



REV. ALEX MCKAY, D.D.

happy one and Mr. Lawrence ministered with success for six years, when to the regret of all he accepted a call to the Presbytery of Guelph, in which he still labors.

The early years of the century were important ones for this congregation. It had been decided that the old church was no longer adequate to the needs of the congregation and steps were taken to erect one that would in a measure express this desire. Accordingly, a site was secured, work was undertaken, plans formed and contracts let, and on the 26th of June, 1901, the corner stone of the present handsome building was well and truly laid, and in February of the following year it was formally opened and dedicated to God as a place of public worship.

The Rev. J. A. McDonald, then Editor of The Westminster, (later better known as McDonald of the Globe), was the preacher for the occasion. His stirring words are still recalled by many who heard them on that day. It was with the opening services of the new church that the organ first was used to aid in the service of praise. Previously the praise of the congregation had been led by a precentor. Several had filled that office but for several years previous to the coming of the organ Mr. D. A. McNab performed that duty with fidelity and ability.

In 1904 three more elders were elected, ordained and inducted to fill places made vacant by deaths and removals. These were Thomas McCallum, William Carroll and John M. Campbell. In the autumn of the same year the session sustained a serious loss in the death of Mr. Daniel Thomson.