

stroyed by the fire of 1813, very little is known of the early history of St. Andrew's. The graveyard too is comparatively modern, as all denominations used that of St. Mark's for many years. There are no old grey stones mutilated by the hand of war, no tablets in the wall, no stained glass to give that dim religious light some so much admire. The present church is a square solid uncompromising looking structure of brick and stone with a belt of solemn pines on the north and west. While St. Mark's was built of solid stone, these church pioneers built of less enduring material, and thus nothing is left of the building of 1795, built on the same spot as the present church, erected sixty years ago. The history of the church is preserved in an old leather-covered book, with thick yellow paper, dated 1794, and curious glimpses are given of our country's progress. The oldest Presbyterian Church in Ontario is believed to be Williamstown, 1786, which with several others in the vicinity was presided over by Rev. John Bethune. This ranks next. It may easily be seen that St. Mark's had an immense advantage, with a settled clergyman, with a salary from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel of £200, while St. Andrew's struggling under a load of debt for many years, with many breaks from the confusion and distress caused by the war, could only have been kept alive by the strenuous exertions of its members. We find many of the same names on the records of both churches. Some baptised in St. Mark's in the breaks in the history of St. Andrew's. Many of the residents had pews in both churches. It is interesting to note that while St. Mark's register uses the name Niagara, and Newark never occurs, St. Andrew's record uses the word Newark from 1794, and in 1802 the name Niagara occurs. As a matter of history the name Niagara was formally resumed 1798.

The record dates from 30th September, 1794, and reads thus: A number of people met this day at Hind's Hotel, and resolved that "as religion is the foundation of all societies, and which cannot be so strictly adhered to without having a place dedicated solely to divine purposes, that a Presbyterian church should be erected in the town of Newark and that subscriptions for that purpose be immediately set on foot as well as for the support of a clergyman of the same persuasion." The committee consisted of John Young, Four Mile Creek, Chairman; Ralfe Clench, Andrew Heron, Robt. Kerr, Alexander Gardiner, William McLelland, Alexander Hemphill, any three to form a quorum in trivial matters, but in matters of importance the whole to be assembled. Here follows a bill of lumber, the size of the timbers required would move the wonder of our modern framers, 8x12 and 6x9. We see the size of the building to have been 46x32. No grass was allowed to grow under the feet of these pioneers, for the next day, 1st October, follows an agreement binding them to