



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, AYLESFORD.

century. His descendants still occupy the lands which were originally granted to him.

The Mission of Aylesford had become in the meantime (February 1791), a duly constituted parish by Act of Parliament. In the year 1801, John Inglis, having taken his degree of A.B., at King's College, Windsor (his name standing first on the list of students to enter that institution) and having been ordained priest, was appointed by the S. P. G. as their Missionary at Aylesford, and inducted rector of the parish by the Lord Bishop. At the beginning of his ministry, January, 1802, the population of the parish was 265, made up of 42 families,—125 adults, 137 children and 3 negroes. By a deed, dated February, 1805, his Lordship the Bishop conveyed to the S. P. G., 300 acres of land, in trust for his son John and his successors. As a priest of the Church of Christ, John Inglis showed the same faithfulness that he afterwards did as bishop. In no case did he spare himself, but constantly travelling the wilderness paths, either on horseback in summer, or on his snowshoes in winter, he visited the scattered settlers, relieved their necessities (for there was much poverty at that time), prayed with the sick, baptized their children and encouraged all by his life and example to follow, as he endeavoured to follow, in the footsteps of the Master. On the death of his father the Bishop, in 1816, he expected to have succeeded him, but, through some political influence, the Rev. Robert

Stanser, Missionary at St. Paul's, Halifax—a man weak in body and ill-calculated to undertake the laborious work of a colonial Bishop, was appointed by the recommendation of the Governor, Council and Assembly of Nova Scotia, while John Inglis was made his commissary. His duties calling him so much away from the parish, he was forced to give it up, although he ceased not, whenever he was stopping at Clairmont, of which he still held possession, to minister to the people, whom he, during his work amongst them, had learned to love so well. And in after years, when, wearied with the duties of his office, he would retire for a few months to Clairmont, it was his delight to visit the members of the congregation whose faces he never forgot.

On his death, which occurred in England in October 1850, his son Charles Inglis, Esq., M.D., of whom we shall speak presently, fell heir to the property in Aylesford. Thus the parish was once more without a clergyman. Some time during the year 1816, the Rev. Edwin Gilpin was appointed to the parish. Mr. Gilpin was fresh from College, having been educated at King's College, Windsor; full of zeal he found a large field over which to give it full scope. He resided, during the first few years of his ministry, with Mr. Wiswell of Wilmot, a descendant of the first rector of the parish. He afterwards purchased the property, a part of which now forms the Rectory grounds.

At the time when Mr. Gilpin worked in the parish there were no dissenting ministers, consequently he ministered to all.

In a sermon preached when he was leaving the parish, he said (lifting up his hands) "With these hands have I baptised every child that has been born in the parish during my ministry."

He spent his spare moments in working in his garden, which he seemed to enjoy. With the fruits of this labour he ministered to the sick and needy in his charge. He having a considerable knowledge of medicine, and there being no regular practitioner in the parish, was able to minister to the bodily as well as the spiritual wants of his people. Mr. Gilpin was twice married. First in 1817, to Eliza Wiswell, by whom he had five children, three sons and two daughters. The two eldest, twin sons, died in infancy; the fourth child Edwin, is the present Dean of Nova Scotia. His second wife was Gertrude Brimly, of Rhode Island, by whom he had two children—a son and a daughter. Mr. Gilpin moved from this parish to that of Annapolis in 1832, where he remained until his death.

A census of the parish, taken in 1828, showed the population to be 1,055.

In 1833 Mr. Gilpin was succeeded by the Rev. H. L. Owen. The work in the parish had now become more systematic. The dis-