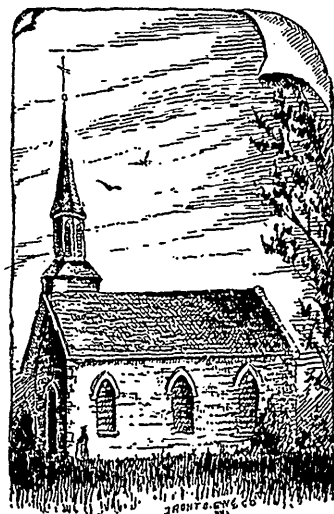


the C.P.R. arrived here from the east. On the 1st of July, 1886, the first through train from Winnipeg departed on its romantic journey across the prairies and over the Rocky Mountains to Vancouver on the Pacific—marking an area in the history of Canada of the full importance of which we can as yet form a very imperfect conception. Winnipeg is no mean city. Its streets are broad and regular—Main street being one of the finest streets in the Dominion. Its educational and benevolent institutions compare favourably with those of any city of its size on the continent. It has seven banks and fifty hotels, two daily and seven weekly newspapers. Steamers ply from Winnipeg, or in low water from West Selkirk, to the northern end of the lake, there to connect at the mouth of the Saskatchewan with others that run 1,000 miles up that mighty river. Winnipeg has its House of Parliament and Government House, a handsome Court House and a number of other very fine public buildings. Affiliated to the Provincial University there are five colleges—four of them well equipped and comfortably housed—the Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and the Medical College; while the Wesley (Methodist) College has lately been begun. There are now in the city three Roman Catholic churches, six Episcopalian, six Presbyterian (including Kildonan), five Methodist, two Baptist, two Congregational, one Icelandic Lutheran, a Scandinavian and a Jewish Synagogue. Besides these, two other Presbyterian missions have just been undertaken, one by St. Andrew's church at Point Douglas, the other by Knox Church on Langside street. The Roman Catholics were first in the field in 1818. The Church of England followed in 1820. Each of these has its Cathedral. There are also a vigorous Young Men's Christian Association, a thoroughly equipped Hospital, a Children's Home and a House of Refuge.

It was in 1851 that the Rev. John Black was sent by the Presbyterian Church of Canada to undertake the work of founding the Presbyterian cause in the Red River valley. He took up his abode at Kildonan, giving occasional services in the Court House at Winnipeg. The little church built by him and still in use, may therefore be called the mother of all the Presbyterian churches in the North-West. In 1869-70 a small church was erected in Winnipeg, afterwards known as Knox Church. In

1871, the writer was sent by the General Assembly, as professor, to begin Manitoba College and to have charge of Knox Church, which was separated from Kildonan in 1872



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, KILDONAN.

and remained with its temporary supply until Oct., 1874, when Rev. James Robertson was inducted as its first regular pastor. The new church erected during his incumbency was sold in the time of the "boom." In 1881 Mr. Robertson was appointed Superintendent of Missions in the North-West, and in August, 1882, Rev. D. M. Gordon, of Ottawa, succeeded him as pastor of Knox Church, and for five years ministered successfully to the congregation, who built for him the handsome church of the present time. In 1883, Rev. F. B. Duval, of Toledo, Ohio, was inducted. In the meantime a peaceful "hiving off" took place from Knox Church, and St. Andrew's Church was begun in the north part of the city. Its first pastor was the Rev. C. B. Pitblado, of Halifax, who ministered with marked success for six years. He was succeeded by Rev. John Hogg, of Moncton, N.B., the present pastor. The North Presbyterian Church, an offshoot from St. Andrew's, was founded about 1885, and now occupies a handsome brick church. Rev. D. B. Whimster first ministered to this congregation, which is at present under the charge of Rev. John Hogg, formerly of Toronto. In 1887, the neat and commodious church, known as "Augustine Church," was erected on the south side of the Assiniboine. Over this Rev. A. B. Baird has been appointed missionary, being also on the staff of Manitoba College. In 1888 preaching was commenced among the Icelanders of Winnipeg, who number about 2,000, by a Presbyterian Icelandic student, Mr. Jonas Johannsen. The church erected last