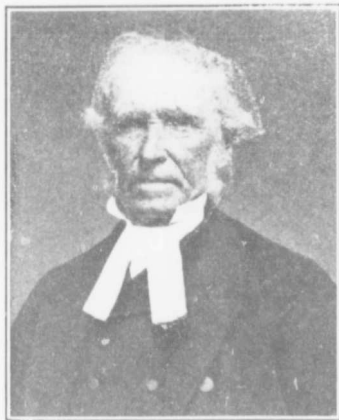


Rev. Joseph Anderson, M. A.

INDUCTED DECEMBER 8th, 1834—DIED JULY 26th, 1868

In the year 1826 the Presbyterians of the townships of South Gower, Mountain and Oxford, the majority of whom were from the north of Ireland, and who had been in active association with the Irish Presbyterian



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Church there, were erected into a congregation by the Presbytery of Brockville. For several years the scattered pioneers were supplied with occasional religious services by the late Dr. Robert Boyd of Prescott. Groups of devout worshippers gathered together in the homes, sometimes in the barns, of the settlers, to hear the gospel preached by the Reverend Doctor upon his periodical visits, to present their children for the rite of baptism, and to renew their fellowship with Christ, in partaking of the Lord's Supper. The first public exercises of this nature, held in the immediate vicinity of Mountain, were conducted in Robert Hyndman's barn, the original site of which is but a few hundred yards distant from our present stone

church.

During the year 1834 the Rev. Joseph Anderson, a member of the General Synod of Ulster in Ireland, immigrated to British North America. In response to a unanimous invitation to become the minister of this very widely scattered and totally unorganized congregation, Mr. Anderson was inducted to the pastorate extending over the three townships, on December 8th of that year. Mr. Anderson was born in Bellemaney, County Antrim, Ireland; was educated at Glasgow University, where he attained the Master's Degree in Arts; and was ordained to the work of the Christian ministry by the Established Church of Scotland. To the great moral task in the