

demand upon the resources of the Church had been so great that it had not been possible to provide for fully equipped cathedrals. Such cathedrals there are in Winnipeg and Fredericton, and such cathedrals are under construction at Halifax and Toronto. In other places, as in Montreal, the Mother Church was the Cathedral Church. The members of Christ Church laid the whole diocese and the Church in Canada under a deep debt of gratitude when they erected this splendid building, and if he might introduce a personal note, he begged that he might express his thanks to the congregation and wardens and officials to the rector and the vicar, for the kindness and courtesies that had been shown towards him since he came among them as Bishop. He gladly recognized their evident desire to make this church a Cathedral in reality. He knew this had been done as far as any church, constituted as this was constituted could do it. But year by year the need was growing stronger in Montreal for a Cathedral system, which should be the strong, vigorous centre of the church, free from all parochial ties and obligations, free to penetrate the whole diocese and even the Dominion. There must be work as well as worship associated with a cathedral. It must be a living force and power, and stand as an inspiration to the diocese and beyond. Such was the ideal he put before them, and asked them to work for.

With two Bishops, each one of whom was wearing his Convocation robes of scarlet, the Lord Bishop of Montreal and the Lord Bishop of Ottawa, and each of whom was preceded by his chaplain bearing the pastoral staff, the procession of choir and clergy into Christ Church Cathedral on the Sunday night was an unwontedly stately one. As in the morning, the service was fully choral, the music being specially suited to the character of the jubilee festival. The Archbishop of Ottawa, the Most Rev. Dr. Hamilton, was the preacher. He made a notable figure as he stood in the pulpit leaning upon his jewelled crozier and telling of his recollection of incidents long past in the life of Christ Church congregation. He touched lightly upon the vicissitudes which preceded the building of that Cathedral Church, and of the anxiety which was occasioned by the choice of its site and architecture. The foresight and wisdom then displayed was a matter of great congratulation now, he said, and every member of the congregation must be proud of the graceful outlines of the church and chapter house, and the exceeding beauty of their detail. From the life of that congregation he proceeded to speak of the life of the Church militant—of that Church which he described as the mystic body of Christ, using the occasion of the jubilee as a striking text for telling of the sublimity and grandeur of the greater Church which comprises all Christendom. The musical portions of the various services which were held during the course of the celebration of the jubilee of the Cathedral were remarkably well rendered throughout. The offertories amounted to between \$3,000 and \$4,000. The whole celebration was most successful throughout.

The following is a historical sketch of Christ Church Cathedral: "The history of the congregation of Christ Church Cathedral dates back to the close of the French regime. Soon after the conquest, when peace was proclaimed, the first Protestant congregation in Montreal was organized in 1763 with the Rev. David C. Delisle as minister in charge. Being too weak numerically to erect a building, they applied to the Recollet priests and obtained kind permission to hold service in their church at stated hours when it was disengaged. In 1789, the influx of United Empire Loyalists had greatly increased the English population, and a petition was sent to Lord Dorchester, the Governor, requesting the use of the chapel of the Jesuit Convent, which was situated near the site of the present Court House. The request was ably supported by Bishop Inglis, of Nova Scotia, the only Bishop in Canada at the time, and permission to use the building was at once obtained. At a vestry meeting in September 1789, the sum of £500 was subscribed to fit up the new church. On December 20th of the same year, Mr. Delisle preached the opening sermon, and the church named, at the suggestion of Bishop Inglis, Christ Church. Mr. Delisle died

in 1794, and the Rev. James Tunstall was appointed to the vacancy by the King. He was succeeded in 1801 by the Rev. Dr. Mountain. Previously to this, in 1793, his brother, the Rev. Jacob Mountain, had been appointed to the new See of Quebec, which comprised that province and the whole country west of it. In June 1803 the church was destroyed by fire. The congregation at once determined to build a church for themselves, and Dr. Mountain, the Hon. James McGill, Judge Ogden, and Messrs. Ross, Gray, Frobisher and Sewell were appointed a building committee. The site of the old French prison, about where No. 23 Notre Dame Street West now is, was granted to the congregation by the Governor. The corner stone was laid in 1805, and a handsome classical Renaissance building, in the then prevailing London style, was erected. Meanwhile the Presbyterian Church on St. Gabriel Street was generously lent to the congregation for worship, and on the 9th October, 1814, after much delay, the new Christ Church was opened and dedicated. Dr. Mountain died in 1816, and Rev. John Leeds succeeded. In 1818 Mr. Leeds resigned, and the Rev. John Bethune was presented by the King as rector, under Letters Patent which created a rectory, and defined the limits of the parish. Thus Christ Church became the Mother Church of the city. These Letters Patent were afterwards to be rendered

Justice McCord were the leading members. It was decided after long discussion to build the new Cathedral on its present site, though many objected to a location so far out of the residential part of the city. The wisdom and taste of the committee were proved by the adoption of plans prepared by Wells, of London, England, for the beautiful structure of pure Gothic style which is one of the handsomest buildings of its kind, from an architectural standpoint, on the continent. The sale of the old site, together with insurances on the old building, made a nucleus of \$90,000 for the Building Fund. The remainder of the cost was raised eventually by the congregation, excepting the comparatively small sum of \$9,400 collected by Bishop Fulford in England. From the year 1852, and during the building operations, the annual reports of the churchwardens have been preserved, and the history can be verified in detail by reference to these documents. Pending the completion of the new building, the Gosford Street Church was appropriated by the congregation, and was temporarily fitted for worship under the name of St. John's Chapel. In 1855 a 'House of Charity' was instituted, supported almost entirely by the congregation, and it is praiseworthy to note that this charitable work was not suspended even during the extra pressure caused by the loss of the church. In 1859, after cautious and thorough work on the part of the building committee, the new fabric was completed at a cost of \$175,000. The beautiful Cathedral was opened for worship November 27th, 1859. Canons Thompson and White were assistant ministers, and Mr. Warren organist. In this connection it may be mentioned that Chancellor Bethune sang in the choir for no less than thirty-one years, and Mrs. Bethune for twenty-seven years. Many generous and handsome donations added to the beauty of the church. Memorial windows were given by the family of the late Hon. John Richardson; by the children of the late D. I. Gibb, Esq.; by Thomas Holland, Esq.; by the Clergy of the Diocese; by the Sunday School; by Mrs. Moffatt; by the family of the late David Ross, Esq.; by the family of the late Stanley Bagg, Esq.; by the descendants of Rev. B. B. Stevens; by Colonel Denny, and by Rev. Thomas Johnson. The tower clock was given by Robert Gillespie of York Place, London. The handsome sculptured Caen Stone Font was the gift of the late Mrs. Adams and Mrs. D. I. Gibb. The Communion Service was presented by Mrs. Thomas Phillips, and the Altar furniture by Lady Elizabeth Drummond. The Lectern was given by the Rev. Prebendary Ford, of Exeter. The Bibles and Prayer Books for the Chancel were given by Exeter College, Oxford, and St. Peter's College, Radley. The Sanctuary fittings were the gift of the late Herbert Minton, Esq. In 1860 H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, now King Edward VII., while in Montreal, attended the Cathedral and left as a memento of his visit a very beautiful Bible bearing the Royal Coat of Arms. In 1864 the wardens gave a lengthy account of the Cathedral affairs in addition to the financial statement. The tower had settled, and a great amount of restoration was required to prevent further injury. Regret is expressed that the military finding the hours inconvenient, had ceased to use the church. In 1854 Canon Loosmore succeeded Canon Thompson, and in the next year Canon White resigned, his place being filled by Dr. Balch. The 18th of June, 1867, saw an event of interest not only to the congregation but to the Diocese. On that day the Cathedral was consecrated by the Most Rev. Metropolitan, Bishop Fulford, assisted by Bishop Mountain of Quebec, Bishop Lewis of Ontario, and Bishop Fuller of Niagara. Three Bishops were present from the American Church, the Senior Bishop, Dr. Johns of Virginia; Bishop Whitehouse of Illinois, and the then youthful Bishop Neely of Maine. All these prelates have since passed away. In this year Mr. Ralph Noble was appointed verger, and he has scarcely missed a Sunday from his duties since. During this period the Clothing Society carried on the good work it still maintains in connection with the Church Home, which is still a Cathedral institution. Early in 1868 Bishop Fulford died and, after much difficulty, his successor was elected, the Right Rev. Ashton Oxenden, and on the 5th of September, 1869, he was



THE JUBILEE OF CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL.—An interior view of the Cathedral looking through the nave into the choir and chancel. (Photo by Lapres & Lavergne.)

memorable by a long protracted dispute between the Bishop and the Rector of Montreal, in their official capacity, regarding their respective rights in the Cathedral. In 1850 the new Diocese of Montreal was formed and by other Royal Letters Patent the Rev. Francis Fulford was appointed the first Bishop, and Christ Church was named as his Cathedral. He was enthroned in Christ Church on the 15th of September of that year. In 1853 Dr. Bethune became the first Dean of Montreal. Honorary Canons and two assistant ministers were now appointed with the title of Residentiary Canons. Amongst the assistant ministers of this period the names of Revs. Dr. Atkinson, Dr. Adamson, Archdeacons Lower and Gilson, Canon J. P. White and B. B. Stevens may be mentioned. On the night of 10th December, 1856, the congregation suffered another loss by fire in the entire destruction of this first Cathedral. The tablet to Hon. John Richardson, now in the east transept of the present edifice, and the copy of Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper," now hung on the south wall, were amongst the few objects saved. Once more they set themselves the task of building a new edifice, and a committee was immediately formed of which the late Hon. George Moffatt and the late Chief

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