

all worshipping with us in our new church. As Moses said to Pharoah, "there shall not an hoof be left behind," so we would fain believe that you will all accompany us to our new ecclesiastical home. I am aware that it will be less convenient for several of the families of the congregation than the present situation; but others have long suffered inconvenience in coming here, and it may now be claimed that it is their turn to be accommodated. It is a serious thing, as you all no doubt realize, to break one's connection with a church; and it can be justified only when a person or family can be more useful in another church—when they are certain to be more spiritually profited—and when the question of health and convenience, not only now, but in future, asserts itself. On these grounds, I should say, one might reasonably contemplate exchanging one pastorate for another; but I would have them scrutinize their motives in so doing very narrowly. If there should creep into the solution of the question social considerations, for instance, the person who is influenced by them in the face of the strong claims of duty, which are indicated by the lines within which Providence has placed us, must suffer moral and spiritual deterioration, by obeying the lower motives as against the demands of those that are higher. But I hope better things of you, brethren, although I thus speak.

Old St. Gabriel's! many an anxious thought has been spent on thee during nearly a century, and not the fewest of them in the last score of years; but there has been much happiness and joy mingling with the cares and trials. Thy venerable presence, and thy history, rich in incident, have always lent a charm to the labours manifold that have been performed within thy walls.

Old St. Gabriel's, farewell!"

The conditional sale to Mr. Burland, of the old church, although the amount guaranteed for it was very small, at least enabled the congregation to go on and complete the purchase of the new church, and start on a fresh career. But through the good offices of Hon. James McShane, when he became a member of the Provincial cabinet, and the energy displayed by Hon. Mr. Mercier, the premier, the trustees were able to dispose of the property, at a slight advance upon the sum which Mr. Burland was willing to allow for it, —namely, \$3 per square foot— or a total of \$17,790. For this sum, the old church passed into the hands of the Quebec Government, on the 25th of March, 1887. The intention of the authorities is to demolish it, and use