

was burned in 1836, were worshipping God in a room in the old Grantham Academy, now our Collegiate Institute; the Methodists occupied a small frame building on the lot where their present magnificent building now stands on St. Paul street, and the American Presbyterians had erected a brick building in 1834, the best in the village. There was no Scotch Presbyterian church then. A missionary named Angus McIntosh preached in Thorold, Merritton, St. Catharines and Port Dalhousie, but there was no organization. Mr. Geo. McClotchie, a North of Ireland man, located in Clinton, preached in Grimsby and occasionally in St. Catharines, baptizing the children when necessary, and perhaps there were some present for whom he had performed this office. His (Mr. Lawrie's) father, Mr. Dougan and a few friends were then worshipping in the American Presbyterian church, but they did not feel exactly at home. They did not like the way the hymns were sung; objected to the principle of free communion, and in 1840 applied to the Flamboro presbytery for a supply of sermons, and on the 2nd of May, 1841, his father and Mr. Dougan, as elders, with twenty-two other members, organized as a separate congregation, occupying the