

## All Souls' Chapel

THE wish to erect some memorial of an enduring character to testify to the love and gratitude of the congregation to the late George Wright Hodgson, the first Priest-Incumbent of St. Peter's, took shape in the year 1888, when the little chapel attached to the cathedral was begun. At the time there were many misgivings as to the ability of the congregation to carry out the very elaborate designs made by the architect, Mr. W. C. Harris, Jr.; but the corner stone was laid on June 2nd, 1888, by Bishop Courtney, his first official act when he visited the Island after his consecration, and from that time the work has gradually grown and prospered. Loving hearts and hands have wrought, tended, prayed and worshipped there until now the little chapel stands practically complete and a fitting and seemly temple of the Most High.

The work of the building was done almost entirely by Island craftsmen, and the sturdy main wall is built of rock-faced Island sand-stone of the deep red so familiar to all who live here or visit our shores. The exterior is very simple and might be classed as a type of the first period of English Gothic architecture, just after the transition from the Norman, many traces of the solid severity of which are retained, even though the style reaches forward to the coming glory of the Decorated period.

But as we pass inside, we pass too into that fuller and more beautiful development, for here surely there has been no limit as to decoration, other than that of good taste and design. All around us the panels of walnut and oak, carved in flowers and leaves and fruit, the running friezes of the cornice and architrave, the carved pilasters of the Altar front and all the host of the other detail of arcade and framing show the work of careful and loving study to make whatever was of the best, and the carver loyally carried out the full spirit of the bold yet beautiful designs.

Within a few years of the roofing, and while the construction and finish work was proceeding slowly, there was put in place the first of those pictures to which the chapel owes most of its interest, to which the beautiful carving and woodwork make but a splendid setting, as one sets precious stones in frames of gold. In 1890 was painted and presented by Mr. Robert Harris, brother of the architect, and put in place over the Altar, the circular picture of Christ ascending, when, with extended hands and tender wistful countenance, He, blessing, leaves His followers, but to be with them in spirit evermore.

Following this was placed in the north wall the painting showing the Saint of Hippo, with thoughtful and ascetic yet kindly face, pacing the Mediterranean shore