

W. F. Clarke, as Pastor of the Church and Chairman of the Building Committee, proceeded to deliver an address in substance as follows:—"This is a glad, I had almost said a proud day for the Congregationalists of Guelph. We have long laboured under the disadvantage of having a most incommodious and unsightly place of worship, and many difficulties were in the way of our getting a better. Chief among these difficulties were paucity of means, and inability to agree on that much vexed question of Church building operations, the question of site. Through the good hand of our God upon us these difficulties have been so far surmounted that we meet to-day to lay the foundation stone of a new Church, and already behold its walls rising toward heaven. Divine Providence has favoured our undertaking in many ways, so that we have the prospect of being able to erect a much better edifice than we dared to hope for, when we began to agitate the matter of building. The Congregational Church now in course of erection in Guelph, is a Gothic structure, seventy-six feet by forty-five, exclusive of the tower, which is fifteen feet six inches square, and, the steeple included, one hundred and thirty-three feet in extreme height. It has a basement with a lecture room forty-eight feet by forty-one, with two vestries and staircases, communicating with the church and pulpit above. The church will be finished in the Gothic style in all its details. The ceiling will be elliptical, with curved ribs to give the best effect to sound. Between each window will be a moulded Gothic corbel, supporting a moulded rib on the ceiling, under each principal rafter, and opposite each buttress. The church will be lighted on each side by five large ornamental traceried windows in two lights; the sashes will be of light cast iron, with quarry panes of glass bedded in putty. There will be seventy-six pews with accommodation for three hundred and fifty adults on the main floor, but from the ample space allowed for aisles and sitting room, it will be easy to accommodate a much larger number. There will be three aisles, comfortable open seats with ramped ends. The entrance to these aisles will be from the vestibule by three pair of cloth doors opening outwards. The pulpit will be on a platform raised two steps above the church floor, in a niche built so as to form a semi-circle in the wall, with circular seats, &c. On the front will be a screen handsomely wrought, having ten arches with cusplings, mouldings, columns, table mouldings, caps and bases, with reading desk, &c. The singing and organ gallery over the vestibule will have a richly ornamented front, and seat accommodation for fifty, making in all 400 roomy sittings. The main entrance to the Church will be through the tower, having a flight of eight steps to landing enclosed by folding doors, from which the vestibule is reached by a double staircase of nine steps, the singing gallery having a staircase at each end of the vestibule. The stone portion of the tower is sixty-six feet in height, having belfry and other windows in character the same as described to church. The exterior of the building will have a pleasing outline, having six buttresses on each side and eight at the tower, angles finished at the top by ornamental cut finials. The building material is of the well known Guelph Limestone of a superior quality. The estimated cost of the building is about Seven Thousand Dollars, of which sum \$6,800 is now under contract. Toward this amount we have already in pledged subscriptions, upwards of \$3,000. We have also whatever amount is realized from our present church property, about to be sold, which we estimate at from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The lot on which our new building is going up is entirely unencumbered, and we hope not to be more than \$2,000 in debt when the work is done. It is only right that some special instances of liberality by which we have been enabled to venture on so large an undertaking, should be mentioned on this occasion. God has graciously vouchsafed to us a spirit of liberality, zeal, and hearty co-operation, and hence we already behold results that excite both our wonder and our gratitude. First and foremost we are indebted to the Ladies' Aid Society, which may be said to have originated our church-building enterprise, and by its sociables, sewing meetings, bazaars and concerts, not only kept the matter in constant prominence, but raised the sum of \$400, which is now in the hands of our Treasurer. Next we are under deep obligation to Mr. John Davidson and Mr. Stephen Boulton, who, in addition to generous contributions, have freely devoted