



CHRIST CHURCH, SOREL (ERECTED IN 1843.)

which now hangs in our spire, and which was the first Protestant church bell that ever sounded in Canada. This church, however, having been by a government survey thrown into one of the principal streets, was ordered to be removed; and was sold by the congregation. A second church, built in 1790, and designated simply "Sorel Church," was the first erected in Canada.

During Mr. Doty's rectorship, Sorel was honored by a visit from Prince William Henry, Duke of Clarence, afterwards William IV. Leaving his frigate at Quebec, he made a short stay in passing at Sorel, and in reply to an address presented to him by the magistrates, was pleased to sanction the change of the name of the town to his own of "William Henry," from that, which it had previously borne for more than 100 years, of the *Sieur de Saurel*, a French engineer officer, who, in 1665, constructed a fort at the mouth of the Richelieu.

In January, 1803, Mr. Doty was succeeded in

the rectory of Sorel, as second rector, by the Rev. James Sutherland Rudd, B.A., of Queen's College, Cambridge, who was appointed from Cornwall, where for two years he was the immediate predecessor of the late Dr. Strachan, subsequently Lord Bishop of Toronto. He was an accomplished and eloquent preacher, but in the short period of his incumbency (five years) all his children save one, and his wife at the age only of 28 years, were consigned by him to the grave, where in his own early manhood of 32 years, he was soon laid by their side.

The Rev. Richard Bradford, as third rector, was appointed in 1808, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Jackson, then assistant minister at the Cathedral in Quebec, and Principal of a large classical and commercial school at Montcalm House in that city, the former residence of the celebrated Marquis of that name.

The little church in this parish, although then a most humble edifice, yet was frequented by persons of greatest note in the country. The Governors General, and Commanders-in-chief, from the time of Sir Frederick Haldimand downwards, generally resided during the summer months at Sorel, where they possessed on the banks of the Richelieu, a residence called "Government Cottage." One of these governors, the Earl of

Dalhousie, in the very first year of his residence at Sorel, and wholly unsolicited, most kindly proffered to the rector a donation of £300 from the Seigniorly funds, towards putting the church in a state of much needed repair, and which, both within and without, was accordingly done. In 1821, Sorel, together with a few other parishes in the then united Dioceses of Quebec and Montreal, was formally constituted, by letters patent from the Crown, a Royal Rectory, with the right of presentation in the Crown.

In September, 1836, Rev. Mr. (now Canon) Anderson, minister of St. Peter's Chapel, Quebec, was appointed by Bishop Stewart to the Curacy of Sorel, with the Mission of Berthier and part of the now Rawdon mission attached, and on Mr. Jackson's death, in January, 1839, was presented by the Crown to the vacant rectory, becoming thus the fifth rector of Sorel, a position which he held for nearly fifty years.

(To be continued.)