



THE OLD FRELIGHTSBURG CHURCH.

marked singularly by virtues to be traced to their spiritual parentage the Rev. Canon Reid, D.D., went in and out, blamelessly and with profit to all, during almost half a century. At his lamented demise in the fulness of years in 1864, the parish provided a third incumbent in the person of the present rector, the Rev. J. Burrows Davidson, who had acted as curate for two years previously. Tablets to the first and second rectors are to be seen in the new memorial church. Dr. Reid was in the life-enjoyment of two equal moieties of support from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the military chest, which relieved the parish from any direct responsibility. Upon the vacancy caused by his death, abrupt transition to self-support became inevitable, with misgivings and gloomy surmisings to the faint-hearted, but with clarion calls to duty and sacrifice to the faithful. Colonel Daniel Westover with a few like-minded noble men, stepped into the gap and secured by large contributions a partial local endowment of \$5,000, to which, by bequest, another \$1,000 has been added. For years before the termination of Dr. Reid's life, the pressing demand for a new church was felt, oft considered, and as often dropped. In 1879 it was realized that the matter would not brook further delay. Decay was doing its work so rapidly in some parts of the old building as to render it insecure. Two formidable obstacles appeared to rise in insurmountable proportions. The one a sentimental regard to the old structure with its clustered memories and historical associations, the other the apparent folly, considering the disposition of some and the hesitancy of all, of attempting such an enterprise as entire renewal. The only surviving daughter of the second rector, Miss Jane Reid, interposed with an offer of \$1,000 towards the chancel of the new church as a memorial of her father, and under condition of

the church being non-proprietary forever. This generous offer, doubled probably by continual additions while in course of erection, proved a force sufficient to overcome inertia, and after due, formal, parochial action it was determined to enter upon the work and to make the new building to be erected upon the identical site, a worthy and enduring memorial of the noble founder of the parish, who, by a contemporary, had been described, and without exaggeration in Isaac Walton's words "a saint unspotted of the world, full of alms-deeds, full of humanity, and all the examples of a virtuous life."

The invested bequest of \$300, with accumulations of one of Bishop Stewart's own disciples, Mr. Aquila Knap, for the purpose of a new church, rendered the undertaking less venturesome. It was proposed to make the estimate of the new building to be \$6,000 irrespective of the tower and spire, the cost of which, it was hoped, would be defrayed by contributions from those outside or relatives of the Bishop. These expectations in great part failing, it was left to Colonel Daniel Westover's munificence to complete the tower and spire, which will stand as proof to distant generations that the faith which the good Bishop inculcated from the St. Armand pulpit, and which was re-affirmed by his successor, was not wanting in the indispensable quality of "works." As the period of erection ran on between 1880 and October, 1884, when the memorial church was formally opened (under a trifling debt), by the Bishop of the diocese, the most strenuous demands were made upon the pastor and every willing member. Details expanded, new features pressed themselves upon attention, the original estimate more than doubled itself, reaching in all complete appointments towards \$15,000, inclusive of the 1,100 pipe organ by Warren. Thus ideas materialized themselves into the present, complete unencumbered edifice, which, for external and internal symmetry, is not equalled by any rural church of the Province, nor as to architectural form is surpassed by any city edifice.

The memorial building is, in extreme length, 100 feet, width, 35 feet, nave, 70 feet, chancel, 30 feet. Its walls are of solid brick, 20 inches in thickness (Brockville white brick trimmings), with brick finish in interior. The walls of the tower are 4 feet in thickness, of solid masonry, extending upwards in brick, 3 feet at base, 2 feet at top of tower. The tower and spire reach a height of 109 feet. The entire structure is covered with slate, and with its brick finish in the interior is practically fireproof. It has a basement under the whole building, affording not merely a capacious room named "Memorial Hall," 70x35, but also a convenient week-day chapel under the chancel, with vestry under organ-room. This is conveniently connected by stairway to the front of the chancel. The church proper has an open roof and timbers, ceiled