



Motherwell Presbyterian Church

Under Mr. Hamilton's labors the congregation grew steadily until, in the year 1863, the membership had increased from 32 to 109. An extension of the church building now became necessary, and, in the progressive spirit of minister and people, the enlargement was made. This building continued the place of worship till 1882. Meanwhile the community had increased in numbers, the country had developed, the material wealth of the people had increased, their homes had been enlarged and made more comfortable. Early in Mr. Hamilton's ministry a comfortable manse had been built on a charming site overlooking the Thames valley, the main part of which is still the home of the minister. It seemed good and fitting that a House of Worship should be erected that would comfortably accommodate the growing congregation, and be in keeping with the prosperity of the community. The building operations were entrusted to a committee composed of A. McFadyen, A. M. Driver, Charles Baird, George Urquhart and J. McCullough. Thus the present structure was erected at a cost of \$6,000, which sum was raised by the congregation in three years.

Of the development of the work one can write but briefly. A few facts, however, will be of interest. To the Elders above mentioned were added, in Mr. Hamilton's time, the following:—John Bain, sr, Charles