

years of his episcopate. In the year 1881 a resolution was passed by the Synod *nem. con.*, favouring the project, and in 1883 the Bishop obtained the passing of a bill to incorporate the Cathedral Chapter (46 Vic. Cap. 63). Suggestions having been made as to the selection of some parish church to be converted into a Cathedral, Holy Trinity and St. George's being in particular named in that connection, a representative of the latter church attended before the Private Bills Committee in order to secure apt provisions for such purpose being included in the bill, which was done. At the same time a representative of St. James' appeared before the Committee for the purpose of objecting to the name which the Bishop desired to adopt. St. Philip and St. James, on the ground that the corporate body of St. James had created a debt for which they had issued bonds, and they feared that the proposed name might consequently give rise to confusion and misapprehension. This objection was allowed and the name of St. Alban's substituted and the bill passed.

Bishop Sweatman decided that neither Holy Trinity nor St. George's would be suitable for what he wanted, because of the limited areas of land in which they stood; and he entered into negotiations with the representatives of St. James' with a view to that church being considered for the purpose. So many difficulties and objections arose, however, some of which appeared to the Bishop to be wholly insuperable, that nothing came of the negotiations, which, in fact, ended in the Bishop being informed by the late Mr. Clarke Gamble in very emphatic terms that the people of St. James' would never consent to their church being constituted as a Cathedral.

The Bishop having concluded that no existing church could be made available, set about to find a site for his Cathedral, which he considered could only be procured to advantage in some outlying part of the city, more particularly as he desired to have a school attached to the Cathedral, rendering it necessary to secure a block of four or five acres, and it was also desirable that a position should, if practicable, be selected in which the intended Cathedral should not unduly interfere with any existing church. After considering such sites as were proposed to him, and after consulting with several churchmen whom he found to be disposed to assist him, the Bishop decided upon the site between Howland Avenue and Albany Avenue offered to him by a syndicate of owners who had purchased the property, and who offered the site on very favourable terms. This purchase was therefore made. Being at that time outside the city limits, application was made to the Legislature for an Act to enable the Cathedral to be located outside the city limits, which was duly passed (48 Vic. Cap. 93).

Some objection was made—by whom is not known—to this purchase, on the ground that it was a "land jobbing operation." So far as the Bishop and his advisers were concerned, there never was any ground whatever for that statement, for neither he nor any member of the Chapter had any personal interest in the lands or derived any personal benefit whatever from their purchase or by reason of its being made. The "St. Alban's Syndicate," as it was subsequently called, were no doubt influenced by the consideration that the placing of the Cathedral in their land would be of advantage to them; but if that was so, it was a matter with which neither the Bishop nor the Cathedral Chapter were in any way concerned, or from which any