

It is a matter of supreme gratification that we, as a congregation, in the good providence of God, are permitted to celebrate this year the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Lloydtown. It has not been given to many parishes in this new country to celebrate such a unique event. Three-quarters of a century is a long time to look back. There are very few people living in this community that can say "I remember when the first sod was turned for the church in which we at present worship. One by one the early settlers, who made this place of worship their church home, have crossed the Great Divide, and with them have passed into oblivion the early reminiscences, which, most naturally, were associated with the early settlers of those hard pioneer days. We can well imagine that when this church was built the means of travel were not so up-to-date and abundant as they are in our day and generation. There were no roads such as we enjoy at the present time. The blazed trail through the forest was the only means by which the weary traveller was guided from place to place.

It is not an easy matter for one to gather all the details that one would desire, especially when it is known that the early records of the parish have been lost. However, access has been gained to a few facts that have been handed down to posterity from the pen of Rev. H. B. Osler, who had the honor of guiding the ship of the church in this locality during the hard and stormy times of church life in the early forties. Canon Osler, as he afterwards became, was rector of this parish for a continuous period of thirty-one years, and through all those long and trying years he worked most faithfully in season and out of season, endeavoring to build up the kingdom of Christ in this community. His name is always mentioned with love and reverence. Many times has the writer been told by individuals not only inside the parish, but also outside the parish, that they were baptized by the beloved first rector of Lloydtown Church.

The following facts have been gathered from an interesting little document written in February, 1900, by Canon Osler a short time before he died: "In 1837 Lloydtown was one of the headquarters of the people who took part in the Rebellion. The Government built a barracks for the accommodation of a company of volunteers under the command of Captain Armstrong. The Reverend Featherstone L. Osler, my brother, was then the minister of the church at Tecumseth, and from time to time came over to Lloydtown to give the services of