

among them Brebœuf, Jogues and Lallement, who were barbarously put to death by the Indians, had previously resided and labored at the Mission of Trois Rivières.

In 1721 the Jesuit missionary Charlevoix, in the course of his tour through New France, visited Trois Rivières, which he describes as an agreeable place situated amid a circuit of well cultivated fields.

In June, 1776, during the "campaign for the conquest of Canada," which was set on foot by the Congress of the thirteen rebel states, a force of 1800 American troops under General Thompson was sent against Three Rivers. They were shelled by gunboats from the river, and after an obstinate struggle on land with the British forces under Brigadier-General Frazer were defeated, and the American General with two hundred of his men taken prisoners.*

Mention has been made above of the residence and mission work of the Jesuits at Three Rivers, but it is of great interest and of closer connection with the subject of this sketch to refer to the Recollet Fathers, a branch of the order of Franciscan Friars, who had preceded the Jesuits in the field, having been placed in charge of the missions of New France by Pope Paul IV. in 1618, and having been the only missionaries in that region till 1624.

During the short occupation of the country by the British which followed the capture of Quebec by David Kertk in 1629, they retired from New France, and through some occult influence (probably that of the other order of ecclesiastics), they were not permitted by the authorities of the Church to resume their work until 1669 or 1670. Soon after this date they returned to Trois Rivières, which had been the scene of their labors half a century before, and erected as their residence and their chapel the buildings which are shown in the accompanying illustration. These they occupied up to the time of the cession of Quebec to Britain, and the consequent change of possession of the lands which had been held by the religious orders under the French regime. In 1760 the Recollet Monastery was converted into the common jail of the District of Three Rivers, the rear half of the chapel into a Court House, and the front half in 1762 into a garrison chapel, and the Protestant parish church of the town of Three Rivers in Canada. This state of things existed till 1820, when upon the erection of a new jail and court house the whole building with the land surrounding it was granted by the Crown, by letters patent, signed by the Earl of Dalhousie the Governor-General, to the Right Rev. Jacob Mountain the first Anglican Bishop of Quebec, to be held and used forever as a parish church and rectory of the Church of England.

The formal consecration of the church, however, did not take place until February 21st, 1830, on which day this ceremony was performed by Bishop Stewart, the church being dedicated to St. James.

The following are the names of the successive rectors and the years of the incumbency of each :

Legere Jean Baptiste Noel Veyssière, 1767-1796; Francis Mountain, 1796-1800; Robert Quirk Question Short, 1800-1827; Samuel Simpson Wood, M.A., 1828-1868; John Torrance, 1868-1871; John Foster, M.A., 1871-1874; John Hea Jenkins, B.A., 1874-1890.

The present rector is the Rev. Henry Colebridge Stuart, M.A., who was appointed upon the decease of the Rev. J. H. Jenkins in the early part of the present year.

Besides the above named, several well-known clergymen at various times had temporary charge of the parish. Among these may be named the late Rev. Francis Evans, D.D., afterwards Rector of Woodhouse, Upper Canada; the Rev. J. G. Geddes, D.D., now Dean of Niagara; the late Rev. Henry Burges, sometime a master in U. C. College, and for many years incumbent of Nicolet, Lower Canada; Rev. Frederick A. Smith, now Incumbent of New Liverpool in the Diocese of Quebec; Rev. G. Heaton, now Vicar of Graine, Diocese of Rochester, England.

The existing parish registers date from and have been continuously kept since the year 1768.

A venerable relic of the good Bishop Stewart exists in a small font of Parian marble, which he presented to the parish. After many years' service in Three Rivers Church (having been replaced by one of a more permanent character), it has been transferred to the Indian Mission Church at Lake St. John, Province of Quebec, which is now attached to Three Rivers as a Mission Station.

The Communion plate of solid silver which belongs to the church was presented to it in 1824 by the late Hon. Charles Richard Ogden, who for many years represented Three Rivers in the Parliament of Lower Canada, and was Attorney-General of the Province until his appointment to the same office in the Isle of Man.

The mural tablets erected in the church are worthy of remark. Several of them are memorials to persons of note in the country or whose descendants have occupied or do occupy positions of more or less prominence in Canada.

Among the names thus commemorated are : Rev. R. Q. Short, formerly Rector of the parish, and Mary Wood, his wife, (the grandparents of the late Edward Carter, Q.C., and the late W. H. Kerr, Q.C., both eminent Advocates in Montreal); Harriet Lawrence, the wife of General Thomas Evans, C.B.; Bartholomew Gagy and Elizabeth his wife, (the grandparents of Colonel Bartholomew Conrad Augustus Gagy, a prominent personage in legal, political and military circles in

*The battle of Three Rivers is graphically described in Charles H. Jones' interesting History of the "Campaign for the Conquest of Canada," pp. 72-79.