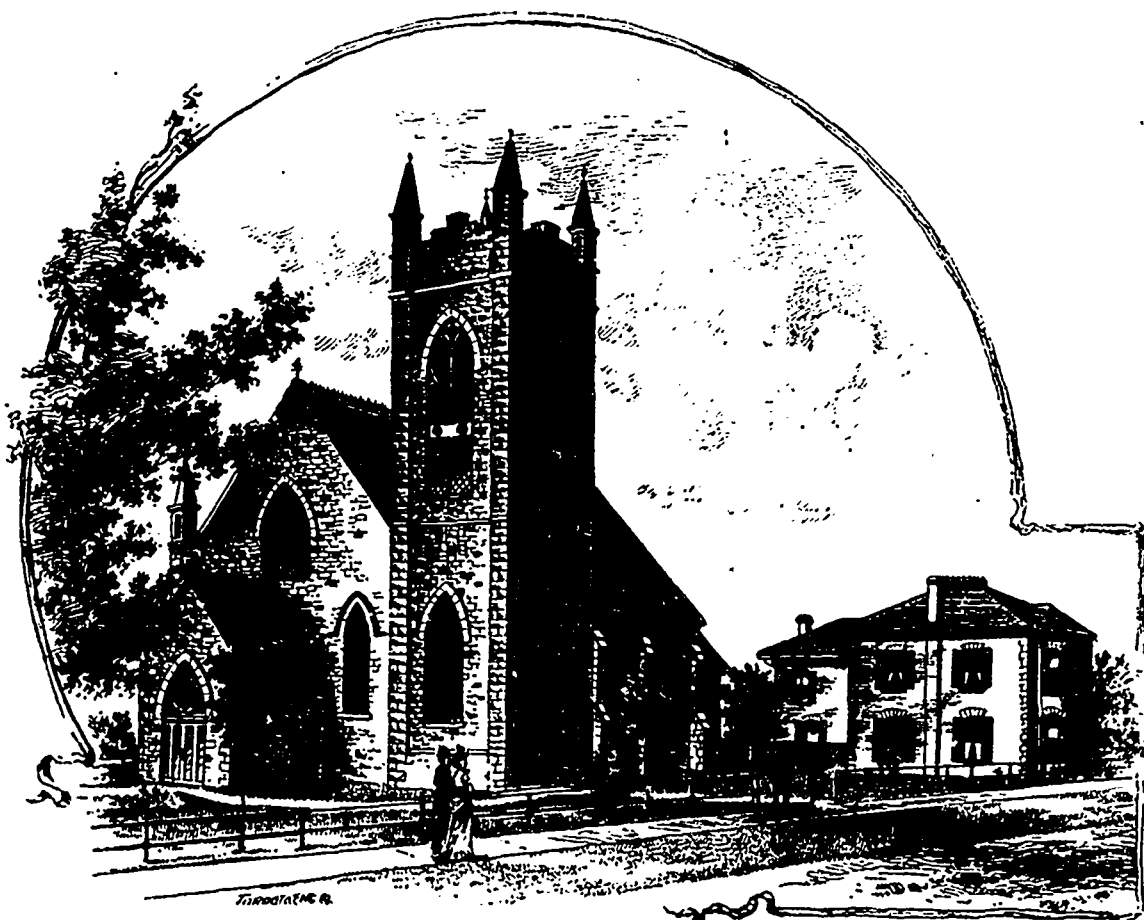




ST. JAMES' CHURCH, ST. MARY'S ONT., WITH RECTORY.

the corner of Queen and James streets, as a place of worship for a number of years.

The first regular incumbent of the Church of England in St. Mary's was Rev. Archibald Lampman, who came a few years previous to 1856. It was during Mr. Lampman's time that the church was built under the guidance of a board of directors, consisting of Messrs. Milner, Harrison, S. Fraleigh, Willoughby Hutton, Lewis Day, W. P. Smith and another whose name has escaped our informant's memory, all of whom have since departed this life. The church was only partially completed in 1857, but services were held in it until it was fully completed, two years afterwards. On the erection of the church a Ladies' Aid Society was formed, with Miss E. Cruttenden as secretary. Miss Cruttenden is still a constant attendant at the church service. A bazaar was held shortly after, and with the proceeds the first organ was purchased. It was also through the efforts of this same Society that the old rectory was first purchased. Among those who assisted early in the musical part of the services in those days, might be mentioned the late Dr. O'Reilly,

Mr. Geo. Goodfellow, Dr. A. E. Ford, Miss Cruttenden and the late Mr. Leon M. Clench, father of the talented lady who is now so well known as a violinist, Miss Norah Clench. The Clenches still attend St. James' church.

Mr. Lampman was removed in 1857, and was succeeded, in 1858, by Rev. Jas. Smythe, who was followed by Rev. Mr. Kellogg, and he, in turn, was succeeded by Rev. J. P. Curran, who commenced his career by preaching in the surplice instead of the accustomed black gown. Mr. Curran removed to Walkerton in 1870, and was succeeded the same year by Rev. Joel T. Wright, now Rector of Norwich and Otterville, who continued as rector of the parish until July, 1889. Rev. J. T. Wright was succeeded by Rev. Chas. O'Meara a few weeks after the resignation of the former. Mr. O'Meara resigned the charge in the fall of 1890, and the parish remained vacant until March, 1891, when Rev. T. W. Magahy was appointed as rector, but death severed his connection with the parish on the Good Friday following, he being just one month in charge. No permanent appointment was then made until the first Sunday in Septem-