

within its walls, the communion was observed for the first time by the newly formed congregation.

The new church home, humble though it was, not only gave visibility to the cause, but invested it with an air of permanence which commended it to public confidence.

Thereafter the growth of the congregation kept pace with the rapidly increasing population of the city.

As a consequence, it was found necessary to proceed with the permanent stone church as originally intended, much sooner than had been anticipated when the erection of the little frame building was undertaken.

At a meeting held on 27th December, 1867, the following gentlemen were named as a building committee, namely: Wm. Porter, Wm. Taylor, Wm. Hutchison, John Rowat, Donald Kennedy and Thos. McKay, Mr. Porter being named as chairman.

Tenders were called for, and contracts let early in 1868. The contracts were awarded in sections, and at different times. The tender of Messrs. Donald Mason and John Shearer was accepted for the masonry.

Mr. Jas. Gibson received the contract for all the carpenter work except the pews and pulpit, which were given to Mr. Wm. Gardner, and the plastering was given to Messrs. Strachan and Beattie. The work of construction had so far progressed that on the 4th of May 1868, the managing committee was in a position to arrange for laying the corner stone.

In a cavity prepared in the stone before its final adjustment, and inclosed in a glass jar hermetically sealed, the following documents and items were deposited, *viz.*: A brief narrative of the origin and growth of the church to date, prepared by the Rev. S. C. Fraser, Clerk of Presbytery; the names of the Pastor; of the members of Session; of the Managing Committee, and of the Building Committee under whose direction the work was being carried on, together with copies of the City newspapers, and a few specimens of the current coins of Canada. Everything being in readiness, the congregation and many friends gathered in the afternoon of Friday, May the 8th, at 2:30 to witness the ceremony.

The Pastor presided on the occasion. After the one hundred and twenty-second Psalm had been sung, he read, as the scripture for the day, the forty-eighth Psalm, and engaged in prayer.

The Rev. S. C. Fraser read the narrative referred to, after which the Rev. Thos. Wardrope caused the cor-