

making the people democratic in their feelings. After long persuasion, from his elders, Mr. Ross consented Take two—Religion.

to drive the pin that made a solid foundation. After this, things moved smoothly and the frame was safely raised. After the raising was finished a ceremony was performed which to the people of to-day would seem very strange and out of place. A gentleman who has long since passed away, climbed to the top of the tower and broke a whiskey bottle, for what reason, no one can tell, except that it had been customary to perform such an act in the past. The work of finishing the church, was nearly all done by bees, the people giving of their time freely. The church was partly of the Gothic style and contained a large gallery in the west end. The pulpit was a massive piece of work made of walnut; the minister was high above the congregation. No doubt it was with joyous hearts that the crowds gathered from miles around to attend the opening services of this, the first Presbyterian church in Western Ontario. They had sorely missed the services of the

sanctuary to which they had been used in the old land, and now they were proud of the fact that they had a church of their own in which they could worship their God, after the manner to which they were brought up. We may be sure that no one who could possibly help it, was absent on that great day. Mr. Ross, so far as we can learn, had no assistance at the opening services, but no doubt he did full justice to the occasion. What his text was we do not know, but we can safely take it for granted that the twenty-third Psalm was sung with all the vigor and gladness of which the people were capable. Services continued to be held here regularly until 1844 at which time the Disruption movement, which had stirred Scotland so greatly during the previous year, reached here. A delegate from the newly formed Free church of Scotland was sent to the Presbyterians in this district to urge upon them the wisdom of a separation of Church and State. The delegate, who was a man of great persuasive power was listened to patiently and his arguments were received with much favor. The matter was freely discussed and much feeling