the society of Fredericton. James Taylor & Co. were a most flourishing firm of lumbermen and ship builders. The father settled in the city soon after the landing of the Loyalists in 1783, and his sons, William, James and John in time became partners in the business. Besides the store, which stood on the site of Martin Mackey's and the mill and shipyard in the upper part of the city, they owned the mill on the Nashwaak, which afterwards passed into the hands of the famous firm of Robert Rankine & Co., who, besides their establishments in St. John, Miramichi and Bathurst had one in Fredericton, and then came into the possession of Alex. Gibson, whose means and energy have made it produce wonderful results. The Taylors were public spirited and liberal men and formed the centre of a Scotch Society, and William for some years represented York in the Legislature. The same in spirit, with them was old Mr. Peter Fraser, a general merchant, much respected in his day and generation.

Five years before the erection of St. Paul's, 1825, the Taylors, with Mr. Fraser, were instrumental in organizing the St. Andrew's Society in Fredericton, which formed a bond of union among the Scotchmen of Fredericton, which numbered among its members some of the foremost and ablest men of the city, and whose hospitalities on the 30th November for a long course of years, are still remembered.

THE EARLY PASTORS.

Two years after the formation of St. Paul's church, which was opened by the Rev. Mr. Souter, it was incorporated by charter in 1832, and the gentlemen already named were the first trustees. Before its incorporation the Rev. Ebenezer Johnston ministered in the church during the summer of 1831, after it, the Rev. Dr. Birkmyre, A. M. who came out from Scotland on the application of the trustees to the Rev. Dr. McGill of Glasgow was inducted on the 4th of November, 1832. It was a time of political excitement in the province. The representatives in the assembly were full of grievances against the family compact, and demanded "the surrender of the Casual and Territorial Revenue." Sir Archibald Campbell was governor. He was a Presbyterian and sometimes attended the church, but withdrew his presence and support, on account of a misunderstanding with the pastor, over a soldier's marriage. In Dr. Birkmyre, who was a clergyman much learning and talent, and firm character, the trustees and chorists old "militaire" found one no doubt, who was as able as determined to uphold the rights and dignity of his office. Dr. Birkmyre went home to Scotland in 1842. It was a memorable time in the history of the Church of Scotland; it was on the eve of the great disruption, (which took place the next year) when vast assemblies at which clergymen from all parts of the country were present in the great Hall at Canon Mills, Edinburgh, to listen to the heads and lights of the movement, Chalmers, Candlish, Cunningham and Guthrie. About that time there were many vacancies in the established churches in Scotland.

Dr. Birkmyre found one, resigned his charge of St. Paul and did not come out again to New Brunswick. His successor, after an interval of a year, during which the congregation had the opportunity of hearing most of the prominent Presbyterian ministers in the province, and some outside, was the Rev. John Brooke, afterwards by consent of the degree from King's College, Dr. Brooke D. D. At the time of his call, Dr. Brooke was officiating in the Parish of New Richmond, Lower Canada, on the borders of New Brunswick. He was inducted on July 11, 1843, on which occasion the Rev. Mr. Wishart preached. Mr. Wishart, an eloquent

and earnest preacher, who held original and novel views, fell afterwards under the ban of orthodoxy. For a quarter of a century, from 1843 to 1868, Dr. Brooke attended to the duties of his charge unaided. A man of sound learning, he was a good representative of the cultured moderate established clergy; his pulpit ministrations were thoroughly orthodox in form and tone, and his exhortations were marked by directness and vigor. He was frequent in his visitations and in communication with the members of his congregation. He was kindly and pleasant. He must have had a peculiar gift for tying the knot matrimonial for it is said, no clergyman in his time, in the province, married so many couples, and those who solicited his services often belonged to other denominations.

A TRANSITION PERIOD.

For eleven years, from 1868 to 1879, a number of changes occurred in St. Paul's. It was a period of transition, and towards the latter part of it, especially, was marked by the uncertainty and dissatisfaction, which often characterizes such a time. There was a succession of assistant ministers up to 1874, when the last Rev. S. Halley resigned. In that year Dr. Brooke intimated his desire to retire from the active duties of the church. After an interval of two years, during which many clergymen of the province, and from different parts of Canada, ministered for a short time in the pulpit of St. Paul's, the Rev. William Caven of Tilsonburg, Ontario, was inducted as Dr. Brooke's successor in April, 1876. After holding it for exactly two years, the Rev. gentleman resigned his charge in April, 1878. It is unnecessary to state the reasons which induced him to take the step. Again the church was launched on the sea of uncertainty, until the time of trial and trials came to an end, by the unanimous call given to the Rev. A. J. Mowatt.

With the induction of Rev. Mr. Mowatt a new era commenced for St. Paul's. He was province born, being ushered into the light of day in the Harvey Settlement, he was educated, we believe, at the Grammar School, Fredericton, studied for the ministry in the Presbyterian College, Toronto, and had held a charge in a church in Windsor, N. S.

Mr. Mowatt remained until early in 1891, during which the new kirk was built, and Rev. Willard MacDonald, the present pastor, was inducted in December of that year.

THE OLD KIRK.

The church of St. Paul's in 1830 was a more modest structure than it is at present, and it is condemned now as small and old-fashioned, uncomfortable and decidedly behind the times. In 77 years even the Presbyterian mind has advanced in its ideas of church architecture, and has revolted from the bare whitewashed barn style, with hard seats and penitential pews, once so common. Presbyterians, as well as people of other denominations, delight to see beauty and comfort in their churches, spacious and elegant proportions, warm and well toned colors and easy cushioned seats.

St. Paul's was built after the design of William Taylor by Mr. Fitzpatrick. The pulpit was its sounding board, which was much admired at the time, was the work of Mr. J. D. Robinson. The tower and bell were added in 1834. Six years afterwards the church was enlarged, the old gable end, with the pulpit was thrown back, and an additional thirty feet were inserted by Mr. Joshua Dunn. The addition was made in Dr. Birkmyre's time and it was found unnecessary to close the church. Afterwards a new vestry house was built, and the church itself has been repainted.

The old kirk was removed to the rear of the lot facing York street to make room for the new church in 1882 and put into a good state of repair is now used for Sunday school prayer services and social meetings.

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BLOOMFIELD RIDGE.

Jan. 18.—On Saturday, Jan. 13th at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. R. Dyer, a musical entertainment was given on violin, organ, pickles. The music was kept up till the wee sma' hours of the morning and all wish that there will be another good musical treat before long.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Estey, of Bangor, Me., are spending their honeymoon at his sister's, Mrs. George Spencer.

Councillor C. W. Pond left this morning for Fredericton to attend the council board. It is the first time that Mr. Pond ever had the pleasure of attending the council board.

James E. Boies, jr., had the misfortune of losing his fine seven-year-old horse on Monday. Mr. Boies let his horse out for the winter to a gentleman living in Boiestown. The day after Christmas Mr. Dennison

started to the woods with a load. About five miles from the city the horse took sick and never stood on his legs after he was put in the barn. It lived three weeks. It is a heavy loss for Mr. Boies for it was the only horse he had.

The heavy rain on Tuesday made the roads bad for travelling. It rained all day and part of the night and today it is warm and soft.

James McLellan and Elijah Spencer & Co. have finished their logging operations on Taxis River. They have had a big cut.

Miss Lillian McLellan, who has been spending the winter at Marysville, returned home on Saturday.

We are glad to report that Miss Mary K. Boies, who has been on the sick list, is greatly improved by the skill of Dr. C. S. King of Boiestown.

Mrs. James E. Boies, jr., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Taylor, of Hayesville.

Francis Benjamin Boies is toting on Rocky Brook for Frederick C. MacLaggan. Mr. Boies drives a swift pair of black island chiefs.

Our popular blacksmith, Mr. G. Allan, who has built a dandy new shop, used to be in partnership with B. J. Gibbald until last November. Mr. Allan has more work on hand than he can do. He uses every man alike. If any of you gents want a nice buggy painted call on L. G. Allan. He will do his very best. He is a wagon builder, a carriage painter and a sled maker and tigger.

We are having beautiful weather at present. There is hardly two feet of snow at present.

The rain on Friday made quite a crust. It is strong enough to hold a dog.

Driving parties seem to be the order of the day.

Prof. Dyer's musical classes are getting along splendidly. Mr. Dyer is a good teacher and up-to-date violinist.

Times are quite lively at Goo-Goo Avenue now.

DRAWN BY A HORSE.

Terrible Death of George Alexienc.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 18.—The almost unrecognizable remains of Geo. Alexienc were found near Fairview, Okanagan, after having been dragged hours by a horse. Alexienc, a middle-aged man, was on his way to Incecamp, an Indian settlement, at the time of his dreadful death. He had ridden four miles, and had that distance still to go when he stayed at a friend's house for dinner. At 1 p. m. he rode away, and that was the last of him seen alive. At the investigation it was learned that his saddle turned and his foot became fastened in the stirrup. The horse started for home, dragging the unfortunate man over a rough country. The track could be traced for three miles by the bloodstains. Then the animal took to the mountains and wandered about all night, dragging his victim.

A young Indian, while on his way to church at Incecamp, saw the horse running along a fence, shying and kicking every few steps. He caught it and saw the body of Alexienc, horribly mutilated. Tying the animal to the fence, he got help from a nearby ranch, and the body was cut loose.

A BROKER KISSED HER.

Buñalo, Jan. 18.—By an order of subscriptions of attorneys, the case of Mrs. Alice E. Taylor of No. 136 Lock street, Hamilton, Ont., against Wm. P. Baker of the Simmons-Baker Company of Niagara Falls, was reopened here by Justice White in the Supreme court.

Mrs. Taylor is suing Baker for \$1,000 damages for the alleged hugging and kissing of her against her will. The case was originally on the Lockport calendar, Mrs. Taylor alleges that that she borrowed money from Baker's company at one time, and later her husband was badly injured. Baker went to her home to secure payment while the husband was in the hospital, she claims, and it is alleged he kissed and hugged her.

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Wouldn't it be wise to use a time tested remedy like Dr. Hamilton's Pills. They cure that "ailing" feeling in one night. Next morning you feel like new—bright, fresh and happy. Appetite improves, dull, sallow color grows ruddy and clear, proving that great good is being done by this scientific medicine.

Thus writes Mrs. J. D. Fowler, from Yarmouth:

"I used to feel drowsy and heavy. My color was sallow, and there was usually a bad taste in my mouth. I had vague pains all through my limbs."

"After one dose of Dr. Hamilton's Pills there was a sudden change. I and an annoying headache as well, felt better, my appetite increased, and that exhaustion and depression gradually left me. Life seemed brighter and happier after I had used Dr. Hamilton's Pills, so I strongly recommended such a good medicine."

Mrs. Fowler's letter is a message to you and all others in poor health. You can't do better than follow her advice. Dr. Hamilton's Pills you certainly need; then why not get them now and enjoy the abundant good health they are sure to bring you? Price 25c. per box, or five boxes for \$1.00. At all dealers or by mail from N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U. S. A., and Kingston, Ont.

THE GREAT ALBANI COMING.

One of the World's Greatest Singers Will Visit the Capital March 2nd.

THE DIVA WILL FAREWELL HIS NATIVE LAND, TOURING FROM COAST TO COAST.

There is always some one event in particular which occurs in this community every year in the line of entertainment, which is away and beyond more important than any other of the season. This time it will unquestionably be the appearance of Madame Albani and a company of European musical celebrities, on the evening March 2nd.

Madame Albani, one of the world's foremost singers, and the most distinguished artiste to whom Canada has ever given birth, has decided to farewell her native land during the spring of 1906 by touring from coast to coast, bringing with her for this purpose an aggregation of talent which will probably prove the strongest support which she has ever brought from England. This tour, which will be under the personal direction of F. G. Spencer, will mark the closing of the career of the celebrity, who is claimed to be the greatest songsters the world has produced since her debut in 1870. The tour will open in Halifax, and extend west to British Columbia, including all the more important places in Canada. But one point will be touched in the States, that is Calais, Maine. Not a word need be said with reference to Albani in introducing her to the public of this continent, where her name is truly a household word, but a line about the different members of her company, would not be devoid of interest to readers. Madame Albani has been fortunate in securing the assistance of Mlle. Eva Gauthier, a phenomenal young contralto, a French Canadian, and born in Ottawa, 33 years ago. She owes her rapid rise among the artists of the day in part at least to

the interest taken in her by Lady Laurier, who sent her to Europe to study under the best masters obtainable. Mlle Gauthier returns to the land of her birth for the first time after an absence of four years, and will undoubtedly win many laurels during this historical farewell tour of the great prima donna.

There is probably no better baritone in England than Albert Archdeacon, also a member of the party. Mr. Archdeacon, who won his grand opera spurs at Covent Garden, London, is as equally famous as a concert and oratorio singer. His voice is one of great power and fine quality, but best of all, his singing is marked by a temperament found only in the really great artists. Haydn Wood, the violinist of the Albani party, is reputed to be one of the finest players in Great Britain, who, although quite young, has already made for himself a position well to the front among the world's leading violinists. Apart from his ability as a soloist, Mr. Wood is a composer of much note. Fortunate it is for musical Canada that Madame Albani has been able to secure that most popular of English pianists, Adele Verne, who accompanied her on a previous Canadian tour. Few pianists excel Miss Verne had been heard here at that time, since when she has undoubtedly broadened and developed in her art greatly. The accompanist and conductor, Mr. Frank Watkins, has made two journeys to Canada in the past with the great prima donna. He is the retained accompanist of Adelina Patti, who by contract has the prior right, to his services whenever the command is issued.

Such an aggregation of musical celebrities cannot fail to meet with success on this extensive tour, and Mr. Spencer already finds a much greater demand for dates than are possible for the great Albani. To fulfill the diva absolutely refuses to sing more than three times a week under any circumstances. She will travel in a special car, and everything that money and twentieth century conveniences can accomplish will be done to make the long journey of fifteen thousand miles other than fatiguing.

The appearance of Albani in Fredericton will undoubtedly be the most important event in the entertainment history of the capital. Without a doubt the capacity of the city hall will be more than tested to see and hear the great Albani, who has been for the last thirty years the recipient of favors from every court and monarch in Europe.

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P. S.—One Coat only to one buyer.