



GOSFORD STREET CHURCH.

(From the Montreal Herald.)

The Foundation Stone of this Church was laid on Friday morning, at ten o'clock, A. M., by the Rev. J. J. Carruthers, Professor of Theology in the Congregational Institute of Eastern Canada, and Pastor of the Second Congregational Church, for whose accommodation the edifice is to be erected. Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, a large concourse of spectators assembled on the spot; and the proceedings were, throughout, deeply and intensely interesting.—The Congregational Union of Eastern Canada being at present in session, many ministers and delegates from neighbouring churches were present.

The above representation, cut by Mr. Savage, exhibits the appearance of the Church as it will stand when finished. It reflects great credit on the architect and on the engraver.

The proceedings were begun by an address from the Rev. H. Wilkes, Pastor of the first Congregational Church, who spoke as follows:—

The part assigned to me in the interesting exercises of this occasion, is to present a brief detail of facts and circumstances by which we have been led to our present engagement; I leave my friend and brother, Mr. Carruthers, to state principles. In the month of June, 1831, the Revd. Richard Miles, who had recently returned from South Africa, being in London, conferred with the individual who now addresses you on the state and prospects of the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ in Canada. Having received the fullest information in my possession, he determined to embark with his family for Canada,

which he did at his own cost, that he might here declare the unsearchable riches of Christ, in connexion with those principles and practices concerning his Kingdom which distinguish Congregational Churches. On his arrival in this city at the close of September, he was hailed by several friends, and by the active efforts of Mr. James Connell, sear., and others, was retained, Mr. Bruce's School Room, Mill Street, procured, and public service commenced on the first Lord's day in October, 1831. The congregation becoming speedily too large for this room, the Ball Room of the Mansion House, College Street, was obtained through the efforts of Mr. Joseph Savage, one of those now engaged in this work, and being fitted up as a place of worship, was opened for the purpose on Lord's day, Decr. 18, 1831. On the 6th July following, a Christian Church was formed on the apostolical and primitive model, consisting of only fifteen members.—Measures were speedily adopted for the erection of a suitable place of worship, and after much and laborious effort, that end was happily attained, and, the present commodious building in St. Maurice Street was dedicated to the service of God in February, 1835.

In the good providence of God, and partly as the result of most disinterested proceedings on the part of the Revd. R. Miles, I left my charge in Edinburgh, and having safely again reached this country, commenced my pastoral labours on the first Lord's Day in October, 1836. We have been much blessed in our work, and "increased with men like a flock." At the close of 1839 we found it necessary to erect galleries, and they, after a season, did not supply us with all the room we require.

There are two modes by which our churches feel it proper to put forth branches. The first is, when the church becomes very large, too extensive for the efficient care of one bishop or pastor, it assembles and resolves that another ought to be formed, and sends forth some sixty or eighty of its members to found a sister institution in another part of our large cities. The second is, though the Church may not be strong enough thus to act, yet other circumstances connected