



ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, OTTAWA, ONT.

## OUR PARISHES AND CHURCHES.

No. 44—ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, OTTAWA.

**T**HE parish of St. George was first formed in the early part of the year 1885 in order to supply a long-felt want in the city of Ottawa. The southern end of the city, where the bulk of the growth was going on, was in need of further church accommodation, and the formation of a new parish was decided on. At that time a building which had for about eight years been used by the Methodist Episcopal body was offered for sale, and it was thought advisable to purchase it. This was accordingly done, and with a few alterations was converted into a Church of England. The building itself is of brick, and situate at the corner of Metcalfe and Gloucester streets. The original cost of the building is said to have been \$28,000, the purchase price was \$14,500. The internal furnishings are of pine, and perfectly plain. The seats are arranged in a semi-circular fashion, and there is a gallery which runs round the east end and the two sides, the west gallery having been removed to

make way for the chance. In the east end gallery is the organ built by Messrs. Wadsworth & Bros., of Montreal. It is on the pneumatic principle. The choir are placed in front of the organ, almost the whole of this gallery being used for the music of the church. The basement is used for Sunday School purposes and for the many meetings and entertainments given by the different guilds of the church. The seating capacity of the church is about 800, and almost all the seats have been rented for the past three years. During the past five years the congregation has doubled, and the idea of a new church or enlarging the present has been spoken of, but no active steps have yet been taken to bring this about. The Sunday School has more than doubled since the congregation was first formed, and has long since outgrown the capacity of the basement. Number of scholars on the roll 300, average attendance 180. The congregation consists of 275 families, 350 communicants. The Rector, Rev. P. Owen-Jones, M.D., was ordained to the Diaconate in the year 1882, and to the priesthood in 1883 by the Right Reverend I. Helmuth, D.D., Bishop of Huron. As a Deacon he was appointed to the Incumbency of the Eastwood Mission in the Diocese of Huron, where he remained until August of the following year. From there he was transferred to the Diocese of Niagara, where for a year he took charge as *locum tenens* of St. George's Church, St. Catharines. In the year 1884 he was appointed Curate-in-charge of St. George's Church, Goderich, the late Archdeacon Elwood being Rector. In May, 1885, he was appointed Rector of St. George's Church, Ottawa, which position he now holds.

The Church in the city of Ottawa is growing fast, there being at the present day no less than ten congregations within easy reach of the centre of the city. This growth has been very marked during the last five years. The latest Church statistics give about 1,800 families with a total population of between 7,000 and 8,000 souls. In three of the churches there are daily services, and in almost all there is at least a weekly celebration of the Holy Communion. Six of the churches are free, and it is greatly to be hoped that the rest will soon follow in the same direction, so that the house of God may be thrown open to all without money and without price, beyond the free will offerings of the worshippers. In connection with the Church of England is a Children's Hospital supported by the voluntary contributions of the members of the Church. The building was purchased as a memorial to the late Mrs. Lewis, wife of the Bishop of Ontario. It has accommodation for about twelve children, while adults are admitted to private wards, on the payment of a stated sum per week. Three professional nurses are en-