

The Building

In September of 1887, less than a year after beginning work in the cottage, a lot, two feet by 126 feet, at the corner of Fremont St. and Dalton Ave., was purchased by the mother congregation and upon this, the first part of our old church was erected and dedicated with praise. This was formally opened by special services on Sabbath, January 1, 1888. These dedicatory services were conducted by the late Prof. Martzen, who happily was spared to have some important share in the opening of the new church just twenty years later.

The Congregation Organized

The next important step in the progress of this new cause was reached on November 22, 1888, when by authority of the Presbytery of Toronto a congregation was formally organized with 27 members, and placed under the care of an interim Session with the Rev. S. H. Kellogg, D.D., Minister of St. James' Square Church, as Moderator; with the following Elders from his own Session:—Messrs. John Gowans, J. C. Anderson, and George Laflamme. Only two of this original Session have been spared to see this present anniversary. Mr. Gowans, until the time of his death a few years ago, continued a true friend of our congregation. The Kellogg's beautiful beautiful ministry closed by a tragic accident in North India about the same time.

Our congregation has never been unmindful of the debt they owe to the mother church. Because of their warm interest and ungrudging financial aid at a very needy period, we were saved hardships such as have come to retard the work of other congregations in the time of their early struggle.

Of the original 27 persons who constituted the membership of the organization, only four remain today in our congregation.—Mr. Robert O'Brien, Miss Kate O'Brien, Mrs. J. E. Armstrong, and Mr. John H. Crag.