St. Andrew's Church, Campbellford

St. Andrew's Church, Campbellford, was organized under Free Church auspices, and prior to 1857, when a Sabbath School was formed, services had been carried on by a number of Free Church missionaries.

On June 1st, 1858, the Rev. Thomas Alexander, who was formerly minister at Cobourg, and who had, along with a great many other ministers in 1844, severed his connection with the Church of Scotland, was inducted as the first minister of the congregation, which was then connected with Percy.

The service took place at Percy under the Presbytery of Cobourg, and the induction sermon was preached by the Rev. Peter Duncan, of Colborne, who retired from the active duties of the ministry on the occasion of his jubilee—in December of last year.

Campbellford at that time was known as "The Bridge," and even yet some of the older people speak of it under this name. In a recent letter from Mr. Duncan, he states that he remembers very well the induction of Mr. Alexander, and also attending later a soirce at Seymour Bridge, held in a nice new house owned by a Mr. Ogilvie.

The first Presbyterian Church in Campbellford was erected in 1861, on the site of the present church. Previous to this services were held in the school-house. Although for several years—before and after the settlement of Mr. Alexander—services were conducted by the old Kirk section of the Burnbrae congregation, no church building was ever erected by them. At one time timber was drawn and laid on the ground for a church, at a little beyond where the L.X.L. cheese factory now stands. Also as many as two lots were obtained for a building in Campbellford, but although the matter was brought up at successive annual meetings, nothing decisive was ever done. So that the first Presbyterian Church building in Campbellford was that built by the Free Church. It was dedicated by the late Rev. Alex. Topp, D. D., of Knox Church, Toronto, in May, 1861.