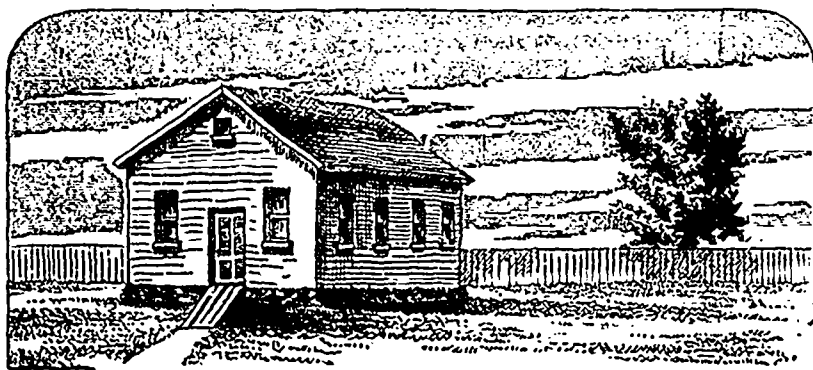




THE OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL, CORNWALL, ONT.

the records, in the vestry of the Bishop Strachan Memorial Church, bears on one of the fly leaves the date June, 1785, which very probably is about the time when it was first used at Cornwall. The register now in existence shows that on the 13th of April, 1800, a sum of money was subscribed for the erection of a church. The subscription list has not been preserved, and little or nothing appears to have been done towards the commencement of the building. On the 15th of April, 1805, a meeting was held and a document, of which the following is a copy, was agreed to:

"We whose names are hereto subscribed, do agree to erect a church in the town of Cornwall of the following dimensions, *i.e.*, 52 feet in length, and 36 feet in breadth within the walls, the frame 18 feet high raised on a stone foundation three feet below, and two feet above the ground; in the assistance of such sums as may be subscribed by the Government, and the several sums subscribed in a certain instrument bearing date the 13th day of April, 1800, being a committee appointed by the subscribers to contract and superintend the erection of the said church, any three of whom appointed by the majority of the remainder, to have power to act in regard to the erection of the said building. Dated, April 15th, 1805, and signed by John Strachan, "Min," J. V. Cozens, Michael Vankoughnet and some twenty-two others."

At another meeting of the parishioners, held in the Presbyterian meeting house, it was resolved to collect the money subscribed and to proceed with the erection of the church, and Samuel Anderson, John Pescod and Joshua Young Cozens were appointed a committee to superintend the work, which appears to have been completed in January, 1806. On the 26th day of that month a meeting was held in the church for the purpose of selling the pews, when forty-two parishioners became purchasers. The list is still preserved, the bids running from £30 down to £3, and amounting in all to £457 14s.

In 1808, D'Arcy Boulton, the late member for Stormont, gave his sessional allowance, £26, to the church, and in the same year the Legisla-

ture granted £50 to be expended in completing the steeple, which was finished in 1811.

In 1813 an application of the court of quarter sessions for leave to hold the court in the church was refused.

The parsonage was built in 1811 or 1812; there is a memorandum of its having been rented to Richard Wharffe in 1813.

Up to 1831 the burial ground of the English

Church was used by all denominations, but at a vestry meeting held in April of that year it was resolved that none but members of the congregation should be allowed to bury there "except in cases of persons not belonging to the congregation, whose families had been in the habit of burying in the yard belonging to the church, when leave may be granted by the minister and churchwardens." This resolution rendered necessary the purchase of a burial ground by the Presbyterians.

The old church was altered, improved and enlarged, the first alteration being made in 1836 or 1837. The gallery at the west end was lowered, a gallery was made at each side, and the main entrance, which was originally in the centre of the south side of the building, was changed to the west end near the tower. A few years after an addition was put at the back of the building, which gave a good deal of additional room.

In 1868 arrangements were made to build a new church as a memorial of the late Bishop Strachan, who had been mainly instrumental in the erection of the old one. The old building was removed to the rear of the lot, where it remained, and was used until the new one was fit for use when it was sold and pulled down, and another of the few remaining land marks of old Cornwall disappeared. The new church is well designed, in the gothic style of architecture, with a fine tower, on which it is intended to place a spire. The material used in the building is the dark lime stone from the Cornwall quarries, relieved by Ohio sandstone. The site is rather too near the street to allow of the front being seen to the best advantage, and very unfortunately the foundation under the tower has sunk, drawing down with it the south-eastern corner of the transept, which is several inches out of level. There are several very good stained glass windows, one of which, the southern one of the transept, was put in by the children attending the Sunday School of the congregation; the others by members of the congregation in memory of deceased relatives. The church, which cost about \$30,000, was consecrated under the name of "The Bishop Strachan