

The Story of

# ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

---

Grafton

by The Rev. Thomas R. Millman, M.A.

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## FOREWORD

On the same plot of ground, in a school house and in two successive Churches, the Anglicans of Grafton and the surrounding countryside have been meeting week by week for over a hundred years to worship God after the manner of their forefathers. It is difficult to realize that when work on the first St. George's Church was begun in 1843, only one Anglican Church, St. James, was standing within the confines of the City of Toronto. Trinity Church in the Park was built at the same time and, was opened in February 1844, while St. George's, Grafton, was opened in the following September. The Grafton congregation has witnessed the birth and growth of the Diocese of Toronto. The first Rector was a protege of Bishop Strachan and a close friend of Bishop Bethune. Apart from the Parish that he founded, and cherished through a lifetime of service, Mr. Wilson's great claim to remembrance is the bequest of his fortune to the Mission Funds of the Diocese.

Never at any time large or important, has the Parish of Grafton nevertheless filled its niche both in the life of the community and in the larger life of the Church. The personnel of the congregation have seen many great changes, and names once prominent in parochial annals are slowly being forgotten. But is to the future not to the past that we must look, and this short sketch of the history of the Parish is printed in the hope that the present congregation, conscious of a long tradition of faithful service, will continue in the future to labour unceasingly for the Church and it's Master.



Interior of St. George's Church

Here let true faith, the fear of God and brotherly love ever remain. This place is set apart for prayer and for the praise of the most holy name of our Lord Jesus Christ; whoever liveth, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.  
Book of Common Prayer, Page 714.

## I FOUNDATIONS 1820-1840

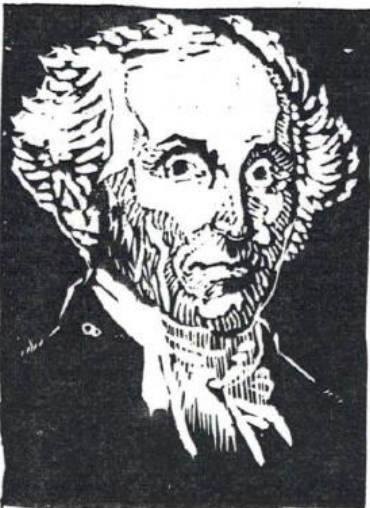
In April, 1819, the Rev. William Macaulay wrote the first entry in the register of the Mission of Hamilton (Cobourg), established at that time by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The new missionary was the son of Captain Robert Macaulay of Kingston. The brother of the Hon. John Macaulay, and was for a time Chaplain of the Legislative Assembly. While it is not probable that Mr. Macaulay conducted regular services in Haldimand, yet he gave occasional ministrations to the scattered settlers as necessity required. The report to the S.P.G. in 1820 states:-"He occasionally officiates in the neighbouring township which is equally populous with that of Hamilton." Although this may refer to Haldimand, it is more probable that it means the township of Hope in which the thriving village of Port Hope was situated. One of his earliest entries in the St. Peter's Register is the following:-"Baptized at Haldimand, April 1820, Henry Jones, son of Henry and Mary Ruttan. God father, Peter McDonnell and the parents." He baptized Hannah, Eliakim Smith and Harriet Ewing Barnum in 1823. In 1824 he officiated at the funeral of David MacGregor Rogers. Glimpses of this pioneer clergyman may be seen in "Our Forest Home" published extracts of the correspondence of Mrs. Frances Stewart, one of the original settlers of Peterborough. In 1827 Mr. Macaulay removed to Hallowell (Picton) living there as Rector of the Church of St. Mary Magdalene until his death in 1874. A living member of St. George's congregation was baptized by Mr. Macaulay, thus providing a link with the man who first supervised the beginnings of organized Anglicanism in the district one hundred and sixteen years ago.

On June 8, 1827, the Rev. A. N. Bethune, formerly minister of Grimsby, was licensed to the Mission of Cobourg. In the S.P.G. Report of 1828 he writes: "In addition to my stated services on each Sunday at Cobourg and Port Hope I officiate on week days at seven other places at various intervals." It is no rash conjecture that Haldimand was one of the seven, but there is no

explicit reference to a service there until 1833. Mr. Bethune's report for 1835 presupposes some years of work in order to produce such a flourishing condition of affairs:-"Every other Sunday at 3 p.m. I officiate at a school house in Grafton, Township of Haldimand, about seven miles from Cobourg, where from 60 to 80 persons usually assemble, and where, from the general respectability of the congregation, the decided piety of a numerous proportion, and the proper and decorous manner in which the worship is sustained, I always feel a peculiar satisfaction in-officiating. It is in contemplation to build a church at this place as soon as practicable; an undertaking which I trust, will promote the increase and spiritual improvement of that interesting congregation." As soon as "The Church" began publication at Cobourg in 1837, numerous, references were made to the fortnightly service in the school house. The original school house was built previous to 1820 and stood on Lot 25. If Mr. Macaulay conducted church services in Haldimand he probably did so in this building. The Rev. Robert Sheriff, schoolmaster in 1820, was a non-Anglican. The school-house used by Bethune stood on the South-east corner of the lot on which the present church is situated. Among the Church papers is a receipt reading, as follows: "Received from the Church-wardens of St. George's Church, Grafton, the sum of ten shillings for making preparations for removing school-house. Haldimand, Dec. 8, 1849, David M. Peters." In the Church accounts under the date May 13, 1850, there is an item of £5. 10s, paid to Robert Litster for removing the school-house. No trace remains to-day of this old building in which the familiar prayers and chants of the liturgy first resounded in the ears of the "Episcopalians" of the village and surrounding countryside. Mr. Bethune also conducted services in 1832 and 1833 both at the third and fourth concessions of the township. ' Some early parishioners who had formerly attended St. Peter's went to these services, but when a regular routine was established at Grafton, meetings at the more northerly points were discontinued. Confirmations were conducted at Cobourg at the time of the rare visits of the Bishop of Quebec.

Services were held in Cramahe (Colborne) at an early date. In 1822 the S.P.G. report states:-"At Cramahe they propose to build a church; and Mr. Keeler has promised to contribute £50 toward the building." The report of the following year, however, stated that the erection of a church was doubtful.

As to the regularity with which services were held in Colborne in these early days there is little information. At times the congregation was served from Prince Edward County, while Mr. Bethune paid an occasional visit. Soon a more satisfactory arrangement was made in the appointment of a travelling missionary for the Newcastle District, that is, the territory covered by the present Counties of Northumberland and Durham.



The Rev. A. N. Bethune

The Rev. Charles Taylor Wade, the first travelling missionary records the following items in his journal, published in "The Church" of October 28, 1837:

"Sept. 16. I proceeded this day to the Village of Colborne . ... In the evening (Friday) I read prayers and preached in the school-house to an attentive - congregation of about 50 persons:-most of them, I believe, members of the Established Church, and upon that occasion and many subsequent ones, expressing a strong wish for stated

services.

"Sept. 21. - Proceeded this day to Colborne, where, after visiting some Christian friends, I preached in the evening to a congregation of about 50 persons. On the following day (Thursday) I assisted my dear brother, the Rector of Cobourg, in a service at Grafton where he addressed himself extemporaneously, his general custom in these week-day ministrations-to

a most attentive congregation of about 40 persons. There are few villages which I have visited, in which Church privileges are more duly estimated than in this. Mr. Barnham (sic) and his family, and others in the neighbourhood are ever ready to promote the interests of religion, and their example acts beneficially on the good cause."

The Rev. C. T. Wade was later appointed Rector of Peterborough. Mrs. Stewart, in the published letters previously mentioned, writes of him:—"Mr. Wade is such a strange man, so little of a clergyman that the most respectable part of his congregation have withdrawn from hearing him. I am puzzled how to act. He preaches really excellent sermons looking so devout and sanctified, while all his actions are contrary to Christianity." As me good lady consistently found fault with her clergymen her judgment on Mr. Wade need not be taken as final. His journals, published from time to time in "The Church" are of great interest, reflecting a spirit of devotion and an attachment to duty that is worthy of praise. The Rev. G. C. Street succeeded him as Travelling Missionary.

But while Macaulay, Wade and Street were among the foundation builders, none of these clergymen laboured more faithfully than the Rev. A. N. Bethune. It was owing to his efforts that the congregation was organized, and carefully shepherded for nearly twelve years before the Church was built. Without his help and encouragement the work of building might have been long delayed. The honour that came to him in later life when he was made Bishop of Toronto was well earned through many laborious years of pastoral, educational and public service.

## **II THE BUILDING OF THE CHURCHES**

The following account from the pen of Bethune was printed in "The Church" of April 25, 1840:—"We had the gratification, on Monday last, of attending a public meeting at Grafton, convened for the purpose of taking steps for the erection of a Church in connection with the Church of England in that village. A Building Committee was appointed and a subscription



opened upon the spot. The amount contributed at the close of the meeting was nearly £200, a sum which, it is hoped, will be nearly doubled by contributions from the residents of the Township and numerous well-wishers to the undertaking in the neighbouring parishes. Grafton has hitherto constituted part of the parochial charge of the Incumbent of Cobourg, who has furnished them with Sunday services once a fortnight; but after the erection of a Church it is hoped that a resident clergyman will be appointed who would extend his ministrations to the more remote parts of the township, as well as to the neighbouring places at present unsupplied either with Church or minister."

Further information regarding this meeting and events subsequent to it is contained in an account of the Parish written by Col. R. Z. Rogers in 1894, the year of the 50th Anniversary. The meeting was called by Dr. Bethune, Donald McTavish acting as secretary. Those present were John Grover, T. M. Spalding, J. G. Rogers, E. Barnum, Thomas Stewart, C. H. Vernon, Alex Noble, Jas. Gillard, P. M. Grover, William Stewart, James Dunnett, Dennis McCormick, Robert Hughes and John Stratton. J. G. Rogers and Eliakim Barnum were appointed secretary and treasurer respectively of the Building Committee, Henry Ruttan and Lieut. Hammond being added later. By February 13, 1841, £503 was subscribed. Dr. Halliday gave the timber for the frame, Mr. Gillard helped to draw the pine, J. Morton built the

foundation, David Peters built the frame from designs drawn by Mr. Greaves of Cobourg, and James Bird painted the completed building. Until a few years ago the original subscription list was in the possession of the Barnum family, but unfortunately it no longer exists.

At a meeting held on July 8, 1843, Charles Vernon moved and Charles Hammond seconded that the name "St. George's" be



St. George's Church,  
1844-1908

adopted. The following account of the opening of the Church is taken from "The Church" of Sept. 20. 1844:

"A neat and commodious Church recently erected in this beautiful village was opened for Divine Service on Sunday last, the 15th Inst. The day was very propitious, and in addition to the ordinary congregation, several families from Cobourg and the neighbourhood attended so that the Church was filled to overflowing. Prayers were read and Public Baptism administered, by the Rev. J. Wilson who has Grafton conjoined with his charge at Colborne and the sermon was preached by the Rev. A. N. Bethune, Rector of Cobourg. The collection after the sermon amounted to the handsome sum of £13, 10s, 7d in aid of the building fund.

"The completion of this sacred edifice is highly creditable to the inhabitants of Grafton, and the neighbourhood, as well as to the Christian generosity of the churchmen of Cobourg, and other places, who aided them liberally in the good work. It has accommodation for about 250 persons, and is finished with open seats instead of pews, on a gothic plan - the whole of the woodwork of the interior being painted in imitation of oak.

"A handsome font was presented to the Church by Robert D. Rogers, Esq., of Peterborough; and several articles of furniture for the Vestry were kindly given by Mr. Clench and Mr. Stevens of Cobourg. Services will be regularly held in the Church in' the afternoon of every Sunday at three o'clock."

John Wilson, the first Incumbent of Grafton and Colborne was of Irish birth. Little is known of his early days, the first reference to him in "The Church" being in the issue of February 3, 1843:-"The Sunday School (of St. Peter's, Cobourg) is in prosperous operation, the more so since it has received the benefit of the services of Mr. Wilson, lately Superintendent of the large and flourishing school of St. James at Toronto." He is said to have been tutor to the children of prominent Toronto families. Although a married man with two small children he availed himself of the opportunity offered by the Diocesan Theological Institution (founded in Cobourg by the Rev. A. N.

Bethune in 1841 for the training of the clergy,) and registered there as a student. Bishop Strachan, in a letter to the Rev. A. M. Campbell, secretary of the S.P.G. in London, writes as follows, July 19, 1842:

"I have named John Wilson, a Gentleman who has been studying under my eye for some years, to one of the vacant scholarships, and have directed him to place himself under the Rev. A. Bethune, Professor of Theology at Cobourg without delay." Over a year later, November 7, 1843, Strachan wrote again to London:—"John Wilson, who was ordained on the 2nd. July last, I have appointed to Colborne, Newcastle District, and parts adjacent, to take place on the first of January next. Colborne is.... the centre of a very old and promising settlement and stands halfway between Cobourg, the Rev'd. Dr. Bethune's mission and the Carrying Place."

In July, 1844, after being made a priest in Toronto on June 30th., he was appointed Travelling Missionary in the Newcastle District, giving particular attention to the Missions of Colborne and Grafton and making Colborne his home.



Trinity Church, Colborne,  
1846-1935

After weary years of waiting a Church was being built at Colborne. "The Church" of May 30th, 1845, states: "The Rev. J. Wilson begs to acknowledge with very sincere thanks the sum of Twenty Pounds currency from G. W. Allan, Esq., of Toronto kindly and generously collected by that gentleman in aid of the Church now in course of erection in the village of Colborne". On August 29, 1845, he acknowledged "the receipt of £10 from his

Excellency the Governor-General "towards finishing the Colborne Church". His report of progress, in the issue of January 30, 1846, is interesting and characteristic:

"There are two Sunday Schools in active operation, one at Colborne, the other at Grafton, strictly conducted upon sound Church principles... In the Village of Colborne the frame of a very handsome and commodious Church has been erected, enclosed, with windows in, the tower completed, spire neatly tinned and the whole exterior neatly painted. It is the intention to have the building ready for divine service early in the Summer. The Church at Grafton has for some time been completed, and maybe said to be a model for Village Churches. It is well fitted up inside, and neatly furnished. A set of communion plate and linen was procured last summer out of the Offertory Collections; the Church yard has recently been enclosed, through the zeal and activity of the Church-wardens, with a very neat fence, the front, which is semi-circular, being painted by the liberality of a single individual. In short, a healthy tone is beginning to pervade the mass of the community; the congregations are steadily increasing; .... and notwithstanding much opposition .... an opinion seems to be gaining ground, that after all, there is in the quiet spirit of the Church of England something superior to what can be found in the various systems and combinations of dissent."

In his Notitia Parochialia for the 8 months ending December 31, 1845, the following further information is given :-"Service 10.30 Colborne, 3.00 Grafton. Monthly Sunday service at Percy (Warkworth) and monthly weekday service at Brighton. Public Baptism is invariably administered in the presence of the Congregation according to the rubrics ..... Upon his arrival at Colborne, the Clergyman commenced a Sunday School at his own house, where the children are still accustomed to assemble every Sunday morning for religious instruction. ... During the past winter both parents and children were accustomed to attend, on Friday evenings, at the Clergyman's residence, when a portion of the Holy Scripture was read and expounded.

More recently a Sunday School has been established at Grafton, with an average attendance of 15-20. On his visitation in the summer of 1846 Bishop Strachan consecrated the Church at Perrytown, visited Cobourg and then on Monday, August 21st., consecrated St. George's Church, Grafton, and confirmed 19 persons. He then visited Colborne, opened the Church there for the first time and confirmed 29 persons. A full account of the proceedings is contained in "The Church" of September 11, 1846.

After four years residence at Colborne the clergyman moved to Grafton as the following letter of December 6, 1849, indicates: "The Rev. J. Wilson having changed his residence begs that in future all Letters and Papers for him may be addressed to Grafton.

"He also avails himself of the present opportunity to return his sincere thanks to those kind friends and parishioners who so freely and liberally contributed towards the purchase of a Parsonage in connection with St. George's Church, Grafton.

"To H. J. Standly, and the Churchwardens J. G. Rogers and Charles H. Vernon, Esquires, with whom originated the idea of procuring a Parsonage he feels that the Parish owes a debt of deep obligation; and they have now the high satisfaction of seeing their well-directed efforts crowned with complete success.



The Old Rectory

"Mr. Wilson begs, in conclusion, to tender his grateful acknowledgements to those of his parishioners who cheerfully volunteered their services, with wagons and horses to remove his furniture, without suffering him to incur the slightest expense.

"St. George's Parsonage, Grafton, December 3, 1849."

There were several reasons for the removal of the Parsonage to Grafton, the most compelling of which was probably the generosity and encouragement of some of the wealthier parishioners. Grafton had great promise as a rising town in 1849, and congregations were larger than in Colborne. The Parsonage was not a new structure, having been built some years previous to 1849 by J. C. Hogaboom. The original building was modelled after the old Barnum House, the wings being removed and the main part turned to face east and west in 1892. In 1852 the "Jones Lot," adjoining the parsonage property; was purchased.

The decade 1844-54 was thus a period of great progress in the Mission of Grafton and Colborne. For twenty years previous to 1840 Colborne had looked forward to building a Church, and by 1830 the Haldimand Anglicans had a similar end in view. The period 1844-54 was the time of growth that succeeded the winter of waiting. Two new, fully equipped churches, one of which was entirely free from debt, a settled clergyman, a Parsonage House and lot and a glebe for Trinity Church-these were no small achievements for comparatively small groups of people.

### III EARLY PARISHIONERS

The "List of Subscribers to the Purchase of a Parsonage House in connection with St. George's Church, Grafton" is included in the Register in the careful handwriting of Mr. Wilson. It is reproduced below in order to show the names of the supporters of the Church in its early days.

	£	s.	d.
Lady Poore	10	—	—
Henry J. Standly	15	—	—
J. D. Cameron	10	—	—
Hamlet Vernon, Sr.	5	—	—
Charles H. Vernon	5	—	—
J. Wilson (Incumbent)	5	—	—
Charles Deane Baker	5	—	—

J. G. Rogers	5	—	—
Henry Newman	5	—	—
Stewart E. Mackechnie	5	—	—
Thomas W. Colleton	5	—	—
Thomas M. Spalding, Sr.	5	—	—
Michael D. Crusoe	5	—	—
James Gillard	3	—	—
Charles Cameron	2	10	—
John S. Innis	2	—	—
Richard D. Arkland	1	5	—
Samuel Walsh	1	5	—
Charles Butler	1	5	—
Thomas Bingley	1	5	—
Major Campbell	1	5	—
Alexander Noble	1	5	—
J. D. Massey	1	—	—
James Tuck	—	10	—
William Greenwood	—	10	—
C. Hinds	—	10	—
Miss Ewing	—	5	—

Other more extended lists-are to be found in the annual reports of the Church Society. Additional subscribers to the purchase of the "Jones Lot" were E. Barnum, A. G. Allan, W. F. Pym, Thomas Stewart, and William Taylor.

All of this generation have died, some of them leaving not even their names behind, but of others our knowledge is more extended. Henry Ruttan tells in his Autobiography that he came to keep store in Haldimand at the conclusion of the War of 1812-14. Although he was not ~ member of the Grafton congregation in the 1840's, being more closely connected with St. Peter's, yet he gave 200 acres of land to endow the Church when the Parish was founded. The Barnum family has been connected with the congregation for over a century. Eliakim Barnum, according to the "Atlas of Northumberland and Durham" settled in the township in the 1790's and quickly became a man of wealth and importance. His two sons, E. Smith

and James, and his grandchildren, continued to support the Church. . Next to the Barnums in age comes the Rogers family. David McGregor Rogers from Prince Edward County settled on the land still in the possession of his descendants, a Clergy Reserve Lot, in 1810. The grave of this eminent Loyalist, a member of the first Parliament of Upper Canada, is one of the spots of historical interest in the old cemetery. His son, grandson and great-grandson have in turn been wardens of St. George's. The Rogers family gave the land for the Church.

The Vernon family settled in the Township at an early date, their name being commemorated in "Vernonville". 'Charles ("Squire") Vernon was warden from 1845-1860. He died in middle life but his wife, Margaret Vernon, continued through long years to be a benefactor of the Church. The Spaldings were an old family, equally as early as the Barnums. The name of Thomas Spalding Sr. is connected with the Church from its beginnings. John Grover, one of the original settlers in Haldimand was also an Anglican. The families of Noble and Stewart were prominent in the early days, but they lived in the northern part of the Township. The Gillards, James and his son Josias were staunch Church people, the latter being warden for over thirty years.

In addition to these old families whose roots go back to the beginnings of community life in the Township there were others of great interest who came in later successive waves of immigration. Some were retired army and navy officers. Thomas Colleton, a "second son", Captain of the 23rd Fusiliers, was a survivor of Waterloo. Richardson Mason served as Lieutenant in the Peninsular War. Lieut. Charles Hammond served 56 years in the Royal Navy, 19 years of which were in active service. He had been severely wounded and became totally blind in consequence but was an active member of the building committee. Captain James Mason, Captain McNeil, and Captain Frederic Diggle were others who followed the profession of arms.

The group of English people of "family" who lived on the winding road leading to-day to "The Pines" and "Anne ville" were all Church folk. Henry J.



Standly, a man of some wealth, was, as has been noted, prominent in the movement to purchase the Rectory. He was married to Agnes Poore, daughter of Sir Edward Poore, the second baronet. Mrs. Standly's sister, Anna Maria, was married to Stuart E. Mackechnie by Mr. Wilson in 1848. Mr. Mackechnie was Mayor of Cobourg in 1853. Mrs. Standly's brother, Edward, became the third baronet. This is the Sir Edward Poore who lived at Grafton for a number of years, and whose hard riding is dimly remembered. His wife, Frances Moody, was a daughter of a Canon of Canterbury, hence her interest in the rectory project is not surprising. Neighbour to the Standly's and Poore's was J. Montgomery Campbell. He, along with his employees, W. F. Pym and Griffiths Wainwright, took an active interest in Church business. In the early 1850's the Pagets built a house not far from Campbell's. The Rev. E. C. Paget occasionally officiated at St. George's. His son, Dean Paget of Calgary, who died not many years ago, has included in his "Reminiscences of Sir Charles Paget" many interesting references to his life as a child in Grafton.

Donald McTavish, a native of Inverness, Scotland, and owner of Ness-side Mill at Benlock Bridge, was, from the time of his coming to Grafton in the late 1830's, very prominent in many community projects, including the building of the Church. His daughter, Maria, who died a short time ago, was throughout her long life a generous supporter of the Church in Colborne.

One of the most picturesque as well as the most generous of all these "charter members" of the congregation was John Dugald Cameron, who, after a long adventurous life in the service of the two great fur trading companies, the North-West and Hudson's Bay, settled in Grafton with his family in 1844. As partner in the former trading company and chief factor in the latter after 1821 he occupied an honoured place. Numerous references to him are to be found in the literature of the fur trade. Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Co., describes him as "a happy fellow, nothing seems to concern him and an excellent well-meaning man he is." He and the Rev. John Wilson were the closest of friends and appeals that the latter made to him were never in vain. In his will he added

substantially to the endowment fund. Mr. Wilson, in a letter to "The Church," February 13, 1846, states:-"Among the sincere and faithful friends of the Church at Grafton should be mentioned the name of J. D. Cameron, Esq., a gentleman whose exemplary piety, urbanity of manners, and extensive yet unostentatious beneficence and charity, have endeared him to all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance." When the old fur trader died in 1857 a resolution in the Vestry minutes, moved by James G. Rogers and seconded by Charles Vernon, expressed the sense of loss felt in the death of "our venerable friend and brother". Throughout its history until the present day St. George's Church has had no more consistent supporters than the Cameron family.

#### **IV CHURCH LIFE 1850-1880**

During the 1850's the work of the parish progressed favourably. In 1856 before Mr. Wilson left for England in search of better health, the congregations gave him addresses and a presentation of £50. About the same time the ladies of the congregation presented his daughter, Miss Wilson, with a gold watch valued at £35. The gift was, in part, a reward for her "kind and unremitting attention in aiding us in conducting the musical services of the Church". As "The Church" was not published after 1857, references to the parish after this date are not as accessible as before. The "Canadian Ecclesiastical Gazette" and the "Church Chronicle" contain a few items of interest, for the most part in connection with the Church Society, Mr. Wilson being secretary of the Newcastle District Branch for a few years. The Church possesses, however, complete Vestry minutes for its whole history, as well as an account book with entries extending over twenty years. From these and other scattered sources it is possible to trace the course of events, and to reconstruct, in part, the problems affecting the life of the parish.

Income was derived from pew rents and from weekly and sacramental collections. For many years the pew rent was £1 annually. On one occasion,

in 1861, Mr. Wilson offended a group in the congregation and the rent was promptly lowered to 50c. A visit from the Archdeacon of York was necessary in order to bring about reconciliation and to raise the rent once more, this time to \$4.00. The irregularity of payment of pew rent was a perennial problem, showing that the difficulty attending Church financing is no modern invention. Sacramental collections were larger than the ordinary Sunday collections as the attendance was usually greater. The Holy Communion was celebrated quarterly instead of monthly in these early years.

In the debit columns of the account book the current expenses for the upkeep of the Church are tabulated. In 1845 the clergyman's salary from collections amounted to £70, but he received the pew rents in addition. In the 1870's the salary had risen to \$1280, but of this only \$225 was paid directly by the congregation, the greater part being derived from endowment and the Clergy Trust Fund.



The Rev. John Wilson

The precursor of the Diocesan Synod was the Church Society, founded only two years before the building of the Church. To it were sent at stated intervals the result of regular appeals. There were collections for the Diocesan Theological Institution, for the Students' Fund, for Widows and Orphans, and for the Missionary Fund. In addition, numerous special appeals were made, e.g. for Destitute Irish and Scotch, for the S.P.G., for sufferers from the Quebec fire, etc. It was also the custom to give small sums to the needy as the following pathetic entries show:

- "To a poor woman in distress, 2s, 6d"; "To a poor man suffering from fever and ague 7 1/2d"; "Two coffins for Emigrant woman and child, 17s, 6d."

The (liturgy of the "United Church of England and Ireland was little different from what it is today. Prayers were offered, for "our Sovereign Lady, Queen Victoria." No surviving member of the congregation remembers whether Mr. Wilson preached in the black Geneva gown or not. There is extant an old daguerreotype showing him arrayed in the dignified gown and bands, which were widely worn at that time. The old-fashioned communion plate purchased in 1845 is still in use. The Church bell, bought in 1847 at a cost of £38 announced the beginning of the service. By 1851 pipe organs had been installed in both churches, and reference has been made to the assistance of Miss Wilson who may have been the first organist in Grafton. Mrs. W. F. Pym was organist in 1864 and received a vote of thanks for her services. A curious resolution in 1868 records "that this Vestry is desirous of having singing resumed in this Church under the leadership of a party of the congregation to sit near the Organ in the Gallery." Apparently the choir, "a party of the congregation" had ceased functioning for a time. When in 1885 the chancel was enlarged by the Archdeacon as a memorial to his wife, the gallery was removed and the organ, which a few years previously had been placed in the North-East corner of the Church, was placed in the new chancel. In 1872 the following motion was recorded in the Vestry minutes:-"That the thanks, of this meeting be tendered to Miss Drake who has so efficiently conducted the choral portion of the Church services during the past few years, and that a complimentary as well as substantial donation of \$25.00 be presented to her by the Churchwardens." On February 16, 1897, a gold watch and an address signed by the Wardens were presented to Miss Drake in recognition of her 29 years' service as organist. Miss Ella and Miss Elizabeth Drake were valued members of the congregation for many long years. Both gifted women, their busy fingers were constantly employed in some labour of love for their Church.

From the beginning, the work at Colborne proceeded favourably. By 1853 the debt on the Church had been paid, the names of those who contributed to the final drive being given below: C. Cumming, R. M.

Boucher, Joseph Keeler, F. B. Spilsbury, G. S. B????, J. Wilson, J.M. Grover, H. Lennon, Stephen N. Casey, Thomas Walker, J. D. Goslee, W. Armstrong.

The following resolution in the Vestry minutes of April 21, 1851, is worthy of mention: "That in compliance with the invitation of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese that one or more members (being communicants) be elected from each Parish or Mission to represent the interests of the Church at the approaching Visitation, F. M. Boucher, Esq., be hereby requested to accompany the Incumbent of this Parish as Delegate to the said Visitation of the Lord Bishop." A similar motion at the Grafton meeting elected J. D. Cameron. This was the first step taken by Bishop Strachan toward the foundation of a Diocesan Synod, as the Conference afterwards came to be called. It is a matter for pride that at the birth of the Synod, when the Diocese extended over the whole of Canada West, the Incumbent and his two representatives were present.

The account book has the amount of collections at Warsaw's, Percy (Warkworth), Seymour (Campbellford) and Brighton, up to 1849. There is also record of services held in a school-house in the 6th Concession of Haldimand from 1854-1856. Regarding these people Mr. Wilson writes, June 1855:

"There is one very gratifying feature in this congregation which deserves to be noted and that is, that the men will lay aside their daily occupations and intermit their daily business on those occasions when their minister visits them in order that they may attend Divine Service. Surely such people may humbly hope that the blessing of Almighty God will rest upon themselves and their families."

It is probable that for a time Mr. Wilson paid sporadic visits to stations on the old Travelling Missionary route. He also kept up a close connection with Cobourg, where, for a short time during his period of training he had been assistant minister, but Grafton and Colborne were his primary change. His carriage was a familiar sight on the plank road between the two villages,

and as the long years passed he became an accepted institution in both communities. He continued his studies taking his B.A. from Trinity College in 1862, and his M.A. in 1863 at the age of 56. Later he was made Rural Dean and in 1875 he was appointed Archdeacon of Peterborough by his old friend, Bishop Bethune. As the Parish of Colborne had been separated from Grafton in 1873, he had ample time to devote to his duties as Archdeacon. From this point on, the history of the two churches is distinct, but in the heart of the Archdeacon there was probably no distinction. He had seen the building of Trinity Church, and superintended its congregational life for nearly thirty years. As long as the parish exists the name of John Wilson should have an honoured place.

## **V THE CURACY OF THE REV. E. J. HARPER**

In a letter dated September 24, 1883, the Archdeacon wrote to Bishop Sweatman as follows:

"My dear Lord:

"I am happy to inform you that the Rev. E. J. Harper has come to me as my Curate, and that I find in him all that could be desired. He is a pious and good young man of gentlemanly manners and address—a fair reader and preacher, and one whose heart is in his work, and, should his health continue good, I believe that he will be a useful and efficient clergyman, and an acquisition to our Diocese . . . . I am hopeful that with Mr. Harper's assistance, we shall effect a 'revival' in the more efficient working of the outskirts of the Parish, of which I have commenced a visitation".

The six years of Mr. Harper's life in Grafton were busily employed, bringing back memories of the bustling early days when John Wilson was in his prime. The great work of Mr. Harper's curacy was the building of St. John's Church, Centreton. From the 1850's on, the Parish Register shows the old Centreton names regularly appearing in the confirmation lists—Holland, Brewster, Taylor, Timlin, Nichol, Beatty, Creighton, Blackburn and others. In the days before the advent of the motor car, people considered it no

hardship to drive for miles to Church, and a number of the families living as far north as Centreton came regularly to Grafton for service. It was felt, however that the time was ripe to build an Anglican Church in Centreton, and in 1884 the work was commenced. The minutes of the meeting that decided upon the building are of sufficient interest to be reproduced verbatim:

"May 25, 1884. At a meeting of the members and friends of the Church of England, held this day in the Village of Centreton, County of Northumberland, to consider the advisability of building a Church in the neighbourhood, the following proceedings took place, viz :

"The Rector took the chair and opened the meeting with prayer. After a few preliminary remarks by the Chairman, the following Resolutions were put to the meeting and adopted:

"1. Resolved by this meeting that a Church for the worship of Almighty God, for the use of the members of the Church of England resident in this neighbourhood be erected as soon as possible, in this Village, provided a suitable site can be obtained.

"Moved by Mr. Beatty, seconded by Mr. David Taylor. Carried.

"2. Resolved, that the offer of Mr. Holland of a site on his corner lot for the building of a Church for the use of the Church of England forever be very gratefully accepted; and that the cordial thanks of this meeting be and are hereby tendered to Mr. Holland for his Christian liberality in this respect.

"Moved by Mr. Beatty, seconded by Mr. David Taylor. Carried.

"3. Resolved, that immediate steps be taken with reference to the building of said Church: and that the Rev.E. J. Harper and Messrs. David Taylor, Holland, Nichols, Slade, Creighton, James Brewster, Beatty, Timlin and

James Teney, with power to add to their numbers be appointed to solicit subscriptions for that purpose.

"Moved by Mr. Beatty, seconded by Mr. James Teney. Carried.

"4. Resolved that Mr. James Teney and Mr. Beatty, be appointed to act as Church Wardens, until such time as the new Church be completed.

"Moved by Mr. David Taylor, seconded by Mr. Joseph Holland. Carried: "J. Wilson, Chairman."

As the canvassers met with a good response the work of building was immediately undertaken: On the occasion of the laying of the corner stone the congregation presented the Archdeacon with a silver trowel. This trowel was kindly-presented to the Wardens in 1934 by the Rev. E . J. Harper, in whose possession it has been since he left Grafton in 1889. The following is a newspaper announcement of the opening of the Church:



The West Window,  
St. John's Church,  
Centreton

"The new English Church at Centreton will be opened on Sunday next, November 1, (1885). There Will be divine service with Holy Communion at 11 a.m., sermon by the Rev. Dr. Roy. The evening service will be held at 3.30 p.m., Ven. Archdeacon Wilson officiating. Monday afternoon a grand farmers' harvest dinner, Monday evening a musical service in the Church."

The name "St. John's" was given to the Church on motion of Mr. Beatty and James Teney at the first Vestry meeting, Easter Monday, April 26, 1886. The total cost of the

Church was \$2,852.00. When the debt was fully paid off, Archbishop Sweatman consecrated the Church, November 21, 1897.



Concurrently with this work, repairs were being made in Grafton. To quote again from a clipping:

"St. George's Church, in this village, has been greatly improved in the interior during the past summer. From a dingy barn-like structure it has been converted into a neat and comfortable parish Church. The seats have been so arranged as to give a centre aisle and two narrow side aisles, the old west-end gallery removed-and better heating and lighting accommodation secured. The new chancel which has been erected by the Venerable Archdeacon Wilson, in memory of his wife and daughter, is a very important addition to the Church. It is 18 feet deep by 16 feet wide, with lean-to organ chamber and vestry. The choir is raised one step above the nave, and is provided with sittings for about 12. The sanctuary is elevated two steps above the choir. The doors and steps of both are covered with a carpet of neat ecclesiastical design. A want hitherto unsupplied is provided by a small credence niche in the south wall.

"The east end of the chancel contains a handsome memorial window erected by Mrs. Vernon of Peterborough (a former parishioner) in memory of her late husband, Charles Henry Vernon ... The altar has been remodelled and the expense of enlarging it and providing an altar cloth has been generously met by Mrs. Dr. Halliday of Peterborough, also a former parishioner. The beautiful work on the cloth itself was done by Miss Lizzie Drake (and others) who did the same for Centreton."

In 1889 Mr. Harper's health forced him to leave the Parish and go to the dryer climate of Colorado. Before his departure the combined congregations met in the Town Hall and presented him with a purse of gold. After a long and fruitful ministry he is now retired and living in St. Catharines. Upon the resignation of the Archdeacon in October 1889, the Rev. W. E. Cooper of Trinity College School was appointed Rector. He remained little over a year but during that time the aged Archdeacon passed away.

## VI IN MEMORIAM

To many of the older members of the congregation the Archdeacon is still present in the memory as a living figure. He was tall and austere in appearance, strict in governing his flock, firmly fixed in his own opinions, forthright and outspoken, betraying on occasion his Irish descent. Fundamentally, however he was a man of deep humility, extremely generous and kind. In his later years he was left alone, his wife and daughter dying within six months of each other. His housekeeper, Margaret Flaherty (Mrs. W. Craig), took loving care of him during his painful illness, and in return he held her in high regard. While a convinced Anglican and ready especially in his earlier days to compare Anglicanism with "Dissent", much to the disparagement of the latter, nevertheless his relations with other Christian bodies appear to have been marked by dignity and tolerance.

His own words, written ninety years ago, express his thoughts better than any paraphrase could do :-"For my own part, I am determined by God's blessing, to cling more and more closely to the doctrines and usages of 'our pure and reformed Church; and to endeavour, to the best of my poor ability, to inculcate the sense in the minds of the people committed to my care, as the best return I can make for the unspeakable privilege of having been brought up in her bosom."

One of his sermons, preached at the funeral of Mrs. Mary Eliza Armstrong, daughter of James G. Rogers, on February 19, 1851, was published by request. It is entitled "The Happy Life and Death of the Christian," and was dedicated as follows:-"To James G. Rogers and Charles

H. Vernon, Esqs., Church Wardens of St. George's Church, to whose maintenance of sound Church principles, and untiring zeal and energy in the cause of religion, the parish is so much indebted, this sermon is inscribed by their sincere friend and pastor, The Author." The sermon itself

is lengthy, well written, but typical of the period. It is characteristic of the man that in a footnote he gives credit to another author for some of his leading ideas.

The following extracts from the Annual Address of Bishop Sweatman, given to the Synod in 1891, will fittingly dose this sketch of the founder of the Parish:-.

"In the death of the Venerable Archdeacon Wilson another link has been severed that united us to the past generation. The oldest of our clergy, he was for many years' the honoured friend of the late Bishop Bethune, whom he greatly resembled in the gentle, equable courtesy and kindness of his bearing and his attitude in Church politics. He was seldom heard in Synod, and never, I believe, took an active part in its polemics, but he nevertheless had his convictions and very strong ones too. A typical conservative High Churchman 'of the Old School, he could be very firm and unyielding in the maintenance of his principles . . . . . He remained Rector of Grafton until his retirement through age and infirmity (in 1889) thus furnishing an instance almost unique of a clergyman holding his first and only charge for an uninterrupted period of forty-six years. In the very quiet little Village of Grafton Mr. Wilson pursued his duties as Parish Priest all these years with an assiduity and patient continuance in well-doing worthy of the praise of the Church, maintaining always the dignity of his sacred office, and in his peaceful parsonage dispensing the generous hospitality which marks the Christian character . . . . . He truly and warmly loved the Church, and to her services he devoted all the means which in long years he had been able to accumulate. By his will he devised a bequest of \$34,000 to the Mission Fund of the Diocese; besides handsome benefactions to Trinity College and to Trinity College School. Of his large library he left more than two hundred volumes to the Diocesan Theological Library, and the rest to be distributed among the clergy."

## VII LATER YEARS

During the 1880's the ladies of the Church held annual entertainments in the Drill Shed which stood near the site of the new Roman Catholic Cemetery on the Centreton Road. These were largely attended and frequently aided by Cobourg talent. Christmas entertainments were held then as now, in the Town Hall. A branch of the Church of England Temperance Society flourished during these years, holding occasional public meetings in the Town Hall.

During Mr. Cooper's incumbency four Sunday Schools were in operation in the summer, two of these being held in school-houses in the Parish. An account of the Harvest Festival of 1890 is interesting:—"The Annual Harvest Festival and outing of the Sunday Schools of this Parish took place on Thursday, August 28. The day was begun by a celebration of the Holy Communion in St. George's Church at which were 16 communicants, the Rector, W. E. Cooper, being celebrant. In the afternoon the harvest service took place in the Church at 2 p.m., the Rector saving the prayers, and Rev. Canon Davidson of Colborne delivering an interesting address. W. P. Atkinson, Esq. of Toronto presided at the organ. The Church was most beautifully decorated with sheaves, flowers, etc., the chancel especially presenting a most lovely appearance.

Many of the members of the Centreton congregation were present, the design being to bring all the congregations together for one united service. After service, games, races, etc. came off in the 'Old Cricket Field' adjoining the Church yard; and a most enjoyable day was brought to a close by the harvest tea."

The Church was further beautified in 1891 by the tinting and painting of the chancel roof, and by the placing of mullions and cathedral glass in the windows. "But the two great features are the two magnificent picture windows, one on each side of the Church next the chancel:

(1) The Good Samaritan, in memory of James G. Rogers

(2) The Sermon on the Mount, in memory of Archdeacon Wilson, erected by Miss Margaret Flaherty."

On Mr. Cooper's resignation, the Rev. W. H. A. French was appointed, May 17, 1892. During his years at Grafton the Rectory was remodelled as the Register states:-"I deem it fitting for the information of my successors that some record should be kept of the building of a new Rectory since I came to this Parish in the year 1892. The building was begun in 1892 and occupied early in 1893. The main portion of the building is formed out of the frame of the old Rectory; the back part, south, is new. The barn and stables were reconstructed at the same time. w. H. A. French, Rector."

The liquidation of the debt on the Rectory took several years to complete. Garden parties and social gatherings of various kinds were undertaken. A series of Parlour Concerts was held under the auspices of the Ladies Aid. One of these took place at "The Maples," the home of Mrs. Cameron. There was an entertainment at Homewood House, the guests contributing their time and talent for the benefit of the Rectory Fund. The Annual Garden Party held at Mr. Gillard's in June, 1898. met the half-yearly interest. In describing a similar social gathering held at the Rectory the newspaper correspondent waxed enthusiastic:-"The most fastidious taste of an epicure could not fail to be satiated by the culinary art brought into recognition to produce such viands."

Centreton also was labouring to payoff the debt on the Church. Oyster Suppers and Strawberry Festivals contributed to the desired end. If at times the Centretonians were not able to pay their minister in cash, they took the next best way. The "Cobourg World" records that in February, 1893, "A number of the Centreton friends of the Rev. Mr. French gave him an agreeable surprise on Saturday in the shape of 45 bushels of oats."

Thus the ten years of Mr. French's Rectorship passed busily away. When he and his family went to Uxbridge they left many kindly remembrances behind them in Grafton and Centreton. He died at Shanty Bay some years after.

In February, 1901, the Rev. Charles Henry Brooks became Rector of Grafton. Born in Lennoxville, Quebec, in 1846, he was educated at Bishop's College School and McGill University. His father was one of the founders of the Grand Trunk Railway, and his uncle was an M.P. for Sherbrooke for many years. He belonged to a Congregationalist family and took his divinity course at the Theological Seminary, Andover, Mass. In 1876 he married Fannie Wallace of London, Ont., and the newly wedded pair went immediately to the mission field. For sixteen years he did missionary work in Constantinople. In 1892 he returned to Canada, joined the Church of England, and after serving several parishes came to Grafton as Rector.

At the beginning of his ministry the outlook must have been fairly good. The salary was not large, but the two Churches were free from debt and in good condition. The Rectory was new and during these years was beautifully kept.

On Sunday evening, February 23, 1908, the congregation was startled to hear a sound of crying in the Church porch. Some of the ladies went out immediately and found a deserted infant. It was later adopted by a family in the community and was named Arthur Grafton.



The Rev. C. H. Brooks

In April, 1908, the congregation sustained a heavy blow when the old Church was destroyed by fire. For 64 years the life of the Parish had centred in this building. Two generations had been brought up in it. Every

part spoke of loving care and effort. Small wonder that great grief and dismay was caused by the loss.

But here the mettle of the people and especially of the Rector showed itself. Mr. Brooks wrote to each former member of the Parish, asking for subscriptions to aid in re-building. Not only from them but from members of the congregation and from neighbouring parishes splendid help was received. In the Parish records is a small book containing the names of the subscribers. These are too numerous to mention but the names of descendants of the founders are very prominent. Gifts, large and small, combined with insurance, grants from the S.P.C.K. and from the Mission Board amounted to \$4,800.00. Among Mr. Brooks' treasured relics was an autograph letter that he had received while in Constantinople from the Archbishop of Canterbury. He sold this letter to the late John Pierpont Morgan for \$100.00 and contributed the sum to the building fund.

The building was designed by Grant Helliwell of Toronto, and Charles E. Jex of Cobourg was the contractor. The organ was installed by Edward Lye and Son and the bell was cast by the Meneely Bell Co.

During the building of the Church, services were held in the in Rectory and in St. Andrew's Church, kindly offered to the congregation as a Church home. The new Church was formally opened on February 17, 1909, and consecrated by Bishop Sweeny on March 25, 1909, just eleven months after the burning of the old Church - surely a worthy record.

Mr. Brooks was a tireless worker, a faithful and well-beloved parish priest. Many a Sunday he walked to and from Centreton in order to carry on his schedule of services. The Rectory, during the Brooks' tenure was the abode of hospitality, Mrs. Brooks being an aider and a better of her husband in all deeds of Christian charity. After a period of failing health Mr. Brooks died in Orillia in July 1914. Mrs. Brooks died in Montreal in March 1928. Both are buried in St. George's Churchyard.

In February, 1915, the Rev. A. E. Lewis Was instituted as Rector of St. George's Church, with Centreton and Harwood. The attempt to serve the latter place from Grafton proved a failure and it was joined to the Parish of Perrytown. Mr. Lewis resigned in the fall of 1916 and after a period in which services were given by the Rev. C. Lord, the Rev. F . A. Heffler was appointed. The latter was Rector until November, 1921. His successor, the Rev. G.S. Postlethwaite, remained only a year and was followed by the Rev. A. E. Bruce who held the incumbency until 1928. In that year the Parish resumed its former close connection with Cobourg, the Assistant at St. Peter's, the Rev. E. R. Adye being placed in charge with the Rev. Dr. T. S. Boyle as Rector. This arrangement was but temporary and in 1931 the Rev. H. R. Deering was appointed, remaining until the coming of the present Incumbent in June, 1933.

## MEMORIALS

1. Framed Illuminated Inscription.

### ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH ROLL OF HONOUR

Thou therefore endure hardness ·as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy, 2:3

Lt. Col. Charles Hcrman Rogers, O.B.E.

Pte. Harry Slater

Bomb. James Cecil Clitheroe

Gunner Edwin Harvey

Pte. Frank A. Barber

Gunner Sydney Clarke Baker

Major Robert Percy Rogers D.S.O.

Major Gordon R. Taylor

Lieut. Harry Reymes, M.C.

Sapper John T. Dalby

Flight Lieut. J. Bernard Mockridge Barnum



Pte. Clarence W. Mockridge Barnum  
Sergt. William Proctor  
Pte. Sydney Proctor  
Pte. Harry Proctor  
Pte. George Brittain

2. Framed Illuminated Inscription.

#### ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH MEMORIAL LIGHTS

The eight lanterns in the nave and chancel of this church were dedicated to the glory of God on Sunday, June 26, 1932 in memory of:

The Rev. C. H. Brooks and Mrs. Brooks  
Nora B. Rogers King  
John and Ann Timlin  
Thomas Lowe Blackburn  
John and Elizabeth Nicholls  
George and Elizabeth Hare

#### DONORS

The Parish Guild  
Miss Emily Rogers  
John and Nixon Timlin  
Miss Alicia Blackburn  
Mrs. Lillius Harnden  
F. W. Hare  
Incumbent, Herbert R. Deering, B.A.

**3. A group of three stained glass windows** presented by Mrs. J. L. Barnum and erected in the west end of the nave. Two of these show symbolic representations of Faith and Hope. The central window depicts the Good Shepherd. The inscriptions are:

(a) To the glory of God and in loving memory of Selina Mary Cameron. Born January 21, 1823, died August 14; 1915. Erected by her daughter. "Steadfast in Faith."

(b) To the glory of God and in loving memory of James Lyon Barnum. Born January 30, 1856. Entered into rest Dec. 13, 1919. Erected by his wife. "I am the Good Shepherd and know my sheep."

(c) To the glory of God and in loving memory of Eliza Cameron. Born August 8, 1847. Died 1916. Erected by her sister. "Patient in Hope."

**4. A group of three stained glass windows** in the eastern end of the chancel. From left to right, they depict the Blessed Virgin Mary, Christ Carrying the Cross, and St. John. The inscriptions are:

(a) A.M.D.G. In loving memory of Lieut. Charles Hammond, R.N., and of Elizabeth Hammond. By their children.

(b) A.M.D.G. et in memoriam. Vent Archdeacon Wilson. "Follow me."

(c) A.M.D.G. In loving memory of Charles Henry Vernon. By his wife.

5. Brass Tablet on the south wall of the nave. The inscription is:

Sacred to the memory of Margaret Gould, Widow of Charles H. Vernon. Born at Chippenham, England. Dec. 6, 1822. Died at Peterborough, Onto Jan. 1st. 1916, in her 94th year. A faithful and devoted member of this congregation for 38 years; "Their works do follow them."

**6. A memorial pulpit** in polished oak bears the following inscription on a brass plate :

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Zaccheus Rogers. Born March 29th, 1842. Died Jan. 4th 1911. Dedicated by his wife and children.

**7. An Office Book**, inscribed 3;s follows :

Presented to St. George's Church, Grafton. by Mrs. Emily A. Young in loving memory of her husband. Henry R. Young. June, 1934. Proverbs IV:18.

**8. A brass Altar Cross**, inscribed as follows :

Thank Offering from Mrs. Cameron and Family. Easter 1912.

The vestry contains a table, wardrobe, and box for communion silver, all of which were given to the first church when it was built in 1844-45. There are also several interesting photographs:

1. The Rev. John Wilson. (Enlarged from a daguerreotype) .
2. The Rev. John Wilson, 1885
3. The Rev. E. J. Harper
4. The Rev. Charles H. Brooks
5. The old Rectory (Presented by the Rev. E. J. Harper).
6. The old Church (Presented by the Rev. E. J. Harper)
7. The old Church (Presented.by Mrs. T. E. Lawless).
8. The present RE'ctory (Presented by Mrs. T. E. Lawless)
9. Interior of the old Church (Presented by Mrs. Craig)
10. Charles H. Vernon
11. Mrs. Charles H. Vernon
12. Bishop Strachan (steel engraving)

**INCUMBENTS OF ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GRAFTON, AND OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CENTRETON**

John Wilson, M.A.	1844-1889	G. S. Postlethwaite	1922-1923
E. J. Harper, M.A.	1883-1889	A. E . B. Bruce	1923-1927
W. E. Cooper, B.D.	1889-1891	T. S. Boyle, M.A., D.D., D.C.L.	
W. H. A. French	1891-1901	and E. R. Adye, B.A.	1927-1931
Charles H . Brooks	1902-1914	H. R. Deering, B.A.	1931-1933
A. E. Lewis	1914-1916	T . R. MilllllJan, M.A.	1933-

F. A. Heffler, B.A. 1917-1922

## WARDENS OF ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, GRAFTON

1845--1861	Charles H. Vernon James G. Rogers	1879--1882	Dr. Halliday Josias Gillard
1861-1862	Alexander Noble Griffiths Wainwright Jas. G. Rogers (later)	1882--1884	James Teney Josias Gillard
1862--1863	Alexander Noble R. W. Standly	1884--1891	Henry Lawless Josias Gillard
1863--1864	W. F. Pym James Barnum	1891--1900	R. Z. Rogers Josias Gillard
1864--1866	Thomas D. Belfield Charles S. Drummond	1900--1901	George Hare Josias Gillard
1866--1868	Charles Deane Baker Charles S. Drummond	1901--1903	George Hare C. H. Rogers M. J. Gillard (later)
1868--1870	Charles Deane Baker Josias Gillard	1903--1905	George Hare C. H. Rogers
1870--1875	William Nobles Josias Gillard	1905--1910	George Hare A. T. Cole
1875--1879	R. Z. Rogers Josias Gillard	1910--1911	H. Rogers A. T. Cole
1911--1912	George Hare A. T. Cole	1920--1926	F. W. Hare A. E. Naylor
1912--1915	George Hare Harry Reymes	1926--1928	J. Hanmer F. W. Hare
1915(July)	George Hare H. R. Young	1928--1929	J. Hanmer H. Pratt
1915(Sep.) -1918	George Hare J. L. Barnum	1929--1930	C. Dalby H. Pratt
1918--1920	George Hare A. E. Naylor	1930--1935	C. Dalby F. W. Hare

## WARDENS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CENTRETON

1886--1888	James Teney William Beatty	1909--1912	Joseph Holland John Timlin
1888--1900	Alfred Slade William Beatty	1912--1915	Joseph Holland William Blackburn
1900--1902	D. H. Taylor William Beatty	1915--1918	John Beatty William Blackburn
1902--1903	D. H. Taylor J. Nichol	1918--1920	John Beatty John Timlin
1903--1906	R. B. Holland John Beatty	1920--1921	John Beatty William Blackburn
1906--1908	J. H. Dodds John Gordon	1921--1930	John Beatty J. R. Brewster
1908--1909	Joseph Holland John Gordon	1930--1935	John Timlin J. R. Brewster

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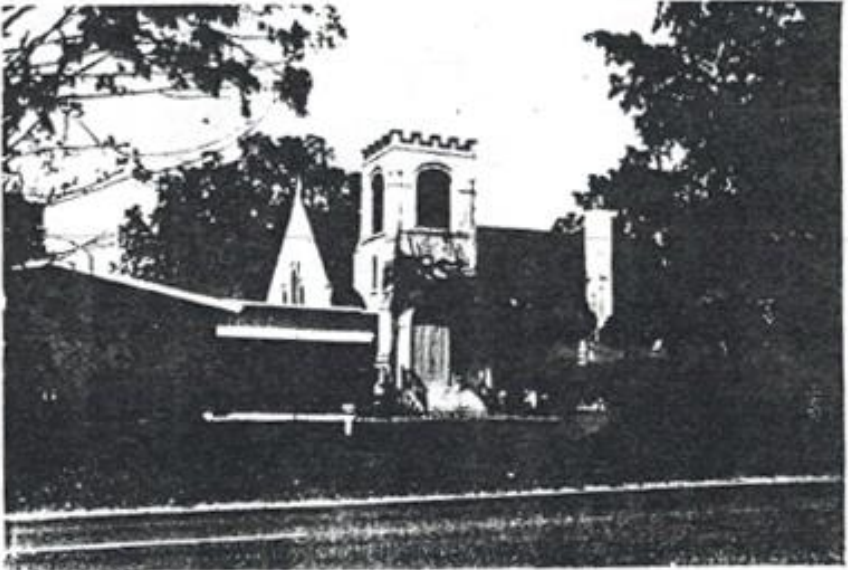
Scrap Books.

Reminiscences.

The Story of  
**ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH**

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Grafton



The Years 1934 to 1974

## INCUMBENTS OF ST. GEORGE, GRAFTON

1934 -1974



Thomas R.  
Millman  
1933-1935



Thomas A.  
Nind  
1935-1952



Percival N.  
Knight  
1952-1963



James A.  
Kiddell  
1963-1965



Leonard M.  
Ware  
1966-

## **THE HISTORY OF SAINT GEORGE 1934 -1914**

With the compiling of a booklet of this kind, we must bear in mind that much of the material is, of necessity, statistical in nature.

We must never forget, however, the fact of Christian motivation; the dedication and deep feeling for Christ's Church here on earth, which prompted the acts and actions behind the work accomplished in St. George's Church over the years, and which continues to this day.

We may never know the sacrifices and inconvenience suffered by those gone before to establish and maintain a Church here in Grafton, of which we are beneficiaries.

It is with this in mind that this booklet is presented for your perusal and edification.

## **DEDICATION**

We dedicate this booklet to the Glory of Almighty God and to the memory of the founders of our parish in recognition of the heritage we have received through their devoted service; to the pioneer members of the parish who still labour in our midst and to all men and women who during the years to come, by their vision, faithfulness and witness, will demonstrate their love for God and their concern for the building of His Kingdom.



The parish of St. George celebrates its one hundred and thirtieth Anniversary of worship on Sunday, September 15th, 1974. This special service of Thanksgiving will be attended by The Rt. Reverend Alan Read, B.A., D.O., Suffragan Bishop of Toronto, as well as present and former members of the parish.

The purpose of printing this booklet is to attempt to bring the written history up-to-date, augmenting the initial history compiled by Canon Thomas Millman, B.A., M.A., L.Th., Ph.D., D.D. Dr. Millman is at present Professor Emeritus of Church History at Wycliffe College, Toronto. We express our deep appreciation to him for his untiring effort in preparing the original history covering the years 1844 -1934; we merely pick up where he finished.

It is only natural that we begin by mentioning the important part Dr. Millman played in the life of the parish. It was largely through his leadership that the work of restoration of the cemetery began. An endowment fund was established and a committee formed for the purpose of overseeing the work of restoration and enabling future records to be kept up-to-date. It was also during Dr. Millman's ministry, that the A.Y.P.A. (instituted by the Rev. H.R.Deering, the former rector) organized concerts in the Town Hall, and elsewhere, in order to raise funds to purchase a linoleum runner for the centre aisle of the Church. This runner was removed to be replaced by a new one in 1972, after some thirty.-two years of use.

A parishioner, reminiscing happily about their concert productions, remembers vividly driving home from Trenton one night after performing in a play, Dr. Millman and several members of the parish in one car, he and other members of the party following in another car. Ahead of the cars a horse-drawn buggy was crossing the road when, to everyone's amazement the horse collapsed. With no time to stop, or even slow down, Dr. Millman valiantly drove his borrowed automobile between the buggy and a mail box, a space allowing only a hair's breadth of room on either side of the

vehicle. Just as the parishioner followed suit in his car, the horse, and obviously revived somewhat, got up and trotted away. As the gentleman says - a narrow squeak indeed.

Dr. Millman was, and still is, an accomplished organist and, under his leadership, many a lively choir practice was conducted in the Church of St. George.

Following Dr. Millman's ministry, the Church was served from the end of 1935 to May 1937 by the Rev. P.W.A. Roberts, Rector of Trinity Church, Colborne, and a number of students.

## "SURSUM CORDA" - "LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS"

In late Spring, 1937, the Rev. Thomas Arthur Nind and family were welcomed to the parish of St. George.

The influence of his ministry on the parishioners and people of this community is beyond imagination. He contributed to both the temporal and spiritual needs of the parishioners, as well as the community. For example, many parishioners remember Mr. Nind being late for a service one Christmas-Sunday because he had, firstly, performed the painful task of informing Mrs. Royal that her daughter had been killed by a train that morning. During World War II it was Mr. Nind's responsibility to care for the people of Grafton and Haldimand, especially with regard to informing families and relatives of war casualties. In the Prayer of Intercession during the Communion Service, it was his regular practice to mention the names of the men and women of the community serving overseas with the Canadian Armed Forces.

During Canon Nind's charge, St. George's Church held it's Centenary Commemoration Services on September 10th, 1944.

For one hundred years this Church had stood by the side of the "Great Highway" and borne silent witness to God and the Unseen World. The

original Church had burned down in 1908 but steps were at once taken to rebuild, and the present building was consecrated on March 25th, 1909.

Unfortunately, a not so happy event occurred during Mr. Nind's ministry. Due to a decline in Church population, St. John's Church in the village of Centreton (where Mr. Nind also preached -many times walking the distance from Grafton to Centreton) was closed. The building was demolished and all Communion Vessels transferred to St. George's Church.

Also, in this period of the Church History, the Church Farm was sold for the sum of \$2,122.21. The proceeds were used to carry out extensive repairs to the Rectory, install a furnace and pay the annual allotment.

When reminiscing, the Clergy remember Mr. Nind well for his moments of reflection and sharing with them the Greek translation of the New Testament.

Canon Nind made his customary rounds of visiting, undaunted by torrid heat or freezing cold and his gentle voice spoke in perfect faith and conviction. His personal creed did not allow thought of oblivion or even peaceful idleness after death.

The Reverend Bull, speaking of a recent conversation with canon Nind said: "When speaking to him in person, you're face to face with a great Saint of God". With deep feeling, but without sentimentality, a little later Mr. A. Blackmore referred to him as greatly beloved, a Saint on earth. Yet those who knew him heard Thomas Nind occasionally say with the only sadness he ever expressed, "One has not always been a very clever or a very able priest"; then the blue eyes would light up and he would add, "But one has always been a happy priest -I've always believed God loved a happy priest".

Canon Nind served this parish for fifteen years, 1931-1952, prior to his retirement. Active and continuing his service to others until a few days before his death, the 84-year old Rector was honorary assistant of both St.

Peter's, Cobourg, and St. Mark's Port Hope; he was appointed Canon of the Diocese in January, 1962.

Death came quietly and peacefully to the Reverend Canon Thomas Arthur Nind at noon on Monday, February 26th, 1962, short hours after he had been presented a purse of golden English sovereigns by St. Peter's Church to commemorate the diamond jubilee of his ordination to the ministry.

During Canon Nind's entire ministry, his wife, Grace, was his constant helpmate. She was especially active in reorganizing the W.A. Mrs. Nind's body lies beside that of her husband in our beloved Churchyard and we remember in deep respect their ministry among us here on earth and give thanks to God for their devotion and example for all to follow.



The Rev. Percival Newman Knight and Mrs. Knight came to the parish of St. George in 1952. Always kind and courteous, and endowed with an ever present sense of humour, Mr. Knight served this parish faithfully until 1963. He was an accomplished musician and extremely interested in working with the choir, especially the younger members. His weekly visits to Grafton Public School, and broadcasts of Morning Devotions over the Cobourg Radio Station, are well remembered. Encouraged by Mr. Knight, Morse Goodard became the first member of St. George 's Church to enter the ministry. Mr. Goddard resides in Grafton and is Assistant Minister at St. Mark's Church, Port Hope.

Mr. Knight conducted the first Armistice Service ever held at St. George's Church - a memorable and moving occasion.

During Mr. Knight's ministry the land, very kindly donated by Mr. Larryin in 1942 for the new section of the cemetery, was consecrated by Bishop Wilkinson.

A meeting especially remembered by our senior parishioners was held on Ash Wednesday, March 3rd, 1954, when Mr. Knight spoke eloquently on Christ's Temptation in the Wilderness. He stressed the need for prayer and meditation during Lent as a period of relaxation between the festivity of the Christmas Season and the joy of Easter Sunday.

Despite Mrs. Knight's infirmities, both she and Mr. Knight took a great interest in the W.A., and in missionary work.

A very happy occasion was shared by this parish when, on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1962, Mr. Knight celebrated the 45th anniversary of his ordination to the ministry.

Mr. Knight's last active charge was here in the parish of St. George where, on his retirement, he and Mrs. Knight were guests of honour at a large garden party given by the parishioners .

Mr. Knight was always a patient man, especially so in the tending of Mrs. Knight throughout her battle with ill-health. The shock, when he died of a fatal heart seizure on May 12th, 1965, was one from which Mrs. Knight never fully recovered.

We remember their life among us and are grateful for the opportunity of knowing Mr. & Mrs. Knight.



In September 1963, the Rev. James A. Kiddell, Mrs. Kiddell, and their daughter, Karen, arrived in Grafton.

Mr. Kiddell's first service was not an auspicious occasion in that, due to some mechanical quirk, the organ refused to play and, despite the organist's attempts, remained obstinately silent throughout the entire service of worship. Undaunted, however, Mr. Kiddell forged ahead and many "firsts" were established during his ministry. For instance, the first Treasurer of St. George's Church was appointed by the Wardens; the first

Mothering Day-Service preached by Mr. Kiddell; he was also, the first minister to distribute palms to the congregation on Palm Sunday. He trained Deputy Wardens and was the first incumbent to train boys as Servers at the Church of St. George, the Servers' Crosses being dedicated in memory of the Rev. Percival Newton Knight. At his suggestion, the number of members on the Advisory Board was increased. The need for Prayer Books was urgent and, encouraged by Mr. Kiddell, members of the parish donated new Prayer Books in memory of loved ones, many of which are still in use. He also proposed a revision of the Sunday School programme, starting a Nursery for the very young children.

Mr. W. Self and Mr. D. Prentice were licensed as Lay Readers during Mr. Kiddell's ministry and continue so to this day, having been relicensed under Mr. Ware. Don Prentice is also licensed for the Chalice. We are fortunate to have these men and grateful for their help in this parish.

While Mr. Kiddell was incumbent the parishes of Trinity and St. George were combined. At that time, 1964, the hours of worship alternated at 9.30 a.m., and 11.15 a.m., between each Church. After a period of time it was requested that this arrangement be changed and the services now remain constant at 10.00 a.m., in the Church of St. George and 11.15 a.m., in Trinity Church. The A.Y.P.A. was also reorganized jointly to include both parishes.

Parishioners still remember the time Mr. Kiddell combined a Church service, Baptismal service and picnic at the John Kaiser home, when the whole congregation sponsored Richard Hall.

He was extremely active in fund raising drives for the Canon Nind Memorial Hall, a fact we remember and for which we are continually thankful as we use and enjoy the finished building.

Mr. & Mrs. Kiddell's baby daughter, Debbie., made her debut in 1965, the first baby born to occupants of the Rectory since 1921. One cannot help but feel that the old house must have shared the Joy of the Kiddell family.

Although only with us for two years, Mr. & Mrs. Kiddell left with us many accomplishments, a memorial to their work here, and for which they are well remembered.

Mr. Kiddell is now the Rector of the Church of St. Stephen, Downsview.



The Rev. Leonard Melville Ware was appointed Incumbent to St. George's Church Grafton, and Trinity Church Colborne, in 1966, moving here with Mrs. Ware, Debbie and David in March of that year.

During Mr. Ware's ministry here, he was appointed Rural Dean of Northumberland and Durham by Bishop Snell, performing his many duties faithfully and energetically. One of the highlights of this period was a weeklong mission conducted by Bishop Lewis Garnsworthy at St. John's Church, Port Hope, entitled "Mission of Hope". The mission was well attended every evening by members of St. George's congregation.

One of Mr. Ware's many interests lies in restoring the old grave markers in the cemetery, and at least half the task has been accomplished. It is his hope, when all the markers have been restored, that the location will be designated as a Historical Cemetery. David McGregor Rogers, one of the first members of the Upper Canada Parliament, is buried in St. George's Cemetery. To further the completion of this project, Mr. L. Davis, one of the Wardens, and Mr. Ware have drafted an up-to-date plan of the cemetery.

In reminiscing over the second service of worship he conducted in Grafton, Mr. Ware vividly remembers mentioning in his sermon that, owing to the fact the furnace was out and the Church extremely cold, the congregation was literally living that portion of the Benedicite- "Oh ye frost and cold, bless ye the Lord". Although he admits to being nearly frozen and most uncomfortable at the time, as indeed were the whole congregation, he now remembers the occasion with a certain fondness.

As his parishioners, we know that here is a minister who, in addition to tending our spiritual needs, can roll up his sleeves and work along with the best of men, whether it be hammering a nail, handling a shovel, using a paint brush or removing the garbage.

Mr. Ware's activities are many and varied. Keenly interested in sports, he attends the local hockey and baseball games whenever possible, encouraging the youthful players by his energetic support. He is Director of Public Relations and Padre of Branch 580, Grafton Legion, and is also Chaplain to the local Scout and Guide movements. He counsels, and often speaks, to various community groups, including the Rotary, T.B. Association and Alcoholics Anonymous. It is well-known fact that he visits the sick and troubled of every faith, in their homes or at the hospital. In sorrow, he is at hand to comfort and, in joy, he is there to rejoice along with you. His awareness of the problems the world faces nowadays is absolute, especially so in relation to the younger generation. There is no need to labour long on this point - it was all said very succinctly by a 21 year old man a few years ago - "He listens -he understands -he is indeed a Minister". We cannot improve upon these sentiments.

If one asks Mr. Ware what he feels is the highlight of his ministry in this parish, he does not answer that it was the building of the Parish Hall (although he is very proud that the Canon Nind Memorial Hall was erected during his tenure here, or the fact that he was appointed Rural Dean of Northumberland and Durham. His answer - the relationship he shares with his parishioners, both spiritual and temporal. Is this not the very core of the word "Minister"?

During Mr. Ware's tenure, several new Anglicans have moved to Grafton and the surrounding area and have become interested workers in the Church of St. George. Among them are the two present Wardens, the Church Treasurer and the Vestry Clerk.

Throughout Mr. Ware's ministry in the parish of St. George, his wife, Doris, has been a constant source of help and encouragement. She is involved



with the Women's groups and it is not an uncommon sight to see her working busily in the kitchen at the Church when the women are catering to wedding receptions, family celebrations or group dinners. At the annual Strawberry Tea, one can always find her practically up to her elbows in ice cream. Mr. Ware has been heard to say many times, and we quote -"without that girl of mine, I couldn't accomplish half as much". The encouragement does not end with Mrs. Ware. Debbie helps in the Sunday School, and is a member of the choir. David is a Server and Sides-man. There is no doubt that this ministry is a family project May God (and the Bishop) see fit to make the Ware incumbency a long one.

## **A RECTOR REFLECTS ON HIS MINISTRY IN GRAFTON**

BY THE REV. L.M. WARE

As I look back over my eight years in this parish, I cannot help but feel a deep sense of admiration and respect for the people of this congregation. The spirit of the people is "alive" with a devotion for their Lord and Master. This kind of enthusiasm makes my pastoral ministry a pleasure.

One only needs to reflect on the faith of these people, which has sustained them through many years of adversity and joy. This parish is an excellent example of what a parish of forty families can do; they have maintained a parish Church in this community for over one hundred and thirty years; they have built a parish hall which is dedicated in memory of a man who left this parish an example of devotion and service to other people within the community and the Church.

I can only conclude by saying, "Thank you! Well done thou good and faithful servants -Enter into the joy of the Lord".

## **THE CANON, NIND MEMORIAL HALL**

The need for a Parish Hall was first expressed in 1936. However, it was not until 1959 that a formal motion was made that money be raised to build a hall, and a serious drive for funds began immediately. A line was included on Church offertory envelopes where donations to the building fund could be specified. Card parties, TupperWare parties and Auction Sales were held. A Fishing party held at Mr. Victor Westall's pond was extremely successful. Talent money came in; beef and pigs were sold with the proceeds designated for the hall, and Homecoming Dinners brought in more people. By 1970, a total of over \$14,000 had been raised. Plans were selected from those submitted by the Warkworth Lumber Co. at an estimated cost of \$25,500. Synod agreed to a loan of \$11,500, and appointed Mr. Ken Beach of Cobourg as Consulting Engineer. The Rt. Rev. H.H. Marsh, retired Bishop of the Yukon, officiated at the turning of the first sod on July 12th, 1970, and on November 28th, 1970, the hall was officially dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Snell of Toronto. Following the dedication, the ladies of the Church served a turkey dinner.

All furnishings in the hall were donated - Chairs by Mrs. Ellen Diamond, Mrs. Charles Beatty and Miss Maggie Prentice - Tables by Mr. & Mrs. R. Downey and Mr. & Mrs. E. Stansfield - Piano by the Nind family - Clock by Mr. Louis Self -Stain-less Steel Flatware by Miss Maggie Prentice -Serving Spoons by the A.C.W. in memory of Mrs. Nind - China Dishes by the family of Mr. & Mrs. R. Bates Sr., - Glasses by Mr. & Mrs. Don Prentice - Refrigerator and Stove by Mr. Wm. Maslin - A 100 cup Coffee Maker donated anonymously. Mr. Arthur Hand gave the Shield of Saint George, to be hung in the vestibule. The Doors between the hall and the Church were purchased with money given by Mr. Alex Mackie.

The A.C.W. held a kitchen shower at which salt and pepper shakers, tea pots sugar and cream sets, tea towels, serving bowls, dish washing liquid, and numerous other items were donated. They also published a Cook Book, preparing a Memorial Book and Stand with the proceeds. The ladies are

saving Dominion Store tapes to buy more card tables, and Canada Packers labels for kitchen serving utensils.

Money continues to come in and, at present, the loan has been reduced to less than \$3,000.

The hall is used regularly now by the Senior Citizens Club and the Girl Guides, and has been used for wedding receptions, the Eastern Ontario Antique Steam Association meetings, 4-H meetings, Flower Shows, Co-op Field Crop days, horticultural meetings, temporarily as Scout Headquarters and, lastly, as a polling booth for Federal Elections.

No fees are charged, but donations are generously given by the groups and people using the hall.

This building is indeed a worthy memorial to Canon Nind for, just as he filled a great need in this community so does the Canon Nind Memorial Hall.

## **CHOIR AND LADIES' GROUPS**

St. George's Choir, with Dr. Millman as director and Miss Mabel Young as organist, was very active during the 1930s. During the war years, the numbers dwindled. Mrs. Annie Snowden became organist in 1942 and recalls that on many Sundays the choir stalls were full, with Max Creighton, Morse Goddard and the Watson boys being lead male singers. Choir practices have become less popular and now we have a full choir on special occasions only. The congregation is fond of old hymns and is noted for enthusiastic singing. In April, 1967, a "Mrs. Snowden Night" was held at which she was presented with an organist's surplice and a purse of money as a token of appreciation for her years of faithful service.

The Altar Guild continued for a time after Dr. Millman left the parish. The members made one man's and nine ladies' choir surplices from material supplied by Mrs. Barnum. Fair Linen Cloths were made by members. One plain linen cloth was stolen, leaving a very old one for general use and a

wide cutwork cloth for special occasions., The latter was started by Miss Cameron and completed by Miss Drake. The coloured burses have been replaced with new ones, bought by the Afternoon Guild. The Guild was reactivated by Mrs. Ware and has eight members at present.

A Junior W.A. was organized in 1933. Girls, ranging in age from 5 -18 years met each Saturday in the parish room (the present Rectory living room). The group remained active until the war years when girls moved to other areas to take war jobs.

The Sunday School (with about 35 on the roll) was kept open by members of the parish, even when no regular Minister was available. A Christmas party and an annual picnic in Cobourg Park were the highlights of each year. The Sunday School contributed to Church life by buying a Church Flag, numbers for the Hymn Board, the Missal Stand and the red Prayer Books for the choir stalls. For lack of children, the Sunday School was closed during the war years. After the war, Mrs. Snowden was asked to re-open it and, during Mr. Knight's tenure, the members attended regularly in the Church. During 1969 Mrs. Ware was in charge of the Sunday School. Currently, the Superintendent is Mrs. Jean Bates. Various women parishioners have taught in the Church School and for their assistance we are very grateful.

The Afternoon Guild has been active in supporting the Church Wardens in caring for the Church, donating money, storm windows, the Dorsal Altar curtain, carpet and numerous other gifts. During the presidency of Laura Prentice there were 24 members who were able to raise "\$500.00 "annually for Church expenses.

"The Evening Guild was formed about 1956 for the younger women of the parish. It is a busy social group, enjoying monthly meetings, and raising money with an Annual Bazaar held each Fall on the Saturday closest to Hallowe'en. Its funds are used in the Church or to purchase supplies for use in the hall, which is used by several organizations.

In 1937, Mrs. Nind formed a W.A. in the parish of St. George to work entirely for missions. At first, funds were given voluntarily but, later, an Annual Tea was held to raise funds and the ladies contributed used clothing for bales to be sent to needy parishes. This group was dissolved in 1967 when all women's groups became one -Anglican Church Women. This group has continued to send an annual donation to the Diocesan offices for Missions, in addition to carrying on the Guilds' work in the Church.

## **MENORIALS 1934-1974**

### **Memorial Windows**

Nave Windows, South -"St.George of England" and "St .Margaret of Scotland" -In memory of Josias Gillard and Marion Elizabeth Gillard, wife of Gordon Robertson Taylor -Erected 1961.

Nave Windows, North -"The Calling of the Disciples" -In memory of Edmund Harrington Caddy, husband of Glenna Garrat Caddy -Erected 1973.

### **Credence Table**

In memory of Captain Leonard Norse Goddard, R.N.

### **Alms Basin**

In memory of Charles Henry Lawless and his wife, Bertha K. Lawless.

### **Ciborium**

In memory of Una Anson Cartwright Dickson -1970.

### **Matching Flower Vases and Candle Stick Holders**

In memory of Albert and Annie Riley, 1970 and 1972.

### **Pew Plaque**

To the Glory of God -Mr. & Mrs. Enoch Drake, their Sons and Daughters, lovingly remembered by the children of Mary Eliza Drake and her husband, Hugh Anson Cartwright - 1936.

**Processional Cross**

In memory of Harry James Bates -1967.

**Organ Blower Motor**

In memory of Mrs. Margery Winney -1944.

**Baptismal Ewer**

In memory of Daniel and Ada Bates -1964.

**Baptismal Basin**

In memory of The Reverend Percival Knight -1964.

**Altar Book**

In memory of Charles Dalby and his wife Emma -1964.

**The Parish Register**

In memory of The Reverend Canon Thomas Arthur Nind -1964.

**Prayer Books**

In memory of loved ones -1964.

**Centre Aisle Carpet -1971**

Legacy from the estate of the late Frances Goddard.

**Legacy**

From the estate of the late Ella Worsfold was used to renovate the Rectory veranda and repair the Tower of the Church.

### The Sun Dial

Originally belonging to the Rectory was moved to the Church.

### Padded Kneelers

Installed at no cost to the parish through the kind efforts of Mr. Walter Vearey, a Parishioner of Colborne -1971.

## **ROLL OF HONOUR WORLD WAR II**

*For King and Country Members of St. George's Church Grafton Who  
volunteered for Active Service with Canada's Fighting Forces.*

Bates, Gordon	Lawrence, George
Beatty, Jack	Lawrence, Fred
Beatty, Dick	McCallum, Lawrence
Caldwell, Clifford	McCallum, Gilbert
Chapple, Albert	Prentice, Harold
Goddard, Leonard	Prentice, Edward
Haines, George	Prentice, James
Haines, Fred	Reymes, Jack
Haines, Ralph	Royal, Cecil
Haines, Geoffrey	Royal, Walter
Haines, Durward	Smith, Orrock
Haines, Bessie	Smith, Max
Knight, Harold	

## **INCUMBENTS, 1933 -1974**

1933-1935: The Reverend Thomas Millman

1937-1952: The Reverend Thomas Arthur Nind

1952-1963: The Reverend Percival Newton Knight

1963-1965: The Reverend James A. Kiddell

1966 : The Reverend Leonard Melville Ware

## **WARDENS, 1936 -1974**

1936-1942: C. Dalby -F.W.Hare

1943-1944: F.W.Hare -A. Larry

1944-1950: F.W.Hare -S. Beggs

1951-1959: F.W.Hare -Harold Prentice

1959-1964: Don Hare -Harold Prentice

1965-1966: Don Hare -Fred Goody

1967-1968: Fred Goody -Ron Bates J r .

1968-1970: Ron Bates Jr. -Art Riley

1971-1972: Alan Reid -Don Hare

1972-1973: Les Davis -Alan Reid

1974 : Les Davis -Harold Forster

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In the Church of Saint George, during the years 1844-1974 there were :

1,284 Baptisms

306 Marriages

753 Burials

800 Persons Confirmed

